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NSW Health Pathology







Previous relevant experience:

Group Manager (Evidence Recovery Unit), Forensic and Analytical Science Service, 2014 to 2018.

Senior Forensic Biologist (Team Leader), Forensic and Analytical Science Service (FASS), 2010-2014

Senior Forensic Biologist (DNA Reporting), NSW Divisional of Analytical Laboratories (now FASS), 2006-2010

Forensic Biologist, NSW Divisional of Analytical Laboratories, 2002-2006

Courses and workshops completed:

2003 (July): Attended a three day statistics course run by George CARMODY, "Statistical Analysis of Forensic DNA Evidence". Successfully passed test set by CARMODY on conclusion of the course

2005 (Feb): Attended seminars by Professor Barry BOETTCHER, Simon WALSH (UTS) and Dr John BUCKLETON (ESR), focusing on the Judgment made in relation to the BROPHO case in Western Australia. The subsequent analysis by Buckleton and Walsh of Aboriginal databases was presented and discussed. Seminars were held at DAL.

2005 (March): Attended an in-house training session by Robert GOETZ on "Recent challenges to DNA evidence in NSW". (This presentation was also given to a DPP conference by R. Goetz).

2005 (July 5th): Attended a one day workshop on "DNA interpretation" presented by Dr. David BALDING.

2006 (May): Attended a three day workshop on *Forensic DNA statistics* presented by Dr John BUCKLETON, ESR and Mr Simon WALSH, UTS.

2006 (July): Attended a 2 day training workshop on "Expert Evidence" run by NIFS.

2008 (June): Attended a two day management course "Essential Skills for Managers" run by the SWAHS education and training network.

2009 (Feb): Attended a one day '**Performance Development**' course run by the SWAHS education and training network.

2009 (March): Completed a half-day 'SWAHS Low Risk Driving Course' run by National Driver Education







2009 (October): Committee member of the DAL / EFIMS Transition and Integration Project.

- 2011 Completed "Recruit and Induct Staff" course through SWAHS Learning and Development.
- 2012 Completed Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.
- 2013 Completed Diploma of Frontline Management.
- 2013 Completed training and assessment in "STRmix" expert system.
- 2014 (Feb) Attended NIFS STRmix Advanced Users workshop

2014 (20th March): Attended a talk by Dr. Mark Perlin at DPP offices, Sydney to DPP staff and other legal practitioners: 'TrueAllele Computing: all the DNA, all the time.'

- 2014 (Aug) Delegate at BSAG meeting
- 2015 (May): Life Technologies Roadshow (qPCR, Sanger and MPS)
- 2015 (May): Expert Evidence Court Training Session by Hugh Selby QC
- 2015 (June): How to Cross Examine Expert Witnesses Workshop, UWS
- 2015 (July): Pre Conference Workshop for 5th ICELFS, Adelaide
- 2015 (November) 2 day course, Corporate Crossroads "Corporate Mindfulness", FASS
- 2015 (9 Dec): Leadership and Management Quarters Masterclass, NSW Health Pathology
- 2016 (May): Completed 3 day course 2016 DDLS Change Management Foundation Course

2016 (August): Completed DDLS Agile Project Management Course

2016 (Sept): Completed the NSW Health Pathology Emerging Leaders Program (year long course).

2016 (17 Sept): Y-filer Workshop (ANZFSS 23rd Conference, Auckland)

2016 (Nov): In-house two day training session by Zane KERR on "STRMix Refresher Training".

2016 (Dec): DNA Intelligence Forum. NSW Police workshop used to inform policy for using phenotyping technology in investigative casework.

2017 (Mar-Jun): Frontline Manager Learning Pathways workshops. Five workshops held at FASS Lidcombe regarding improving management practices. By NSW Health Pathology







2017 (15 Jun) Business Case Development workshop by NSW Health Pathology

2017 (13 July): Emerging Leaders Alumni Masterclass – Leadership for Transformation. Run by NSW Health Pathology

2017 (Oct): Emerging Leaders Alumni – Immunity to Change Workshop. Run by NSW Health Pathology

2017 (Nov): Risk Workshop, at FASS Lidcombe. Highlighted responses to a variety of risks within organisations. Run by NSW Health Pathology

2018 (27 Mar): Accelerating Implementation Methodology (AIM) workshop, Agency of Clinical Innovation

2018: Agency for Clinical Innovation – Redesign School

2018 (Apr): Attended in-house Y-Filer training session held by Michele Franco

2018 (16 May): Emotional Intelligence in Practice workshop by NSW Health Pathology

2018 (28 May): Attended NSWPF Phenotyping workshop.

2018 (11 Dec): NATA Technical Assessor Development Program.

- 2019 (Dec): 28th Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics workshops:
 - Body fluid identification through mRNA profiling or DNA methylation analysis.
 - ISO/IEC 17025:2017

Conferences attended:

2010 (Sept): Part registrant at the 20th International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences (ANZFSS), Sydney.

2015 (July): 5th International Conference on Evidence Law & Forensic Science (ICELFS), Adelaide

2016 (18-22 Sept): Attended the ANZFSS 23th International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences, Auckland. *Oral presentation: "Comparison of Collection Methods in Fellatio Allegations - A Six Year Retrospective"*

2019 (9-13 Sept): Attended 28th Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics, Prague.

2020 (24-25 June): Human Identification Solutions (HIDS) Conference (virtual)







2020 (14-17 Sept): International Symposium on Human Identification (virtual).

2021 (20-21 May): Human Identification Solutions (HIDS) Conference (virtual)

2021 (3 Aug): Bode 2021 Virtual Forensic DNA Conference

2021 (13-16 Sept): International Symposium on Human Identification (virtual).

2022 (11-12 May): Human Identification Solutions (HIDS) Conference (virtual)

Presentations:

2003 (June): Presented an overview on Forensic Biology to the Biomedical Science Conference at Charles Sturt University.

2006 (Nov): Presented an overview on Forensic Biology to 3rd year students from the University of Technology, Sydney

2008 (29th Oct): Presented an overview on Forensic Biology to 3rd year students from the University of Technology, Sydney

2015 (June): Presented at Forensic Awareness Forums (3x separate occasions) to NSWP Detectives in Lismore, Coffs Harbour and Tamworth

2015 (July): Gave a presentation at the Interagency workshop on laboratory implications of the new option for patients, to be introduced as a part of NSW Health sexual assault evidence collection workflow

2015 (Sept): Presented at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Sexual Assault CME meeting, Camperdown

2015 (Sept): Presented at Northern Beaches Local Area Command Forensics Training day, Manly

2016 (March): Presented at Children Sexual Abuse training course, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick

2016 (Sept): Presented at the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia, Clinical Forensic Medicine Interim Meeting, Surry Hills

2017 (April): Presented at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Sexual Assault CME meeting, Camperdown

2017 (Oct): Presented at NSW Health Medical Forensic Examiners training day, Sydney







2018 (Dec): Presented at ODPP Conference, Sydney. Sexual Assault Cases- what do the DNA results mean.

Publications:

Nittis, M., Franco, M., & **Cochrane, C**. (2016). New oral cut-off time limits in NSW. *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine*, *44*, 92–97.

Sari, D., Hitchcock, C., Collins, S., **Cochrane, C**. & Bruce, D. (2020). Amylase testing on intimate samples from pre-pubescent, post-pubescent and post-menopausal females: implications for forensic casework in sexual assault allegations. *Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences*, *52:6*, 618-625.

Nittis, M., **Cochrane, C**., Hughes, R. & Franco, M. (2021). Preparing semen slides in cases of sexual assault: Do they who smear first smear best? *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine*, *79*, 102130.

Professional memberships:

Forensic & Analytical Science Service representative to the Biology Specialist Advisory Group (BSAG) for ANZPAA/NIFS.

Mentor to the following BSAG Project Working Groups (PWG):

- Activity Level Reporting (current)
- Y-STRs (2021)

NATA Technical Assessor

Member of the Australian New Zealand Forensic Science Society

Member of the International Society of Forensic Genetics

Co-chair of the 'Guidelines for Collection of Forensic Specimens" meeting group. This forum is the advisory group to set recommended forensic collection guidelines for sampling individuals relating to criminal offences.

Member of the Expert Advisory Group for the Limited Review of the Medical and Forensic Examination Record (MFER). Invited as a subject matter expert by the Sexual Assault Team of the Prevention and Response to Violence, Abuse and Neglect (PARVAN) unit of NSW Health (*finalised*).

Member of the EEK/SAIK Protocols Development Working Group. Invited as a subject matter expert by the Sexual Assault Team of the Prevention and Response to Violence, Abuse and Neglect (PARVAN) unit of NSW Health (*finalised*).

