

Dear Colleague,

## FORSTAT-6 2012

Edinburgh, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June (lunchtime) to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June (lunchtime)

### UPDATES

***Reduced fees  
Funding for career-young forensic scientists  
Poster presentations***

**The registration fee for full attendance at the workshop is now £225.** For attendance on Tuesday or Friday (both half-days) the fee is £45 per day. For attendance on Wednesday or Thursday (both full days) the fee is £80 per day. Registration fees include lunches and dinners as appropriate.

**Funding for career-young forensic scientists:** Funding through STEOFRAE also enables the organisers to offer ten fully-funded places on the workshop to career-young forensic scientists in Europe who may not otherwise be able to attend. Funding covers the cost of registration fee and accommodation at the workshop as well as all reasonable travelling expenses, up to 400 euros, from the scientist's home.

**Poster presentations:** If anyone wishes to present a poster on a topic relevant to the workshop limited space will be available for this on one day of Wednesday or Thursday.

Since the initial announcement of the workshop, the organisers have been fortunate to gain funding from the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) through the STEOFRAE proposal: 'Strengthening the Evaluation of Forensic Results across Europe'. This enables the reduction in the registration fees and the funding for career-young forensic scientists outlined above. Accommodation charges are also reduced for those staying three nights or more.

The intention of the series of FORSTAT workshops is to train forensic scientists in the statistical evaluation of evidence. During the meetings ideas concerning the application of statistical methods in the forensic field and how the methods work in practice will be presented. Participants are not expected to have much prior statistical knowledge. The level of the presentations is aimed at those who are forensic experts but may be beginners in statistics.

The meeting in 2012 will have several topics scheduled to enable people who are not able to come to the whole workshop still to benefit from a partial attendance. The provisional programme includes:

- DNA profiling (half-day, Tuesday)
- Probabilistic reasoning in the legal system (Wednesday)
- Data Analysis, including multivariate analysis (data for which more than one characteristic is measured on each member of the dataset) (Thursday)
- Discussion of the implications of  $R \nu T$  ([2010], EWCA Crim 2439) for evidence evaluation (half-day, Friday)

Lecturers will include Colin Aitken from the University of Edinburgh, David Lucy from the University of Lancaster, Anjali Mazumder, a forensic statistical consultant, Tereza Neocleous from the University of Glasgow and Grzegorz Zadora from the Institute of Forensic Research in Krakow. All have lectured at FORSTAT before.

The programme will involve both lectures and practical exercises. Participants will be asked to bring a laptop with them. We will want participants to be able to load specialist open-source software on to their laptop for use with the practical exercises.

**Accommodation** is available on the site at a cost of £45.00 per person per night for bed and breakfast at Masson House  
(<http://www.edinburghfirst.co.uk/for-accommodation/masson-house-internal>)  
with a few rooms available at £52.50 per person per night for bed and breakfast at Chancellor's Court  
<http://www.edinburghfirst.co.uk/for-accommodation/pollock-halls-internal>.

*However, for anyone staying for three nights or more, one night is free.*

The deadline for registration and for reservation of accommodation is **May 1<sup>st</sup> 2012**.

**Funding for career-young forensic scientists:** Anyone interested in receiving funding in this way is asked to contact Colin Aitken at the e-mail address below with a copy of their c.v. and a brief (less than 500 words) description as to how their career will benefit from attendance at the workshop. Please submit your request by **March 31<sup>st</sup> 2012**.

**Poster presentations:** Anyone wishing to present a poster should contact Colin Aitken with a brief (again of less than 500 words) note, no more than one side of A4, of what it is they wish to present. It may be the case that not all submissions will be able to be accepted. Please submit your request by **March 31<sup>st</sup> 2012**.

Further details of the workshop including booking and payment facilities will be available at <http://ies.krakow.pl/conferences/forstat2012> from the middle of February.  
All enquiries should be addressed to **c.g.g.aitken@ed.ac.uk**

We look forward to seeing you and your colleagues at the workshop.

*Colin Aitken*, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK  
*Grzegorz Zadora*, Institute of Forensic Research, Krakow, Poland