



**Newsletter Issue 49 • 2016 December**

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## President's Piece

As the days get shorter, it is time to reflect on the year that passed. The annual ISAE congress was held in Edinburgh in July – and what a congress it was! A record number of delegates met, talked, listened, discussed, ate, drank, and danced their way through five eventful days. The congress was packed with thought-provoking, knowledge-enhancing posters and talks, and despite a drizzle every now and then, the Scottish weather didn't let us down. As always, I was struck by the friendliness of everyone (including polite but pertinent questions after talks) and the informal, down-to-earth manner that everyone brings with them. Well done, you delegates – and very well done, you organisers!

Whether or not you made it to the congress this year, make sure you'll be at the congress in 2017. I can assure you that it will be just as eventful, and it will give you a chance to visit the Danish city of Aarhus, which is also the European Capital of Culture in 2017. Don't miss it!

Before giving you a brief update on the Annual General meeting (AGM), I would like to remind you that many ISAE regions organise local meetings, which are an excellent addition to our annual congresses. The local meetings can often be easier for students to get to, and they may focus on specific subjects. Read all about it on **p. 13**.

On Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2016, the AGM of our Society was held – as usual in conjunction with the annual congress. A staggering 157 people attended the AGM – including a score of non-members. It is always a great encouragement to the members of the ISAE Council, which take care of the practical “business” part of running a scientific society, to see the backing of the members (and potential new members) of the Society. Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our beloved Society, we started with something unusual – a poetry reading by three of our members. If you missed it, or if want to read them yourselves, these poems can be found on **p. 10–11**.

In this Newsletter, the individual Council members will give you a recap of the year that passed and what's to come (**p. 3–8**). I would like to highlight the election of our new Communications Officer, Jennifer Chen, from the US. A warm welcome to Jennifer, who has been thrown into the deep end and is currently organizing a major overhaul of the ISAE website. I would like to thank her predecessor, Laura Dixon from SRUC, Scotland, for all of her hard work while serving as Communications Officer.

I would also like to thank Marie Jose Hötzel and Kristin Hagen, whose terms as members of the Ethics Committee came to an end; their places have been filled by Cecilie Mejdell and Elize van Vollenhoven, to whom I extend a warm welcome – ethical considerations in research are seldom easy to deal with.

We also co-opted a new Development Officer for the ISAE Council, a position which was filled by Rebecca Sommerville, who works for The Brooke in the UK. A warm welcome to Rebecca, who has provided an overview of her work in this position on **p. 14**.

If, as an ISAE member, you would like to take part in the running of our Society, I would encourage you to consider standing for election for one of the four Council positions that will be up for renewal at next year's AGM: **Junior Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Junior Editor**. You can find out more about these positions by consulting the ISAE Procedural Guidelines on our website ([www.applied-ethology.org](http://www.applied-ethology.org)). You are also welcome to contact the current holders of these Council positions; their contact details are at the end of this Newsletter (**p. 21–22**).

As I have mentioned before, we are currently in the process of applying for charitable status for the ISAE. Our application to become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO; as the society has its headquarters in Scotland) is currently being assessed, and the prognosis is very promising. Some changes will have to be made to the ISAE constitution at the 2017 AGM, but all members will be sent a link to these changes (including more information about what charitable status means for our Society) well in advance.

In my previous President's Piece, I tried to predict the winner of the European Football Championship – and failed ☹. This shall not prevent me from predicting that 2017 will be a great year for the ISAE, and that the annual congress will be a roaring success. I will finish by wishing all of you a glorious winter/summer (wherever you are).

Season's greetings!

**Birte L. Nielsen** / *President of the ISAE* / Paris, December 2016

## ISAE Council News

### ISAE Website and Social Media

Greetings from your Communications Officer! I was honored to be elected at the AGM during the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in Edinburgh this past summer. My goals as Communications Officer are to increase the profile of the ISAE and to improve the online experience for our members.

Our website ([www.applied-ethology.org](http://www.applied-ethology.org)) received on average 6,800 hits per month in 2016, with nearly 50% of views targeted toward the Employment and Education page and the majority of the remainder focused on the ISAE Meetings page. As our President, Birte, mentioned above, I am working with our web hosts (Intergage) on a site overhaul.

We have signed the contract for the website upgrade, and work will begin in earnest in the new year. The revamp will improve our website in the following ways:

- **Membership directory:** to improve usability, we will add features such as search fields for country, first name, and membership type (student vs. non-student), and we will allow members to create their own usernames and passwords.
- **Responsive to viewing device:** the site will be optimised for viewing on computers, smartphones, and tablets, and the format will adapt depending on the device used.
- **Facelift with new imagery:** the site will feature large, high-resolution animal images submitted by ISAE members. (To get a sense of how the new page might look, check out this site, another Intergage client: [www.damoryvets.co.uk](http://www.damoryvets.co.uk)). A *huge thank you* to those of you who have submitted over 200 beautiful animal photos for the new website so far!
- **Updated logos:** the ISAE logo will be refreshed with a new horse silhouette and typeface. It will keep the spirit and heritage of our current logo, but will be more modern and crisp. In addition, Intergage will develop an additional brand asset for use on ISAE pamphlets, featuring a globe surrounded by 5 animal silhouettes. In the new year, look for an email asking you to vote on the top 5 species to represent our Society!

In addition, I've established a presence for the Society on social media. For more frequent updates on ISAE activities, employment opportunities, and more, please follow us:

- **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/appliedethology](http://www.facebook.com/appliedethology)
- **Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/appliedethology](http://www.twitter.com/appliedethology)
- **LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com/groups/8561819](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/8561819)

**Jennifer M. Chen** / *Communications Officer of the ISAE*

## Treasurer's Report

The current account, as of 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016, stands at **£13,041.27** and the savings account at **£45,362.76**.

Since the AGM in July, we received support from Nestle for their travel award, and this was forwarded to the conference organisers. Recipients of the prize had already received their funds to make necessary arrangements to attend the congress. We have received the profit of £741.89 from the 2013 congress held in Brazil. Membership subscription currently stands at £7,091.99; however, we are still to be billed for AABS subscriptions. This year, we had an agreement with Wageningen Press to pay for the congress abstract books directly, and we have also paid for the production of the ethology book totaling £19,390.75. Thank you to all of those that sponsored and bought the book, *Animals and Us*. Total sales from the conference raised £1,660.00.

Support to council members has totaled £1,239.42. This includes support costs for the student member activities at the 50<sup>th</sup> congress and for ISAE representation at key workshops. This included support for our president to be in attendance at the 4<sup>th</sup> OIE (World Health Organisation) Global conference on Animal Welfare in the hope of formalising a collaboration between OIE and ISAE (see p. 15-16). In addition, we supported a joint Australasia-Africa regional conference for £1,000.00.

A full financial report will be given at the end of our financial year in January 2017.

**Krista McLennan** / Treasurer of the ISAE

*Please note that the following accounts have not yet been audited.*

	<u>Current Account</u>	<u>Savings Account</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Congress Profit	741.89	0	741.89
Ethology Book	1,660.00	0	1,660.00
Membership subs	7,091.99	0	7,091.99
Net Interest	0	14.41	14.41
Scholarship funds from sponsors	6,750.24	0	6,750.24
Transfers in	0	0	0
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>16,244.12</b>	<b>14.41</b>	<b>16,258.53</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
AAALAC	0	0	0
Bank Charges	1,013.78	0	1,013.78
Conference Attendance Award	480.00	0	480.00
Conference Attendance Fund	750.00	0	750.00
Council Member Costs	1239.42	0	1,239.42
Elsevier AABS	0	0	0
Membership services - Intergage	1,125.60	0	1,125.60
Regional Payments	1,000.00	0	1,000.00
SAGEPay	181.73	0	181.73

	<u>Current Account</u>	<u>Savings Account</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Expenses, continued:</b>			
Scholarship funds awarded	5,380.00	0	5,380.00
Subs returns	102.55	0	102.55
Transfers out	0	0	0
Wageningen Press	19,390.75	0	19,390.75
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>30,663.83</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,663.83</b>
<hr/>			
<b>Excess of Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>(14,419.71)</b>	<b>14.41</b>	<b>(14,405.30)</b>
Beginning Fund Balances	27,460.98	45,348.35	£ 72,809.33
End Fund Balances	13,041.27	45,362.76	£ 58,404.03

## Editors' Report

A Special Issue based on the 2015 Congress in Japan, "Ethology's role for a sustainable society", will be published in the beginning of 2017 in *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*.

Please share temporary free links to your newly published articles and links to your open-access articles with ISAE members by sending these to Jennifer Chen, the Communications Officer ([isaebusiness@hotmail.com](mailto:isaebusiness@hotmail.com)) to post on the ISAE webpage and social media accounts.

ISAE has a service to help members with the preparation of manuscripts for publication in *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* (and other English-language journals). Please request assistance from the Junior Editor (Janice Siegford) at [siegford@msu.edu](mailto:siegford@msu.edu).

**Margit Bak Jensen** / Senior Editor of the ISAE

**Janice Siegford** / Junior Editor of the ISAE

## Educational Materials

The Education Officer is seeking to develop a framework for ISAE members to offer teaching exercises to members of the public that can be used in the classroom. It is intended that the exercises will ideally be hands-on and offer a resource for teachers searching for potential ideas to use in and outside the classroom. Once established, we hope to provide a searchable database so that teachers can identify topics, species, and age ranges relevant to their classroom needs. We will be circulating a letter early in the New Year asking members to contribute suggestions, so please be on the lookout. We are interested in providing this resource to as broad an audience as possible and will be encouraging submissions in all languages.

**Michael Toscano** / Educational Officer of the ISAE

## ISAE Student Representatives

The ISAE student representatives are Maria Vilain Rørvang and Sara Hintze. They have been working hard to improve the experience for student members (see below). It is time for Sara's term to end, and we would like to express our gratitude for her excellent service!

Three candidates have expressed interest in taking over Sara's role, and the student members are currently voting to select their new representative, who will be appointed in January 2017. Stay tuned for an announcement on the result soon.

**Jennifer M. Chen** / *Communications Officer of the ISAE*

With the aim of improving the ISAE student membership experience, our student representatives conducted a survey to shed light on what students expect from being a member of the organization as well as to give them a voice in the development of student events in the future. We received answers from 55 students across 11 regions. Based on the answers to 10 questions, we learned some crucial things when considering our student members.

- Information to students should be delivered by email, as this is their preferred medium, alongside facebook and the ISAE webpage.
- Networking within the field of ethology is highly valued. Students expect to form networks by becoming a member of ISAE, but also expect the student representatives to create opportunities. Therefore, networking opportunities should be primed through student events, e.g. workshops with focuses on career development and events related to the conferences such as "meet-the-professor-lunches" or the like.
- Students are interested in a discussion platform for just student members, which could be arranged on facebook or ResearchGate. This would moreover be a networking opportunity.

In general, we found that students expect to gain a lot from participating at the ISAE conferences, and thus we should be very focused on exploiting time at the conferences in the best way possible.

**Sara Hintze and Maria Vilain Rørvang** / *Student Representatives of the ISAE*

**Michael Toscano** / *Educational Officer of the ISAE*

## Membership Update

ISAE membership is steady with 627 members after the 2016 membership renewal period, including 77 new members, listed below. Please join us in welcoming them to the society!

**Priya Motupalli** / *Membership Secretary of the ISAE*

<b>First name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Country</b>
Liane	Preshaw	United Kingdom
Francoise	Wemelsfelder	United Kingdom
Nicole	Eberhart	United States of America
Leonard Ikenna	Chielo	United Kingdom
Camilla	Munsterhjelm	Finland
Joanna	Berger	United Kingdom
Ilektra	Chatzaki	United Kingdom
Hannah	Czolacz	United Kingdom
Ana Davila	Gallo	United Kingdom

<b>First name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Country</b>
Vanessa	Dickson	United Kingdom
Rachel	Francoeur	United Kingdom
Lorenzo	Glave	United Kingdom
Marie	Hannan	United Kingdom
Jennifer	Hayward	United Kingdom
Emmeline	Howarth	United Kingdom
Laura	Hunter	United Kingdom
Alice	Judge	United Kingdom
Gulzhan	Nurtazina	United Kingdom
Alexandra	Panousaki	United Kingdom
Marco	Ramirez	United Kingdom
Eerika	Rasijeff	United Kingdom
Elizabeth	Riddle	United Kingdom
Andrea	Robinson	United Kingdom
Emily	Ross	United Kingdom
Marie	Rowland	United Kingdom
Laura Salazar	Rowland	United Kingdom
Margherita	Savonitto	United Kingdom
Rio	Setiawan	United Kingdom
Laura	Shewbridge Carter	United Kingdom
Tobi	Simon	United Kingdom
Laura	Smith	United Kingdom
Deirdre	Scally	United Kingdom
Lorena	Sordo	United Kingdom
Kellie	Spooner	United Kingdom
Laura	Tatum	United Kingdom
Linnea	Ulfsdotter	United Kingdom
Daniel	Valderrama Florez	United Kingdom
Merijn	Van Den Bosch	United Kingdom
Rachel	Whaley	United Kingdom
Carys	Williams	United Kingdom
Yang	Chung-Hsuan	United Kingdom
Courtney	Graham	Canada
Mari	Kondoh	Canada
Allison	Pullin	United States of America
Shanis	Barnard	United Kingdom
Susan	Jarvis	United Kingdom
Nicholas	Newsome	United States of America
Hieu	Nguyen Ba	Vietnam
Maureen	Ellis	United Kingdom
Pierpaolo	Di Giminiani	United Kingdom
Stefano	Messori	Italy
Ricardo	Bailone	United Kingdom
Kelsey	Horvath	United States of America

<b>First name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Country</b>
Leanne	Cooley	Canada
Annie	Rayner	United Kingdom
Guilherme	Amorim Franchi	Germany
Lucille	Bellegarde	United Kingdom
Irene	Camerlink	United Kingdom
Janja	Širovnik Košica	Switzerland
Laura	Deeming	New Zealand
Ruqian	Zhao	China
Jessica	Monk	Australia
Jennifer	Weller	United Kingdom
Hannah	Josling	New Zealand
Willa	du Plessis	New Zealand
Sarah	Kuyken	Australia
Hetty	Boleij	Netherlands
Linda	Wiesner	Germany
Kelsey	Pool	Australia
Catherine	Hixson	United States of America
Mohammad Rashedul	Alam	Bangladesh
Mathilde	Coutant	France
Saskia	Kliphuis	Netherlands
Charlotte	James	United Kingdom
Congcong	Li	Belgium
Anne Lene	Hovland	Norway

We are also slowly increasing membership in traditionally under-represented regions!

<b>Region</b>	<b>Total members in region as of December 11<sup>th</sup> 2016</b>
Australasia/Africa	51
Benelux	42
Canada	62
East Asia	22
East Central Europe	6
Latin America	18
Med	26
Nordic	70
UK/Ireland	159
USA	114
West Central Europe	57
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>



# ISAE Congress News

## 50th Congress, Edinburgh, UK, 2016

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Congress – “**Past and Future: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants**” – was held in Edinburgh, UK from July 12 to 16, 2016. The Congress had exactly 600 registrations from 37 countries and 6 continents, and the final attending number was 568 delegates. Of these, 536 were registered at the early-bird rate, showing that the majority of delegates were eagerly anticipating this special anniversary congress and had their funding set aside and ready to go! And indeed, the Congress did not disappoint! Kicking off with a one-day pre-event on Measuring Animal Emotion, which attracted a much larger-than-expected audience, the meeting proceeded to inform, entertain, celebrate, and inspire. I would like to convey gratitude to Cathy Dwyer and her whole team of organizers for putting on an event worthy of the Society’s 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Jeremy Marchant-Forde** / *Senior Vice-President of the ISAE*

This year’s invigorating conference marked 50 years of ISAE. As student representatives, we really felt the thrill of being part of an enthusiastic and innovative society organizing a huge event including more than 550 ethologists. Standing in the middle of it, we almost lost track of time, and it was not until afterwards that we really realized just how much joy, knowledge, and network-building can come from such events. As one student put it when talking over an ISAE cupcake: “This is nerdiness at its best!”

Our interpretation of this year’s theme “Standing on the shoulders of giants” was executed as a “Meet-the-Professors-Lunch”. Organizing this was not an easy task – not due to the nature of putting people together, but rather because we had so many researchers signing up – so many giants wanted students to stand on their shoulders! This was very overwhelming to us and perhaps also to the students, who were initially hesitant to sign up. In the end, we succeeded in pairing up more than 70 students with 36 researchers in one room brimming with inspiration and new acquaintances. We were very pleased to hear conversations going well, and we owe a huge thanks to all of the researchers for being so amazingly willing to participate and for being so enthusiastic about the event. THANK YOU all! Likewise, we would also like to thank all the students who were brave enough to participate, and we heavily encourage all to participate in next year’s event in Denmark in August 2017. The professors are all head over heels to meet you – we guarantee.

**Maria Vilain Rørvang** / *Student Representative of the ISAE*

## 2016 ISAE Awards

At the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Congress, **Dr. Michael Appleby** was elected as an **Honorary Fellow** of the ISAE and granted lifetime membership to the Society. Dr. Appleby has been an active member for nearly 35 years and plays an important role in the organisation and development of the ISAE, having served on Council multiple times, including his current role as Procedural Advisor. His full biography can be viewed at [www.applied-ethology.org/honorary\\_fellows.html](http://www.applied-ethology.org/honorary_fellows.html).

This year, the recipient of the **New Investigator Award** was **Dr. Jean-Loup Rault**, currently with the Animal Welfare Science Centre at the University of Melbourne, Australia. Despite finishing his PhD only 5 years ago, Dr. Rault has over two dozen peer-reviewed publications to his name on a diverse range of topics such as the behaviour of free-range poultry, the social behaviour of pigs, and EEG assessment of consciousness and affective states in pigs. His full biography can be viewed at [www.applied-ethology.org/New\\_Investigator\\_Award.html](http://www.applied-ethology.org/New_Investigator_Award.html).

## Poems read at the 2016 Annual General Meeting

Last Night I Dreamed of Chickens – Jack Prelutsky (1940), *read by Bas Rodenburg*

Last night I dreamed of chickens,  
there were chickens everywhere,  
they were standing on my stomach,  
they were nesting in my hair,  
they were pecking at my pillow,  
they were hopping on my head,  
they were ruffling up their feathers  
as they raced about my bed.

They were on the chairs and tables,  
they were on the chandeliers,  
they were roosting in the corners,  
they were clucking in my ears,  
there were chickens, chickens, chickens  
for as far as I could see...  
when I woke today, I noticed  
there were eggs on top of me.

The Pig – Roald Dahl, *read by Yolande Seddon*

In England once there lived a big  
And wonderfully clever pig.  
To everybody it was plain  
That Piggy had a massive brain.  
He worked out sums inside his head,  
There was no book he hadn't read.  
He knew what made an airplane fly,  
He knew how engines worked and why.  
He knew all this, but in the end  
One question drove him round the bend:  
He simply couldn't puzzle out  
What LIFE was really all about.  
What was the reason for his birth?  
Why was he placed upon this earth?  
His giant brain went round and round.  
Alas, no answer could be found.  
Till suddenly one wondrous night.  
All in a flash he saw the light.  
He jumped up like a ballet dancer  
And yelled, "By gum, I've got the answer!"  
"They want my bacon slice by slice  
"To sell at a tremendous price!  
"They want my tender juicy chops  
"To put in all the butcher's shops!  
"They want my pork to make a roast  
"And that's the part'll cost the most!

"They want my sausages in strings!  
"They even want my chitterlings!  
"The butcher's shop! The carving knife!  
"That is the reason for my life!"  
Such thoughts as these are not designed  
To give a pig great piece of mind.  
Next morning, in comes Farmer Bland,  
A pail of pigswill in his hand,  
And piggy with a mighty roar,  
Bashes the farmer to the floor...  
Now comes the rather grisly bit  
So let's not make too much of it,  
Except that you must understand  
That Piggy did eat Farmer Bland,  
He ate him up from head to toe,  
Chewing the pieces nice and slow.  
It took an hour to reach the feet,  
Because there was so much to eat,  
And when he finished, Pig, of course,  
Felt absolutely no remorse.  
Slowly he scratched his brainy head  
And with a little smile he said,  
"I had a fairly powerful hunch  
"That he might have me for his lunch.  
"And so, because I feared the worst,  
"I thought I'd better eat him first."

Pigs' Teeth – David Fraser (1991. *Behav. Ecol. Sociobiol.* 29:9), read by Jennifer Brown

A piglet's most precious possession  
Is the teat that he fattens his flesh on.  
He fights for his teat with tenacity  
Against any sibling's audacity.  
The piglet, to arm for this mission,  
Is born with a warlike dentition  
Of eight tiny tusks, sharp as sabres,  
Which help in impressing the neighbours;  
But to render these weapons less harrowing,  
Most farmers remove them at farrowing.  
We studied pig sisters and brothers  
When some had their teeth, but not others.  
We found that when siblings aren't many,  
The weapons help little if any,  
But when there are many per litter,  
The teeth help their owners grow fitter.  
But how did selection begin  
To make weapons to use against kin?

## 51st Congress, Aarhus, Denmark, 2017

Dr. Margit Bak Jensen and colleagues have the website for the upcoming Congress up and running ([www.isae2017.com](http://www.isae2017.com)), and **registration** and **abstract submission** are both open. The theme is "Understanding Animal Behaviour". Be sure to mark your diaries and make plans to attend from the **7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of August, 2017**. There is also the possibility to organise satellite meetings, and excursions are offered after the Congress, so keep visiting the website for the latest updates and information as it is posted.

- **5<sup>th</sup> February 2017**: Deadline for abstract submission
- **8<sup>th</sup> May 2017**: Abstract acceptance notification
- **22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017**: Deadline for early bird registration
- **7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017**: Congress

## Congress Attendance Fund

The ISAE has established a Congress Attendance Fund (CAF) to support the attendance of ISAE members at the annual congress. The fund will be no less than £2,000 and will be allocated to needy ISAE members to contribute to the congress registration fee or congress accommodation (but usually not travel to the congress).

To be eligible, the applicant must be a member of ISAE before submitting their application. The applicant must have submitted an abstract and money will only be allocated if their presentation is accepted.

Applications for funding will be reviewed by the CAF Committee and will be prioritized on the basis of financial need and quality of the abstract. Researchers and students from developing countries are especially encouraged to apply for this support. Successful applicants will be notified immediately following

acceptance of abstracts. Please note that support from the Congress Attendance Fund to any one person is limited to once in any 5-year period – if you have received funding in the last 5 years, please do not apply.

The application must contain all of the following information:

1. Name of applicant
2. Postal and e-mail address (or fax number)
3. The year the applicant became a member of ISAE
4. Status of applicant (e.g. student, active researcher, unemployed researcher, etc.)
5. **A full justification** explaining why the applicant should be given an award. There is no fixed format for this justification, as reasons will vary between applicants, but if no justification is given, the application will not be considered.
6. A total budget for attending the congress, including a statement of which part(s) is applied for from ISAE, and whether other funding is available to cover parts not funded by ISAE

The application itself must not be more than one A4 page. It must be accompanied by a short CV, including a list of publications and/or presentations by the applicant (including local and regional meetings) and a copy of the abstract submitted to the congress.

Applications are due by **March 5, 2017** and should be sent to Jeremy Marchant-Forde at [Jeremy.marchant-forde@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Jeremy.marchant-forde@ars.usda.gov)

For more information, see <http://conferences.au.dk/isae2017/travel-awards/> or the [Procedural Guidelines](#) available on the main ISAE website. Please follow the Rules as they are written for your application to be fully considered by the Committee.

## Future Congresses

### **52<sup>nd</sup> Congress - Prince Edward Island, Canada, July 30<sup>th</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

Prof. Michael Cockram has his team in place and organisation is well underway. The Congress venue will be the University of Prince Edward Island (<http://www.upei.ca/>) in Charlottetown, PEI, and there will be a variety of hotel and university residence accommodation from which to choose. This will be a unique opportunity to visit one of Canada's beautiful Maritime Provinces.

### **53<sup>rd</sup> Congress - Bergen, Norway, August 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Our 53<sup>rd</sup> Congress is under the leadership of Prof. Bjarne Braastad, who will be assisted by colleagues at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. The venue will be the Radisson Blu Hotel in Bergen, and there is a "placeholder" website at <http://www.isae2019.com/>. If you like mountains and fjords, then bookmark this Congress!

### **54<sup>th</sup> Congress - Bangalore, India, July/August, 2020**

At our meeting in Edinburgh, Council was excited to host Dr. Sira Abdul Rahman and unanimously approve his bid for our 54<sup>th</sup> Congress to be held at the National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology (NIANP), Bangalore, India. The organisers will include the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and the Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University together with a sub-committee that will be established from within ISAE. This Congress represents a landmark in our development as a truly global society and of course, the chance to visit a country described by Mark Twain as "The one land that all desire to see, and having seen once, by even a glimpse, would not give that glimpse for the shows of all the rest of the globe combined." I'll leave it at that.

So, all that remains is for me to throw out the invitation to host our 55<sup>th</sup> Congress in 2021 and beyond! If we revert back to our Europe/Rest-of-the-World model, we would be looking for a European venue in 2021, and a Rest-of-the-World venue for 2022, but nothing is fixed in stone! Feel free to contact me for advice or to discuss any questions you may have. Congress organising is a great opportunity to highlight your own program and forge national and international links with colleagues that last a lifetime.

**Jeremy Marchant-Forde** / *Senior Vice-President of the ISAE*

## ISAE Regional News

### New Regional Secretaries

There have been quite a few regional activities and developments since the 50<sup>th</sup> ISAE Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland, this year. We have new regional secretaries in the **Australasia-Africa** region (Amanda Doughty and Kris Descovich), the **Canadian** region (Yolande Seddon) and the **USA** region (Peter Krawczel). I would like to thank Rebecca Doyle, Ahmed Tatar, Nicolas Devillers, and Maja Makagon for their excellent work as regional secretaries and wish the new regional secretaries all the best in their new positions. I look forward to working with you!

Also in the **Benelux** region, the procedure for election of new regional secretaries has been initiated. Regional secretaries play a key role in helping to develop ISAE and its membership by organising regional activities and acting as the “eyes and ears” of the society in the different regions of the world.

### Regional Meetings

There have been two regional meetings since the summer congress, one in The Netherlands (**Benelux** region) and one in New Zealand (**Australasia-Africa** region).

The meeting in The Netherlands was held on 13 October 2016 on the only Dutch dairy *camel* farm (and seemingly the only one in Europe) in Berlicum, The Netherlands. The program included 16 oral presentations and 8 posters and was well attended with approximately 50 participants from Belgium and The Netherlands. MSc students were enabled to submit a request for free registration to the meeting and a nice group of students participated in the meeting. The day began with a special session on dog behaviour and welfare, followed by sessions focusing on welfare assessment, environmental influences on behaviour, and free papers. The day was concluded with a tour of the camel farm and a dinner.

The meeting in New Zealand was held on 27 October 2016 at Massey University in Albany, New Zealand. The theme of the meeting was: “New ISAE: new scientists, new methodologies, new technologies.” The meeting has great turnout with 65 people attending and included 22 oral presentations of varying length, focusing on behaviour and welfare of farm, zoo, and companion animals. Three ISAE students were given travel support to come to the meeting: Yu Zhang (UQ), Jess Monk (CSIRO), and Carolina Munoz (UoM AWSC). Thanks to all of our members who contributed to these meetings!

In 2017, there will be a joint regional meeting of the **US** and **Canada** regions of ISAE from May 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> at Iowa State University, Ames, IA, USA.

Together with the newly appointed Development Officer, Rebecca Sommerville, and the ISAE regional secretaries, we are currently exploring new ways of increasing activity in all regions of ISAE, focusing on those where activity has been limited or where we currently have few members. We will keep you updated of our plans and activities, but if you have suggestions for further development of ISAE, please do not hesitate to contact Rebecca or myself ([bas.rodenburg@wur.nl](mailto:bas.rodenburg@wur.nl))!

**Bas Rodenburg** / *Junior Vice-President of the ISAE*

## Development Officer Update

Hello from your new Development Officer, Rebecca Sommerville!

My role is to promote (and encourage members to promote) applied ethology and ISAE activity in countries where the ISAE is un- or under-represented, particularly in Eastern Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia (apart from Japan), and Latin America.

As Bas mentioned, over the coming months we will be looking at new ways of increasing activity in all regions of ISAE. We will keep you updated, so please stay tuned!

These updates will include providing promotional materials for members to use, supporting selected members to further promote ISAE locally in new areas, and exploring events in new locations.

Are you an ISAE member in one of these regions?

- Eastern Europe
- Africa
- Middle East
- Asia
- Latin America

It would be great to hear from you if you have any questions or ideas. Get in touch with me at [rebecca.sommerville@thebrooke.org](mailto:rebecca.sommerville@thebrooke.org).

**Rebecca Sommerville** / *Development Officer of the ISAE*

## Other Activities

### Animal experimentation and its regulation discussed in Brussels

No less than four different conferences in Brussels addressed the use of animals in experiments, alternatives to and regulation of the use of animals in the EU during the first week of December. The annual conference of the [European Partnership for Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing \(EPAA\)](#) was followed on 6 December by the high-profile 2-day meeting [Non-animal alternatives: the way forward](#) organized by the European Commission. This conference was the Commission's main response to the Citizen's Initiative [Stop Vivisection](#), a petition delivered in 2015 asking for present legislation to be replaced by more far-reaching regulation and a plan to phase out experiments with animals by 2020. In their response, the European Commission highlighted that present legislation is the most modern and demanding in the world, and that more limiting legislation when no alternatives are available would only move research to countries with more relaxed rules.

The conference was a display of the state of the art as regards non-animal alternatives as well as the relevance and challenges for actual use of animal research. The audience was a mix of people with different backgrounds (e.g. NGOs, research, policy-making) and with opinions ranging from abolitionist to pro-research, who, despite the controversial nature of the issue, maintained a civilized discussion. [Interestingly, Stop Vivisection boycotted the conference which they considered not adequately addressing the issues raised by the Citizen's Initiative.](#)

Two half-day meetings bookended an intensive week by reporting on research initiatives in the field. First, the Netherlands National Committee for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes held a meeting in the European Parliament on systematic review of animal experiments, showcasing the work



developed by [SYRCLE](#), led by Mette Ritskes-Hoitinga from Radboud University in Nijmegen in promoting wider use of systematic reviews prior to animal experiments.

The last event of the week was the final conference of the [ANIMPACT project](#) in which we looked at different decision-making mechanisms for animal research. The presentations addressed legal challenges in transposing European legislation, the different ethics review systems in the EU, the role of journals in promoting responsible research with animals, scientists' choice of animal species for research, and scientists' perception of legislation of animal research. All handouts and video recordings of the talk are available at [www.animpact.eu](http://www.animpact.eu).

*Anna Olsson / Ethics Officer of the ISAE, Coordinator of the ANIMPACT Project, and UFAW Trustee*

## **The Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest (<http://awjac.org/>) was held on November 12 & 13 2016 at The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA, organized by ISAE members Dr. Katy Proudfoot and Dr. Monique Pairis-Garcia. More than 100 students representing 15 universities took part, divided into Undergraduate, Graduate, and Veterinary student divisions. The AVMA-supported competition teaches students to assess the welfare of animals in a variety of settings using science-based methods and reasoning. After weighing the evidence, participants present their evaluations. High scorers win prizes in individual, team, or overall categories. This year, the welfare scenarios were: 1) guinea pigs, 2) shelter dogs, 3) meat sheep, and 4) laying hens, with the laying hen scenario comprising the live assessment.

The competition spans two days. On the first day, students evaluate a live scenario and present their findings to a panel of judges. This portion of the contest may be competed as a team or as an individual. On the second day, each student independently evaluates three virtual scenarios and receives scores based on their evaluation as well as their defence of their findings. For those participating as part of a team, the top three individual scores are combined with the live assessment exercise score to determine the overall team score. Along with demonstrating the welfare needs of a range of species, the competition gives students the opportunity to develop their critical thinking and oral presentation skills. Enhanced knowledge of animal welfare, a strong analytical mindset, and well-honed communication skills are valuable takeaways that serve AWJAC participants throughout their education and careers.

The judges included ISAE members Brianna Gaskill, Cathy Dwyer, Joe Stookey, Ed Pajor, and Bruce Webster. Teams from Colorado State University won the Veterinary and Graduate Student divisions, with a team from the University of British Columbia winning the Undergraduate division. The full listing of winners can be found at <http://atwork.avma.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/AWJAC-2016-Award-Winners.pdf>. Congratulations to all participants and many thanks to AVMA for their continued support of the contest.

Next year, the contest will be held at Iowa State University. For more information feel free to contact me ([Jeremy.marchant-forde@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Jeremy.marchant-forde@ars.usda.gov)) or AVMA's Dr. Cia Johnson ([cjohnson@avma.org](mailto:cjohnson@avma.org)).

**Jeremy Marchant-Forde** / *Senior Vice-President of the ISAE  
ISAE Representative on the AWJAC Advisory Board*

## **The 4<sup>th</sup> OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare**

The OIE or World Organization for Animal Health (<http://www.oie.int/>) was formed back in 1924 as an intergovernmental organization responsible for improving animal health worldwide. It has 180 Member Countries out of 195 countries in the world (give or take a few disputed countries!), so has exceptional global reach. Given its founding purpose, it is unsurprisingly a veterinary-focused organization, with its

major publication being the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (<http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/>).

Animal welfare was first identified as a priority area in the OIE's Strategic Plan for 2001-2005, and to quote: "OIE Member Countries mandated the organisation to take the lead internationally on animal welfare and, as the international reference organisation for animal health, to elaborate recommendations and guidelines covering animal welfare practices, reaffirming that animal health is a key component of animal welfare." The Terrestrial Code now contains a whole section of 12 chapters of recommendations covering domestic animals, with more undergoing development. Given the potential global reach, it is important that ISAE become more active in this forum.

The [1<sup>st</sup> Conference](#) was held in Paris in 2004, and there has subsequently been the [2<sup>nd</sup> Conference](#) in Cairo in 2008, and the [3<sup>rd</sup> Conference](#) in Kuala Lumpur in 2012 (so, every 4 years, just like the Olympics). 2016 heralded the [4<sup>th</sup> OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare](#), which was held on December 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 2016 in Guadalajara, Mexico. Attended by around 400 delegates from 103 different countries, the conference title was "Animal Welfare for a Better World."

Although the audience mainly comprised governmental veterinarians, there were also delegates present from animal protection NGOs, and there were a number of animal welfare scientists from universities and research institutes. The ISAE was well-represented among the presenters, and EU-funded projects such as Welfare Quality, AWIN, and EU-PLF, which contain many ISAE researchers, were referenced and illustrated many times during the course of the meeting.

"One Welfare" was a major point of emphasis, and the first day was mostly devoted to the position of animal welfare within societal concerns such as climate change, food security, and sustainability. For the second day in particular, but also noticeable throughout the conference, was the need to embrace the science of animal welfare within the recommendations and indeed to engage with the scientists producing that science. To that end, the ISAE Presidential team had a poster presentation to increase the OIE's awareness of the society and emphasize where its members are already participating in OIE activities. The President, Senior Vice-President, and OIE National Focal Point on Animal Welfare for New Zealand, ISAE member Dr. Kate Littin, met with the OIE's leadership team to discuss how closer links could develop. More information on this initiative will be forthcoming as it progresses, but the ambition definitely exists to find ways to work together.

Overall, the conference was uplifting. With a new Director General, the OIE appears to be evolving its animal welfare activities and it reaffirmed that animal welfare is an important global topic across all countries – developing and developed. The fact that over half the countries in the world were represented confirms the importance of the ISAE's desire to grow its membership beyond its current 37-country reach.

Every member country has a National Focal Point on Animal Welfare, and I would encourage ISAE members to find out who their National Focal Point is and make contact. They have [Terms of Reference](#) which include establishing a network of animal welfare experts within their country or to communicate with the existing network, and conducting the in-country consultation process with recognised animal welfare experts on draft texts and draft standards proposed by the Code Commission when dealing with animal welfare. ISAE members should be participating in these activities.

**Jeremy Marchant-Forde** / *Senior Vice-President of the ISAE*

## **2016 AAALAC Annual report**

AAALAC International spent the year celebrating its 50th anniversary. Programs highlighted the numerous and impactful past accomplishments of the organization, a significant additional benefit of the celebration of this milestone was the opportunity it presented to look forward. A key theme that emerged from that prospective assessment is that AAALAC is an organization undergoing change, to include the Association's name, location, key personnel, and the governance structure.



Following the positive vote by the Board of Trustees in 2015 to change the name of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International, the necessary paperwork was filed and the name has been officially changed to simply “AAALAC International”.

The Board of Trustees approved purchase of office space, resulting in a change of address for the AAALAC International Executive Office in February. The new space easily accommodates our current needs, and gives us room to grow.

Several elements of the 2014 Strategic Plan are underway, with modifications and refinements to existing procedures resulting. Of particular note, the Governance Committee has given in-depth and thoughtful consideration to one of its strategic goals regarding the governance structure of the organization. Since the April 2016 vote by the Board of Trustees to approve in concept AAALAC’s conversion to a Membership Organization that elects a Board of Directors, the development of Bylaws to achieve this has been the focus of the Governance Committee’s activities with the assistance of legal counsel.

Katheryn Bayne was selected to serve as the next Executive Director after the former Director, Chris Newcomer, retired in the spring of 2016. Dr. James Swearingen has replaced Dr. Bayne as AAALAC’s Global Director.

More than 960 programs in 42 countries participate in the AAALAC International accreditation program. Since last year’s annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, 37 new applicants have been awarded accreditation, and that number will increase after the September 2016 meeting of the Council on Accreditation

In partnership with the pharmaceutical leadership group Innovation & Quality (IQ), AAALAC International announced the first three awards during the 2015 national meeting of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS). The IQ/AAALAC International Global 3Rs Awards program recognizes significant innovative contributions toward the 3Rs of animal research to advance ethical science by any researcher in academia or industry in any area of biology. The 2015 award recipients were: Dr. Paulin Jirkof, Dr. Aleksander Skardal, and Dr. Nancy Oguiura.

The AAALAC International Fellowship program recognizes at least two outstanding Registry participants each year—one IAT Registered (RAnTech) technologist and one AALAS Registered—who have made (or have the potential to make) significant contributions to the field of laboratory animal care and use. This year three outstanding recipients were Stephen Woodley, Robert Dauchy, and Donna Goldsteen.

Education and Outreach continues to be an active component of AAALAC International’s mission. Since last year’s annual meeting of the Board of Trustees (September 2015), a total of 80 educational and outreach activities have been conducted. That equates to AAALAC providing an average of one activity every four to five days.

**Brianna Gaskill**

## **EAAP Collaboration**

During this year’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary congress, ISAE and EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science) agreed to begin a collaboration with the aim of promoting the involvement of ethology in areas of animal science which are not necessarily related to animal welfare. EAAP is an international non-governmental organisation which aims to improve the knowledge and the dissemination of research results on farm animal production. The idea behind the collaboration is to help break down the discipline barriers within animal science and to encourage the incorporation and use of ethology in answering research questions that have primarily been based on breeding, reproduction, nutrition, and veterinary sciences.

It is also hoped that by raising the profile of applied ethology within the EAAP that we may be able to increase membership of the ISAE and attendance at ISAE annual meetings. In addition, closer contact with

EAAP scientists working in the areas of nutrition, reproduction, etc. may be of benefit to ISAE members in their research, for example on addressing farm animal welfare problems.

Membership to EAAP is open to scientists, animal breeders, and administrators/policy makers. EAAP has a large membership, organised through (almost all) member countries in Europe and has close working links across the Atlantic with ASAS, ADSA, and CSAS. For more information, please visit <http://www.eaap.org/>.

**Krista McLennan** / *Treasurer of the ISAE*

## **The science of change for animals: It starts with people**

The First International Conference on Human Behaviour Change for Animal Welfare took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of September in Dorking, Surrey, UK.

Nearly 200 individuals from around the world attended, enjoying a mix of academic talks and case study-like presentations. Some of the participants came from academia, but the majority were those coming from the consulting or charity sector, working on the ground directly with animal owners to achieve behaviour change.

The conference was the first of its kind for practitioners to come together to share experience and learn from each other. There was heavy focus on why humans interact with animals the way they do and how best to use the science of human behaviour to improve those interactions.



As ISAE's mission states: "The study of applied animal behaviour contributes to a greater understanding of the interactions between humans and other animals and helps to create a better balance between animal welfare and the requirements that humans have of other animals." Links with the work of the society's members around the world were clear throughout the event.

Applying human behaviour change (HBC) principles to improve animal welfare, as Brooke – an international animal welfare charity dedicated to improving the lives of working equines – has been doing for the past ten years, is increasingly common across the sector. We know that most of the welfare problems we encounter are preventable if people behave differently towards animals, but in order to inspire this change we need to understand what makes people tick, what their challenges are, why they do – or don't do – the things that they do. This only happens by truly knowing people and working in partnership with them to achieve change.

No two animal owning communities, or even individuals, are exactly the same. This is why we put so much time and effort into community engagement at Brooke, and also why we need sound animal behaviour science to help us identify, with communities, when human behaviours need changing and in which way.

An example showcasing the positive effects of this combined approach was presented by Brooke East Africa, focusing on lesions due to poor tethering practices within donkey owning communities in Kenya. A mix of standardised animal-based welfare assessment and related human practice data helped identify and prioritise specific human behaviours needing to change. This led to a variety of participatory approaches aimed at addressing the community's unique barriers to changing those practices, followed by repeated

data collection to ensure the intervention resulted in changes to human practices and subsequently, donkey welfare (Kavata and Kawe, 2016).

The vast body of animal behaviour knowledge ISAE members around the world hold can only have a positive impact on animals and the people who manage them if applied through human behaviour, but changing human behaviour, as highlighted so well at the recent conference, is a science in itself.

As Brooke East Africa found in Kenya, applied animal behaviour plays a crucial role in determining where the greatest welfare issues requiring human behaviour change exist, what specific changes may be required, and how to measure the impact those changes have on the animals involved. Some academic research in the field of applied ethology however, whilst answering fundamental biological questions about animal behaviour and welfare, can be too abstract to be valid and applicable in real-life contexts where animal welfare improvements are urgently needed.

Human behaviour change is the key to successful application of vital applied ethology knowledge, but the two fields must come together to complement and strengthen one another if they ever hope to achieve the full breadth of their missions. With heavy workloads and busy schedules however, this can be easier said than done. The aims of the inaugural HBC conference may be the best place to look for inspiration on where opportunities for future collaborations and crossovers could be considered.

- **Highlighting the importance of human behaviour change (HBC) in animal welfare work:** How can we make sure applied ethology knowledge reaches individuals who care for and manage animals, is understood by and seen as relevant to those individuals, and that they have the support and enabling environment to apply that learning for improved welfare?
- **Educating on core elements of HBC theory through key presentations from leading experts:** How can we learn more about the science behind human behaviour change and link it with our work? Are there opportunities to work with HBC colleagues to jointly identify where priority gaps in knowledge and practice still exist so that we can ensure our work makes an even stronger contribution and will be applied in practice?
- **Facilitating discussion and sharing of information and experience of HBC for animal welfare:** Can we commit to opening the discussions up and sharing information more widely with those working in the HBC for animal welfare field – maybe even featuring recurring workshop sessions or roundtable discussions at future ISAE congresses?
- **Encouraging embedding of HBC in inter-sectoral collaboration, innovation and policy:** Where are there opportunities to embed HBC theory and practice into the work of the society and its members, consistently ensuring clear links between advances in animal behaviour science and their practical application? Could we regularly review and showcase where these links have successfully resulted in change for animals and people and commit to being equally open and forthcoming about where application has failed?
- **Exploring novel methods for the monitoring and evaluation of HBC approaches and provide evidence-based information illustrating its value:** How can we support those working in the HBC for animal welfare field to utilise applied ethology evidence to ensure their work is improving animal welfare? Could we ensure every congress sets aside a special session dedicated to linking human behaviour change theory and practice with applied ethology?

All of the talks from the event were recorded, and can be viewed at the [conference website](#), which has now been transformed into a resource hub. There are ideas and links on the website to get in touch for those wishing to engage more in human behaviour change initiatives and be more involved in this growing network of professionals.

Dan Weary and colleagues said it best in their recent paper (Weary et al., 2016) highlighting why many animal welfare science-based solutions fail to be adopted: “social science methodologies can document the shared and divergent values of different stakeholders (to ensure that proposed solutions align with mainstream values), beliefs regarding the available evidence (to help target new scientific research that

meets the perceived gaps), and barriers in implementing changes (to ease adoption of ideas by addressing these barriers)”.

This quickly evolving field can better ensure the vital work of our society’s members is successfully applied for the benefit of animals and people, but it is up to all of us to embed human behaviour change concepts into our daily work and help strengthen the practice of our HBC colleagues around the world.

**Melissa Liszewski**

*Melissa Liszewski served on the scientific committee of The First International Conference on Human Behaviour Change for Animal Welfare. She has been an ISAE member since 2009 and currently works on human behaviour change projects and programmes as Community Engagement Advisor at [Brooke](#).*

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## Employment Opportunities

Upcoming employment opportunities related to applied ethology include:

- **PhD Fellowship** for Scottish Wildcat Conservation, University of Exeter, Penryn, Cornwall, UK (*closes 6 January, 2017*)
- **Lecturer** in Animal Welfare, Royal Veterinary College, Hertfordshire, UK (*closes 12 January, 2017*)
- **PhD or MS Assistant Positions (4 available)** in Dairy Systems Management, University of Kentucky, Lexington, USA (*closes 31 January, 2017*)
- **Researcher** in Animal Welfare and Sustainable Production Systems, IRTA, Monells, Spain (*closes 1 February, 2017*)
- **Assistant Professor** in Social Science and Applied Ethics of Animal-Based Food Systems, University of California, Davis, USA (*priority 16 December, 2016; closes 31 May, 2017*)
- **Assistant Professor** in Social Science and Political Ecology of Animal Agriculture, University of California, Davis, USA (*priority 16 December, 2016; closes 30 June, 2017*)

For details on how to apply and for the most up-to-date information on employment and education opportunities, visit the ISAE website ([www.applied-ethology.org](http://www.applied-ethology.org)) and follow us on social media:

- **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/appliedethology](http://www.facebook.com/appliedethology)
- **Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/appliedethology](http://www.twitter.com/appliedethology)
- **LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com/groups/8561819](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/8561819)

To advertise a position, please send the job title, location, contact email address, and a link to apply online and/or a pdf flyer to the ISAE Communications Officer at [isaebusiness@hotmail.com](mailto:isaebusiness@hotmail.com).

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