



International
Society for
**Applied
Ethology**

Newsletter

Issue 66 • 2025 June



Contents

President's Piece	3
Updates from your ISAE Council	4
Council Position Vacancies.....	4
Communications	5
Editors	6
Students	7
Membership.....	9
Finances	9
Awards updates	12
Congress News.....	12
EDIA Committee Update.....	14
Regional News and Development.....	16
Development.....	16
East Asia	19
East and South Europe.....	19
Nordic.....	19
Oceania	19
Southwest Europe.....	20
UK and Ireland.....	20
Other News	21
Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest.....	21
Employment and Education Opportunities	22
Contact Information.....	22

President's Piece

Dear ISAE Members,

Can you believe we are halfway through 2025? I'm not sure how it is June already, but I'm enjoying the long days, sunshine, and (slightly) warmer temperatures in Michigan as I transition from the end of a semester into summer here. I started my summer with a refreshing trip to the North American Regional ISAE meeting in Guelph, Canada where we had two days packed with wonderful keynotes, talks and posters—and plenty of time to socialize in the beautiful, blooming arboretum where the conference was held. I hope many of you were also able to mark the end of your semesters or starts of summer or winter breaks with something equally stimulating and relaxing.

Now I have begun to anticipate ISAE's international congress in August. I can't wait to hear excellent talks and view eye-catching posters on A Good Life for All Animals (the congress theme) and to enjoy the bicycling culture of the Netherlands and to find out what type of dancing we'll experience this year! I am excited about midweek excursions, as my brain is grateful for a chance to process what I've learned in the first half of the conference, and these provide a fantastic opportunity to meet new people (and potential collaborators!) before the congress ends. As a postdoc, I found it easier to approach and interact with senior colleagues whose work I admired in the informal setting of an excursion. Please see Senior Vice President Mark Rutter's newsletter article for more details on what to expect at our 58th International Congress at Utrecht University.

Continuing our tradition of supporting members' attendance at the ISAE congress, we have given travel awards to 18 worthy recipients. We are very grateful to Purina, Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW), and Humane World for Animals (formerly Humane Society International) for their generous sponsorship of most of these awards in addition to our own Congress Attendance Fund (CAF). These awards primarily go to students and early career researchers to assist them in presenting ethological research of interest to both the sponsors and our membership. Finally, as part of our Developing Countries Congress Attendance Fund (DCCAF), we will be welcoming 14 people from Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, North Macedonia, and Pakistan to the ISAE Congress. This funding is part of an on-going grant from Open Philanthropy and continues our mission of widening the reach of the ISAE across the world. More details about DCCAF and our work in developing countries can be found in the Development Officer's newsletter article from Oluwaseun Iyasere and Samuel Durosaro.

Continuing our efforts to make ISAE an inclusive and welcoming society, Linda Greening and the EDIA committee have created an EDIA award to recognize an ISAE member who is promoting inclusivity in the field of applied ethology. Please read Linda's newsletter article for more details and consider nominating a colleague who is doing work in this area! As we have done for the past few years, we will again have allies wearing green ribbons at the congress. If you have

questions, feel uncomfortable or need to report something, please reach out to an ally or to any ISAE council member. If you would like to be a conference ally, please let the student representatives (Mostafa Farghal and Victor Brusin), Linda Greening or any other council member know.

Hopefully most of you have renewed your membership for the coming year (June 1 – May 31) and found it a bit easier to do than in the past. Myself, Abdelkareem Abdallah, and past membership secretary Gemma Charlton along with new assistant to the membership secretary Rosie Whittle have been working with our membership company to smooth out the current system. Going forward we will be working with the Royal Society for Biology's (RSB) membership services to handle applications, renewals, and contact details among other things. So, if you notice a pause in your ability to renew or access the members features, along with a new look, that's why! The RSB team works with nearly dozen other societies and are comfortable with the ins and outs of helping a volunteer council meet the needs of a diverse membership. Finally, I know that no one likes to see an increase in membership fees, but the reality is we hadn't adjusted our dues in years, and we needed to do so to keep up with rising costs of services we need to function as a society. Going forward, we plan to adjust membership rates in more frequently but in smaller increments. I appreciate your continued support of and commitment to helping the ISAE thrive. It is my scientific family, and I know many of you feel the same way.

I look forward to seeing many of you in the Netherlands in August!

Janice Siegford / President of the ISAE (2023-2025)

Updates from your ISAE Council

Council Position Vacancies

In 2025, three council positions will be open. Please read the descriptions of the positions below and consider submitting an application.

1. **Junior Vice President.** The Junior Vice President coordinates regional activities including communicating with Regional Secretaries, organizing gatherings at annual congresses, reporting regional activities at Council Meetings, and working with the treasurer to allocate regional funds. The Junior Vice President also assumes the duties of the President if absent or unable to serve. The Junior Vice President serves a 2-year term. After 2 years, the Junior Vice President will be voted to move up to the role of President for 2 years, then Senior Vice President for 2 years.

2. **Secretary.** The Secretary's duties include arranging ISAE Council and business meetings, recording meeting minutes and compiling the ISAE newsletters, among other duties. The Secretary typically serves a 4-year term.
3. **Junior Editor.** The main responsibilities of the Junior Editor include assisting the Senior Editor with the annual special issue of *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* and helps to coordinate the Help-with-English scheme. The Junior Editor usually serves a 2-year term. After 2 years, the Junior Editor will be voted to move up to the role of Senior Editor for a 2-year term.

If you are interested in serving on the ISAE council, please submit your application materials to Carly O'Malley (comalley15@gmail.com), including 1) a paragraph outlining your interest in the position and relevant skills, and 2) your 2-page CV to be shared with ISAE Members. Applications should be submitted by **July 28, 2025**. Nominations will be reviewed and voted on at the AGM at the 2025 congress.

Carly O'Malley / Secretary of the ISAE (2021-2025)

Communications

ISAE Resources for Researchers. We would love to see the resources page on our [webpage](#) grow – please drop us an email with tools that prove to be helpful to organize your projects, software that you use for data analysis, and Open Science resources that you would like to share.



Applying Ethology Webinars. We are continuing to maintain the *Applying Ethology Webinars* on the [Animal Welfare Slack Workspace](#). Since our launch in 2020, more than 60 (most often early career) scientists have shared their research (check out our YouTube channel - link below).

If you would like to give a presentation, please fill out this form: <https://tinyurl.com/applyingethologyspeaker>

The Animal Welfare Slack Workspace has grown to more than 1000 members! On the workspace you have access to our Applying Ethology Webinars, job postings, recent papers, and methodology questions. The Slack space is open to everyone, regardless of ISAE affiliation. Please email Christian Nawroth to gain admittance (nawroth.christian@gmail.com).

Once you join the [Animal Welfare Slack Workspace](#), please join the channels (such as #conference or #jobs) you find interesting.

For your convenience:

- Calendar of upcoming talks: <https://tinyurl.com/applyingethologycalendar>
- Speaker list and instructions: <https://tinyurl.com/applyingethologywebinar>
- YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe6fHV211isHwiSgGV5OLgw>

Share Your News! If you have job or graduate student positions to advertise, conferences/webinars/courses upcoming, ethology news items, survey requests, or open-access papers or books, or temporary free-access author links to share, please send the details to info@applied-ethology.org. Include a photo of your study species or test design for Open Access articles, if possible. We also encourage you to send us short videos, gifs or visual abstracts of your work. If you have an **X/Twitter** account, include your handle so we can tag you! Please be aware that all news items - including job positions - may have up to a 1-2-week delay in posting to social media so send them well in advance of position close.

Follow Us on Social Media! To get the latest ISAE news, please also follow us on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts!

We both, Ophélie and Maria, look forward to interacting with you online and hope to someday see you in person again in the future!

Ophélie Menant / *Communications Officer of the ISAE (2024-2028)*
Maria V. Rørvang / *Assistant Communications Officer of the ISAE (2022-2026)*

Editors

Editorial team. We are quickly moving towards the international congress in Utrecht and this year signifies the changing of the guard on the ISAE editorial team. Current Senior Editor Kris Descovich will hand over her role to Peta Taylor, which means we are on the lookout for a new editor! This is a 4-year role (2 years as Junior Editor and 2 years as Senior Editor). It is a fantastic opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our society and increase your professional network. It would suit someone who enjoys reading literature, has a keen eye for detail, and has some relevant experience. If you're keen to find out more, please email Kris on k.descovich1@uq.edu.au. Nominations will close prior to the congress and can only be considered from up-to-date ISAE members.

Special issues. The 2024 Special Issue of the ISAE international congress is now close to completion. We received many exciting manuscripts focused on the theme of the ISAE congress held in Brazil: *Animals and Society: Striking the right balance through Ethology*. For this issue, we were grateful to be joined by guest editors Dr Ruan Daros, Dr Andreia de Paula Vieira, and Dr Thiago Bernardino.

Past ISAE Special Issues can be found together online where all AABS special issues are listed. <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/applied-animal-behaviour-science/special-issues>. Queries can be directed to Dr Kris Descovich at k.descovich1@uq.edu.au. Preparations are underway for

our next issue based on the 2025 international congress in Utrecht, The Netherlands. Watch this space for more news as it comes!

ISAE English Proofreading Service. The ISAE English Proofreading Service offers grammar and language editing support to help members prepare manuscripts for publication in Applied Animal Behaviour Science and other English-language journals.

Between 2024 - 2025, dedicated volunteers have provided feedback on nine manuscripts and conference papers submitted by members. These contributions have supported members from diverse backgrounds to improve the clarity of their work for publication and presentation.

If you are an ISAE member and would like to volunteer this program, please contact Peta Taylor at peta.taylor@unimelb.edu.au.

To request editing assistance, send your manuscripts to Peta Taylor (peta.taylor@unimelb.edu.au). Your paper will be reviewed by an ISAE member. Reviewers should be acknowledged in the manuscript but do not expect authorship. Revisions may take up to 4 weeks as the service is dependent on volunteer time.

For more information, or to request for manuscript editing please see the following English Language Help ISAE webpage (https://www.applied-ethology.org/Help_with_English.html)

Kris Descovich and Peta Taylor /
Senior and Junior Editors of the ISAE (2023-2025)

Students

Hi there! We are the [ISAE Student Representatives](#)! representing all ISAE members at the undergraduate, graduate, and PhD levels. Mostafa Farghal is a recent PhD graduate from the University of Calgary, Canada. He studied the welfare of beef cattle, with specific emphasis on pain assessment in beef calves. Victor Brusin is a master student at the University of Calgary, Canada. He studies the welfare of pigs, focusing on immunocastration as a welfare-focused alternative to traditional castration methods for the swine industry.



Victor Brusin



Mostafa Farghal

ISAE International Congress 2025 in Utrecht, Netherlands! From August 4th to 8th, the ISAE International Congress 2025 will take place in Utrecht, Netherlands! Make sure to register to attend online or in person [here](#). As part of the program, we have organized three events for students throughout the conference!

On Monday (August 4th), we welcome students to join us for the **Student Meet & Greet** after the Opening Ceremony to see old friends, meet new ones, and maybe [practice your elevator pitch](#) with fellow students. After that, we will join the welcome cocktail together.

On Tuesday (August 5th), students, faculty, and scientists who pre-registered for **Eating with Ethologists** will be matched based on similar interests for an informal, small group networking lunch. During lunch, you are welcome to discuss scientific topics, research plans, career goals, position openings, etc. You will be able to choose the researcher(s) you want to chat with over lunch when you pre-register for the event. **Everyone who registers to attend the Congress in person will receive a sign-up email in June, so keep an eye on it!**

On Wednesday (August 6th) we welcome all congress attendees to **Table Topics**! Lunch tables will be labeled with topics (e.g., cognition and emotion, welfare policy, species-specific topics, technology, and much more!) to facilitate discussions amongst attendees. This event is a relaxed setting to connect with people of similar interests.

Educational Resources. Are you looking for resources to learn about applied ethology? Or perhaps you need tools to aid your research? Over the years, the ISAE Student Representatives have compiled a variety of helpful resources for you [here](#).

See you soon!

Mostafa Farghal and Victor Brusin
Student Representatives of the ISAE (2023-2025; 2024-2026)

Membership

We're excited to share that membership for the 2025–2026 cycle is already strong, with 431 active members — and over 100 newly approved members joining our community!

To support continued growth and sustainability, we've updated our membership fees to £50 for full members and £20 for student members. As we transition to an improved membership system, there will be a short pause in payments. We'll notify all members as soon as the new system is live and ready to accept payments.

For any membership concerns or queries, please reach out to us at our new email address: isaemembership@applied-ethology.org

Thank you for being part of our growing network!

Abdelkareem Abdallah / *Membership Secretary of the ISAE (2022-2026)*
Rosie Whittle / *Assistant to the Membership Secretary of the ISAE (2025-2026)*

Finances

Treasurer's Mid of Year Report

The report contains the mid-year summary for the period **January 1st to June 1st 2025**.

The table is the edited output generated from the Xero accountancy software that ISAE now subscribes to via our accountants (Henderson-Loggie). It reports the revenue and expenses in all 3 HSBC bank accounts (deposit, current and Euro) and our WISE account to manage the Open Philanthropy (OP) grant. The report is in GBP after having reconciled the Euro and USD transactions, which results in a "foreign exchange loss". This mostly reflects changes in the exchange rate for USD:GBP over the year. The OP grant is managed in USD so this loss is only calculated for the purposes of summarising the accounts. The table has adjusted income and expenditure and compares with the annual report for 2024.

INCOME. The accounts are healthy. Our income from membership subscriptions is steady (£10,746.40) and expected to be increased this year compared with last year due to the

membership dues increase as of 1st May 2025. The main revenue is from **Scholarship funds from sponsors** (£112,908.41). This includes the second payment of the new **Open Philanthropy (OP) grant** (2023-2026 – Part 2 £101,612.15) from Good Ventures to support the DCCAF scholars and other OP activity. Other sponsorships funding attendance and events at the 2025 congress include the **Purina award** (£11,296.26) and the **Humane world award**. The Humane world award for this year has been confirmed but not yet paid so does not appear (£6161.80). These scholarship funds will be transient and reimbursement for scholarships will be paid after the Congress (some OP DCCAF scholarships have already been paid to facilitate travel visas).

EXPENDITURE. Scholarships and charitable activities account for most of our expenditure (£46,130). ExOrdo (congress management) charges have decreased from 2024, because the 2024 payments included outstanding payments from 2023. Our bank charges remain high due to international transfer fees. Other expenditure includes the usual payments to Intergage and Opayo for membership services, as well as reimbursement to council members for costs incurred for managing the social media accounts (Planable). Audit and accountancy fees were invoiced (£2,794.80) after the mid year report date and are not included in the table.

Our 2024 accounts have been prepared for inspection by our accountants and will soon ready to be submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

ISAE Accounts for period Jan 1st to June 1st 2025 (compared with 2024 year-end accounts)

		1st Jan- 1st June 2025	1st Jan-31st Dec 2024
Revenue			
Interest income		614.54	1,774
Other revenue (refunded bank fees)		11.68	
<i>Scholarship funds/grants</i>			
Good ventures foundation		101,612	106,251
Open philanthropy project			27,088
Humane world for animals (formerly HSI)			6,301
Purina		11,296	11,508
Exhibitor sponsorship			4,449
Subscription income		10,746	20,280
Total revenue		124,281	177,651
Expenditure			
Charitable activities			
Scholarships from sponsorship		2,265	24,751
OP activity (includes DCCAF scholarships)		35,388	50,424
Regional payments		8,476	5,231
Total expenditure		46,130	80,406
Gross profit		78,151	97,245
Operating costs			
Audit & accountancy fees			3,797
Bank fees		1,173.84	2,722
Foreign exchange loss		6,885	1,495
Conference management system (Exordo)		2,582.07	11,224
Elsevier subscriptions		40.33	696
Membership services- Intergage		804	1,929.60
Platform charges OPAYO		240	471
Council members costs [WOAH attendance]			903
Transfer out of Wise account		1.35	
Website and social media		86	4,462
Total operating costs		11,812	27,699
Operating profit (gross profit- operating costs)		66,338	69,546

Lucy Oldham / Treasurer of the ISAE (2025-2029)

Awards updates

Calling ISAE members to be part of the ISAE Awards Committees

Each year ISAE celebrates the work of our colleagues through the ISAE [New Investigator](#) and [Creativity](#) Awards. We also are pleased to announce a new [Equity Diversity Inclusivity and Accessibility \(EDIA\) Award](#). To select the winners, committees are formed each year that include two council members, one EDIA committee member and two ISAE members. Being part of the award committees is an excellent opportunity for any ISAE member to contribute to the organisation's work while meeting colleagues from different countries. If you are interested in being part of the judging committees, please contact me (wurtzkai@gmail.com) no later than the 27th of June.

Kaitlin Wurtz / Assistant Secretary of the ISAE (2023-2027)

Congress News

58th ISAE Congress – Utrecht, The Netherlands, 4-8 August 2025



Preparations are well advanced for the 2025 ISAE Congress in Utrecht, The Netherlands. The congress theme is *a good life for all animals*. The Wood-Gush memorial lecture will be given by Meghan Barrett, with plenary talks by Sarah Adcock, Leopoldo Stuardo, Claudia Vinke and Christian Nawroth. There is still time to register to participate either in person or online. Further information (including the congress programme) is available on the congress website: <https://isae2025utrecht.nl>.

For those still planning your travel to Utrecht, don't forget that Utrecht train station is well connected to the European rail network, and travel to Utrecht by train **within a day** is possible from many European cities (see the train travel guide from Utrecht University: <https://www.uu.nl/sites/default/files/trainzonemap-en-v2.pdf>).

For those travelling from outside Europe, you can probably reduce your carbon footprint by choosing an international flight that arrives in Europe as close as possible to Utrecht. The best option here is Amsterdam Schiphol (AMS) airport. There are up to four trains an hour from Schiphol to Utrecht and the journey takes just 30 minutes. Otherwise, Frankfurt airport (FRA) is just over 3 hours by train from Utrecht, and the train from Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG) airport to Utrecht takes about 4 hours.

Future congresses

We have now returned to our pre-pandemic pattern of alternating between European and non-European locations:

2026: 59th ISAE Congress – New Delhi, India, early August 2026 (details below)

2027: 60th ISAE Congress – Vienna, Austria, late July or early August 2027

We already have an expression of interest (from outside Europe) for organising our 61st congress in 2028, but if you are interested in organising an ISAE congress from 2028 or beyond, please contact the ISAE Senior Vice President. This will be Mark Rutter (smrutter@harper-adams.ac.uk) until our AGM on 7 August 2025, and then Janice Siegford (siegford@msu.edu) after that.

Mark Rutter / Senior Vice President of the ISAE (2023-2025)

59th ISAE Congress Comes to India

We are delighted to announce that the 59th Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE) will be held in August 2026 in the vibrant city of New Delhi, India — marking a historic moment as the Congress comes to South Asia!

This global gathering will bring together scientists, veterinarians, behaviorists, ethicists, and animal welfare professionals from across the world to share their latest research, discuss pressing welfare issues, and explore cultural perspectives on animal behavior and ethics.

Theme: "Bridging Cultures for Animal Welfare: Applied Ethology in a Changing World"

Highlights include:

- Plenary lectures by globally renowned experts
- Scientific sessions across farm animal special focus on cow shelter, Buffalo laboratory, companion, and wild animals
- Cultural evenings celebrating India's rich heritage
- Networking opportunities with regional and international researchers

Venue: New Delhi, India

Dates: August 2026 (Exact dates TBA)

We invite all ISAE members and animal welfare professionals to join us for an unforgettable scientific and cultural experience.

Vijay Pal Singh / Chair of the Local Organizing Committee

EDIA Committee Update

Greetings from the ISAE EDIA Committee! At the 58th Congress, we will be two years on from the launch of the EDIA Guidelines developed by your committee:

- Dr Linda Greening (Chair), Hartpury University, UK
- Madison Bacon (PhD candidate), University of Minnesota, USA
- Dr. May Fujiwara, Peacock Technology LTD, UK
- Dr. Arlene Garcia-Marquez, Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine, USA
- Dr. Jeremy Marchant, USDA-ARS, USA
- Dr. Alan McElligott, Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences, City University, Hong Kong
- Dr. Oluwaseun Serah Iyasere, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria
- Dr. Vijay Pal Singh, CSIR-Institute of Genomics & Integrative Biology at the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research, India

You can find the guidelines on the ISAE website here https://www.applied-ethology.org/Committees_and_Experts.html They are due to be updated in January 2028 but any comments can be e-mailed to isaeedicommitee@gmail.com We are also always interested in applications to join the EDIA Committee from within ISAE membership – use the email above to register your interest in joining us!

Congress Allies

Ahead of the Congress in Utrecht this year, we are looking for members to volunteer as allies to ensure the event is enjoyable and safe for everyone. The aim of having allies is to explicitly provide designated safe people to talk to about any aspects of the conference that delegates have concerns over. These concerns could be linked to any aspect of equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion. The ally role is entirely voluntary; there is no reimbursement for being an ally, and there are no targets or measures associated with it. The EDIA Committee will provide training to the volunteer allies before the Congress. To be an ally, you must attend the Congress in person.

Please note that an ally is **not** expected to:

- To solve problems on the spot.
- Police the event, it is an entirely passive role.
- Deal with issues that are not directly related to the conference.
- Engage in any discriminatory behaviour themselves.

If you have any questions or are interested in becoming an ally during the 58th ISAE Congress, please email mostafa.farghal@ucalgary.ca; victorhenrique.bezer@ucalgary.ca

EDIA Award

We are pleased to confirm the deadline for applications for this award have been extended to the 27th June 2025! Winners will be announced at 2025 ISAE Congress and awarded a year's

free membership to the society in recognition of their inclusive work in the field of animal behaviour science.



Celebrating Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity and Accessibility

**We are pleased to announce that nominations are open for the ISAE
EDIA award**

The award is designed to celebrate members who have engaged in work that promotes/ researches inclusivity or involves inclusive collaboration.

You can be nominated or self-nominate for the award, which will be presented at the 58th congress in Utrecht.

Simply fill in the form using the following link or scan the QR code below
<https://forms.office.com/e/0y7JF1WXjD>
Nominations close 23rd June 2025.



4-8 AUGUST 2025
UTRECHT
THE NETHERLANDS
**ISAE
2025**
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR APPLIED ETHOLOGY

International
Society for
Applied
Ethology

#ISAE2025 #ISAEEDIA

Pride Month

At the time of writing, we are in June, which is Pride celebration month. But what is the history of this celebration? In June 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City. This sparked a series of spontaneous protests and demonstrations against the ongoing harassment and discrimination faced by LGBTQ+ people. The Stonewall Riots are widely considered the catalyst for the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement. A year later, on June 28, 1970, the first Pride marches were held in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and San Francisco to commemorate the anniversary of the Stonewall uprising. Pride events are now hosted globally during the month of June to remember the anniversary of Stonewall and to celebrate LGBTQ+ culture, identity, and achievements.

Pride events also help to raise awareness of the ongoing struggle for LGBTQ+ equality and rights. ISAE celebrates members who are part of, or allies to, the LGBTQ+ community.

Linda Greening / Chair of ISAE EDIA Committee (2021-2027)

Regional News and Development

Development

Selection of new ISAE Country Liaison Officers

At the ISAE January Council Meeting held on the 31st of January, 2025, three candidates were presented for the position of Nigeria liaison and one candidate for China liaison officer. The council approved the following as the new ISAE country liaison officers:



ISAE China Country Liaison Officer: Dr Yifei Yang recently completed a PhD in animal welfare at the University of Queensland (Australia), with a focus on the welfare of freshwater fish during live transport. This research was part of the International Animal Welfare Standards Project (<https://animal-toolbox.org/>), conducted in collaboration with Zhejiang University (China) and the University of Stirling (UK). Yifei was one of the recipients of the 2023 ISAE Developing Countries Congress Attendance Fellowship (DCCAF).

ISAE Nigeria Country Liaison Officer: Dr. Ayoola Abidemi Oluyemi is a registered animal scientist in Nigeria and an academic staff member at the Department of Agricultural Science and Technology, College of Technology, Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology, Ikere Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria. Her research focuses on environmental enrichment of growing pigs using locally available materials to improve the welfare of pigs. She has been helping pig farmers in her region reduce the cost of construction, reconstruction and replacement of pen components. She is also passionate about other farm animal behaviour and welfare research. She was one of the DCCAF awardees in 2023.



ISAE-Open Philanthropy Workshops

6th and 7th ISAE Workshops in Bangladesh

Two powerful workshops sparked a national shift in how animal welfare is viewed in Bangladesh, thanks to the tireless work of Dr Jashim Uddin, ISAE's Country Liaison Officer in Bangladesh. In May 2025, the 6th and 7th ISAE Workshops were held at Gazipur Agricultural University (May 21) and Jashore University of Science and Technology (May 24). The workshops centred on the inspiring theme: "All Animals Deserve a Good Life: Understanding Animal Behaviour as a Pathway to Enhanced Animal Welfare".

Impact of ISAE workshops in Bangladesh:

- Animal behaviour and welfare are now being taught in undergraduate programmes across many Bangladeshi universities.
- The government is now funding research in animal welfare.
- Workshop feedback showed that 85–91% of participants believe ISAE is critical to improving regional animal welfare standards.



Pictures from the 6th ISAE Workshop in Gazipur, Bangladesh



Pictures from the 7th ISAE Workshop in Jashore, Bangladesh

8th DCCAF awardees for the 58th Congress of ISAE, The Netherlands

We received a total of 86 applications for the 8th DCCAF Programme. Following a thorough review process, 14 candidates have been selected to receive the award and attend the 58th ISAE Congress in The Netherlands from August 4 to 8, 2025. The awardees are:

- Dr. Gurung, Parikshya: Department of Livestock Services, Lalitpur, Bagmati Province, Nepal.
- Dr. Sharma, Arvind: Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Himachal Pradesh, India.

- Dr. Popoola, Moshood Abiola: Department of Animal Health and Production Technology, Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.
- Dr. Abiliba, Daniel Baba: Department of Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology, School of Veterinary Medicine - College of Health Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana.
- Dr. Azad, Mandeep Singh Azad: Directorate of Extension, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir, India.
- Dr. Ojelade, Oluwaseun Christianah: Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries Management, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria.
- Dr. Mac-Lean, Priscilla Ayleen Bustos: Department of Biosystems Engineering, School of Sciences and Engineering, São Paulo State University (Unesp), Tupã, São Paulo State, Brazil.
- Dr. Mutua, Eva Katile: Department of Production Animal Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
- Miss Chishti, Wajiha: Department of Physiology, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan.
- Professor Islam, Mohammad Ariful: Animal Welfare Research House, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh-2202, Bangladesh.
- Mr. Ajibola, Gideon Seun: Department of Animal Sciences, Purdue University, Indiana, USA.
- Miss Dobrikj, Ena: Department of Animal Hygiene and Environmental Protection, Animal Welfare Centre, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia.
- Miss Alves, Laya Kannan Silva: Department of Nutrition and Animal Production, School of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brasil.
- Miss Hernández Gotelli, Constanza Nicole: Department of Animal Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA.

DCCAF Pre-Congress Workshop: Meet Our Speakers

We're excited to announce the lineup of distinguished speakers for the upcoming DCCAF Pre-Congress Workshop. These experts bring a wealth of knowledge and experience in animal welfare science and research methodology:

- Prof. Tina Widowski, University of Guelph, Canada
Topic: Establishing Strong Collaborations Between Animal Welfare Researchers and Industry.
- Prof. Edna Hillmann, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Germany
Topic: Using Vocalisation to Assess Animal Welfare
- Prof. Lawrence Alistair, University of Edinburgh & Scotland's Rural College (SRUC), UK.
Topic: Methodological Approaches to Investigating Positive Animal Welfare and Enjoyable Experiences in Animals.
- Dr. Moira Harris, Independent Research Consultant
Topic: Designing Animal Welfare Experiments and Writing Publishable Journal Articles.

Support for online participation at the 58th Congress

In a generous gesture, one of our DCCAF speakers, Prof. Edna Hillmann, donated her honorarium to support participants from developing countries. Her contribution made it possible to provide virtual participation support for 10 DCCAF applicants whose abstracts were accepted by the ISAE

Congress organisers but did not receive travel grants. This opportunity would allow these researchers to still engage with the global animal welfare community and share their work at the congress.

Oluwaseun Serah Iyasere / *Development Officer of the ISAE (2024-2028)*
Samuel Durosaro / *Assistant Development Officer of the ISAE (2024-2025)*

East Asia

The annual meeting of The Japanese Society for Animal Behavior and Management (JSABM) will be held at AUGA, Aomori city, on September 17-18.

The next meeting will be held in Nagano, in March 2026. For details, please see the following URL (in Japanese only): <http://isabm.org/conference/>

We are looking forward to seeing you in Aomori !

Michiru Fukasawa / *Regional Secretary for East Asia*

East and South Europe

From June 24 to 26, 2025, we are organizing the workshop “Bridging Science and Practice: A Workshop on Farm Animal Welfare Assessment” in Sofia, Bulgaria. The event, hosted by the Institute of Animal Science in Kostinbrod, is designed to foster dialogue and collaboration among students, early-career researchers, and established experts from across the Balkans, as well as Eastern, Western and Southern Europe. The workshop will focus on challenges in farm animal welfare assessment and identifying innovative solutions.

Radka Šárová / *Regional Secretary for East and South Europe*
Manja Zupan Šemrov / *Country Liaison for Slovenia*

Nordic

There will be held a Nordic regional meeting in Denmark in January 2026, and the exact date will be announced later.

Karen Thodberg and Per Peetz Nielsen / *Regional Secretary for Nordic*

Oceania

Oceania has selected a new regional secretary – Megan Lucas. Megan is an animal welfare scientist at the Animal Welfare Science Centre, The University of Melbourne, Australia. She specialises in pig welfare but is interested in animal welfare and behaviour across diverse settings. Megan’s research focuses on how housing and management influence welfare, with specific interests in human-animal interactions, stress resilience, early-life experiences, abnormal behaviour, and learning. She is particularly passionate about applied research that delivers real-world impact for animals. Megan is also committed to high quality teaching

practices in tertiary education, and coordinates subjects on applied animal behaviour, welfare, and ethics.

Megan Lucas / *Regional Secretary for Oceania*

Southwest Europe

Dr. Anna Olsson and Dr. Matteo Chincarini are the new regional co-secretaries for the South West Europe Region.

Dr. Anna Olsson is a researcher and group leader at Instituto de Investigação e Inovação at the University of Porto. Her research focuses on behaviour and welfare of laboratory animals and ethics of animal research and technology. She has a background in farm animal welfare and also collaborates in companion dog behaviour research. She is also strongly engaged in teaching and has established several courses in her institution, including training for researchers who need a license to do experiments with animals and a summer research school in One Health One Welfare.

Dr. Matteo Chincarini is an assistant professor in animal behaviour and welfare at the University of Teramo. His research focuses on emotional indicators and the application of neuroscience to animal welfare science. In recent years, he has primarily worked with large animals, investigating physiological and behavioural indicators of emotional states. He is currently working on allostatic load and epigenetic markers as tools to assess animal welfare. Finally, he also coordinates the local ethics committee and promotes open science at his institution.

Anna Olsson and Matteo Chincarini / *Regional Secretaries for Southwest Europe*

UK and Ireland

We hosted the regional meeting in Cork. Dr Francesca Johansen has kindly done us a write up of the event. This year the ISAE UK & Ireland Regional meeting was held in County Cork in Ireland, on the ten-year anniversary of the first conference there! It was the second conference hosted by the regional secretaries Keelin O'Driscoll (ISAE Ireland Rep) and Ellen Williams (ISAE UK Rep). There was good attendance from across the region, and it was great to get everyone together for a meeting. Teagasc Moorepark hosted this year, and there were 28 attendees. We had a busy day with a range of plenary, short, and long talks across a number of species and sectors. Our first plenary of the day was Professor Simone Ciuti from University College Dublin. Simone presented an excellent talk describing his ongoing work with Fallow Deer in Phoenix Park in Dublin, covering the ramifications of the general public feeding the deer and what that might mean for their behaviour and development. After lunch our second plenary speaker, Emeritus Professor Bob Elwood from Queen's University Belfast, delivered a fascinating talk detailing his work exploring if crustaceans feel pain, including how his work has influenced animal welfare legislation in the UK. Talks from other delegates covered many topics across applied animal behaviour, including human behavioural change, precision livestock farming, personality

assessment, and welfare improvement. As with other regions, the ISAE regional conference prides itself on supporting students, and this year was no exception. Thanks to support from the ISAE council we were able to provide a prize for the best student talk. We were delighted to award Lucy Markland (Teagasc Moorepark) with the presentation prize of entrance to the next ISAE international congress. Lucy presented her work on play and manipulative development in piglets.

We are excited to announce that we will be holding our next regional conference in the UK next year (2026), to bring the meetings back to the pre-COVID schedule, so our regional meetings will once again take place when the international meeting takes place outside of Europe. Watch this space for more information on when and where our next regional meeting will be held!

And then additional news:

- We have appointed three new Communications Officers to assist with social media and increasing our presence within the region – Dr Francesca Johansen, Melissa Cupido and Lucy Markland
- We have launched a new regional LinkedIn page to share news: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/107185280/admin/page-posts/published/>
- We are hosting our next ISAE regional conference in 2026 to allow us to get back to the alternate schedule with ISAE international congress being held in European regions – so we are appealing for a venue for next year and would encourage anyone who is interested in hosting to get in touch!

Keelin O'Driscoll and Ellen Williams / *Regional Secretaries for Canada*

Other News

Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) held its annual virtual Animal Welfare Assessment Contest (AWJAC) in April 2025. There were participants from North America, Europe, and Asia to assess welfare scenarios on gestating sows and cownose ray touch tanks in a zoo. To see the list of winners, visit the [AWJAC press release](#).

The fall contest will take place November 7-9, 2025 at Texas A&M University. The species assessed will include pet gerbils, snakes in a zoo, dressage horses, and tilapia aquaculture.

To learn more about the Animal Welfare Assessment Contest and for information on upcoming contests, visit [the event website](#).

Carly O'Malley / *Secretary of the ISAE (2021-2025)*

Employment and Education Opportunities

Some current [employment and education opportunities](#) related to applied ethology include:

- Postdoctoral researcher, USA
- Research scientist, Germany
- Associate Professor, USA
- Research Internship, Poland

For details on how to apply and for the most up-to-date information on employment and education opportunities, visit the [ISAE website](#) and follow us on social media:

- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/appliedethology
- **Twitter:** [@appliedethology](https://twitter.com/appliedethology)

To advertise a position: send the job title, location, contact email address, application deadline, and a URL and/or a pdf flyer to info@applied-ethology.org. Listings are updated biweekly and will be removed 3 months after the posting date if no closing date is given.

Contact Information

Council Members

President	Janice Siegford	siegford@msu.edu
Senior Vice-President	Mark Rutter	smrutter@harper-adams.ac.uk
Junior Vice-President	Maria José Hötzel	maria.j.hotzel@ufsc.br
Secretary	Carly O'Malley	comalley15@gmail.com
Assistant Secretary	Kaitlin Wurtz	wurtzkai@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Abdelkareem Abdallah	isaemembership@applied-ethology.org
Assistant to Membership Secretary	Rosie Whittle	isaemembership@applied-ethology.org
Development Officer	Oluwaseun Serah Iyasere	isaedevelopment@outlook.com
Assistant Development Officer	Samuel Durosaro	durosaroso@funaab.edu.ng
Treasurer	Emma Baxter	ISAE_treasurer@outlook.com
Assistant for Treasurer	Lucy Oldman	Lucyoldham@sruc.ac.uk
Communications Officer	Ophélie Menant	info@applied-ethology.org
Assistant Communications Officer	Maria V. Rørvang	mariav.rorvang@slu.se
Senior Editor	Kris Descovich	k.descovich1@uq.edu.au

Junior Editor	Peta Taylor	peta.taylor@unimelb.edu.au
Procedural Advisor	Suzanne Millman	smillman@iastate.edu
Ethics Officer	Fernandy (Faye) Tahamtani	fmt@animalia.no
EDIA Officer	Linda Greening	linda.greening@hartpury.ac.uk

Regional Secretaries and Student Representatives

Africa & West Asia	Oluwaseun Christianah Ojelade	ojeladeoc@funaab.edu.ng
Benelux	Maëva Manet	m.w.e.manet@uu.nl
Canada	Liesbeth van Damme	Liesbeth.VanDamme@ilvo.vlaanderen.be
East Asia	Meagan King	Meagan.King@umanitoba.ca
East & South Europe	Clover Bench	clover.bench@ualberta.ca
Latin America	Michiru Fukasawa	fukasawam@myu.ac.jp
	Radka Šárová	sarova.radka@gmail.com
	Thiago Bernardino	isae.latinoamerica@gmail.com
	Jaime Figueroa	
Nordic	Karen Thodberg	Karen.thodberg@anivet.au.dk
	Per Peetz Nielsen	per.peetz.nielsen@ri.se
Oceania	Megan Lucas	megan.lucas@unimelb.edu.au
South and Central Asia	Vijay Pal Singh	vpsinghigib@gmail.com
	Sumita Sugnaseelan	sumi@upm.edu.my
Southwest Europe	Anna Olsson	olsson@ibmc.up.pt
	Matteo Chincarini	mchincarini@unite.it
UK & Ireland	Keelin O'Driscoll	keelin.odriscoll@teagasc.ie
	Ellen Williams	ewilliams@harper-adams.ac.uk
USA	Blair Caitlin Downey	bcdowney@utk.edu
	Allison Pullin	apullin@ncsu.edu
West Central Europe	Annika Krause	krause@fhn-dummerstorf.de
	Katharina Zipp	zipp@uni-kassel.de
Student Representatives	Mostafa Farghal	mostafa.farghal@ucalgary.ca
	Victor Brusin	victorhenrique.bezer@ucalgary.ca