

Academy News

President's Message



Barry K. Logan, PhD
2013-14 President

Dear Colleagues: This promises to be a busy year with some significant landmarks in forensic science. The deadline for applications to the NIJ/NIST National Commission on Forensic Science passed on March 25. The AAFS Executive Committee approved the applications of 101 Fellows and Retired Fellows of the AAFS for letters in support of their applications, which were provided to them individually along with a letter to the NIJ on behalf of the AAFS encouraging the selection committee to consider engagement in the AAFS as part of the selection process. I am pleased to report that there were applicants from every section of the AAFS in rough proportion to the size of each section. If selected, those individuals, while not official AAFS representatives, will represent the values and professionalism of the AAFS in that assignment. My further hope is that they will be able to serve as ambassadors of the Commission to the AAFS to promote the implementation of the Commission's recommendations. Details of the announcement and the description of the Commission from the *Federal*

Register are posted on our website with a link on the "Legislative Corner" webpage.

The focus of the Commission's activities is described as promoting strategies for enhancing quality assurance in forensic science; recommending priorities for standards development; selecting and working with subject matter experts; developing specific policies around training, accreditation, and certification; and, working to identify needs and promoting resources for future development and growth of the profession. These are all high-level goals which the AAFS supports. Prior to our mid-year meeting, I will be working with the AAFS Board to produce a platform document that outlines the AAFS support for these initiatives and tries to find common ground across the criminal justice system to accomplish meaningful reform and obtain the necessary resources to implement them.

Further details of congressional activity resulting from our participation with the Consortium of Forensic

continued on page 37

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee has announced its list of nominees for the 2014-15 officers:

Victor W. Weedn, MD, JD	President-Elect	(Pathology/Biology)
Susan M. Ballou, MS	Vice President	(Criminalistics)
Robert B. J. Dorion, DDS	Vice President	(Odontology)
John E. Gerns, MFS	Secretary	(General)
Betty Layne DesPortes, JD, MS	Treasurer	(Jurisprudence)

The Nominating Committee is composed of the three immediate Past Presidents—**Robert Barsley** (Chair), **Douglas Ubelaker**, and **Joseph Bono**—and the immediate past section chairs: **Ken Williams** (Criminalistics), **David Baker** (Digital & Multimedia Sciences), **Kurt Weiss** (Engineering Sciences), **Julie Howe** (General), **Paul Messner** (Jurisprudence), **Richard Weems** (Odontology), **Keith Pinckard** (Pathology/Biology), **William Belcher** (Physical Anthropology), **John Young** (Psychiatry & Behavioral Science), **Carl McClary** (Questioned Documents), and **Ruth Winecker** (Toxicology).

In accordance with AAFS Bylaws, nomination for any elected office of the Academy may be made by petition delivered to the Nominating Committee in care of the AAFS headquarters no later than September 1. Nomination petitions should state the name of the nominee, the office sought, a certificate stating that the candidate is a Fellow in good standing, and the signatures and printed names of 50 Fellows and full Members. Nominations for any elective office may be made from the floor during the Academy's Annual Business Meeting, February 19, 2014, in Seattle, WA.

