

Upcoming Meetings

4th European Academy of Forensic Science Conference

June 13–16, 2006
Helsinki, Finland
www.eafs2006.com

2nd Mediterranean Academy of Forensic Science

June 15–18, 2006
Malta
www.malta-mafsworkshop.com

1st Annual Joint Meeting of the Canadian Identification Society and the Canadian Society of Forensic Science

August 20–26, 2006
Windsor, Ontario, Canada
www.csfs.ca

Southern Association of Forensic Scientists (SAFS) Meeting

September 24–28, 2006
Birmingham, Alabama, USA
www.southernforensic.org

17th International Symposium on Human Identification

October 9–12, 2006
Nashville, Tennessee, USA
www.promega.com/geneticsymp17

Dear Readers,

On January 5, 2006, U.S. President George W. Bush signed a bill into law that allows state and federal law enforcement authorities to add DNA profiles of all arrestees to the federal Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) database. This new law will likely increase the demand for the already-limited resources of most DNA-typing laboratories in the United States. As a result, more laboratories may be turning to automation to increase sample throughput. Each automated platform has its own benefits, and care must be taken to choose an instrument that matches the needs of the laboratory. In this issue we present three options for automating DNA purification. The Maxwell™ 16 Instrument is a new option for laboratories that do not have the budget or need for a high-throughput instrument. Read more about automating DNA purification from 1 to 16 samples at a time in 15–20 minutes using the Maxwell™ 16 Instrument in the feature article: *Forensic Applications of the Maxwell™ 16 Instrument*. For laboratories that are interested in higher throughput instruments, Christopher Cowan describes automated DNA purification using the DNA IQ™ System and the Tecan Freedom EVO® 100, which allows independent control of all eight pipetting tips and bar code identification using an optional, integrated bar code reader. Also, Bob McLaren, Michael Bjerke and Allan Tereba describe automated DNA purification using the Biomek® 3000 Laboratory Automation Workstation, which allows sample tracking and has the ability to create a single method that can process different numbers of samples and sample types.

In the second feature article, Michael Silvia, David Pomposini, Han Na Rhee and Susan Greenspoon characterize a mosaic individual with a triallelic pattern at the locus D18S51 and an aberrant genotype at the D21S11 and CSF1PO loci due to somatic mutation.

In the Interesting Cases report, Damir Marjanovic, Bakal Narcisa, Katja Drobnic and Hadziselimovic Rifat share their experience analyzing a complex DNA mixture resulting from an incestuous rape.

Finally, in the Announcements section we introduce the newest member of our Genetic Identity team: Bob McLaren. We also announce the recipients of the prizes given out in response to the *Profiles in DNA* Readers Survey. Thank you to all of you who took the time to complete the survey.



Terri Sundquist
Editor,
Profiles in DNA

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