

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE SEMINAR SERIES

500 Academic Center | Room 0112 | 2:30 – 3:30p

- January 17 **Michelle Peace, Ph.D.**
“Bored Speaker? Flipper Hands? Crazy Laser? The Makings of a Great Public Speaker.”
Developing a Rubric.
- January 24 **Alphonse Poklis, Ph.D.**
“Drugs Today, Hair Tomorrow: Issues in the Testing for Drugs of Abuse in Hair”
VCU Professor of Pathology, Director of Toxicology for VCU Health Systems
- January 31 **Andrea Phares**
“Evaluation of Automated Systems in a Mitochondrial DNA Unit”
Mentor: Dr. Katie Horsman-Hall, Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond VA
- February 07 **Matchstick Presentations**
- February 14 **TBD**
- February 21 **American Academy of Forensic Sciences.**
Seminar Cancelled
- February 28 **TBD**
- March 06 **Maria Saeed**
“The Effectiveness of PreCRTM Repair Mix on Human DNA Damaged by Oxidation”
Mentor: Dr. James Robertson, FBI Counterterrorism and Forensic Science Research
- March 13 **Spring Break**
- March 20 **Travis Harris**
“Exploration of the benefits of Raman Spectroscopy for drug identification in toxicological testing specimens”
Mentor: Dr. Massimo Bertino, Associate Professor, VCU Dpt of Physics
- March 27 **Tracey Dawson Cruz, Ph.D.**
Mandatory Meeting for First Year Grad Students
- April 03 **Web Bist**
“Evaluation of a DNA Methylation Pattern-Based Sperm Cell Identification Assay”
Mentor: Dr. Susan Greenspoon, Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond VA

April 10 **Caitlin Oliver**
 "Pre-amplification mixture identification using real time PCR"
Mentor: Tracey Dawson Cruz, Ph.D., VCU Forensic Molecular Biology Laboratory

April 17 **Amy Cadwallader, Ph.D.**
Senior Scientist, AEGIS Sciences Corporation, Nashville, TN

April 24 **Independent Study Presentations**

Tyler Grissom
"Forensic Analysis of Paint Using a Microspectrophotometer in Reflectance Mode"
Mentor: Mr. Eric Hazelrigg, VCU Department of Forensic Science

Joslyn Kirkland
"Chemometric Analysis of Explosives Residues"
Mentor: Dr. Christopher Ehrhardt, VCU Department of Forensic Science

May 01 **Independent Study Presentations**

Jessica Barker
"Incorporating Small Scale Robotics for DNA Processing: Validation of the Qiagen QIAcube"
Mentor: Tracey Dawson Cruz, Ph.D., VCU Forensic Molecular Biology Laboratory

Alex Jacobs
"Chromophores of Color Tests"
Mentor: Robert Steiner, Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond VA