



## Best Educational Effort – Finalist



**Lora Sims**

**Ideal Innovations, Inc.**

In her role as the Ideal Innovations, Inc. (I<sup>3</sup>) Director of Facial Identification Training, Ms. Lora Sims has been a pioneer in the development and deployment of internationally recognized training in the area of facial identification.

Currently chair of the Facial Identification Scientific Working Group (FISWG), Lora has served as a member of the International Association for Identification's (IAI) Science & Practices subcommittee for Facial Identification and chairs the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC) Facial Identification subcommittee.

Lora was instrumental in the development of a training to competency program for the Department of Defense Forensics Science Center (DFSC) in West Virginia when the program moved from a fingerprint to multimodal enterprise. Since then, she and her team of I<sup>3</sup> instructors have provided exceptional in-person and virtual facial identification training across the country and worldwide to government agencies and private industry in a vigorous attempt to bring an ethical, scientific, and professional approach to the examination and analysis of the facial identification discipline. Students from Romania, Norway, Sweden, Australia, and New Zealand, among others, have benefitted from this outstanding training. With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Lora and her team pivoted from their usual in-person curriculum and produced several virtual classes to continue their training mission online. The challenges of providing virtual training to students worldwide did not stop the I<sup>3</sup> Face Center of Excellence (FaCE) from accommodating multiple time zones.



As a leader of her OSAC subcommittee and FISWG, Lora continually demonstrates leadership in the development and improvement of standards to properly and effectively utilize technology, methodology, and examination methods for increased accuracy in facial examination decisions. The FaCE team collaborated to create the first-ever ANSI National Accreditation Board-accredited proficiency test for active face reviewers and examiners.