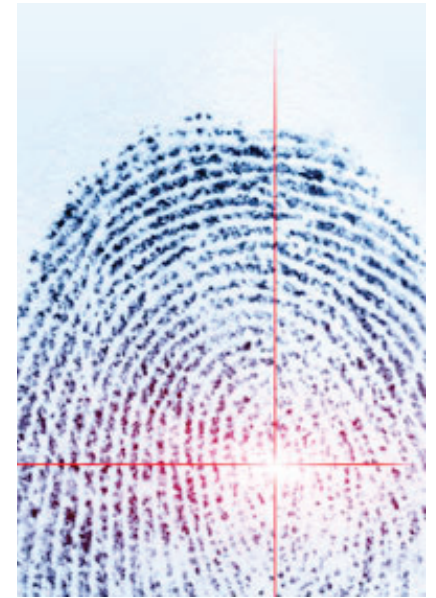




ADVANCING OUR
LEGACY



The Cyril H. Wecht Institute of FORENSIC SCIENCE AND LAW

FUNDING PRIORITIES

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Since its inception in the fall of 2000, the Wecht Institute has collaborated with Duquesne University's schools of Law, Nursing, and Natural and Environmental Sciences to develop and deliver a variety of degree and non-degree programs in the disciplines of forensic science and law. These now include:

- The unique **Certificate in Forensic Science and Law**, featuring online presentations and live, participatory sessions led by a broad spectrum of practitioners and scholars;
- The **Master of Science in Forensic Science and Law**, a rigorous, five-year, entry-level program for aspiring forensic scientists;
- The online **Master of Science in Nursing – Forensic Specialization**, offering specialized training to nurse practitioners; and a closely related **Post-Master's Certificate in Forensic Nursing**.

Contributions to these programs will help ensure their continuation and expansion, including in the areas of faculty recruitment, instructional technology, and laboratory and crime scene equipment and supplies.

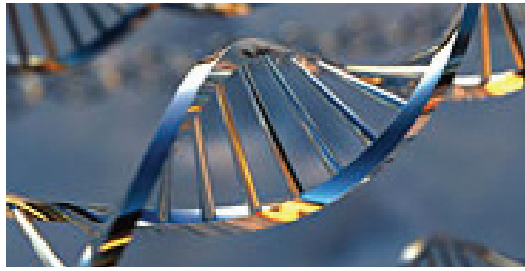
ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Beginning with its inaugural event in the fall of 2000, the Institute each year has hosted a multi-day conference that convenes local and often national figures from a wide variety of disciplines in an effort to shed greater light upon a particular set of issues relating to the practice of forensic science. Topics have included **digital evidence investigation, criminal justice reform, and mass disaster response**, among many other pressing societal concerns. These conferences, typically held in the fall, are available to a wide variety of professional groups, as well as to the general public and University community.

Financial support for this series will assist the Institute in recruiting prominent experts from outside the Pittsburgh area and publicizing these important and informative conferences more widely.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

In keeping with its longtime mission of bridging the historic knowledge gap between legal and scientific professionals, the Institute is now offering **Forensic Fridays**, a series of monthly, primarily afternoon seminars that provide the region's attorneys and other professionals a firmer grounding in many of the scientific disciplines upon which



their work relies, as well as a better understanding of their application to the criminal, civil and family justice systems.

These seminars are designed to confer both educational value and continuing education credit upon working professionals in a variety of fields allied with the practice of forensic science.

Financial support for Forensic Fridays will help the Institute expand its program offerings, recruit faculty, and publicize the series more effectively.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In response to the growing public interest in and societal importance of forensic science, the Institute is eager to disseminate its expertise beyond its primary audience of post-secondary students and professionals.

In one such effort, the Institute is working with the Pittsburgh Public Schools' new science and technology magnet school to offer forensic science education at the secondary level. The Institute has also created mock crime scenes for such institutions as the Carnegie Science Center, providing children and their families with the opportunity to discover the real-life world of "CSI" through hands-on activities.

To expand these types of offerings, especially among the non-profit sector, the Institute requires external funding.

ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Wecht Institute endeavors to work with other academic institutions, professional associations and corporations to supplement their educational and training needs. In one such partnership, the Institute has signed a memorandum

of understanding with the China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing to allow an exchange of students and curricula, as well as collaborative conferences, between the two institutions. Other past and ongoing academic partners include the American Board of Disaster Medicine, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the American College of Forensic Examiners International.

The Institute would like to strengthen such partnerships to include student and faculty travel and the sharing of educational resources. However, external funding is vital to such opportunities.

THE SIGRID AND CYRIL WECHT FORENSIC SCIENCE AND LAW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Initiated by Dr. and Mrs. Wecht's children several years ago, this newly endowed scholarship fund will provide assistance annually to a new or existing student in any University forensic science degree or non-degree program who has demonstrated both financial need and a commitment to the pursuit of social justice.

Financial contributions to this fund will increase its value and enable the Institute to provide ongoing support to deserving students for years to come.

THE DECADE FUND

In recognition of its ongoing, long-term resource and facility needs on the occasion of its 10th anniversary, the Institute has created "The Decade Fund."

Contributions to this fund will count toward the creation of a new endowment from which the Institute will be able to draw in future years as it seeks to augment all of its programmatic offerings.