

**CURRICULUM VITAE
LAURA GAHN, PH.D.**

IDENTIGENE
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EDUCATION

- 1993-1996 Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT
Post-doctoral fellowship, Molecular Biology and Neurochemistry
- 1987-1993 Louisiana State University Medical Center, New Orleans, LA
Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 1994
- 1981-1985 Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA
B.S. in Chemistry

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

IDENTIGENE, Inc., Houston, TX

2005-present Vice President of Forensic Production

2003-present Forensic Technical Leader

2001-present DNA Laboratory Director

- Technical leadership, administration, and supervision of all aspects of the forensics laboratory operations, including responsibility for personnel hiring, training, and supervision, budget, case processing, methods development and implementation, technical review of casework.
- Technical leadership of the paternity laboratory operations, including technical review of casework.
- Responsible for initial forensic accreditation/certification and maintenance of accreditation/certification by ASCLD/LAB, TX DPS, New York State Department of Health, and ISO17025 through FQS (formerly NFSTC). Responsible for maintenance of paternity accreditation/certification by AABB and New York State Department of Health.
- Expert witness, consultation, and seminars/continuing education on paternity and forensic DNA analysis for clients.

- Company management responsibilities, including technical aspects of business development and training of non-laboratory staff in technical aspects of company activities.

University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

2006-present Adjunct Faculty, School of Health Sciences, Molecular Genetic Technology Program

ReliaGene Technologies, Inc. (Formerly GenTest Laboratories), New Orleans, LA

1997-2001 Assistant, Associate Director

- Administration and supervision of the paternity laboratory operations, including responsibility for personnel hiring, training and supervision, case processing, methods development and implementation, laboratory analysis and review of casework, and continued accreditation of the laboratory.
- Supervision of paternity testing office/support personnel.
- Laboratory analysis and review of forensic paternity and family relationship cases.
- Expert witness, consultation and seminars/continuing education on DNA testing for clients.

1996-1997 Senior Scientist

- Laboratory analysis of paternity and forensic paternity and family relationship cases.
- Available to less senior personnel for training and technical assistance.

Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT

1993-1996 Post-doctoral Fellow, Department of Psychiatry, Division of Molecular Neurochemistry

- Research in the effects of substances of abuse and withdrawal on preprothyrotropin-releasing hormone expression in rat brain.

Louisiana State University Medical Center, New Orleans, LA

1988-1992 Teaching Assistant, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

- Taught Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in dentistry program
- Research in tyrosine hdroxylase enzymatic activity and conformation

Imreg, Inc., New Orleans, LA

1985-1987 Research Associate, Biochemistry Group

- Group research in the purification and characterization of endogenous human peptide immunomodulators.

Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA

1982-1985 Laboratory Assistant, Chemistry Department

Instructor, Summer Computer Institute

AFFILIATIONS

2006 – Present American Academy of Forensic Sciences

2004 - Present Association of Forensic DNA Analysts and Administrators

1997 - Present American Association of Blood Banks
1998 - 2004 American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
1995 - 1998 Society for Neuroscience

CERTIFICATIONS and PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Consultant, Hurricane Katrina DNA Identification Project, Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory (2006)

Certified Laboratory Director, New York State Department of Health: Certificate of Qualification in Forensic/Identity and Paternity/Identity DNA Testing (2002-present)

Laboratory Assessor, American Association of Blood Banks Parentage Testing Laboratories (2001-present)

Committee Member, American Association of Blood Banks Parentage Testing Laboratories Standards Committee (2003-2005)

EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY

- **Jefferson County**, Family Court, AL
- **Mobile County**, Family Court, AL
- **Leon County**, 2nd Judicial Court, FL
- **Kauai County**, 5th Judicial Court, HI
- **Sumner County**, 13th Judicial District Court, KS
- **St. Tammany Parish**, Juvenile Court, LA
- **Berrien County**, Trial Court, MI (telephonic testimony)
- **Lauderdale County**, Chancery Court, MS
- **Santa Fe County**, 1st Judicial District Court, NM (telephonic testimony)
- **Florence County**, 12th Judicial District Court, SC
- **Cameron County**, 103rd Criminal District Court, TX
- **Dallas County**, Probate Court, TX
- **Harris County**, 157th Civil Court, TX
- **Harris County**, 174th, 177th, 182nd, 185th, 209th, and 228th Criminal District Courts, TX
- **Galveston County**, 10th Judicial District Court, TX
- **Tarrant County**, 396th Judicial District Court, TX

INVITED LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, AND TEACHING

Mar 2004 ***Forensic DNA Analysis in Sexual Assault Investigation.*** Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Response Team, Adult, Adolescent, Courtroom, Medical/Forensic Training Program, The Woodlands, TX

- July 2003 ***DNA Identification Basics & It's Practical Applications in Family Law.*** (Continuing Legal Education) Alamo Area Professional Legal Assistants Association, San Antonio, TX.
- Feb 2003 ***Forensic DNA and Paternity Data Interpretation Workshop.*** Houston Police Department Crime Laboratory Analyst Training.
- Oct 2002 ***Exclusion Rate Comparisons in Home Collection and Laboratory Collection Private Paternity Tests.*** 13th International Symposium on Human Identification, Paternity Mini-Symposium, Phoenix, AZ.
- Oct 2001 ***Paternity Testing.*** 7th Annual Tribal Enrollment Conference, Nashville, TN
- May 2001 ***Mock UIFSA Trial.*** (panelist) Eastern Regional Interstate Child Support Enforcement Association Conference, Nashville, TN
- March 2001 ***Understanding Paternity Test Reports.*** Louisiana State Child Support Conference, Alexandria, LA
- Nov 2000 ***Mock UIFSA Hearing.*** (panelist) National Child Support Enforcement Association UIFSA Conference, Savannah, GA
- Oct 2000 ***Paternity Workshop.*** Alabama Child Support Enforcement Conference, Gulf Shores, AL
- Oct 2000 ***PCR Contamination Prevention.*** ReliaGene Technologies, Inc. New Orleans, LA
- July 2000 ***Paternity/DNA Revisited.*** Louisiana District Attorneys Association's 26th Annual Conference. Destin, FL
- June 2000 ***Advance Workshop on STR Analysis and Interpretation for Forensic Casework.*** (Instructor) ReliaGene Technologies, Inc., New Orleans, LA
- May 2000 ***Identification of Individuals by DNA Testing.*** New Orleans Society of Medical Technologists. New Orleans, LA
- April 2000 ***DNA Analysis: Kinship, Mitochondrial and Y-Chromosome Analysis.*** Mississippi Child Support Association Conference 2000. Biloxi, MS
- April 2000 ***Applications of PCR-Based Tests in Clinical Laboratories and Paternity and Forensic Testing by DNA Methods.*** Virginia Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Meeting. Virginia Beach, VA
- Nov 1999 ***Paternity Establishment Through DNA Testing.*** Twelfth Annual Child Support Conference, State of Tennessee. Nashville, TN

June 1999 ***Identity Testing by DNA Methods.*** (Instructor) Charity Hospital Blood Bank Medical Technologist Training Program. New Orleans, LA

PUBLICATIONS

Gahn, L. (2005) "Evidence Collection Processes" *Law and Order* **53**, 72-75.

Gahn, L, and McCue, J (2003) "DNA's Practical Applications" *California Lawyer* **23**, 40 (MCLE self-study).

Gahn, L, and McCue, J (2002) "DNA Identification Has Many Uses" *Lawyers Weekly* 9/13/02.

Gahn, L. (2002) "Genetic Marker Testing" in *Paternity and the Law of Parentage in Massachusetts* P. Quirion (ed). Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Boston.

Gahn, L.G. and Sevarino, K.A. (1996) "Preprothyrotropin-releasing hormone mRNA in the rat central gray is strongly and persistently induced during morphine withdrawal." *Neuropeptides* **30**, 207-212.

Ciabarra, A.M., Sullivan, J. M., Gahn, L.G., Pecht, G., Heinemann, S., and Sevarino, K.A. (1995) "Cloning of chi-1, a developmentally-regulated member of a novel class of the ionotropic glutamate receptor family." *J. Neurosci.* **15**, 6498-6508.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1995) "Thermal stability and CD analysis of rat tyrosine hydroxylase". *Biochemistry* **34**, 252-256.

Roskoski, R., Jr., Ritchie, P., and Gahn, L.G. (1994) "Farnesyl-protein transferase and geranylgeranyl-protein transferase assays using phosphocellulose paper absorption". *Anal. Biochem.* **222** 275-280.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1993) "Tyrosine hydroxylase activity and extrinsic fluorescence changes produced by polyanions". *Biochem. J.* **295**, 189-194.

Roskoski, R., Jr., Gahn, L.G., and Roskoski, L.M. (1993) "Inactivation of phosphorylated tyrosine hydroxylase by ascorbate in vitro". *Eur. J. Biochem.* **218**, 363-370.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1991) "Tyrosine hydroxylase purification from rat PC12 cells." *Protein Expression Purific.* **2**, 10-14.

ABSTRACTS

Gahn, L., Allen, R., and Scarpetta, M. (2002) "Exclusion rate comparisons in home collection and laboratory collection private paternity tests." *13th International Symposium on Human Identification.*

Sinha, S.K., Gahn, L., Pineda, G., Lal, A., and Paunovic, A. (2001) "Unusual parentage and human identification cases." *12th International Symposium on Human Identification.*

Sinha, S.K. and Gahn, L.G. (1998) "Kinship analysis in deficiency cases where the mother, father, or both are unavailable for testing." Seventh Meeting of DNA Polymorphism. Nagano, Japan.

Gahn, L.G. and Sevarino, K.A. (1996) "Regulation of thyrotropin-releasing hormone in morphine withdrawal." *Soc. Neurosci. Abstr.* **22**, 1161.

Gahn, L.G. and Sevarino, K.A. (1995) "Regulation of preprothyrotropin-releasing hormone mRNA in the central gray by tonic pain and by morphine withdrawal." *Soc. Neurosci. Abstr.* **21**, 386.

Ciabarra, A.M., Sullivan, J. M., Gahn, L.G., Pecht, G., Heinemann, S., and Sevarino, K.A. (1995) "Characterization of a member of a novel class of the ionotropic glutamate receptor superfamily." *Soc. Neurosci. Abstr.* **21**, 1110.

Ciabarra, A.M., Sullivan, J. M., Gahn, L.G., Heinemann, S., and Sevarino, K.A. (1994) "Cloning and characterization of a novel member of the glutamate receptor superfamily." *Soc. Neurosci. Abstr.* **20**, 737.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1991) "Extrinsic fluorescence of tyrosine hydroxylase." *Soc. Neurosci. Abstr.* **17**, 824.

Sinha, S. K., Gahn, L., Hochadel, J. F., Montgomery, A. H., Verret, J., Owen, T., and Mandare, K.S. (1991) "HLA DQ Alpha Allele and Genotype Frequencies in the Cajun Population of Louisiana, Determined Utilizing PCR." *International Symposium on Human Identification*.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1991) "Extrinsic fluorescence of tyrosine hydroxylase." *FASEB J.* **5**, A457.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1990) "Tyrosine hydroxylase activation by RNA and attenuation of activation by salts". *FASEB J.* **4**, A318.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1989) "Nucleic acid activation of tyrosine hydroxylase." *FASEB J.* **3**, A885.

Gahn, L.G. and Roskoski, R., Jr. (1988) "Tyrosine hydroxylase activation by RNA". *J. Cell Biol.* **107**, 302A.

Sinha, S.K., Sizemore, R.C., Merdian, D., Gahn, L., Montag, M., and Gottlieb, A.A. (1987) "Purification and characterization of low molecular weight immunomodulators from human leukocyte dialysate". *Fed. Proc* **46**, 782.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (TECHNICAL)

- Feb 2006 *AAFS Annual Meeting*, Seattle, WA
- 2006 *AABB Parentage Testing Laboratory Assessment*
- Sept 2005 *16th International Symposium on Human Identification*, Fort Worth, TX
- 2005 *AABB Parentage Testing Laboratory Assessment*
- Sept 2004 **Joint Meeting of SAFS, MAFS, MAAFS, and CSFS**, Orlando, FL
(workshops: Bloodstain Pattern Analysis for the Forensic Scientist, Paternity Index DNA Statistics, and ABI Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology Seminar)
- Mar 2004 *FBI DNA Auditor Training*, Phoenix, AZ
- Mar 2004 *AABB Parentage Laboratory Assessment*
- Feb 2004 **American Academy of Forensic Sciences 56th Annual Meeting**, Dallas, TX
- Nov 2003 *Understanding DNA for Houston's Criminal Justice Community*, Houston, TX
- Nov 2003 *National CODIS Conference*, Landsdowne, VA
- Oct 2003 **Use of Genomic Technologies in the Context of DNA Forensics**, Dr. Ranajit Chakraborty, presented at Identigene, Houston, TX
- Oct 2003 *American Association of Blood Banks 2003 Annual Meeting and TXPO*, San Diego, CA (including assessor yearly training)
- 2003 *AABB Parentage Laboratory Assessment*
- Feb 2003 *AAFS 55th Annual Meeting*, Chicago, IL
- 2003 Coursework: "*Genetics and Reproduction*" and "*Principles of Statistics*", Brigham Young University
- Nov 2002 *FBI Laboratory's 8th CODIS User's Conference*, Arlington, VA
- Oct 2002 *AABB 2002 Annual Meeting and TXPO*, Orlando, FL (including assessor yearly training)
- Oct 2002 *13th International Symposium on Human Identification*, and *SWGDM meeting*, Phoenix, AZ
- 2002 *AABB Parentage Laboratory Assessments*

- Aug 2002 ***“An Automated Approach to DNA Purification, Quantification, and STR Analysis”***
by Lisa Lane (Promega) at Identigene, Houston, TX
- July 2002 ***”DNA Identification of Victims of Mass Disasters”*** by Dr. Benoit Leclair (Myriad Genetics) at Identigene, Houston, TX
- 2001 ***AABB Parentage Laboratory Assessments***
- Oct 2001 ***AABB 54th Annual Meeting***, San Antonio, TX
- Aug 2001 ***“Introduction to PCR Testing”*** by Dr. Sudhir Sinha at ReliaGene Technologies, New Orleans, LA
- Nov 2000 ***AABB 53rd Annual Meeting***, Washington D.C. (including new assessor training)
- Oct 2000 ***11th International Symposium on Human Identification***, Biloxi, MS
- April 2000 ***Advances in DNA Technology: Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNP’s)*** PE Biosystems, New Orleans, LA
- March 2000 ***Louisiana Child Support Enforcement Association Conference*** Lafayette, LA
- Feb 2000 ***“Hazardous Material Safety Seminar-Awareness Level”*** by Eugene Cottingham at ReliaGene Technologies, New Orleans, LA
- August 1999 ***“Good Laboratory Practices”*** seminar at ReliaGene Technologies, New Orleans, LA
- May 1999 1999 Summer Institute in Statistical Genetics at North Carolina State University
Forensic Statistics Raleigh, NC
- April 1999 ***8th Annual MS Child Support Association (MCSA) Conference and Workshops***
Jackson, MS
- March 1999 ***Probability, Likelihood Ratio and Paternity Index*** seminar presented by Dr. Charles Brenner, New Orleans, LA
- Oct 1998 ***Fundamentals of RFLP Analysis*** seminar presented at ReliaGene by Dr. Sudhir Sinha.
New Orleans, LA
- Oct 1998 ***9th International Symposium on Human Identification*** Orlando, FL
- January 1998 ***Forensic Statistics Seminar*** presented by at ReliaGene by Dr. Charles Brenner. New Orleans, LA

CONTINUING EDUCATION (OTHER)

- April 2004 **Topgrading**, Management Training Workshop, Houston, TX
- June 2003 **Rockefeller Habits**, Management Training Workshop, Houston, TX
- Oct 2002 **Afterburner**, Management Training Workshop, Houston, TX
- July 2002 **Access 2000** software training class, CompUSA, Houston, TX
- June 2002 **SWIM (Systemwide Information Management System)** software training by Jim Locke and Mike Heidler (Catapult Systems) at Identigene, Houston, TX
- Nov 2001 **Forging Ahead to the Basics** Fortune Small Business management conference, Ft. Lauderdale, Fl
- Jan 2001 **American Heart Association Heart Saver CPR Certification**, New Orleans, LA