

National Association of Document Examiners  
2010 Conference

Schedule Subject to Change.

NOTE: This is the official schedule. All previous versions were unofficial works in progress. We reserve the right to adjust this schedule in the event of unforeseen circumstances. The Conference Schedule is complete. There is no more time available for another presentation. We thank all those who graciously offered their time, knowledge, skill, educational background and experience to make this a reality.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: We have been given a special privilege. The Honorable Paul J. De Muniz, Chief Justice, Oregon Supreme Court, has consented to be the keynote speaker at our Banquet, Friday Evening, May 07, 2010. He and his guest will be our guests at the banquet.

NADE CONFERENCE 2010 will be held on May 04-07, 2010, with the two Pre-Conference events on May 03 and 04. The location of the Conference is Embassy Suites Hotel, 319 SW Pine St., Portland, OR. To make your reservations, call 503-279-9000 or 1-800-643-7892, or visit their web site at [www.embassyportland.com](http://www.embassyportland.com). Be sure to ask for the special NADE rate.

REGISTRATION FOR CONFERENCE AND PRE-CONFERENCES: Please see the form at the end of this schedule.

TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM PORTLAND AIRPORT: The hotel does not have a van service, but MAX (Portland's public transit) will bring you directly from the airport terminal to within two blocks of the hotel for \$2.30 one-way. A taxi takes less than half the time for about \$40.00 one-way. There are also door-to-door vans that take multiple passengers and make multiple stops.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you would like to volunteer to assist during the Conference, please contact Jacqueline Joseph at [jjoseph@jjhandwriting.com](mailto:jjoseph@jjhandwriting.com). Volunteer assignments include:

- Hosts to welcome members and guests, answering questions and providing directions when needed. Sarah Koch, one of our guest speakers, has volunteered to assist in this service. Please consider helping out.

- Publicity and press releases. Please invite your colleagues and contacts to attend.

The following members have already volunteered to provide these additional services:

- Bill Koppenhaver: Help with equipment for presenters.
- Richard Orsini: Supervise Hospitality Room.
- Hannah McFarland: Supervisor of the Book Table to assist with inventory and cashiering.

She welcomes assistance. Contact her directly if you can assist.

- Barbara Downer: Poster Session chairperson.
- What can you volunteer for? Let Jacqueline Joseph know: [jjoseph@jjhandwriting.com](mailto:jjoseph@jjhandwriting.com).

THE HOSPITALITY ROOM will be open every evening after dinner for social gatherings. Special events in the Hospitality Room will be announced in advance.

BOOK TABLE will be open during certain breaks for your perusal, review and purchase of forensic publications and equipment that will enrich your library and lab, and enable you to tackle more technically challenging and financially rewarding assignments. If you have publications or equipment for sale that are specifically related to forensic work, let us know so we can accommodate you. Contact Hannah McFarland: [Hannah@writeexam.com](mailto:Hannah@writeexam.com).

POSTER SESSIONS will be presented for review at all breaks, unless circumstances beyond our control dictate otherwise. Presenters need to apply to and coordinate with the Poster Session Chairperson to let us know at which breaks they can be with their posters to answer questions. As much as possible, design your poster session to be self-explanatory. Contact Barbara Downer: [bdowner@documentexam.com](mailto:bdowner@documentexam.com).

MEALS: Lunches for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday are included in your conference registration. The Friday night Banquet is included in your conference registration. Breakfast is included in your hotel registration, as are pre-dinner hors d'oeuvres. Dinners on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are on your own. All alcoholic beverages are also on your own.

Monday. May 03. 2010. Pre-conference Presentations.

1:00 to 5:00 PM: Computer Magic for the Document Examiner: What can be done. Gary Herbertson.

Gary is a retired FBI document examiner who has presented at NADE Conferences. He will explain and demonstrate what can be done in Photoshop. If you own his book, Document Examination on the Computer: A Guide for Forensic Document Examiners, it is advisable to bring it with you.

See Registration Form at end of this Schedule. You may register for Monday afternoon, or Tuesday morning, or for both.

1:00 to 6:00 PM: Combat Skills for Expert Witnesses. Session A. Bill and Kathie Koppenhaver.

In a private 55-minute videotaped session, Bill and Kathie will take you through a moot testimony. You will receive their assessment of your performance with advice on how to improve your testimony skills. You will have the video for further study. This is a repeat from last year by popular demand. Only eight people can be accommodated for 55-minute sessions on Monday AM and Tuesday PM. See Registration Form at end of this Schedule.

Tuesday. May 04. 2010: Pre-conference Presentations and Start of Conference.

Morning: Registration for Conference.

8:00 to 11:30 AM: Computer Magic for the Document Examiner: How to do it! Gary Herbertson.

Gary will take you through instructions using lessons on a CD that will be supplied. Bring your laptop to participate in the exercises Gary has prepared. You must have Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Elements or a trial version free from Adobe web page. The free trial version can be used for a limited time, so be sure not to download it so soon that it will disappear before the Conference.

See Registration Form at end of this Schedule. You may register for Monday afternoon, or Tuesday morning, or for both.

8:00 to 11:00 AM: Combat Skills for Expert Witnesses. Session B. Bill and Kathie Koppenhaver.

See description for Monday afternoon. See Registration Form at end of this Schedule.

1:00 to 1:15 PM: Welcome and opening of Conference by Linda James, President, and Jacqueline Joseph, Lead Conference Chair, with introduction of Co-chairs Hannah McFarland and Marcel B. Matley.

1:15 to 2:45 PM: Photography Workshop. Bill Koppenhaver and David Liebman.

Bill and Dave will present practical applications of digital photography that can lead to the solution of common problems in document examination. For those who wish additional participation in a special skills program, you will receive a special assignment to produce digital photographs during the Conference as if one were addressing a real-life forensic situation. To participate, you will need to bring your laptop and a digital camera.

On Friday afternoon, you will have an opportunity to present your special work product by digital projection on a screen for admiration by your colleagues. This includes personal instructions from Bill and Dave on how to improve your skills.

2:45 to 3:15 PM: Break.

We are planning half-hour breaks to facilitate networking, for review of poster sessions throughout the week, and to permit browsing the professional publications and equipment available for purchase at the Book Table. Please be back in session on time, because we plan to keep a rigid schedule just as we are obliged to do when called to court.

3:15 to 4:00 PM: The Power of PowerPoint! A Workshop. Sharon Rose Hampton.

At the end of 2009 Conference, Sharon quickly projected a PowerPoint procedure whereby she solved a case reported in the news where examiners said that they were stumped. Back by popular demand, Sharon will demonstrate and explain her solution using PowerPoint. She will demonstrate other powerful uses of Power Point, pointing out how you can replicate her work product.

Sharon will give us a hands-on project to do during the week if we wish to participate in this special skills program. You will need your laptop with PowerPoint installed and operable. On Friday afternoon you will have an opportunity to present your work product by digital projection on a screen for admiration by your colleagues. Sharon will offer instructions on how to improve your skills.

NOTE: During the first week of April files will be uploaded to NADE's member's only section for download to personal laptops for attendees of the PowerPoint demonstration. This download will contain the sample documents for the hands-on project.

4:00 to 5:30 or 6:00 PM as needed: Expert Deposition Techniques & Strategies. David B. Markowitz and Troy S. Moody.

This presentation, of compiled videotaped expert witness testimony, is a training tool showing the biggest mistakes experts make and how to avoid them. From what not to wear, what not to say and do, we will learn how video captures nonverbal information not recorded on stenographic transcripts: the good, the bad and the ugly! As mentors and coaches, Markowitz and Moody will demonstrate effective expert testimony with the use of video.

Troy S. Moody, president of Naegeli Trial Technologies, is a Certified Legal Video Specialist from the National Court Reporters Association. He is known as a leader in state-of-the-art litigation digital evidence presentations, videos and video-conferencing production nationwide. He has developed several hi-tech multi-media courtroom presentations integrating digital elements for high-profile trials winning multi-million dollar verdicts.

David B. Markowitz, Partner, Markowitz, Herbold, Glade & Mehlhaf, P.C. the premier business litigation firm in the Pacific Northwest, was recently recognized as a top 10 Oregon Super Lawyer by Super Lawyers magazine, one of the Top Ten Oregon Litigators by the National Law Journal, and Portland's 2010 "Best-the-Company" Litigator of the Year by The Best Lawyers in America. Additionally, Dave has received numerous awards and recognitions, not only for his outstanding trial work, but also for his efforts in mentoring and educating attorneys at all levels.

Dinner on your own.

Evening: Board Meeting. Time and location to be announced.

Wednesday, May 05, 2010: Conference Presentations.

8:30 to 9:15 AM: Reports That Compel the Reader and Do Not Embarrass the Writer. Sarah Koch.

Sarah is a professional editor and proofreader. Sarah will tell us how to create reports that are error-free, grab the reader's attention, and persuade!

Jacqueline and Marcel can attest that she is excellent at what she does. An "error-free" report is sent to her, and back comes notice of typos, of statements that may be ambiguous or could be made more compelling along with generous and fruitful suggestions.

9:15 to 10:00 AM: Confidentiality in the Information Age: How to Protect Yourself and Your Data. Beverly A. Michaelis, JD.

Beverly provides confidential law practice management advice to Oregon attorneys.

Maintaining confidentiality is a challenge because of the use of digital media and the menace of its growing misuse. We will learn to consider the embarrassing consequences if data is

mistakenly transmitted. Additionally, we will learn about confidentiality agreements, ethical concerns, preparing disclaimers and warnings, and avoiding or protecting identity exposure due to metadata transmission.

10:00 to 10:30 AM: Break

10:30 to 11:15 AM: Tools of the Trade. Gary Herbertson.

Gary will review the history of tools and equipment used in document examination and end with his recommended list of the most essential for today's examiner.

11:15 AM to Noon: Gonzalez v. El Capitan Ranch, a Case Study. Sheila Lowe.

A ranch owner presents a document he claims was signed by his landscaper, accepting \$60,000 as payment in full on a \$500,000 balance. The landscaper denies having signed the agreement. What do the exemplars and other documents in the attorney's files reveal? This presentation will detail what the document examiner found and presented at a jury trial in Santa Barbara, CA.

Noon to 1:30 PM: Lunch provided.

1:30 to 2:30 PM: Legal Preventive Medicine for Expert Witnesses. Greg Levinson, Esq.

Greg is a Portland attorney who specializes in working with small and emerging businesses, assisting them with corporate formation and contract review and drafting.

Whether you have been in business for many years or just starting a new business, Greg will show how to minimize your professional risk and personal liability exposure from law suits against you, your business and your work product.

2:30 to 3:00 PM: Topic to be Announced. Walt McNeill, NADE Attorney.

3:00 to 3:30 PM: Break.

3:30 to 4:30 PM: An Introduction to Foster & Freeman Equipment. Jim Lee.

Jim Lee is an experienced and well regarded document examiner who represents Foster & Freeman. He will introduce equipment for the document examiner, including the ESDA, and explain its uses and benefits. Jim will be around during the Conference to answer questions, give demonstrations and take orders.

4:30 to 5:30 PM: Forensic Fables. James A. Blanco.

Revealing inconsistencies, contradictions and outright errors in the opinions of some who claim to be "Osbornian," Jim will teach us not to fear the opposing examiner's big name and impressive background but to evaluate the opinion and its bases objectively. Jim will illustrate cases where top rated examiners made glaring mistakes in signature identification. He will draw salutary lessons for us from these experiences.

James Blanco is a document examiner with offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles. He has more than 23 years of experience as a Forensic Document Examiner, this includes formerly working for the U.S. Treasury, the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Services, and the Sacramento Sheriff's Office. He has been published in Elsevier Scientific International and is Author of the ground-breaking book, Business Fraud, Know it and Prevent It.

Dinner on your own.

Evening: General Membership Meeting, to be continued Thursday evening if needed.

Thursday, May 06, 2010: Conference Sessions.

8:30 to 9:15 AM: Calendar Entries. Ann Mahony.

Ann will report about a case wherein a woman claimed moneys due her for work performed, presenting a calendar reflecting the days and times she worked. Ann proved the calendar was manufactured out of whole cloth. The techniques employed are knowledge tools for all of us.

9:15 to 10:00 AM: Modern History of Handwriting as a Science. Carole Chaski.

Carole made an initial proposal for modern scientific investigation into the identifiability of handwriting. It was of proper methodology, characterized by rigid controls, and designed to meet the current standards for scientific research in recognized scientific fields. These sound scientific proposals were sabotaged. Learn why some current, allegedly scientific research supposedly in support of reliable handwriting expertise is deeply flawed.

10:00 to 10:30 AM: Break.

10:30 to Noon: Who Wrote It and What Is It? Forensic Linguistic Methods for Document Examiners. Carole Chaski.

Carole will explain:

- Threat Assessment;
- Author Identification;
- Suicide Note Assessment; and
- Gender and Age.

Historically, principally in the writings of Albert S. Osborn, elements of linguistics were employed as supportive evidence in handwriting identification. Currently, there is a conflict in case law as to what elements of language usage may be used in handwriting identification. Some courts ruled that spelling is a mental process and its usage for identification is tantamount to making the defendant a witness against himself, while other courts ruled to the contrary. A number of document examiners have taken a course called SCAN, Scientific Content Analysis.

Whether we are among that number or must counter their opinions, we need to know what Carole will present both to protect ourselves and better to serve our clients.

Noon to 1:30 PM: Lunch provided.

1:30 to 3:00 PM: Cognitive Bias and the Document Examiner; Or: What You Don't Know about Your Attitudes Can Hurt Your Client. Michael N. Wakshull.

Black's Law Dictionary defines bias as "a predisposition to decide a cause or an issue in a certain way." Mike will explain how our knowledge, abilities and attitudes develop and how they may make us emotionally favor one decision or action over another, whatever the facts may be. This is called "cognitive bias," and it can unwittingly influence our conclusions in forensic examinations. Mike will tell us how to recognize bias and how we can guard ourselves against its influence as well as avoid adopting biases from others. We all have biases, but they are dangerous only when we pretend they are not there.

Mike has dual professional interests: document examination and "project management, risk management and the causes for project failure." His Master's Degree thesis was on how cognitive bias affects risk and decisions. We document examiners take risks and make decisions in every case, and most of us manage our own business, facing the dual challenges of cognitive bias Mike's speciality. He has presented to Project Management Institute, American Society for Quality and Forensic Expert Witness Association.

This issue is so critical today that AAFS in Seattle this February included a workshop titled: "Tools for controlling Cognitive Bias in Casework." Exactly what Mike will give us! ASTM publication, Standardization News, Sept.-Oct. 2009, on pages 14-16, has a paper by David Lawrey: "Laboratory bias: Laboratory-specific bias and its effect on precision statements." You may not have a full, formal lab, but if you only use a microscope, you have a rudimentary lab and have to guard against laboratory bias.

3:00 to 3:30 PM: Break.

3:30 to 5:30 PM: A Forensic Smorgasbord.

- 3:30: Hannah McFarland: Competence Counts. The opposing expert was sure Hannah was unqualified. The fact-finder was sure Hannah was correct.

- 4:00: Dr. Susan Turnbull: Identification of the Class Characteristics in the Handwriting of Polish People Writing in English in the U.K.; an Original Research Project.

Susan is daughter of NADE member Kathryn Thorndycraft and has expressed her intention to apply for membership in NADE. Susan's paper is scheduled to be published in Journal of Forensic Sciences.

- 4:15-4:45: Sue Abbey and Linda James: When Sue and Linda testified in the same case.

Part 1: Familial Writing and Natural Variation by Sue.

Part 2: Signs of Forgery vs. Genuineness by Linda.

- 4:45: Report on E30.02, ASTM 2010 in Seattle by Conference Co-Chairs.

- 5:00: Graziella Pettinati: Statistics Number among the Things that Count: Standard Deviation Applied to a Multiplicity of Documents.

Since 2007 Graziella and her colleagues had worked on a case involving many documents generated by the same secretary from 1975 to 1983. The client asserted some pages were falsified. But how to verify this hypothesis and demonstrate it? They examined paper, typewriting, quality of the secretary's work, signatures. Data gathered included indentations, reaction to UV, spelling, typewriter features, formatting, features of signatures. Statistical analysis showed that the probability of the many suspicious features all occurring together was less than 0.03%.

Dinner on your own.

Evening: Continuation of General Membership Meeting if needed.

Friday, May 07, 2010. Conference Sessions.

8:30 to 10:00 AM: Rhythm in Handwriting: Its Determination and Value in Identification. Marcel B. Matley.

Marcel will define rhythm in general and specifically what rhythm in handwriting is. He will explain its elements and how they are objectively observed and demonstrated, setting forth the role that rhythm and arrhythmia play in handwriting identification. Illustrations will be in various languages and scripts, both contemporary and historical. You will have the illustrations in hand to follow along and to practice on your own later.

Rhythm in handwriting is the regular and measurable repetition or alternation of the same or similar or contrasting features across time and space.

10:00 to 10:30 AM: Break.

10:30 to 11:15 AM: Examination of Hebrew and Arabic Writing with Comments on the Workings of Israeli Courts. Pnina Arieli.

Pnina, an Israeli document examiner in private practice, will explain the fine points of examining Hebrew and Arabic writing, illustrated by her own casework. She will also provide us with basic information on how courts in Israel operate.

11:15 to Noon: \$800,000 Beneficiary Designation That Was Hard to Swallow. Bob Baier.

Bob will report on a case that involved three questioned documents that cumulatively entailed a number of aspects: printed material, numerals, three signatures, indented writings, gel pen, ballpoint pen, marker pen, photography, photocopies, and originals. Through a thorough, technical report the opposing attorney and the court, which supervised negotiations towards a settlement, were apprized of why the three questioned documents were forgeries.

Noon to 1:30 PM: Lunch provided.

1:30 to 2:15 PM: Sinking the Titanic: Inter-laboratory Collaboration in Historical Document Authentication. Joe Barabe.

Determining the authenticity of historical documents, objects and works of art can strain the capacities of any analyst or laboratory. We may be highly qualified to examine one or several aspects of a case but may be lacking in either the expertise or instrumentation to address other essential questions. This paper will explore the practice of inter-disciplinary collaboration on complex projects, both within and between laboratories, determining what you need, finding consultants with the needed expertise, and navigating the project leader/subcontractor continuum. Several case studies will be presented. A poster advertising the fated cruise of the Titanic: Authentic? Or modern fabrication?

2:15 to 3:00 PM: The Writing on the Wall. Barbara Harding.

In the aftermath of the Columbine tragedy, school violence and death threats have increased. Over a period of three years Barbara examined a series of threats written on bathroom stall doors at the same high school. The conclusion of this complex story has an interesting twist. Using the overhead projector, Barbara will illustrate the threats and the handwriting samples from suspects.

3:00 to 3:30 PM: Break.

3:30 to 5:30 PM: Participants in the Photography and PowerPoint Special Skills Exercises to Present Their Work Product.

By viewing the work product of the participants in the photography and PowerPoint skills exercises, we will expand our own knowledge of what can be done with digital photography and PowerPoint. The suggestions for improvement offered by Dave, Bill and Sharon will be lessons for us also in applying these techniques to our practice.

Evening: Banquet.

6:30 to 7:30 PM: No host cocktails.

7:30 PM until Adjournment of Conference: Banquet.

- Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Paul J. De Muniz, Chief Justice, Oregon Supreme Court.
- Awards.
- Announcements for 2011 Conference.
- Closing of the 2010 Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcel B. Matley

2010 Conference Co-chair in charge of Program.