

# NEWSLETTER

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Winter • 2018-2019

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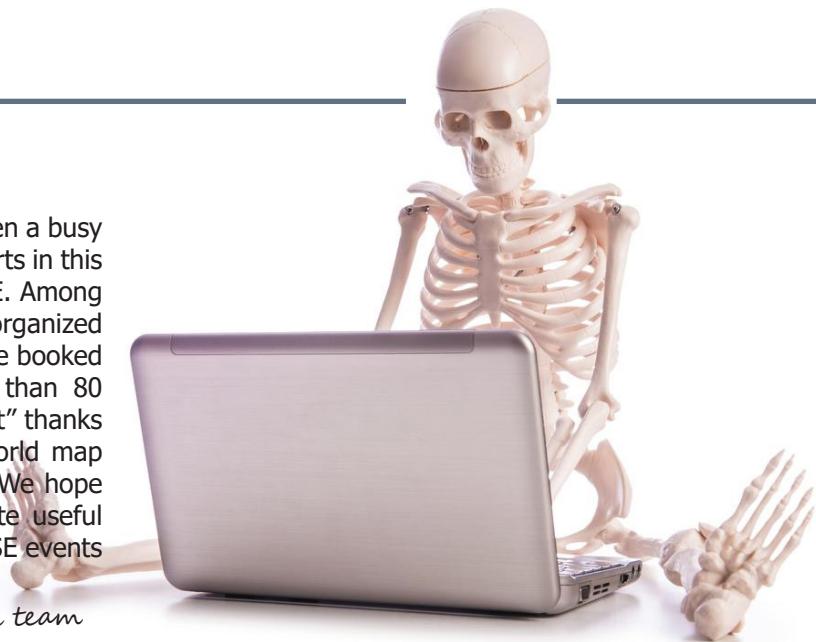
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## EDITORIAL

Dear FASE members and colleagues,

The Winter FASE Newsletter is here! 2018 has been a busy year for FASE, which is reflected in the many reports in this issue on events organized and supported by FASE. Among others, our colleagues from Marseille successfully organized the Basic Course and Symposium; with the Course booked to capacity and the Symposium hosting more than 80 participants. The FASE website has got a "face-lift" thanks to Zuzana Caplova. The website includes the world map of modern identified human skeletal collections. We hope that you will find the information on the website useful and that we will see you (again) at one of the FASE events soon.

Your Editorial team



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Another year full of FASE successes and activities has gone by. The past 2018 newsletters as well as the present one are an excellent testimony of an extremely active group: conferences, workshops, meetings, publications, the quest for standards in identification, certification are only but a few of the goals reached. I am sure 2019 will bring even more contributions to forensic science, given the excellent work of the older members but especially of the younger FASE generation, which I am extremely proud of and the participation of all of our members and followers, whom I wish to thank immensely.

These are hard times: forensic anthropology in some ways is still struggling to be appropriately recognized and utilised in court, and the world we are living in at the present is in distress and needy of humanitarian forensic action. As scientists I feel we, especially anthropologists and pathologists, need to reach out to situations where our science may help not only to detect the violation of human rights and dignity, but also prevent such situations.

May 2019 guide us in finding a way to use our discipline not only to assist justice but also to protect humanity. And I am sure we will.

*Happy new year to all.*

## FASE EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

### FASE BASIC COURSE IN FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY Marseille, september 2018

In the continuity of what had been done by FASE during many years, and in the direct line of the previous basic event in Coimbra (Portugal) in 2016, the Forensic Anthropology Team from Marseille had the pleasure to organize the 2018 FASE Basic Course in FA.

This scientific event aimed at allowing every participant to learn what is within the scope of forensic anthropology, to clearly identify the objectives and constraints of this discipline and learn - or improve their skills - to use the basic tools needed for proper forensic analysis. Since it was a "Basic Course", no particular professional profile was expected and the participants represented an array of professions including medical doctors and forensic pathologists, bioarchaeologists, lawyers, human rights specialists, radiologists, forensic anthropologists and students of related sciences.

During five days, they had the opportunity to listen to renown forensic anthropology specialists such as Pascal Adalian, Eric Baccino, Cristina Cattaneo, Eugénia Cunha, Elena Kranioti, Philippe Lefevre, Laurent Martrille, Zuzana Obertova, Anja Petaros, Ann Ross, Douglas Ubelaker and Emeline Verna.

After remembering what Forensic Anthropology is and how to identify human bone (Zuzana Obertova), the different lectures concerned: human osteology (Philippe Lefevre) and its non-pathological variants



Participants of the Marseille's FASE Basic Course

(Emeline Verna), the assessment of a minimum number of individuals found in a skeletal assemblage (Pascal Adalian), the way to establish a biological profile through age estimation for both living (Laurent Martrille) and dead juveniles (Louise Corron and Pascal Adalian) or adults (Eric Baccino), stature estimation (Zuzana Obertova) and sex assessment (Elena Kranioti), methods of identification (Zuzana Obertova), Pathology (Eugénia Cunha), Taphonomy (Anja Petaros) and the estimation of a post-mortem interval (Douglas Ubelaker). Finally, we discussed about the future of the discipline (Eugenio Cunha).

Since our event was hosted by the Medicine Faculty of Marseille (Aix-Marseille University, France), and to the extent that forensic anthropology is an applied science, every afternoon was dedicated to parallel training sessions in two historic anatomy amphitheatres. More than sixty skeletons from the UMR 7268 ADES Osteotheca (see previous issue of the FASE Newsletter) were studied by the participants, under the supervision of FASE Board members assisted by several PhD students from Marseille (Mélanie Henrques, Frédérique Lagacé, Clémence Mopin, Mélissa Niel, Marie Perrin).

Saturday was dedicated to a one-day symposium counting more than 90 participants, where many scientific communications (20 oral communications and 17 posters) allowed us to discuss the current state of research in the discipline.

Last - but not least - since such scientific events are also important moments of conviviality for the FASE community, we took advantage of the landscape assets of Marseille and a magnificent weather to share good moments around typical meals of the region.



The relaxing atmosphere and the beautiful surrounding during the social dinner



Cristina Cattaneo giving a lecture during the Basic Course



A group of participants during the practical parts of the Course

#### FASE WORKSHOP IN NUMBERS:

53 participants from 13 countries (Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom).

8 board members teaching from 7 countries (Belgium, France, Greece, Portugal, USA, Sweden, Switzerland)

6 guest lecturers (3 from USA, 2 from France and 1 from Switzerland)

#### FASE ONE DAY SYMPOSIUM IN NUMBERS:

92 participants from 15 countries

20 oral communications

17 posters



A group picture of the participants, lecturers and FASE Board Members

## FASE CERTIFICATION 2018

This year the certification exams took place in Marseille. In the end, we have a new level 1 certified forensic anthropologist from Croatia/Sweden Dr. Anja Petaros.

In level 2, Mara Karell (UK) and Melanie Henriques (France/Portugal), were approved.

Congratulations to the three of them.

Next certification will take place in Brussels, immediately before the FASE advanced course which will be about Biomechanics (12-14 September). Applications will open in April.

## SAVE THE DATE



# FASE new WEBPAGE

In October 2018 we have launched the new layout for our FASE website: please have a look at

[www.forensicanthropology.eu](http://www.forensicanthropology.eu).

The new website, except for having a modern design, contains information about the organization of FASE, FASE events, certification, forensic anthropology related events, job posts, and news.

We are especially proud of publishing the map of modern identified collections.

In this interactive map you can find summary information about human skeletal collections from all over the world. If you know about any other modern identified collection you would like to have added to the map, please send us an email to [fase.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:fase.newsletter@gmail.com) or message us on FaceBook.

**ACTIVITIES** here you will be able to find information on FASE structure and Board, our events and courses, the FASE certification project, projects and collaboration where FASE takes an active role as well as all the recent updates on the current projects and events as well as all the Newsletter issues

**MEMBERSHIP**  
- here you will find information how to become a FASE member and become part of our big community

**FA IN EUROPE** is dedicated to keep you updated with all the news and events that are regarding forensic anthropology but are not directly related to FASE, i.e. European institutes, job offers, external courses and much more.

**FASE**  
Forensic Anthropology Society of Europe

ACTIVITIES    MEMBERSHIP    FA IN EUROPE    OSTEОLOGICAL COLLECTIONS

# FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY SOCIETY OF EUROPE

A section of the International Academy of Legal Medicine

BECOME A MEMBER    FAЕ BASIC COURSE 2018

**FASE**  
Forensic Anthropology Society of Europe

ACTIVITIES    MEMBERSHIP    FA IN EUROPE    OSTEОLOGICAL COLLECTIONS

**IDENTIFIED COLLECTIONS**

The section OSTEОLOGICAL COLLECTIONS is meant to keep a track of all identified collections inclusive of details on the number, profile and period to which the remains belong, which can serve as precious guide to plan projects and researches.

## FASE FACEBOOK in numbers



FASE FB page currently has over 2300 followers, but our posts are usually seen by more than 3500 FB users.  
The most popular posts, as in previous years, are job offers and conference/workshop announcements.

**Disclaimer:** FASE as organization cannot provide any information regarding osteological remains based on images. If you found bones, please contact your local police. If you have queries regarding general aspects of bone assessment, please contact us on [fase.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:fase.newsletter@gmail.com).

## IALM Congress in Fukuoka- FASE full-day workshop

During the 24th Congress of IALM Fukuoka on 6 June 2018 Professor Eugénia Cunha and Professor Douglas Ubelaker organized a full-day FASE workshop on "Some key questions in Forensic anthropology".

Almost 20 participants from nine countries, including the Netherlands, Thailand, India, France, Sri Lanka, China, Indonesia, Korea, and Japan got an update on the most recent developments in the biological profile methodology (such as DSP2 for sex estimation, two steps procedure for age estimation in adults, and Ancestrees and the Hefner traits for ancestry), and trauma analysis (presented by Dr. Hans de Boer).

The theoretical talks were rounded up by case presentations.



## TURAZ 2018 in Istanbul - FASE full-day workshop

Prof Eugenia Cunha and Dr Anja Petaros have been invited as speakers to the International TURAZ Congress of Forensic Sciences "Science and Justice" that took place from 1st to 4th September 2018 in the beautiful setting of the Swissotel The Bosphorus in Istanbul, Turkey.

During the first day of the congress Dr Petaros gave a short talk about the new perspectives in forensic anthropology in relation to the implementation of imaging methods in forensic anthropology practice, while on the second day a full day workshop has been held by Prof Cunha and Dr Petaros. The workshop was a revisit of the workshop organized in Fukuoka.



View over Istanbul from the hotel where the TURAZ Congress took place

The first part of the workshop focused on the "hot topics" in forensic anthropology related to biological profiling, specifically ancestry, sex and age estimation. The methods developed to facilitate forensic anthropology estimation have been presented and practical examples have been given to help the participants understand the way the methods work and how to use them adequately.

The second part was of the workshop was oriented towards bone trauma which was presented by retracing basic bone biomechanics, the main types of trauma, their features and golden standards in their interpretation, as well as the importance of trauma and fracture aging.

Around 20 participants have taken part to the workshop, actively participating to the lectures by asking questions and discussing the presented topics as well as engaging in the practical part of the workshop that was enriched by the remains provided by Dr Ömer Turan.



Practical demonstrations given by Prof Cunha during the workshop



The participants together with Prof Cunha and Dr Petaros after the completion of the workshop

## EAFS meeting in Lyon 2018 - FASE Special Session: Forensic Anthropology Facing Migration Crisis

In August 2018, Lyon, a wonderful city famous for its gourmet cuisine, was the host of the 8th European Academy of Forensic Sciences Conference with the title "2020 The Forensic Odyssey". There were 805 participants from all around the world.

The keynote lectures focused on the forensic action in relation to terror attacks in France, Spain and the UK and on the advances in DNA phenotyping. Some of the lectures were in French or Spanish, with translation (more or less successfully) provided via headphones to a large audience of forensic scientists, members of investigative authorities, and even the press.

FASE is very proud of having been able to organize a Special Session in Lyon on the currently ever-present topic of migration. The designated room was full and

the three speakers delivered passionate and thought-provoking lectures.

Cristina Cattaneo spoke about the issues of identification of the deceased migrants in the Mediterranean Sea, while Laurent Martrille and Eric Baccino talked about the French experience in the management of the forensic assessment, including age estimation in asylum seekers.

Overall, the conference was very busy (130 oral and 90 discussed poster presentations), with many parallel sessions, including the forensic medicine and anthropology (FMA) session taking place at the same time as the FASE Special Session (with the two main speakers of the Special Session being elected the chairpersons of the FMA session).

However, the organizers were also quick to think of spontaneous solutions, when, for example, the room for the statistics session was bursting in seams, they have set up a screening of the Powerpoint presentations along with the audio from the main room in another room.

In his closing speech, Erkki Sippola, the Chairman of ENFSI, highlighted the importance of different sources of trace evidence (DNA is not omnipresent and does not bring all the answers), the rise of digital forensics and its possibilities and limitations, and the need for national and international inter-disciplinary cooperation and training to facilitate speedy forensic response, especially to large-scale crime scenes and disasters.

The cheerful gala dinner in the elegant Palais de la Bourse was a fitting farewell to the Conference. The food was excellent, and there was even a magician and a caricaturist.

The next EAFS Conference will be held in Stockholm in 2021. Let's see where the forensic odyssey takes us until then.



Cristina Cattaneo and Laurent Martrille giving lectures during the FASE Special session at the EAFS Meeting

## FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY NEWS

### Summary of the workshop 2018 « DOMESTIC VIOLENCE »

In May 2018, the city of Montpellier hosted, at the Faculty of Medicine, about fifty participants for the 6th International Workshop of Clinical Legal Medicine on the theme of domestic violence.

It is in this context that the FORMAELIV (FOrensic Medical Association for the Examination of the LIVing) was created, a French association chaired by Professor Baccino (Forensic Medicine, France), whose aim is to promote Clinical Forensic Medicine in a national and international level by participating in the organization of events such as this one; to provide a training role to all those involved in clinical forensic medicine (doctors,

nurses, psychologists, police officers, magistrates, but also victims and all those interested in caring for and promoting prevention in the context of forensic life medicine); to publish a newsletter; to initiate and to promote the publication of scientific books or other media for the dissemination of knowledge in the field of forensic life medicine; to initiate and to promote research projects in the field of forensic life sciences; and to disseminate the results and products of this work.

After an opening speech by Professor Baccino and Profesdor Cattaneo, presenting the issues concerning the diagnosis of domestic violence and the creation of the

FORMAELIV association, we had the honor of receiving international speakers from different specialties, in order to address the comprehensive management of domestic violence, from the prevention to treatment.

The clinical aspect of domestic violence has been broadly discussed by Dr. Nittis (Forensic Medicine, Australia). From the case of domestic violence in Australia, she developed public health issues, the interest of a precise description of the injuries found, associate them with a photograph and transcribe them into a medical file in the form of a precise diagram.

Dr Stark (Forensic Medicine, United Kingdom) spoke about the creation of a database for the collection of samples taken, methods of dealing with domestic violence in England (e.g. measures for the protection of direct and indirect victims, the use of a common checklist by the police to assess the immediate risk), the presence of counselors on domestic violence and the establishment of organizations to link the different actors involved in this care (such as MARAC, and MAPPA).

Similar structures were reported from Italy, including the SVS in Milan, which is focused more specifically on supporting female victims of sexual violence. An overview of CFM in Eastern Europe was presented by Dr. Haring from Slovenia, revealing the disparities between the different countries and a system that is not optimal for the victims.

While Dr. Causse-Versaveau (psychiatrist, France) spoke about the psychological consequences of domestic violence on couples, Dr. Passerieux (psychiatrist, France) focused on the physical and especially psychological consequences of this violence in children with a summary of different protection measures available.

The psychiatric care of the perpetrators but also the family therapies within the framework of these violence were approached by Dr. Lacambre (psychiatrist, France) and Mr. Bodkin(psychologist, France).

A comparison between the different legislations of certain European countries was carried out by Professor Sautel from France. The Istanbul Convention was presented as well as civil measures for the protection of victims and criminal measures against perpetrators. Although disparities remain, it highlights the efforts made by countries to fight effectively against domestic violence. Finally, Ms. Michel and Ms. Marchal (forensic nurses, France) explained the pivotal role of the legal medicine nurses since the French 2011 reform, the interest of their participation as actors in the care of victims of violence, and the need to develop their presence in all forensic institutes.

## Taphos-Nomos, a brand new scientific meeting in taphonomy

by Clara Alfsdotter

PhD Candidate in bioarchaeology, Linnaeus University, Sweden



## Taphos-Nomos 2018

*Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th November 2018*

As the first scientific symposium in the world to bring together multidisciplinary taphonomy practitioners, University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) arranged 'Taphos-Nomos' in early November 2018. The meeting attracted attendees from Argentina, Chile, Cyprus, France, Holland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the UK and the USA. Researchers came from the disciplines of paleontology, human origins, archaeology and forensic science.

One and a half day of diverse paper and poster presentations was followed by a full day of workshops. The (UCLan arranged) workshops that participants could choose from covered Early decomposition process and Post Mortem Interval Estimation, Forensic trauma analysis and 3D scanning and methods of virtual taphonomy.

The symposium was very stimulating, not least the round table discussion that followed the paper presentations.

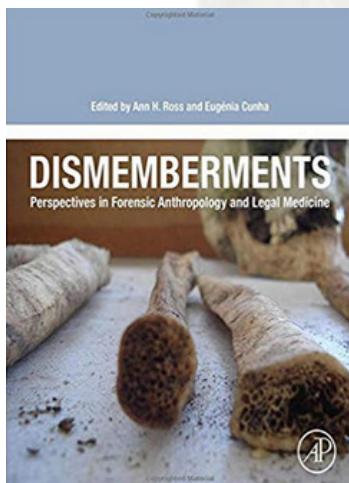
Three important decisions were agreed upon: a Taphonomy Association will be set up, along with an International Journal of Taphonomy. Last but not least, it was decided that Taphos-Nomos symposiums will be held once every two years. The next meeting will again be hosted by UCLan (in 2020), with a focus on developments of taphonomy standards.

All in all, the first Taphos-Nomos symposium was a success. It was an inspiring forum where challenges and developments in taphonomy were tackled from different starting points. Important steps towards creating a sustainable international forum for a vast array of taphonomy practitioners were taken.

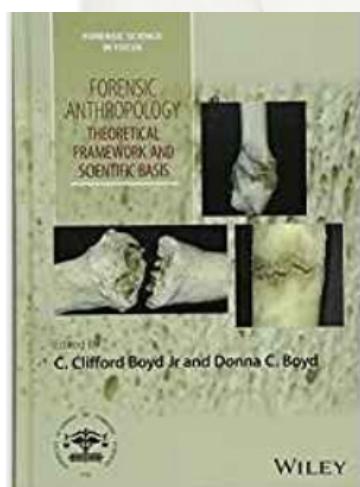
# FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY BOOK - new releases

Every year new forensic anthropology titles are being released. In this section we are presenting three of them that we think are going to turn to be useful in both forensic practice and research.

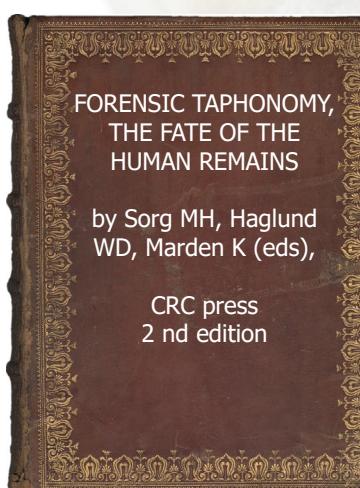
If you want to indicate some of the books you think are worth a good read and can be of interest to all those interested and working in the discipline and/or if you want to submit a book review let us know and contact us via mail!



**DISMEMBERMENTS: PERSPECTIVES IN FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY AND LEGAL MEDICINE** by Ross AH and Cunha E is the only volume in the field to address the complexities of interpreting dismemberment trauma, the different tools used, and the sociocultural motives behind dismemberments. The book's goal is to provide the reader with a comprehensive assessment that covers all aspects of dismemberment, from means and motive, to toolmark and instrument identification, to disarticulation and re-association of body parts. Each chapter is written by internationally known, expert contributors from around the world. Users will find this to be a great resource for those involved in the analysis of recovered human remains.



**FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND SCIENTIFIC BASIS** by Boyd CC and Boyd DC introduces readers to all of the theoretical and scientific foundations of forensic anthropology — beginning with how it was influenced by the early theoretical approaches of Tyler, Morgan, Spencer and Darwin. It instructs on how modern forensic science relies on an interdisciplinary approach — with research being conducted in the fields of archaeology, physics, geology and other disciplines. This modern approach to theory in forensic anthropology is presented through the introduction and discussion of Foundational, Interpretive and Methodological theories. Sections cover: Bias and Objectivity in Forensic Anthropology Theory and Practice; The Theory and Science Behind Biological Profile and Personal Identification; Scientific Foundation for Interpretations of Antemortem, Perimortem, and Postmortem Processes; and Interdisciplinary Influences, Legal Ramifications and Future Directions.



**FORENSIC TAPHONOMY, THE FATE OF THE HUMAN REMAINS**: It has been nearly 20 years since Haglund and Sorg introduced taphonomy to the forensic community as a dynamic, multidisciplinary approach to understanding postmortem change. In the past 2 decades, taphonomy has grown significantly in both its importance and its range of applications. This Second Edition reflects two decades of forensic taphonomy research and application. Fully updated with DNA implications, chemical variability in decomposition, microenvironments and a host of topics, the book includes over 50 chapters contributed by top scientists in the field and will serve as the quintessential, must-have resource for pathologists, death investigators, and forensic anthropologists.

note by FASE Newsletter:

The title should have been released on the 31st January 2019. No coverphoto is yet available online and the title has not yet been dispatched to those who pre-ordered it.

Please note that the book descriptions have been taken from the publishers websites.

# SAVE THE DATE: CALENDAR OF THE UPCOMING EVENTS

## MEETINGS/ CONFERENCES 2019

February **18-23.02.**

71st AAFS Anniversary Meeting  
*Baltimore, USA*  
<https://www.aafs.org/>

March **25.-27.03.**

46th Paleopathology Association (PPA) North American Meeting  
*Cleveland, USA*  
<https://paleopathology-association.wildapricot.org/events>

**27.-28.03.**

44th Human Biology Association (HBA) Annual Meeting  
*Cleveland, USA*  
<https://www.humbio.org/>

**27.-30.03.**

American Association of Physical Anthropology (AAPA) Annual Meeting  
*Cleveland, USA*  
<http://physanth.org/annual-meetings/88th-annual-meeting-2019/>

April

**09.-11.04.**

10th International Conference on Forensic Medicine and Sciences  
*Hurghada, Egypt*  
<https://forensic.meetinghand.com/en/>

May

**29.05.-01.06.**

52nd Krsek Conference of Forensic Medicine  
*Bratislava, Slovakia*  
[http://www.ialm.info/international\\_meetings/52nd\\_Krsek\\_Conference\\_of\\_Forensic\\_Medicine/](http://www.ialm.info/international_meetings/52nd_Krsek_Conference_of_Forensic_Medicine/)

June

**29.05.-01.06.**

27th International Meeting on Forensic Medicine Alpe-Adria-Pannonia  
*Beograd, Serbia*  
<https://www.aapforensic2019.com/>

**13-14.06.**

4th International Conference of the European Division of the International Association for Identification Congress  
*Warsaw, Poland*  
<http://www.annualmeeting.theiaieu.org/>

## WORKSHOPS 2019

March **19-23.03.**

Fourth International Continuing Course in Forensic Odontology  
*Spitsbergen, Norway*  
<https://www.bafo.org.uk/meetings/>

**15.-28.03.**

*CAS Forensic Imaging & Virtopsy courses*  
*Zurich, Switzerland*  
<http://virtopsy.com/>

September **12.-14.09.**

*FASE Advanced course in Biomechanics*  
*Brussels, Belgium*  
<http://forensicanthropology.eu/>

EVERY YEAR DIFFERENT FORENSIC CENTERS ARE ORGANIZING A NUMBER OF SHORT COURSES (BASIC AND ADVANCED) IN FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY DEDICATED TO FORENSIC FACIAL RECONSTRUCTION, FIELD RECOVERY METHODS, STATISTICAL METHODS, TRAUMA ANALYSIS, BIOLOGICAL IDENTITI... HERE IS THE LIST OF THEIR WEBPAGES WHERE YOU CAN FIND DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE EXACT TOPICS, DATES AND PRICES:

**University of Tennessee (Forensic Anthropology Centre)**  
*Knoxville, TN, USA*  
<http://fac.utk.edu/courses.html>

**Mercyhurst University (Archaeological Institute)**  
*Erie, PA, USA*  
<http://mai.mercyhurst.edu/applied-forensic-sciences/forensic-anthropology-summer-short-courses>

**Texas State University**  
*San Marcos, TX, USA*  
<http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/workshops.html>

The next issue of the Newsletter is planned for **spring 2019**.

We would appreciate if you could send us your comments, suggestions and contributions (comments on events; book reviews; discussions; interesting case studies etc.) by **May 2019**.

We also invite organizers to email us an invitation to relevant **events** that can be included in the next issue ([fase.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:fase.newsletter@gmail.com))