

## **Biology Chatter: Important Journals, Bulletins, and Blogs**

Beware of fraud in science! Below is a listing of some reliable sources to find scholarly materials:

### **Science**

(published by the AAAS)

<http://www.sciencemag.org/journals/>

### **Nature**

(published by Nature Publishing)

<http://www.nature.com/nature/index.html>

### **Journal of Forensic Sciences**

(published by AAFS)

<http://www.aafs.org/journal-forensic-sciences>

### **Biology-Blog.com**

<http://www.biology-blog.com/>

### **MJ's Human Biology Blog**

(maintained by Michael Johnson, MD)

<http://humanbiologyblog.blogspot.com/>

### **Top 50 Forensic Science Blogs**

(maintained by Masters in Forensic Science)

<http://mastersinforensicscience.com/2010/top-50-forensic-science-blogs/>

## **Upcoming Events and Conferences**

### **American College of Forensic Examiners**

International National Conference

September 22 – 24 2010

Orlando, FL, USA

[http://www.acfei.com/forensic\\_conference/](http://www.acfei.com/forensic_conference/)

**11th EMBL/EMBO Joint Conference on  
Science and Society: The Differences  
between the Sexes - From Biology to  
Behavior**

November 5 – 6, 2010

Heidelberg, Germany

[http://www.embl.de/training/courses\\_conferences/conference/2010/SNS10-01/index.html](http://www.embl.de/training/courses_conferences/conference/2010/SNS10-01/index.html)

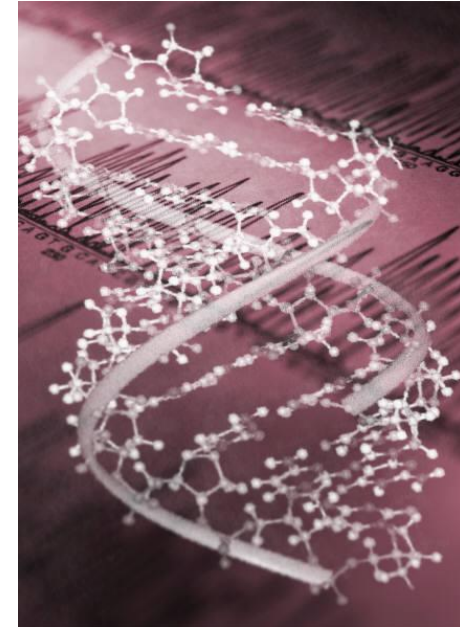
**2011 International Conference on Life  
Science and Technology  
(ICLST 2011)**

January 7 – 9, 2011

Mumbai, India

<http://www.iclst.org/>

A World of  
**OPPORTUNITY**  
Awaits You!



Discover more  
when you  
**Discover Biology!**

## The World of a Biologist

To follow are a few links to professional organizations that can help to narrow your interests and introduce you to the world of a Biologist:

**The American Institute of Biological Sciences** (<http://www.aibs.org>) is a professional organization dedicated to the sharing of scientific research and information. Their Careers page can answer many of your questions about how much education is needed, what kind of jobs are available, and what it is like to be a professional Biologist!

**The American Association for the Advancement of Science** (<http://www.aaas.org>) is the largest general science society in the world. Its mission, in addition to advancing science, is communicating science to the public – in terms the public can understand. It was established in Philadelphia in 1848, and recently celebrated 162 years in existence.

**The American Academy of Forensic Sciences** (<http://www.aafs.org/>) represents the fast-growing field of forensic sciences. Its membership includes medical professionals, lab scientists, Crime Scene Investigators, and others involved in the cooperation between science and the American legal system.

## Ongoing Issues: The Politics of Biology...

### DNA: To Test or Not to Test?

“If the glove don’t fit, you must acquit”. In 1995, Johnny Cochran uttered those famous words to the scientifically uneducated jury of O.J. Simpson’s murder trial, ignoring the fact that DNA evidence put Mr. Simpson at the scene of the crime. In the 15 years since, layman’s knowledge of DNA testing has moved light-years ahead; with juries now *expecting* DNA evidence in order to convict, and long-convicted defendants being freed on the basis of new DNA testing. This has led to the question: *Should DNA testing of a criminal suspect be done alongside fingerprinting? Or is it an invasion of privacy and a violation of the individual’s civil rights?*

### Stem-Cell Research: Embryonic vs. Adult

Stem-cell research is perhaps one of the most promising medical breakthroughs in biological history; but it threatens to be derailed by the polarizing arguments of whether or not it is ethical to use excess, donated embryos from IVF procedures. Some argue that adult stem-cell lines – not embryonic ones – have showed the most promise for curing degenerative diseases; but others argue that not enough embryonic research has been done to prove it is futile.

### Vaccinations, Autism, and Possible Pandemics?

Extensive, repeated, and conclusive scientific studies have shown that there is no causal link between autism and childhood vaccinations for diseases like measles, mumps, and rubella. However, many parents refuse to accept this fact; preferring to believe the hype that is reported by unscientific alternative media sources. In refusing to vaccinate, they put their children – and those with whom they come into contact – in grave danger of illness. Recently, in the state of California, nine infants died of pertussis (whooping cough) (<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/09/17/california.whooping.cough/index.html>). Can Biologists turn the tide back towards vaccination before the U.S. suffers an preventable diseases outbreak of pandemic proportions?