



New Jersey Institute of Technology

Center for Pre-College  
Programs

INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS FOR COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS IN



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)

# New Jersey Forensic Science Education Conference

## June 30-July 2, 2025



NJIT Campus  
Newark, NJ

## Conference Agenda

### Day 1 – Pattern Evidence

**Monday, June 30**

**8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration & Breakfast**

*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. Opening Remarks**

Dr. Laurent Simon, NJIT Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies

Dr. Jacqueline L. Cusack, Executive Director, NJIT Center for Pre-College Programs

Prof. David Fisher, Director, NJIT Forensic Science  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**8:50 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Introduction to Tool Marks**

Professor Kevin Parmelee, Ph.D., NJIT  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**9:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. Using Tools**

Professor Kevin Parmelee, Ph.D., NJIT  
*NJIT MakerSpace*

**10:40 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. Tool Mark Casting**

Professor Kevin Parmelee, Ph.D., NJIT  
*NJIT MakerSpace*

**noon – 1:15 p.m. Lunch**

Keynote: **Sean Washington, Tebah Browne**  
Innocence Project  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**1:20 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Watch Your Step!: Identifying Footwear Impressions**

Professor Kevin Parmelee, Ph.D., NJIT

*Agile Strategy Lab - Central King Building Lower Level*

### Day 2 – Forensic Biology

**Tuesday, July 1**

**8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Coffee & Tea**

*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Lighting Evidence**

Nathaniel Weston, Foster+Freeman  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**10:10 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. Identifying Remains: Forensic Anthropology and Wildlife Forensics - Lab and Literature**

FSI Teachers

The group will be divided into 2 subgroups; each subgroup will participate in both sessions  
*Tiernan Hall 209 / Tiernan Hall 105*

**noon – 1:15 p.m. Lunch**

Keynote: **Capt. Heather Glogolich, Ed.D.**  
NJIT Campus Safety  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**1:20 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Forensic Entomology**

Prof Denise Gemmellaro, Kean University  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

### Day 3 – Death Investigations

**Wednesday, July 2 - note no coffee this morning**

**8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. CSI Lab Tour**

Professor David Fisher, Dr. Barbara Weller

**Student Mall (behind Summit Parking Deck)**

**9:10 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. Medicolegal Death Investigation**

Claudia Sroka, NYC OCME

*Agile Strategy Lab - Central King Building Lower Level*

**noon – 1:15 p.m. Lunch**

Keynote: **Erik Mickelsen, IAAI-CFI, NAFI-CFEI**  
Fire Marshall, Franklin Twp  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**AI in Forensic Science** (bring your laptop!)  
Professor David Fisher  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. Lessons Learned and Shared**

FSI Teachers  
*Eberhardt Hall 112*

**2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Closing Remarks and Raffle Drawing**

*Before you go, please complete the Conference Evaluation.*

**Please see the campus map on the next page...**





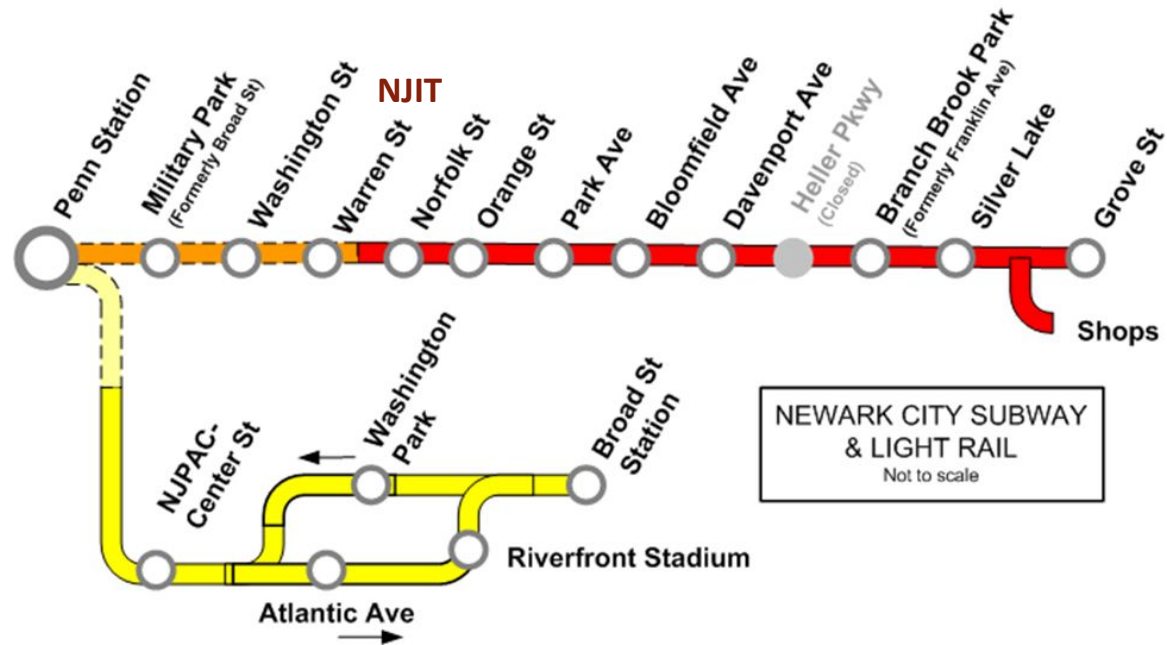
# Transportation

**Parking is reserved for all workshop participants in the Summit Street Deck** GPS input: 154 Summit Street, 07103

Exit the deck from the same side you entered - onto Summit Street - and turn right. See the map on the previous page.

If you're staying in downtown Newark, the Light Rail/subway has a stop on campus. It's also marked on the campus map on the previous page.

Suburban trains stop at the Broad Street Station, which is a 10-min walk along MLK Boulevard or University Avenue.



## New Jersey Forensic Science Education Conference

### Greetings from the University

Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>

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### Laurent Simon, Ph.D.

#### NJIT Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies, Professor of Chemical Engineering

[laurent.simon@njit.edu](mailto:laurent.simon@njit.edu)

Dr. Laurent Simon earned a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Colorado State University in 2001 and joined the New Jersey Institute of Technology in the fall 2001. He acted as the Associate Director of the Pharmaceutical Engineering Program from December 2006 to January 2013. Dr. Simon is the author of sixty-four research articles, two textbooks, seven book chapters, and has made more than sixty presentations. He is also a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and a reviewer for the American Mathematical Society.



In honor of his commitment to student success, Dr. Simon has received the Excellence in Teaching Award, Master Teacher Designation, Newark College of Engineering Saul K. Fenster Innovation in Engineering Education Award, and a Distinguished Teaching Award from the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE). His research and teaching interests have included modeling, analyzing and controlling drug-delivery systems and absorption of chemical warfare agents. He is also a co-inventor of a drug-delivery device created to help with general patient compliance and to aid those with chronic conditions.

As the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies, Dr Simon is responsible for developing procedures to assist undergraduates from their first days on campus through graduation. These efforts include offering advising and tutoring that are beneficial to their needs and aspirations, and assuring that other essential resources are available to support their academic progress.

**Jacqueline L. Cusack, Ed. D.**

**Executive Director**

**Center for Pre-College Programs, NJIT**

[Jacqueline.l.cusack@njit.edu](mailto:Jacqueline.l.cusack@njit.edu)



Dr. Cusack has served NJIT in various roles since December 2012. Before NJIT, her career was centered in the public school arena where she served in positions ranging from classroom teacher, principal, and curriculum supervisor to acting assistant commissioner of education for the New Jersey Department of Education, assistant superintendent of schools, and superintendent of schools. She also taught educational administration and foundations courses at the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral levels at Teachers College, Columbia University, Virginia Tech, New Jersey City University, and Saint Peter's University.

Dr. Cusack is the founder of *My Sister's Keeper, Inc.*, a non-profit organization with the mission of providing mentoring services and scholarships for girls. Established in 1986, *My Sister's Keeper, Inc.* also provides emergency financial assistance to families, especially female-headed households. Her state and community activities also include an appointment as a public member of the Supreme Court of New Jersey's District Ethics Committee, District VA; emeritus trustee for the Columbia High School Scholarship Fund, South Orange and Maplewood School District; and membership in the New Jersey Association of School Administrators.

Dr. Cusack has a B.A. from Elmira College, M.A. and Ed.M. from Teachers College, Columbia University, and Ed.D. from Virginia Tech.

## David Fisher, M.S., ABC-GKE, FAAFS Director, NJIT Forensic Science Program Conference Director

Senior University Lecturer, Department of Chemistry and Environmental Science

[David.r.fisher@njit.edu](mailto:David.r.fisher@njit.edu)



A former Criminalist in the Department of Forensic Biology at the New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), Professor of Practice David Fisher is Director of the Forensic Science Program in the Department of Chemistry and Environmental Science at NJIT. Prior to joining NJIT, he spent seventeen years working criminal cases that included homicides, sexual assaults, and property crime investigations with the New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner in the department of Forensic Biology.

Professor Fisher also serves in the US Dept of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team. He holds an M.S. in Forensic Science from CUNY John Jay College Criminal Justice, and a B.S., from the University of California-San Diego in Biochemistry & Cell Biology.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Wed, 7.2.2025	8:30-9:00	CSI Lab behind Summit Deck	<b>CSI Lab Tour</b>
Wed, 7.2.2025	1:15-2:00 pm	Eberhardt Hall 112	<b>AI in Forensic Science</b> (Bring your laptop!)



**Barbara Elder Weller, Ed.D.**

**Senior Director of Program Development and Forensic Science Initiative**

**NJIT Center for Pre-College Programs**

**Conference Coordinator**

[weller@njit.edu](mailto:weller@njit.edu) 973-596-5492



Dr. Weller has more than 40 years experience in public education. She has worked with students, teachers, parents, and school administrators to conceptualize, write, and implement curriculum and pedagogy across disciplines in order to maximize learning. Her professional passion is creating dynamic educational environments for all learners, emphasizing learning as a life-long pursuit. She has also published and presented extensively on a variety of educational topics.

In addition to extensive teaching and supervisory experience from first grade through college, Dr. Weller had the privilege of working with a team of teachers and parents to create a new public elementary school in which she later taught and then was the principal. She also moved the school to a new, purpose-built LEED facility, doubling its student capacity, and implementing structured, research-based programs to raise student and teacher achievement and to return students from out-of-district placements to general education classrooms.

At NJIT, Dr. Weller has developed programs for professional education of practicing teachers, family STEM education, and offerings for elementary, middle and high school students through the Center for Pre-College Programs. She is delighted to work with the FSI Teacher Prep Program teachers who will work with you during this conference.

She holds a B.A. in Mathematics from Washburn University, an M.A. in Mathematics from Indiana University and a Doctorate in Educational Accountability from St. John’s University. When she isn’t working, you can find her in her greenhouse or garden and sharing those experiences with children.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Wed, 7.2.2025	8:30-9:00	CSI Lab behind Summit Deck	<b>CSI Lab Tour</b>
Wed, 7.2.2025.	2:00-2:50 pm	Eberhardt Hall 112	<b>Lessons Learned and Shared</b>



## Kevin Parmelee, Ph.D.

### Professor of Practice

NJIT Department of Chemistry and Environmental Science in the  
Jordon Hu College of Science and Liberal Arts

[parmelee@njit.edu](mailto:parmelee@njit.edu)



Before joining NJIT, Dr. Kevin Parmelee was a Detective in the Somerset County, New Jersey, Prosecutor's Office Forensic Laboratory. Dr. Parmelee designed and implemented the Northeast Crime Scene Institute, which brings practitioners together from across the region for training and consultation.

He has over 23 years of law enforcement experience that includes a variety of policing duties with a primary focus on crime scene investigation, shooting reconstruction, arson investigation, footwear analysis, forensic photography, and latent print analysis. As a police officer and forensic science topic expert, Dr. Parmelee has testified in municipal and superior court numerous times.

Dr. Parmelee's formal education includes a B.S. from St Francis University, PA, an M.A. in Public Administration and Human Resources from the University of Phoenix, and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Capella University. He is certified as a Crime Scene Analyst (IAI), Certified Latent Print Analyst (IAI) and Forensic Photographer (IAI). He is also trained in more advanced techniques related to operating in mass fatality scenes and CBRN-TIC related hazardous environments. He is also a former certified police instructor who routinely taught forensic topics to new law enforcement personnel.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Mon, 6.30.25	8:50-9:30 am	Eberhardt Hall 112	<b>Introduction to Tool Marks</b>
Mon, 6.30.25	9:40-10:40 am	NJIT MakerSpace	<b>Using Tools</b>
Mon, 6.30.25	10:45-11:50 am	Tiernan Hall 209	<b>Tool Mark Casting</b>
Mon, 6.30.25	1:20-3:00 pm	Eberhardt Hall 112	<b>Watch Your Step!: Identifying Footwear Impressions</b>

## Featured Luncheon Speakers, Monday, June 30, 2025

**Mr. Sean Washington,**

**Ms. Tebah Browne, Forensic Science Policy Specialist**

**The Innocence Project**

[tbrowne@innocenceproject.org](mailto:tbrowne@innocenceproject.org)



**Tebah Browne** joined the Innocence Project in September 2022. As the forensic science policy specialist, she assists the policy department with policy work that focuses on the reliability, validity, and regulation of forensic science techniques and technology. Prior to joining the Innocence Project, Tebah worked at the Legal Aid Society in its DNA unit as the in-house scientist and DNA analyst. Tebah graduated from John Jay College with B.S. and M.S. degrees in forensic science with concentrations in molecular biology and toxicology. Tebah is currently pursuing a PhD in forensic investigative sciences at Oklahoma State University, where her dissertation focuses on the implementation, regulation, and education of forensic science in developing nations.

Nathaniel Weston

Technical Sales Specialist

foster+freeman

[Nathaniel.weston@fosterfreeman.com](mailto:Nathaniel.weston@fosterfreeman.com)



Nate Weston graduated from West Virginia University in December 2023 with a M.S. in Forensic and Investigative Science, where his thesis involved assessing how accidental features in forensic footwear change with continued wear. Prior to this, he graduated from WVU with a B.S. in Forensic and Investigative Science with an examiner emphasis, and a minor in psychology. He started with foster+freeman as a Technical Sales Specialist in 2023 and is always looking to continue learn more about the wide range of forensic science fields. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with family and friends and enjoys all things outdoors.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Tues 7.1.2025	8:30-10:00 a.m.	Eberhardt Hall 112	Lighting Evidence



## Sarah DeVoe

Newark Vocational High School

Newark, NJ

[sdevoe@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:sdevoe@nps.k12.nj.us)



Sarah just finished her sixth year teaching high school science. She currently teaches 9th grade Biology and 12th grade dual enrollment Forensic Science with NJIT. Sarah has been teaching at Newark Vocational High School in Newark New Jersey for all of her teaching career and loves it! She says she loves science education because she gets to instill in her students the curiosity to question and problem-solve.

Sarah earned her B.A. in Secondary Science Education from University of Delaware and M.A. in Educational Leadership from William Paterson University.

She looks forward to continuing her work as an educator and a leader through programs like FRSC 201 Dual Enrollment with NJIT!

## Teresa Tenreiro

Hillside High School

Hillside, NJ

[ttenreiro@hillsidek12.net](mailto:ttenreiro@hillsidek12.net)



Teresa is a science teacher at Hillside High School in New Jersey. She has been teaching science at Hillside for 22 years, specifically biology honors and college prep classes in environmental earth science and forensic science. She currently teaches the dual-enrollment course *Introduction to Forensic Science* course with NJIT.

Teresa earned her B.A. and M.A. at Kean University in Biology Education and School Counseling.

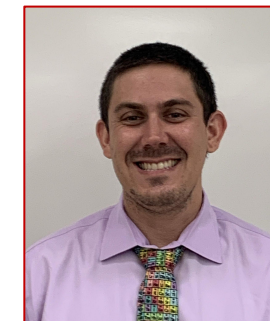
She'd like you to know she is honored to be a part of the FSI cohort and is eager to share her experiences during our conference.

## Christopher Kirby

Science Park High School

Newark, NJ

[ckirbyjr@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:ckirbyjr@nps.k12.nj.us)



Chris just finished his 7th year of teaching high school science. Currently he teaches 11th grade Chemistry and 12th grade dual enrollment Forensic Science with NJIT. Chris is getting ready for his 3rd year working at Science Park High School in Newark and says it is the favorite spot he has taught. He loves having the chance to show students the ways that science impacts our lives.

Chris earned his B.S. in Chemistry from The College of New Jersey and an M.S. in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of California Santa Barbara.

He cannot wait to keep teaching and learning alongside all the other FSI teachers!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Tues, 7.1.2025	10:10–11:50 am	Tiernan Hall 209	Identifying Remains: Forensic Anthropology and Wildlife Forensics - Lab and Literature Lessons Learned and Shared
Wed, 7.2.2025.	2:00–2:50 pm	Eberhardt Hall 112	

## Danielle Kelly

University High School

Newark, NJ

[D1kelly@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:D1kelly@nps.k12.nj.us)



With 25 years of teaching experience, Danielle Kelly has certifications in biology, general science, and special education, along with a master's degree in Teaching. Teaching at University High School for the past 13 years, she has had the opportunity to teach middle school and high school core subjects and electives, now primarily forensic science. She has worked on curriculum development for various sciences within the Newark School district, has mentored many new teachers and student teachers, and is the current Union Representative for University High School.

Mrs. Kelly lives in Livingston with her husband and four children and enjoys playing soccer, golfing, and spending time with her family.

## Dr. Gustave Ado

Weequahic High School

Newark, NJ

[G2ado@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:G2ado@nps.k12.nj.us)



Dr. Gustave Ado has 24 years of experience teaching biology, anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, forensic science, and health science courses to high school and college students. He currently teaches at Weequahic High School in Newark.

Dr. Ado completed a doctorate in Science Education (Ed.D.) at Teachers College, Columbia University. His prior training includes an undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences and a master's in Science Education.

Additionally, he engages in research that focuses on how to teach controversial science topics, such as HIV/AIDS, within the science curriculum. Dr. Ado believes that HIV/AIDS education can be integrated into the school-based science curricula and taught by science teachers in order to better address children's sexual health.

## Steve Vega

Kearny High School

Kearny, NJ

[svega@kearnyschools.com](mailto:svega@kearnyschools.com)



Steve Vega holds a BS in Chemistry from NJIT, an MS in Chemistry Education from Grand Canyon University, and spent several years working in the chemical industry before making the jump to the classroom. He has been a Physical and Forensic Science Teacher at Kearny High School for 15 of his 16 years in education, where he teaches dual enrollment courses in chemistry and forensic science through HCCC and NJIT.

Steve has presented on forensic science and the use of AR/VR in science education at the NJ Science Convention and conducts professional development workshops on AI and inquiry-based instruction. His teaching focuses on creating learner-centered, hands-on experiences that help students master challenging STEM concepts using real-world applications and emerging technologies. He wants all of his students to see themselves as scientists and help them develop the skills they need to solve problems and become informed citizens.

Outside the classroom, he plays euphonium in the Rutherford Community Band and enjoys golf and tabletop games.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Tues, 7.1.2025	10:10–11:50 am	Tiernan Hall 209	<b>Identifying Remains: Forensic Anthropology and Wildlife Forensics - Lab and Literature Lessons Learned and Shared</b>
Wed, 7.2.2025	2:00–2:50 pm	Eberhardt Hall 112	

## Kayla Belen

### Phillipsburg High School

Phillipsburg, NJ

[belen.kayla@stateliners.org](mailto:belen.kayla@stateliners.org)



Kayla has been teaching science at Phillipsburg High School for the past eight years. She has taught a variety of science courses, including biology, chemistry, integrated science, and forensics. She currently teaches College Prep Forensics and General Chemistry. She earned her B.S. in Biology from Moravian University and M.S. in Educational Psychology from Purdue Global.

Kayla enjoys being part of the FSI cohort and learning from her fellow educators and experts in the field of forensics. She loves being able to share what she has learned with her forensics students to create more engaging and relevant lessons. Kayla resides in Washington, New Jersey with her husband who is a graduate of NJIT, one-year-old son, and two pups.

## Dr. Oksana Hnatzuk

### Arts High School

Newark, NJ

[OHnatzuk@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:OHnatzuk@nps.k12.nj.us)



Oksana is in her 20th year of teaching high school science at Arts High School in Newark N.J.

She currently teaches 9th grade Biology and 12th grade dual enrollment Forensic Science with NJIT. Her favorite class to teach is Forensics Science because the lessons can be approached as mysteries and puzzles to solve while learning the material.

Trained as a scientist, she loves being challenged by her artist-scholars whose creative thinking process opposes her more logical approach.

Oksana earned her B.A. in Psychology from Wayne State University, a Masters from Kean University in Curriculum Writing, and her Doctorate in Behavioral Neuroscience from Rutgers University.

## Elizabeth Lozada

### Newark School of Global Studies

Newark, NJ

[elozada@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:elozada@nps.k12.nj.us)



Elizabeth Lozada is a dedicated science educator with 25 years of teaching experience. Currently teaching Forensic Science at Newark School of Global Studies (NSGS), she has spent the past two years guiding students through the investigative world of forensic science. In addition, she has taught Pre-AP Biology and Principles of Biomedical Science at NSGS.

Ms. Lozada taught 7th grade science for 12 years at Abington Avenue School. She began her teaching career in 3rd grade, where she taught for four years. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Secondary Education from Kean University and a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction in Science from Concordia University.

Next year, she will expand her teaching portfolio to include FRSC 201, a dual enrollment course with NJIT, and AP Environmental Science. Passionate about science education and student success, Ms. Lozada continues to inspire future scientists through engaging, hands-on learning experiences.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Tues, 7.1.2025	10:10–11:50 am	Tiernan Hall 209	Identifying Remains: Forensic Anthropology and Wildlife Forensics - Lab and Literature
Wed, 7.2.2025.	2:00–2:50 pm	Eberhardt Hall 112	Lessons Learned and Shared



## Featured Luncheon Speaker, Tuesday, July 1, 2025

**Capt. Heather Glogolich, Ed.D.**  
NJIT Campus Security



Capt. Glogolich has been in law enforcement for 20+ years. She became a police officer because she wanted to make a difference in the community. Her motivation to succeed comes from wanting to make a substantial impact for the next generation of law enforcement officers. She has had a wide variety of experiences, including delivering a baby while on duty. The parents gave her the middle name Heather, and asked Capt. Glogolich to become her godmother!

Beyond the day-to-day, somewhat obvious experiences and challenges of her job, Capt. Glogolich was a victim of domestic violence by her ex-husband, who was also a police officer. Working through the perceived stigma of being a female cop who “allowed” that to happen to her was difficult for her.

Her advice to anyone wanting a law enforcement career: “Be all in. Know that if you want to be a mom, you can be a great cop *and* a great mom. You have to have a certain GPA to be accepted into college, the same mindset should be applied to entering this profession. Criminals do not discriminate on who they attack based on gender. Put the work in physically and mentally. Do not depend on other people to dictate your self-worth. And know that if this job is your calling – then you are very blessed.”

## Denise Gemmellaro, Ph.D., D-ABFE

Assistant Professor of Forensic Science

Department of Biological Sciences

Kean University

[denise.gemmellaro@gmail.com](mailto:denise.gemmellaro@gmail.com)



Dr. Denise Gemmellaro received her PhD in Entomology from Rutgers University with a dissertation in Medico-Legal Forensic Entomology and is currently an Assistant Professor at the Department of Biological Sciences at Kean University (Union, NJ). Dr. Gemmellaro is also a diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Entomology (ABFE) and she serves as the current secretary of the ABFE.

She has been involved in the field of forensic entomology for several years, during which she has trained state police, FBI, pathologists, lawyers and other professionals in the field of forensics, as well as undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Gemmellaro's research is focused on using insects of forensic importance to establish time of colonization, movement of the bodies and potential presence of illegal substances in the body.

Dr. Gemmellaro is a member of several scientific societies, among which are the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), the Entomological Society of America (ESA), the North America Forensic Entomology Association (NAFEA), and the European Association for Forensic Entomology (EAFE).

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Tues, 7.1.2025	1:20-3:00 pm	Eberhardt Hall 112	Forensic Entomology

**Claudia Sroka, M.S.**  
**Medicolegal Death Investigator**  
**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, New York City**  
[cksroka@gmail.com](mailto:cksroka@gmail.com)



Claudia graduated NJIT in May 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in Forensic Science and got a minor in Legal Studies as well. In August of 2022, she completed an M.S in Forensic Psychology from Arizona State University with a concentration in Child Behavior and Juvenile Justice Studies.

Following graduation from NJIT, Claudia became a Medicolegal Death Investigator with the Bergen County Medical Examiner's office. Currently, she is a Medicolegal Investigator with the Chief Medical Examiner of the City of New York and serves as part of the Special Operations Unit when needed for any hazardous events or mass disasters. Claudia is also trained and certified in the HAZMAT field. Additionally, she serves as the Fourth Vice President for the New Jersey Division of the International Association of Identification. They host monthly webinars and bi-annual conferences that are beneficial to the field of Forensics. Claudia is an Adjunct Professor, as well as a member of the Forensic Science Advisory Board at NJIT!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SESSION
Wed 7.2.25	9:00 am – noon	Various campus locations	<b>Medicolegal Death Investigation</b>



## New Jersey Forensic Science Education Conference

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### Featured Luncheon Speaker, Wednesday, July 2, 2025

#### Marshal Erik Mickelsen, IAAI-CFI, NAFI-CFEI

Fire Marshall, Franklin Twp & Bound Brook, NJ



Erik Mickelsen is a full-time Fire Marshal, Fire Investigator, employed with the Franklin Township Fire Prevention Department in Somerset County, New Jersey since 2005. Erik also works part-time as the Chief Fire Marshal in Bound Brook Borough since 2007. Since November of 2004, Erik has been an active Investigator with the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office, Fire Investigation Unit. He has participated in over 500 origin and cause investigations including 16 fatal fires, 1 firefighter fatality, 46 incendiary fires and multiple high dollar fire loss events. As a Certified Fire Investigator by the International Association of Arson Investigators Erik is also a certified evidence collection technician. He holds additional certifications in post blast investigation, wildland fire investigation and is certified by the National Association of Fire Investigators as a Fire and Explosion Investigator.

With over 1500 hours of additional fire investigation training, Erik has also developed and presented several fire investigation courses throughout the years. As a fire inspector Erik has conducted over 18,000 fire safety inspections of small businesses, homes, multiple dwellings, data centers, warehouses, and production facilities. Additionally, he is an expert fire scene forensic sketch artist, providing accurate scene representations and recreations. His formal education includes a Bachelor of Science from Rutgers University.

## NJIT Forensic Science Initiative (FSI) Teacher Prep Program

<https://www.njit.edu/precollege/teacher-prep-program-forensic-science>

Forensic Science as a high school course can open many options in higher education for students. And, thanks to the many TV shows featuring forensic science, it's attractive to them, too. Students who might not otherwise see themselves as capable scientists can benefit, especially, from the science they'll learn in the foundation course in our BS in Forensic Science program.

The NJIT Forensic Science Initiative (FSI) Teacher Prep Program helps teachers prepare to teach forensics to high school students. Teachers completing the program can be qualified to teach FRSC 201 *Introduction to Forensic Science* as a dual enrollment course using the NJIT syllabus. The program is open to high school teachers who teach Juniors and/or Seniors. Teachers need a Masters Degree in an appropriate science field or equivalent experience, teacher certification in one of the sciences covered by the course, and a passion for learning.

Professional development in a cohort model takes place on the NJIT campus in the summer with on-going support during the school year. It includes content lessons in several branches of forensic science, curriculum mapping, and lesson development tailored to high school students' needs. The teachers have produced an impressive range of resources to support and enrich learning for all of their students. They've conducted field research at sites ranging from the New York Region US Customs and Border Protection Laboratory in Newark; the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for New York City; the Franklin Institute, Mutter Museum, and Vidocq Society in Philadelphia; and the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.. The program is led by Barbara Elder Weller, Ed.D. (she, her), Senior Director, Program Development and Forensic Science Initiative, in the NJIT Center for Pre-College Programs.

The initial phase of the program was underwritten by a Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEERF II) grant from the NJ Office of the Secretary of Higher Education.

### FSI Teacher Prep Program teachers presenting at this conference:

Dr. Gustav Ado, Weequahic High School, Newark  
Mrs. Sarah DeVoe, Newark Vocational High School, Newark  
Mrs. Kayla Belen, Phillipsburg High School, Phillipsburg  
Mrs. Danielle Kelly, University High School, Newark  
Ms. Teresa Tenreiro, Hillside High School, Hillside  
Mr. Christopher Kirby, Science Park High School, Newark  
Dr. Oksana Hnatzuk, Arts High School, Newark  
Mr. Steve Vega, Kearny High School, Kearny  
Ms. Elizabeth Lozada, Global Studies High School, Newark



### Support provided by their colleagues:

Ms. Damaris Frederique, Central High School, Newark  
Ms. Esther Osasogie, Malcolm X. Shabazz High School, Newark  
Mrs. Crstina Gayed, Ridgewood High School, Ridgewood  
Ms. Leilani Bhoomz, Science Park High School, Newark  
Mrs. Dy-Anni Austin, STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges, Orange

# Sampling of New Jersey/New York Events

June 30, July 1-2, 2025



## Monday Discounted Family Skate Night

Mon, Jun 30, 6-8 PM

Branch Brook Park Roller Skating Center  
Clifton Ave, 7th Ave., Newark, NJ



## Adult Late Night Skate

Tue, Jul 1, 7-8 PM

Branch Brook Park Roller Skating Center  
Clifton Ave, 7th Ave., Newark, NJ



## Hamilton on Broadway

Wed, Jul 2, 7 PM Richard Rodgers Theatre  
226 West 46th St, New York, NY

A biographical musical about Alexander Hamilton and the founding fathers of the United States, told through hip-hop, R&B, and other musical styles.



## Comedy Cellar

Mon, Jun 30, sessions: 7:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 11:30 PM  
117 MacDougal St, New York, NY



## The Winter's Tale - American Ballet Theatre

Tues, Jul 1, 7:30 PM

Metropolitan Opera House  
30 Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, NY

The Winter's Tale is an award-winning modern ballet classic, packed with emotional turmoil heightened by a compelling score and atmospheric designs.



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## Scandal Tour 2025 "Love, Spark, Joy"

Mon, Jun 30, 7 PM  
Irving Plaza  
17 Irving Pl, New York, NY

Scandal is an all-female Japanese rock band formed in Osaka in 2016.

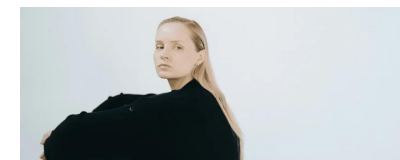


## Wicked on Broadway

Tues, Jul 1, 7 PM

Gershwin Theatre  
222 W 51st St, New York, NY

The musical Wicked focuses on the unlikely friendship and complex relationship between Elphaba, who becomes the Wicked Witch of the West, and Glinda, who becomes Glinda the Good, in the Land of Oz.



## Charlotte Day Wilson / The Weather Station

Wed, Jul 2, 6-10 PM

SummerStage Festival in Central Park  
Rumsey Playfield, New York, NY

SummerStage brings a pair of Canadian singer-songwriters with production chops to Central Park.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**We are grateful for support from:**

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**And always remember that teaching is the one profession that prepares all other professions - making you among the *most valuable professionals* on Earth!**



2024 NJFSEC Participants with John Paul Osborn,  
Document Examination Specialist