FLASH NEWS

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARSON INVESTIGATORS

WWW.FIREARSON.COM FALL 2009

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Opportunities for IAAI members to serve on the Board of Directors of the IAAI Foundation

The IAAI Educational Foundation was recently merged into the new IAAI Foundation, Inc. which was established by the IAAI Board of Directors in 2008. In the process of the merger, a new Board structure was created which seeks to insure the active participation of the membership of IAAI. Three of the seven Board members will be elected by the membership of IAAI. Three will be officers of IAAI. And one member will be elected at-large by the Board.

The original election will occur this year with all three Directors elected. One for a Three-year, a Two-year and a One-year term. Thereafter, one member will be elected each year for a Three-year term. Service is limited to no more than two consecutive Three-year terms.

QUALIFICATIONS: Member of the IAAI in good standing for the prior three (3) years.

DEADLINE: Nominations must be submitted by November 1, 2009. Nomination forms will be available on www.firearson.com, or you may email your nomination to iaaifoundation@firearson.com.

The University of Central Florida's National Center for Forensic Science

in partners with the University of Maryland's Department of Fire Protection Engineering need your input…

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Engineering is engaged in a project for researching thermal properties of materials and developing a thermal properties database. We are beginning to compile valid information for thermal properties that would be of use to investigators and are requesting for input from the field.

We have started reviewing the literature and collecting data on burning rate of practical flammable objects found in buildings. This data are typically obtained in a furniture calorimeter test (and occasionally in a room fire test). Data of interest to us include: (1) the time history of the fuel mass loss rate and/or the heat release rate; (2) effective thermal properties such as conductivity, mass density, heat capacity, ignition temperature and heat of pyrolysis (these can be used to calculate an ignition time).

We would need input from the community of fire investigators regarding the following:

(1) Identify flammable objects of interest to investigators. For instance, we are currently considering pieces of furniture (chairs, tables, desks, shelves, beds, etc) and commodities (TV sets, computers, kitchen appliances, etc). What are the typical fuel sources of interest to fire investigators?

(2) Help us identify sources of data to describe the burning rate of flammable objects. Where do fire investigators go if they need information on burning objects? Can we get help on where to look during our literature review?

Please send all information to tminnich@mail.ucf.edu. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me

Thanks in advance,

Tom Minnich

tminnich@mail.ucf.edu

717-577-1931
Member IAAI

SAVE THE DATE - MAY 16-21, 2010!

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ARSON INVESTIGATORS INC.

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