

## ***Biometric Consortium 2003 Conference***

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Max Houck is the Director of the Forensic Science Initiative, a multi-million dollar program that develops research, resources, and professional training for forensic scientists and related professionals. WVU currently has over 22 research and resource projects in forensic science.

Mr. Houck is a trace evidence expert and forensic anthropologist who was assigned to the Trace Evidence Unit at the FBI Laboratory from 1992 to 2001 and worked over 800 cases. Just before he joined WVU, he was assigned to Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, to assist with the examination and identification of the victims of the 9/11/01 Pentagon attack.

Prior to his career at the FBI, Mr. Houck was the forensic anthropologist and a trace evidence examiner at the Medical Examiner's Office in Fort Worth, Texas. He coordinated the anthropological recovery and scientific examinations of the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas.

Mr. Houck is a graduate of Michigan State University, a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Currently, he is working on a second edited a book of forensic case reviews, *Mute Witnesses*, as well as an upper-level introductory forensic science textbook, *Fundamentals of Forensic Science*. His awards include a Quality Award in 1999 from the FBI Laboratory and the American Society of Testing and Materials Forensic Science Award in 2000. He was the keynote speaker at the Crime Lab Management conference in July of 2003.