

KING'S FORENSICS SYMPOSIUM 2025:

Stronger Science for a Fairer Society

Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 April 2025
Bush House, Strand, London

Agenda

King's Forensics Symposium 2025: Stronger Science for a Fairer Society

DAY ONE: Monday 28 April 2025 VENUE: **Bush House, King's College London**

08:30	Registration & Poster set up, Welcome & Refreshments	
09:15	Welcome, introduction to King's College London: Prof Shitij Kapur, Vice Chancellor & President, King's College London Introduction to King's Forensics & Symposium 2025: Prof Kim Wolff, MBE, Director, King's Forensics, King's College London (Chair)	
AM-1 session Plenary 1		
09:30	 Anti-Doping Science	Keynote: Prof Olivier Rabin, Senior Director, Science and Medicine, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) – Challenges of detecting cheating in elite sport: the role of analytical evidence.
10:20		Prof Mario Thevis, Professor of Preventive Doping Research, Laboratory Director, Cologne Sports Testing Lab, German Sport University Cologne – Analytical approaches for the detection of emerging therapeutics and non-approved drugs in human sports testing.
10:40		Dr Corinne Buisson, R&D Lead, Paris-Saclay, Laboratoire AntiDopage Français (LADF) – Innovations for testing: lessons learnt from Paris 2024 and future directions.
11:00		Dr Rosa Ventura, Director Catalanian Antidoping Laboratory, Fundació Institut Hospital del Mar d'Investigacions Mèdiques (IMIM), Barcelona – The development of DBS as a tool for detecting doping in human sports testing.
11:20		Dr Jayasena Channa, Reader in Reproductive Endocrinology, Consultant FRCP; Dr Bonnie Grant, Clinical Research Fellow, Imperial College London; Dr Rodrigo Aguilera, Principal Analyst, Drug Control Centre, King's Forensics – What we can learn from a community population of steroid users to aid doping control?
11:40	Refreshment/Comfort break	
AM-2 session Plenary 2		
11:55	 Forensic & Analytical Science	Dr Vincenzo Abbate, Reader in Bioanalysis, King's Forensics (Chair)
12:00		Keynote: Prof Jan Ramaekers, Professor of Psychopharmacology and Behavioural Toxicology, Maastricht University – Effect of cannabidiol and Δ^9 – tetrahydrocannabinol on driving performance.
12:20		Prof Kim Wolff, Professor of Analytical, Forensic & Addiction Science, Director, King's Forensics – Drug driving: the case against nitrous oxide.
12:40		Prof Christophe Stove, Professor of Bioanalysis, Ghent University – Blood microsampling and dried blood spots (DBS) as a more accurate means to detect drug use/misuse than traditional methods such as urinalysis.
13:00	Lunch/Networking/Sponsors: Viewing & Judging Posters	
PM-1 session Plenary 3		
14:00	 International Forensics	Welcome: Prof Funmi Oloisakin Vice President, International Engagement, King's College London Prof Denise Syndercombe Court, Professor of Forensic Genetics, Head of DNA@King's, King's Forensics (Chair)
14:10		Prof Denise Syndercombe Court, Professor of Forensic Genetics, King's Forensics – Genetic investigations of sexual exploitation in developing nations (International Sexual Exploitation of Children: Action).
14:30		James Netto, Solicitor Advocate, Partner, The International Family Law Group LLP, Visiting Senior Researcher King's Forensics – Sexual abuse in the aid sector: legal challenges.
14:50		Prof Gillian Tully, CBE, Professor of Practice for Forensic Science Policy & Regulation, King's Forensics – Improving the contribution of forensic science to the investigation of sexual violence: an evidence-based approach.
15:10		Tracy Alexander, FKC, Director Forensic Science Services, City of London Police – What can forensic science offer to help address the illegal wildlife trade?
15:30		Keynote: Dr Shiquan Liu, Executive Director, National Forensic Evidence Analysis Centre, Institute of Forensic Science, Fudan University, Shanghai, China – Solving cold cases with forensic evidence: working with forensic evidence analysis.
16:15	Refreshment/Comfort break	
PM-2 session		
16:30	Research Lightning talks: King's Forensics Research Showcase – Dr David Ballard (Adjudicator), Senior Lecturer Forensic Genomics, King's Forensics	
	Individual PhD students presenting work: Lauren Woodcock, Alvaro Varela Morillas, Maxine Den Hartog, Chen Shuangqing, Jana Liechti, Katie Lawlor, Ye Jee Roh, Somruetai Satmun, Anca Frinculescu, Eman Mshari, Anita Tarnoska, Daria Lipska Judges: Prof Atholl Johnston, Dr Shobha Ahi, Dr Erika Castrignano, Visiting Prof Simon Elliott	
17:50	Poster exhibition and drinks reception open to all attending 8th Floor, Bush House	
19:00	Speakers Symposium Dinner, River Room, Strand, London Pre-dinner guest speaker: Mr Douglas McKenna, QPM, Former SIO, Counter Terrorism, London Metropolitan Police – The importance of forensic evidence in counter terrorism.	

King's Forensics Symposium 2025: Stronger Science for a Fairer Society

DAY TWO: Tuesday 29 April 2025 VENUE: **Bush House, King's College London**

09:00	Registration: Welcome Refreshments	
09:30	Introduction of Day Two Symposium: Prof Graham Lord, Senior Vice President Health & Life Sciences, King's College London; Executive Director, King's Health Partners and Chief Academic Officer, Guy's & St Thomas' and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trusts.	
09:40	Welcome: Prof Gillian Tully, CBE, Professor of Practice for Forensic Science Policy and Regulation, King's Forensics (Chair)	
AM-1 session Plenary 4		
09:45	 Forensic Policy & Regulation	Alex MacDonald, Data and Identity Directorate, UK Home Office – What next for forensic science policy?
10:05		Dr Mark Pearse, Director, Eurofins Forensic Services (UK) – How can a dominant market provider contribute to a vibrant forensic science research and practice environment?
10:30		Dr Reuben Moreton, RELI-ID Ltd – Policy and regulatory considerations for use of AI in forensic facial identification.
10:50		Keynote: Chief Constable Rachel Swann, QPM, Derbyshire Constabulary – How can science contribute to making society safer? A law enforcement perspective.
11:20	Refreshment/Comfort break	
AM-2 session Plenary 5		
11:35	 Forensic Genetics	Dr David Ballard, Senior Lecturer in Forensic Genomics, King's Forensics (Chair)
11:40		Keynote: Prof Titia Sijen, Professor of Forensic Human Biology, Swammerdam Institute for Life Sciences (SILS), University of Amsterdam (UvA) – A decade journey of applying mRNA typing in forensic casework.
12:25		Dr Lucinda Davenport, Postdoctoral Researcher, King's Forensics – Application of digital PCR technology as a novel approach to forensically relevant questions.
12:45		Dr Federica Giangasparo, Forensic Scientist, King's Forensics – The use of canine DNA for breed identification.
13:00	Lunch/Networking/Sponsors: Viewing & Judging Posters Judges: Prof Atholl Johnston, Dr Shobha Ahi, Dr Erika Castrignano, Visiting Prof Simon Elliott	
AM-2 session Plenary 6		
14:00	 Forensic Traces	Dr Nunzianda Frascione, Senior Lecturer in Forensic Science and Dr Matteo Gallidabino, Lecturer in Forensic Chemistry, King's Forensics (Chairs)
14:05		Keynote: Dr Sheila Willis, Hon Prof and Fellow of Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science, University Dundee – Repurposing forensic science through the Sydney Declaration.
14:40		Dr Matteo Donghi, Head of Ballistics, Arma dei Carabinieri, RIS Parma – Innovative approaches to gunshot residue analysis: enhancing detection and quantification for forensic applications.
15:00		Prof Pierre Esseiva, School of Criminal Justice, University of Lausanne (UNIL) – Decentralisation of forensic capabilities and broadening access to tools to equip law enforcement with the technical capability to detect illicit drugs in the field in real time.
15:20	Refreshment/Comfort break	
15:35	Poster & Lightning Talk Prize giving: Executive Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine, James Black Professor of Medicine & BHF Professor of Cardiology, Prof Ajay Shah	
15:45	Introduction: Professor Ajay Shah, MD, FMedSci, FKC, Executive Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine, King's College London	
PM-2 session Plenary 7		
15:50	Keynote: Chi Onuworah, Member of Parliament, Chair of the Science, Innovation and Technology Committee – How can Parliament support best use of science for a fairer society?	
16:40	Panel Discussion Moderator: Prof Gillian Tully CBE, Professor of Practice for Forensic Science Policy & Regulation, King's Forensics Panel: Jessica Toale, Member of Parliament; Carolyn Lovell, Office of the Chief Scientific Advisor to the Police; James Netto, Solicitor Advocate and Partner, The International Family Law Group LLP; Dr Sheila Willis, Hon Professor and Fellow of Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science; Dr Mark Pearse, Director, Eurofins Forensic Services (UK)	
17:20	Thank you: Prof Kim Wolff, MBE, Director King's Forensics, King's College London	
17:30	CLOSE DAY TWO	