

# TEXAS STATE<sup>®</sup>

## FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY CENTER

<http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/>

## Forensic Anthropology Center at Texas State (FACTS) FY2015 CAMPAIGN

The mission of FACTS is to advance forensic anthropology through world-class education, research, and outreach.

### *What Do We Do?*

- Provide hands-on instruction to students
- Train law enforcement
- Provide cold case expertise and consulting to law enforcement
- Conduct research in human decomposition and bone biology

### *Why Do We Do It?*

- Train future forensic scientists in the most current methods
- Assist law enforcement in medico-legal death investigations to recover and identify human remains
- Advance knowledge of human decomposition processes and skeletal variation



Graduate students learning about human skeletal variation using donated skeletons.

## EVIDENCE TECHNOLOGY MAGAZINE

The magazine dedicated exclusively to the technology of evidence collection, processing, and preservation  
Volume 12, Number 5 • September-October 2014



TOPICS IN THIS ISSUE  
■ Forensics & Academic Achievement  
■ Decentralized Mobile Forensics

FACTS was featured in Evidence Technology Magazine

### **DONATE TO FACTS**

#### **Financial Donations**

**Make checks payable to  
“FACTS” and send to:  
FACTS**

**Department of Anthropology  
Texas State University  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666  
or donate online at  
<http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/>**

#### **Body Donations**

**Get more information about becoming a living donor or donating the remains of a next-of-kin by visiting**

**<http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/> or contacting us at  
512-245-1900 or  
[FACTS@txstate.edu](mailto:FACTS@txstate.edu)**

### **Support FACTS**

We humbly encourage you to support FACTS by providing a financial contribution and/or becoming a Body Donor. Financial contributions help us provide no or low cost body donations for individuals and families, support students, provide high quality training to students and law enforcement, and identify individuals that died crossing the US border and return the remains to their families. The gift of one's body is an invaluable contribution to the education of forensic anthropologists and makes cutting-edge research in forensic sciences possible. FACTS accepts body donations from individuals and next-of-kin for scientific research under the Universal Anatomical Gift Act. Your gift supports:

- Reconstructing the postmortem interval to determine the time-since-death
- Research on effective search and recovery methods
- Osteological research that advances knowledge for identifying human skeletal remains

# FACTS NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

## ***Operation Identification***

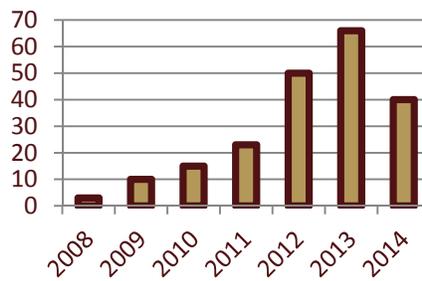
Imagine if your loved one disappeared and you did not know what happened to him or her.

This is a problem that many families of migrants face.

FACTS has started a project called Operation Identification (OpID) in response to the humanitarian crisis in Brooks County, Texas. In cooperation with Baylor University and the University of Indianapolis, the goal of OpID is to exhume, analyze, and collect DNA samples from the bodies of individuals that died crossing the US border in hopes of facilitating positive identification and return of the remains to their families. To date FACTS has received 77 sets of unidentified remains. In 2014 we made our first two positive identifications and have returned the remains to the families. Our goal is to identify all the individuals. We are currently seeking funding to employ a full-time project manager and a part-time assistant as well as to pay for DNA analyses, personal protective equipment, and other necessary supplies. If you are interested in donating to this worthy cause, please contact FACTS.

## ***Body Donations***

Full body donations are an invaluable resource for education and research. FACTS is currently receiving approximately 6 donations per month.



Body Donations to FACTS  
from 2008 to August 2014

We provide pick-up and placement of donors at no charge to families within a 200 mile radius of San Marcos, TX. However, funds are desperately needed to pay for gasoline and additional student assistantships to maintain this program.

## ***Most Pressing Projects***

Financial support to FACTS is used to fund our daily operations, pay for body donation pickups and placements, purchase capital equipment and personal protective gear for our staff, students, and researchers, and efforts by OpID. The most pressing projects include:

- Funding of additional graduate students to help with the body donation program and OpID
- Funding for a manager and assistant for OpID
- DNA analysis of skeletal remains associated with OpID
- Mortuary stretcher for body transport
- Truck to transport donated bodies
- Chest freezers

## ***Community Outreach***

FACTS is dedicated to community outreach. If you would like to learn more about forensic anthropology or the FACTS mission, we can provide a speaker to talk to your organization or school. Please contact us at 512-245-1900 or [FACTS@txstate.edu](mailto:FACTS@txstate.edu).



Training law enforcement agents and students on proper methods for mapping scattered human remains

## ***Upcoming Events***

- Identifying Human from Non-Human Bone – August 10, 2015
- Forensic Art: Master Facial Reconstruction Sculpture with Karen Taylor – Sept. 21-25, 2015
- Outdoor Recovery Course – June 1-5, 2014
- Forensic Art: Digital Postmortem Illustration – Aug 31 – Sept. 4, 2015
- Two-Day Body Recovery Field Course – Oct. 17-18, 2015
- Visit our website for additional upcoming events  
[www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/](http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/)