

Wednesday November 21, 2018

16:00, lecture hall 2, Education Center

Thomas Parsons



Director of Science and Technology
International Commission on Missing Persons
ICMP Headquarters, the Hague, NL

Modern Approaches on Genetic Identification of Missing Persons

Thomas J. Parsons is the Director of Science and Technology at the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP). He supervises a large technical staff in a multidisciplinary approach to location and identification of the missing through imagery, forensic archaeology, anthropology, pathology, bioinformatics and high throughput DNA analysis. The ICMP has assisted with the DNA-based identification of nearly 20,000 persons, particularly of victims from the Balkan war, and nowadays works on missing persons cases globally. Dr. Parsons has coordinated provision of extensive DNA and other forensic science evidence to the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia (ICTY) and other courts, and testified on multiple occasions for the ICTY in The Hague. Prior to joining the ICMP, Dr. Parsons worked at the US Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) since August of 1994, and held the position of AFDIL Chief Scientist since 2000. For two years after the 9/11 attacks he served on a seminal National Institute of Justice advisory panel for the World Trade Center DNA identification efforts. He received the 2015 Biennial Scientific Prize from the International Society for Forensic Genetics.



A joint initiative of the **Departments of Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Developmental Biology, Genetic Identification, Molecular Genetics, Neurosciences**



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