

**Assessment of Non-Academic Outcomes (Fall 2003 and Spring 2004)**

Please provide the information below about how your unit assesses the extent to which it meets its expected outcomes. If you need assistance, please contact Dr. Virginia Wheelless at 565-2085 or on Groupwise email. This information is due in the Planning Office no later than February 2, 2004 and will be updated annually.

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**Unit:** Laboratory of Forensic Anthropology and Human Identification **Date** 02-22-04

**Person Completing the Information** Harrell Gill-King **Email** harrell@unt.edu

**Head of the Unit:** Harrell Gill-King **Email** (as above)

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**I. Mission:** Provide the mission of the unit and a statement about how it relates to the university's mission.

**II. Previous Evaluations of the Unit:** Provide a description of the evaluations/assessments conducted in your unit over the last 5 years and changes that have been made based on the results of these assessments.

**III. Statement of Expected Outcomes:** Provide a brief list of the expected outcomes for your unit for 2002-03 or 2003-04 as of this date. Each outcome listed must be capable of being measured by the means noted in IV below. Please number the outcomes (1 to x). After each outcome, describe how the outcome supports student learning and student development.

**IV. Measuring Expected Outcomes:** Describe how the unit measures how the outcomes have been achieved and provide a list of methods and/or tools with the following information:

1. Name of assessment method or tool
2. If the method/tool is copyrighted, provide the name of the company who "owns" the tool.
3. Frequency of use - how often is this tool/method used, e.g., every spring semester students, staff, and faculty are surveyed about parking at UNT; customers are asked to complete evaluation forms when services are rendered; or each fall, the Enrollment Management Committee reviews the results of the Graduating Student Survey produced by the IR&A Office.

**V. Use of Assessment Results:** Describe how the results of the assessments described in IV above are shared with staff in the unit? How are the results used to improve the unit? Help improve student learning? Enhance student development? Meet the university's vision?

**VI. Changes Made Based on Assessment Results:** Describe how the unit has changed (or why it has not changed) based on the results of the assessment of outcomes. Indicate the year the change was implemented. Please indicate how the expected outcomes have changed if applicable.

**Signature of Person Completing the Form:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date 02-22-04

**Signature of Unit Head after Reviewing the Form:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date 02-22-04

## **Appendix 1 – Professional Training (Non-degree inservice) Workshops, Seminars, Field Schools within Texas, Calendar 2003**

1. Harris County Medical Examiner (Houston, TX) *Estimation of Postmortem Interval* Mar. '03
2. Texas Division / International Association for Identification *Approaches to Radiological Identification* Mar. '03
3. El Paso County Medical Examiner *Death Investigation School: Blunt Force, Blade, and Ballistic Trauma* Apr. '03
4. El Paso County Medical Examiner *Mass Fatality Incident School* Aug. '03
5. Jefferson County Coroner (Beaumont, TX) *Location of Clandestine Graves*  
Jun. '03
6. Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Education Project *Forensic Anthropologists as Expert Witnesses* Southwestern Legal Foundation Apr. '03
7. Texas County and District Attorneys Association *Forensic Anthropologists as Expert Witnesses* Sept. '03

**Total person- hours of instruction provided = 2680 hrs.**

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## **Appendix 2 – CODIS Funding and Allocation of Resources**

In 1996 the Laboratory of Forensic Anthropology, its Advisory Board, and the Procurator General, (chief criminal prosecutor within the office of the Attorney General of Texas), began a legislative initiative seeking funds to provide leading edge DNA capability to complement the work of the laboratory. Legislative approval for the measure came in 2001 with just over one million dollars from the Attorney General's Victim Compensation Fund. Although the initiative began at the LFA on the UNT main campus, the Chancellor directed the funding to the UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth. The current funding provides capital equipment and case support for the LFA at UNT, as well as some related expendables. FBI / CODIS regulations stipulate that samples entered into the DNA Missing Persons DNA Database, (i.e. samples from unknown individuals), require forensic anthropological analysis beforehand. The result is a natural partnership between the LFA at UNT and the DNA laboratory at Health Science Center. Biennial funding distributes over both laboratories.

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### **Appendix 3 – Federal and Other Agencies Outside Texas**

1. Oklahoma Indigent Defense Fund (contract case-by-case funding)
2. Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (training for professional forensic personnel)
3. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Department of Justice (professional training in blast and thermal trauma)
4. National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) (Assistance with WTC victim identification, Columbia Shuttle victim recovery and identification, air crashes, and other mass death events. Lab personnel mobilize as GS 14 federal employees.
5. Judicio Federal, Chih. Mexico (Human remains identification for the Mexican Federal police)
6. Servicio Periciale, DF Mexico (Training for the Mexican National Forensic Service)

**Assessment Report Matrix  
University of North Texas**

**Department/Unit:** Biological Sciences / Laboratory of Forensic Anthropology and Human Identification  
**Date:** 02-22-04

***Person Completing the Form: Harrell Gill-King, PhD, DABFA  
Email: harrell@unt.edu***

**Department/Unit Head (after reviewing the form):**

**Mission:** The Laboratory of Forensic Anthropology and Human Identification performs four principal functions within Texas:

- 1. Provides sophisticated location, recovery, and identification services not available elsewhere within Texas.**
- 2. Conducts research and development activities in forensic anthropology and related areas through degree programs within the Department of Biological Sciences.**
- 3. Provides TCLEOSE\*-certified training for law enforcement officials, medical examiners/coroners, and other agencies within Texas.**
- 4. Provides consultation, reports, amicus briefs, scientific ombudsman services, and expert witness services to criminal and civil courts within Texas.**

**\* (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education/ TCLEOSE)**

**Previous Evaluations of the Laboratory:**

**The LFA has undergone two previous evaluations through the Sunset Review Process of the University; the most recent in the fall of 1990. These evaluations have been uniformly positive. The structure of the Sunset Review Process is outlined elsewhere within University Administrative Procedures for Centers and Institutes. In the last evaluation cycle several Goals were articulated (Indicated by corresponding Item Number in the matrix below)**

- 1. Establishment of a graduate program in Forensic Anthropology (MA or MS in Biological Sciences)**
- 2. Establishment of an Osteological Reference Collection**
- 3. Expansion of professional (non-degree) training**
- 4. Procurement of intramural and extramural funding**
- 5. Expansion of service base**

<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Assessment Tools/Measurement</b>	<b>Assessment Results</b>	<b>Changes based on Results Taken</b>	<b>How do changes help UNT meet its Vision and support student learning?</b>
Goal #1- Graduate Program	Number of enrollments and successful completions	Three masters degrees granted with three students currently in progress	Incorporation of course listings in other programs, e.g. Geography and Criminal Justice.	These changes meet UNT’s goal of Cross-departmental and Inter-College cooperative training
Goal #2- Establishment of an Osteological Reference Collection	Number of anatomical specimens conserved and catalogued as part of the collection	The collection currently curates approximately 125 reference specimens	Establishment of a formal “Donor” program under the provisions of the State Anatomical Board (Anatomical Gifts Act)	Provides a unique and invaluable teaching and reference resource that attracts scholars from other institutions and enhances the quality of graduate training in forensic science.
Goal #3- Professional non-degree training	Number of “person-hours” delivered in various training workshops, field schools, and classroom presentations	Workshops, seminars, and field exercises for various agencies (see Appendix 1) totaled 4160 person/hours in calendar ‘03	Increased popularity of these professional offerings will require establishment of a priority scheme for determining where/when training can be provided. i.e. <u>demand now exceeds resources</u>	Establishes UNT as a premium regional source for professional training in death investigation and mass disaster response.
Goal #4 – Funding	Funding by source (intramural /external)	1. Approximately \$63K in intramural funding for laboratory expansion 2. Portion of \$1 million from Texas Attorney General’s Victim Compensation Fund (via legislature) see <u>Appendix</u>	Physical expansion of the laboratory’s operating space and addition of badly needed equipment. Establishment of the Texas Missing Persons DNA Database (a component of the CODIS FBI system).	Establishes a cooperative working relationship with LFA’s sister lab (DNA Services) at UNT Health Science Center. Enhances the public service mission of the university.

<p>Goal #5 – Expansion of Service Base</p>	<p>Measured by new entities served</p>	<p>#2 3. Contract funding from FBI CODIS Database estimated at \$18K/yr.</p> <p>Lab services have expanded to include federal agencies and additional medical examiner jurisdictions within Texas (see <u>Appendix #3</u>)</p>	<p>These services have resulted in (1)internal changes in case processing protocols to accommodate demand from heavier caseloads. (2) New clients constitute new sources for anatomical donations to the study collection.</p>	<p>Enhances UNT’s potential for federal funding sources. Enhances UNT’s visibility as source for Mass disaster management, mass death incident management, and security issues.</p>
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