SOFT 2015 ANNUAL MEETING
Hyatt Regency Atlanta ($179 room rate)
Atlanta, GA, USA — October 19-23, 2015

REGISTRATION WORKSHEET

On-Line registration will be available on April 15, 2015

Go to www.SOFT-TOX.org TO REGISTER!

For registration assistance, call the SOFT Office, 1-888-866-7638

Name_____ Agency_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____ Country_____

Telephone _____ e-mail address_____

Polo Shirt Size (Men's Sizes S,M,L,XL,XXL) (Women's Sizes S,M,L,XL, XXL) Special Dietary Needs? Yes /No _____

Accompanying Person(s) _____

Polo Shirt Size (Men's Sizes S,M,L,XL,XXL) (Women's Sizes S,M,L,XL, XXL) Special Dietary Needs? Yes /No _____

I plan to attend the (free) Sunday Young Forensic Toxicologists Forum (5pm-9pm). Yes / No. Attendees must be 40 yrs of age or younger.

REGISTRATION DATES TO NOTE:	FULL MEETING REGISTRATION INCLUDES:	SOFT Mem	Accomp. Person	Non-Mem	Univ. Student	Daily W, Th or F
Apr. 15-Aug. 31	Full Meeting - Includes: ▶Welcome Reception Tues. Eve ▶Entrance to Scientific Sessions (W, Th, F) ▶W, Th, F Breakfasts, Lunches, Refresh Breaks ▶Tues. Eve "Welcome Reception" ▶Wed. Eve "Aquarium Event" ▶Thurs. Eve "President's Banquet" ▶SOFT 2015 Meeting Program/Abstract Book ▶SOFT 2015 Conference Bag / Polo Shirt	$499	$399 For FAMILY Members 17+ *16 & younger Pay $150* **Includes Aquar. & Banquet**	$675	$175 Requires University Picture ID	$275 Daytime Only--Does NOT Include Special Events Tickets
After Sep. 1	LATE REGISTRATION ---------- Added to Reg. Fee	$200	n/a	$200	$200	n/a
After Oct. 1	ON-SITE REGISTRATION----------Added to Reg. Fee	$300	n/a	$300	$300	n/a
Ind. Event Ticket	▶Wed. Aquarium Event. **$200** - Call for assistance	Incl.	Included	Incl.	Incl.	$200
Ind. Event Ticket	▶Thurs. Pres. Banquet **$150** - Call for assistance	Incl.	Included	Incl.	Incl.	$150
Ind. Event Ticket	▶Tues. Welcome Reception **$125** – Call for assistance	Incl.	Included	Incl.	Incl.	$125

WS#	Schedule	Workshop Titles (see full workshop details on following pages) All workshops provide C.E. credits from the AACC.	Mem / Student	Non-Mem	Late Fee After 9/1 After10/1
WS#1	Mon **Full-Day** 8am-5:30pm	"Postmortem Toxicology: From Autopsy to Interpretation" (Basic)	$200	$250	$25/$50
WS#2	Mon **Full-Day** 8am-5:30pm	"Statistical Methods for Forensic Decision Making in Toxicology" (Basic)	$200	$250	$25/$50
WS#3	Mon **Half-Day** 8am-noon	"Pharmacology & Tox. of Syn.Cathinones & Phenylethylamines" (Int.)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#4	Mon **Half-Day** 8am-noon	"The Role of Benzodiazepines in DUID" (Basic)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#5	Mon **Half-Day** 1:30pm-5:30pm	"Quality in Laboratories, Finding the Balance" (Advanced)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#6	Mon **Half-Day** 1:30pm-5:30pm	"Management Practices in Forensic Toxicology: A Panel Discussion" (Int.)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#7	Mon **Half-Day** 1:30pm-5:30pm	"Sample Preparation in Forensic Toxicology" (Basic-Intermediate)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#8	Tue **Full-Day** 8am-5:30pm	"Managing a Forensic Toxicology Laboratory" (Intermediate-Advanced)	$200	$250	$25/$50
WS#9	Tue **Full-Day** 8am-5:30pm	"Pharmacognosy for the Forensic Toxicologist" (Intermediate)	$200	$250	$25/$50
WS#10	Tue **Half-Day** 8am-noon	"Toxicology in the Forensic Lab: How Will It Look in 2020?"(Intermediate)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#11	Tue **Half-Day** 8am-noon	"Analysis & Interpretation of GHB in Traditional & Alt. Matrices" (Basic)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#12	Tue **Half-Day** 1:30pm-5:30pm	"Expert Testimony: How to be Comfortable in Uncomfortable Sit." (Basic)	$125	$175	$25/$50
WS#13	Tue **Half-Day** 1:30pm-5:30pm	"Military Drug Testing: Random Urinalysis to Postmortem Tox." (Basic)	$125	$175	$25/$50

YOU MUST WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE DURING ALL MEETING FUNCTIONS

IMPORTANT REFUND POLICY: Refunds for a complete registration will be honored if written request is received prior to 8-31-15 minus a $100 USD administrative fee. No refunds offered after 9-1-15.

REGISTRATION DESK will be open Sunday - Thursday. Delegates are advised to pick-up badge and materials upon arrival.

Workshop Abstracts-October 19 and 20, 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Workshop Coordinators
Demi Garvin (dgarvin@rcsd.net) and Deb Denson (Ddenson1@nc.rr.com)

#	Title	Abstract	Co-Chairs	Date
1	Postmortem Toxicology: From Autopsy to Interpretation (SOFT Continuing Education Committee Workshop) Knowledge Level: Basic	This SOFT Continuing Education Committee sponsored workshop will provide a review of all aspects of postmortem toxicology testing, starting with the autopsy and progressing through specimen collection, analytical considerations, and interpretation of results. Specific interpretation topics will include pre-analytical implications, postmortem redistribution, pharmacogenomics and drug interactions, and special populations. The workshop will end with an interactive discussion of cases selected for presentation by the Continuing Education Committee. Attendees are also encouraged to submit their own cases for discussion. While toxicologists with several years' experience are the target audience, more experienced analysts looking for a broad review may also find the workshop helpful.	Erin A. Spargo, Ph.D. Jennifer M. Colby, Ph.D.	Monday Full Day
2	Statistical Methods for Forensic Decision-Making in Toxicology (National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE) Workshop) Knowledge Level: Basic	Let's face it, many of us panic when it comes to statistical decision making in our professional practice as we do not see ourselves as statisticians. Yet critical to forensic toxicology is a fundamental understanding of how statistical concepts are applied. This workshop covers an introduction to basic statistics and hypothesis testing for analytical chemical measurements in toxicology, including calibration, limits of detection, validation, uncertainty estimation and statistical quality control. To facilitate mastery of learning objectives, the workshop uses simulations to illustrate statistical principles without lengthy derivations, and statistical applications in analytical toxicology. Students can expect to learn the fundamentals that enable use of statistics packages in context with scientific hypotheses under investigation. This goal involves understanding of the fundamental nature and meaning of statistical methods and how to apply them to real-world problems. Learning to interpret the output of a computer program for statistics is usually not obtained by just reading the manual-the understanding necessary to use most programs is achieved only by acquiring profound knowledge of the underlying calculations and their limitations. Several examples will be presented using commercial statistics software such as JMP® (SAS Institute, Cary, NC), Minitab® (Minitab, Inc., State College, PA), and SYSTAT® (Systat Software, Inc., San Jose, CA). Difficulties with use of Microsoft Excel® for statistics will also be discussed. **NOTE: Pre-Workshop practice modules will be provided. Attendees are required to bring a scientific calculator to the workshop. Class size is limited to 75 participants.**	Jeri D. Ropero-Miller, Ph.D. Frances J. Scott, Ph.D.	Monday Full Day
3	Pharmacology and Toxicology of Synthetic Cathinones and Phenylethylamines Knowledge Level: Intermediate	New psychoactive substances (NPS) are a range of different chemical compounds commonly sold through internet sites as legal substitutes for classical drugs of abuse. Looking back, NPS were mostly central stimulants in the phenylethylamine group but in the late 2000's, the range of NPS began to be more diverse with many substances from the group synthetic cannabinoids. In 2014, synthetic cathinones were the most common group of new substances encountered in the European Union with thirty-one (31) new compounds detected. Adverse effects and deaths related to these compounds are also increasingly being reported in the United States. The rapid increase in NPS is a growing concern and sets new challenges for societies not only in drug prevention and legislation, but also in clinical and forensic toxicology. There is a need for evidence-based treatments of acute intoxications as well as demand for new strategies to analyze these compounds in clinical and forensic cases. Some drugs seem to have severe adverse effects and it is not uncommon that they are detected in cases of suspected overdose deaths. However, there is a dearth in the knowledge of NPS pharmacology and toxicology posing interpretive challenges for medical examiners and forensic toxicologists. This workshop focuses on synthetic cathinones and phenylethylamines and highlights some of the compounds shown to have dangerous acute	Robert Kronstrand, Ph.D. Sumandeep Rana, Ph.D.	Monday Morning

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		adverse effects. Attendees will receive an in-depth knowledge of the pharmacology and toxicology of these substances through the latest research concerning pharmacological mechanisms and effects with a comprehensive overview of how the latter relate to clinical and postmortem toxicology.		
4	The Role of Benzodiazepines in DUID (SOFT/AAFS Drugs and Driving Committee Workshop) Knowledge Level: Basic	This SOFT/AAFS jointly-sponsored workshop will present a detailed explanation of benzodiazepine pharmacology, along with case studies and effects as related to Driving Under the Influence of Drugs (DUID). Current analytical approaches to benzodiazepines in drivers will be provided, followed by a panel discussion related to the problem of benzodiazepines in DUID cases.	Amy Miles, B.S. Jarrad R. Wagner, Ph.D.	Monday Morning
5	Quality in Laboratories, Finding the Balance Knowledge Level: Advanced	The requirements for laboratories to enhance their quality assurance programs have become a priority within the forensic toxicology community. There are many different resources that dictate the criteria and regulations that must be met. However, as laboratories work towards achieving or maintaining accreditation that meets international standards, there becomes a distinct struggle to balance the needs of the accrediting body, the laboratory and the shareholders. The struggle exists in the laboratory's ability to effectively meet accreditation criteria, fulfill the mission and goals of its shareholders, produce timely results with minimal funding and staffing, and maintain the highest degree of forensic defensibility in the results produced. As quality managers, the challenge is one of finding the right balance in the most efficient and effective way and gaining "buy in" from upper management without sacrificing the needs of clients. This workshop will provide a review of the major accrediting body requirements and serve as an outlet to hear several approaches to effectively meeting these requirements. Most importantly, the workshop will provide an open forum among quality personnel to encourage discussion of the challenges faced while trying to meet accreditation requirements regarding: process improvement, establishing traceability and corrective and preventive actions-all in an effort to learn from laboratories already accredited and assist those who are seeking it.	Jennifer L. Brown, B.Sc. Colleen A. Moore, B.Sc.	Monday Afternoon
6	Management Practices in Forensic Toxicology: A Panel Discussion Knowledge Level: Intermediate	This workshop is designed with a panel format. The goal is to ultimately create a summary of management practices in key areas as they relate to improving forensic toxicology laboratory operations across organizations with different levels of available resources. This panel is only available to laboratory directors/managers for an open discussion of issues inherent to forensic toxicology organizations. Material generated from the panel discussion will be summarized, presented and made available to SOFT members. Materials will not include the names of specific laboratories or individuals in order to maintain anonymity. **Note**: **Class size is limited to 40 participants; managers and organizational leaders.**	Lucas W. Zarwell, M.F.S. Scott J. Larson, M.S.	Monday Afternoon
7	Sample Preparation in Forensic Toxicology: Back to the Past and a Look into the Future Knowledge Level: Basic-Intermediate	Correct sample preparation procedures are critical in forensic toxicology in order to ensure that the most viable results are obtained. This is of particular importance due to the complex nature of the matrices involved. With advances in instrumentation resulting in better sensitivity, we are far removed from the large volume liquid-liquid extractions of the past. This workshop will provide an overview of the importance of sample preparation including: still valid historical concepts and practices, the most popular current techniques and a look at what the future might hold. **Note: Participants will be asked to complete a pre-workshop questionnaire describing their experiences with sample preparation and have an opportunity to submit troubleshooting scenarios to the workshop panel.**	Karen S. Scott, Ph.D. Sabra Botch-Jones, M.S., M.A.	Monday Afternoon

#	Title	Abstract	Co-Chairs	Date
8	Managing a Forensic Toxicology Laboratory: A New Mindset and Approach Knowledge Level: Intermediate-Advanced	For the last two decades, most labs have faced shrinking financial budgets and substantial backlogs. Many laboratories have accepted this situation as the reality of working in government that cannot be changed. Well-entrenched concepts of reality are hard to dispel. However, there is evidence that these obstacles can be overcome. Changing the current course and improving backlogs are possible by employing new practices and strategies. Managing a modern forensic toxicology laboratory requires knowledge, skills and abilities that go well beyond the science of analytical chemistry and toxicology. In order to overcome obstacles and succeed, laboratories must adopt a new mindset. The modern lab must focus on concepts such as leadership and culture to implement creative solutions so that casework is effectively managed. This, in turn, will lead to decreased backlogs, improved audit performance, stronger courtroom defensibility, and improved employee morale. This workshop will discuss strategies such as: system analysis, Lean Six Sigma, Pareto principle, A-game analysis, and professional development. It will also highlight teachings from Dave Ramsey, John Maxwell, John Miller and Daniel Pink. Success is dependent on accepting that change must occur and then taking a holistic approach to improvement. Management and staff must look beyond the pure science of forensic toxicology to begin tackling the persistent problems. With an engaged staff, objective data, reasonable goals, a well-defined quality system, and relentless pursuit-it is possible to succeed. Laboratory managers, trainees and bench-level toxicologists will benefit. **Note: The topic of financial budgets is outside the scope of this workshop.**	Curt E. Harper, Ph.D. Justin E. Sanders, M.F.S.	Tuesday Full Day
9	Pharmacognosy for the Forensic Toxicologist Knowledge Level: Intermediate	The current landscape of novel recreational drugs is dominated by synthetic compounds; however, there is a rising popularity of recreational abuse of "natural" highs, with internet forums and blogs dedicated to organic alternatives such as *Kratom* and *Ayahuasca*. The use of naturally derived substances for recreational abuse is not a modern concept, and the field of pharmacognosy is dedicated to the study of medicines derived from natural sources. Many of the natural highs have a place in history as use in ritualistic traditions, but are finding new popularity with those seeking an alternative high while evading routine drug screening; other substances such as "magic mushrooms" or "locoweed" have consistently had a place in forensic toxicology casework. Besides traditional means of highs from plant material, animal venoms also challenge our capabilities in analytical and interpretative toxicology. Other unexpected substances that may play a role in forensic investigations include herbal supplements, which may either be contaminated with hazardous substances or may interact with an individual's pharmaceutical regimen and cause adverse consequences. This workshop will detail the pharmacology of different natural highs, from psychoactive plant compounds to animal toxins, considering analytical approaches and case histories. Even though forensic toxicology casework is dominated by routine therapeutic drugs and drugs of abuse such as opiates and marijuana, it is important for forensic toxicologists to be able to identify when lesser known natural substances play a role in possible intoxication or poisoning for successful case resolution.	Barry K. Logan, Ph.D. Donna M. Papsun, M.S.	Tuesday Full Day
10	Toxicology in the Forensic Laboratory: How Will It Look in 2020? Knowledge Level: Intermediate	The field of forensic toxicology continues to evolve. The material presented in this workshop seeks to assist the forensic scientist in identifying potential trends over the next five years. Specific changes associated with analytical laboratory work may include: 1) implementation of OSAC guidelines and standards; 2) identification of geographically relevant new compounds; 3) analysis of drugs in alternative matrices; and 4) balancing older technologies with new screening and confirmatory instrumentation. Workshop faculty currently involved in these differing aspects of forensic toxicology will discuss trends likely to emerge in our field over the next five years.	Christine M. Moore, Ph.D., D. Sc. Cynthia A. Coulter, B.S.	Tuesday Morning

#	Title	Abstract	Co-Chairs	Date
11	Analysis & Interpretation of GHB in Traditional and Alternate Matrices Knowledge Level: Basic	Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) both occur naturally in the body but may also be ingested. Illicit use of GHB and GBL has been associated with the club-scene, drug-facilitated crime and deaths due to intoxication. Interpretation is challenging due to the presence of GHB as an endogenous compound in biological samples. This is further compromised due to issues of stability and production of GHB in postmortem blood. This workshop aims to provide: 1) comprehensive review of the challenges associated with GHB interpretation in a range of biological matrices and 2) strategies for approaching different case types.	Gail A.A. Cooper, Ph.D. Karen S. Scott, Ph.D.	Tuesday Morning
12	Expert Testimony: How to be Comfortable in an Uncomfortable Situation-The Basics (SOFT Young Forensic Toxicologists Committee Workshop) Knowledge Level: Basic	In this YFT-sponsored workshop, participants will experience a mock court session to understand basic trial proceedings. Presentations will include: preparing for court, converting your training to effective testimony, distilling complex scientific information into easily understandable testimony, dealing with common issues, and differences encountered when testifying for the prosecution and the defense. Participants will also have an opportunity to ask the faculty questions-legal and forensic toxicology subject matter experts.	Sarah S. Urfer, M.S. Nathalie A. Desrosiers, Ph.D.	Tuesday Afternoon
13	Military Drug Testing: Random Urinalysis to Postmortem Toxicology Knowledge Level: Basic	The origins of the military drug testing program began at the end of the Vietnam era as reports circulated that over 25% of the force was addicted to heroin. President Nixon authorized drug testing to identify drug users in order to provide substance abuse treatment prior to their return to the United States. The program remained focused on treatment and rehabilitation until the 1981 aircraft accident aboard the USS Nimitz Aircraft Carrier when: fourteen (14) service members were killed and forty-eight (48) injured, seven (7) planes were destroyed and over $150 million in damages occurred. Post-accident investigation revealed significant marijuana use among those killed as well as the crew. This prompted the Department of Defense to change its drug testing policy to one that authorized punitive actions for drug use-a policy that continues to this day. The military was the first organization to implement large-scale random drug testing for its workforce. Drug use is considered a threat to readiness and safety of the Total Force. This workshop will provide a comprehensive review of the military's drug testing program to include: a brief program history, summary of recent drug testing data, how the program is governed and regulated, overarching quality assurance efforts, innovations-such as electronic medical review, surveillance and prevalence testing initiatives, instrument evaluations, and real-world case studies.	Thomas M. Martin, Ph.D. Eric R. Welsh, Ph.D.	Tuesday Afternoon

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Workshop Coordinators: Demi Garvin (dgarvin@rcsd.net) and Deb Denson (Ddenson1@nc.rr.com)