

ISAE

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newsletter

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President's Piece

Dear ISAE members,

Here in Finland the summer vacation period is around the corner, providing a good motive to take a few minutes to look back, and to plan ahead.

During spring 2012 we performed a survey to members regarding congress organisation. I would like to thank all of you who responded, we got a response rate of 51% of all members: not bad at all! Read more about the results of the survey in this Newsletter. We will continue the discussion within Council and at the AGM. Now that we have a picture of what our members want, we can hopefully continue developing the congresses in the best possible way.

During the last twelve months ISAE has proceeded with our efforts in tightening our cooperation with OIE, who is becoming one of the big players in animal welfare worldwide. Our next step towards increasing communication is inviting a representative from OIE to address ISAE members at our congress in Vienna this year. At the same time we have the possibility to show the OIE what our activities are all about, and convince them of the importance of the field of applied ethology.

One of the long-term problems of membership administration have been related the question of when to cease memberships upon non-payment. Council discussed the issue of new applicants and decided that successful applicants should be given three months to complete the application and submit payment. One reminder will be sent out, and failure to pay or complete the application process after the three month period applicants would have to reapply. We have already earlier decided that members who do not pay their yearly fee by the end of June will be removed and need to reapply if they want to continue their membership. Harsh, maybe, but should make things a lot clearer.

During our last meetings, Council has discussed the possibility of inviting student members as observers to Council meetings, with the aim to increase member involvement and transparency. We are still considering practical options for this, but hope to be able to introduce a system soon. Suggestions are warmly welcome!

I hope to see many of you in Vienna in August. I know that these are busy times for the organisers, and I wish them all the best with finalising the organisations. I look very much forward to visiting Vienna, listening to stimulating talks, reading fascinating posters and challenging myself in interesting discussions with colleagues. And of course, to meeting old and new friends. Let's make the congress an event to remember! And please, do remember to attend the AGM, and to use that opportunity to help us develop our society in the way you want it to develop.

Anna Valros, Finland

Bug in the system

A report from the recent Council meeting, from Charlotte Stewart, Secretary

Dear ISAE members,

We are half way through another year again and as conference season is once again up is its time for another bug in the system. Council had one web based meeting, the usual winter meeting was held in January and any issues arising were discussed.

This year a lot of background work has been completed in relation to the membership administration, new processes have been set up and implemented by the Communications Officer and the Membership Secretary. Coincidentally the council positions up for renewal this year are that of the Communication Officer and Membership Secretary. To ensure a smooth transition of membership administration our current Communication Officer has agreed to take on the Membership Secretary role and train in the new Communication Officer. Anyone interested in the council position please get in touch with me.

I want to say a big thank you for all of you that have participated in the **membership survey**. The results are in and are currently being verified. The findings will be reviewed and a report circulated to members before changes are implemented for next year's meeting.

One of our proactive aims is to **encourage members from developing countries**, through using connections and promoting the benefits of ISAE such as, help with English we can promote our network. If you have any contacts from a developing country that would benefit from ISAE let us know.

I think that those were the most important points raised at our last meeting, so I would like to finish by saying we hope you see you all at the next meeting in Vienna this summer. We can look forward to another interesting, sociable and dynamic meeting!

Charlotte Stewart (UK)

ISAE Council News

Senior Vice President – Vicky Sandilands

Thanks to the hard work of my predecessor, Janet Swanson, my responsibility as SVP has been relatively easy. The congresses up until 2016 are sewn up, and I have to perform no arm-bending before my time in post is up in 2013!

This year we are looking forward to the congress in Vienna, Austria. The other congresses are as follows:

- 2013 47th Congress, 2-6 June, Costao do Santinho Resort
(<http://www.costao.com.br/default.aspx>), Brazil
- 2014 48th Congress, 28 July – 1 August, Europa Convention Centre, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain
- 2015 49th Congress, Japan (dates and venue to be confirmed)
- 2016 50th Congress, Edinburgh, UK (dates and venue to be confirmed)

I would like to thank the local organising committees of each of these congresses for taking on the responsibility of organising our annual meeting. With the difficult world-wide financial climate, it can be a daunting task to estimate how many people will attend and how to keep costs down.

The only other news I have is that we are investigating different publishing companies to manage our congress abstract submissions and proceedings. While our relationship with Wageningen Academic Publishers remains good (and they produce what we want), the contract is up for renewal this year and so we are examining what is available.

Look forward to seeing some of you in Vienna.

Communications officer and Membership Secretary – Keelin O’Driscoll and Hans Spolder

The new website is working very well for maintaining the database and contacting members. All members can now access the membership database and query it.

Since last year’s annual conference we have had 49 new members join the society since the last newsletter. The regions our new members come from are: Australia et al, 4; Benelux, 3; Canada, 4; East Central Europe, 2; Mediterranean, 4; Nordic, 4; UK/Ireland, 19; USA, 9. Please welcome to the society:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Nur Nadiyah Md. Yusof (Malaysia) | Marieke Gartner (UK) |
| Min Hooi Yong (New Zealand) | Sophie Collins (UK) |
| Else Verbeek (Australia) | Ben Brilot (UK) |
| Ketan Dulal (Nepal) | Gareth Pearce (UK) |
| Jorine Rommers (Netherlands) | Laura Dixon (UK) |
| Saskia Bott (Belgium) | Leigh Murray (UK) |
| Merel Verhoeven (Netherlands) | Jessica Lampe (UK) |
| Ashley Roberts (Canada) | Victoria Bond (UK) |
| Teresa Casey-Trott (Canada) | Naïma Kasbaoui (UK) |
| Tara Jones (Canada) | Emma Buckland (UK) |
| Jessica Fox (Canada) | Lisa Yon (UK) |
| Katarína Pichová (Slovakia) | Susan Richmond (UK) |
| Maria Horváthová (Slovakia) | Rick D'Eath (UK) |
| Catarina Martins (Portugal) | Janice Willard (USA) |
| Alice de Boyer des Roches (France) | Wendy Fulwider (USA) |
| Antoni Dalmau (Spain) | Sara Crawford (USA) |
| Maria Filipa Castanheira (Portugal) | G Tatiana Sales (USA) |
| Helena Telkänranta (Finland) | Becca Franks (USA) |
| Heidi Mai-Lis Andersen (Denmark) | Kelsey Horvath (USA) |
| Ingela Wikman (Finland) | Cynthia Evans (USA) |
| Jaana Pohjola (Finland) | Kim Drnec (USA) |

Rebecca Sommerville (UK)
Lucy Oldham (UK)
Karen Hiestand (UK)
Sarah Ison (UK)

Lauren Robinson (USA)
Kelly Gouveia (UK)
Amy J Quinn (Ireland)

Based on the current database (dated 2 July 2012) we have 551 members paid up to 2011 or 2012. Per region, the membership looks like this: Australia, NZ, Africa, 45; Benelux, 34; Canada, 60; East Asia, 21; East Central Europe, 10; Latin America, 15; Mediterranean, 28; Nordic, 81; UK/Ireland, 117; USA: 100; West Central Europe, 40.

One of the benefits of ISAE membership is that the journal Applied Animal Behaviour Science can be obtained at a reduced rate. For the current subscription year (June 2012 / May 2013) the price is £37 for electronic access, and £103 for the printed version plus electronic access. So far 31 members have registered for the electronic, and 20 for the printed version. The procedure regarding AABS membership now runs very smoothly, with Elsevier giving prompt replies to queries from our side.

On a personal note: this was my final year as Membership Secretary and at the next AGM I will hand over the position to someone else. The first year of my term in office was rather turbulent and ended when Council agreed to terminate the contract with the Membership Services provider, at the same time investing in the web based application we currently use. Our Communications Officer Keelin O'Driscoll took it upon her to organise the website, as well as the membership database that became linked to it. Thanks again Keelin for your hard work on that – it made life for all of us so much easier! I also want to thank the other Council members and in particular the regional secretaries for the pleasant way in which we worked together on issues related to our society. Finally: it's been great to meet so many of our membership in the past few years, albeit in most cases only digitally! *Please continue to enjoy your membership of ISAE..... I certainly intend to!*

ISAE Regional News

Annual JVP report June 2012 (Jeremy Marchant-Forde)

My responsibility for the society is to coordinate activity between the regions. Below are reports by region and regional secretary. Thank you to all secretaries for all their hard work in the past year. I would like to extend particular thanks to Candace Croney of the USA region, Boris Bilčík of East Central Europe Region and Kate Litten of the Australasia and Africa region who have all stepped down in the last year.

Australasia and Africa – Kate Litten with Ahmad Tatar and Rebecca Doyle

We are pleased to welcome two new co-secretaries for our region, Dr Rebecca (Bec) Doyle and Mr Ahmad Tatar. Bec's area of expertise is cognition in sheep, plus applied animal welfare research in pigs and cattle. She is a lecturer in animal physiology and welfare at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Australia. Ahmad's expertise is in poultry production. He currently lectures at Payam-e-Noor University, Azad Shahr

Branch, Iran and will soon complete his PhD at Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources – you can read a little about Ahmad and Bec below. Kate Littin is in the process of handing over, but will retain some duties to assist.

We are hosting a regional meeting in Melbourne. Our last regional meeting was in Auckland, New Zealand, in 2010. We hosted the ISAE Congress in 2009 but prior to that had not had a regional meeting since 2002. Future meetings are proposed for 2013 (Africa), 2014 (New Zealand, in combination with an international conference in animal welfare) and 2015 (a satellite meeting or session as part of the International Ethological Conference in Cairns, Australia).

We have had a significant boost with the handover of remaining funds from the past regional secretary. We plan to sponsor two students to attend our regional meeting and may once again sponsor a student to attend the ISAE Congress (next year). We are seeking sponsorship for our regional meeting and have had the venue provided for no charge, in order to retain the new funds for the support of student or early-career members, as much as possible.

We are exploring whether we can have closer links with the OIE in our region, including through the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy coordination group and the OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis – a consortium of research organisations and government involvement, including some longstanding ISAE members. Inspired by seeing that Council has invited Dr Bernard Vallat to speak to the ISAE Congress this year, we are going to invite someone to speak to our regional meeting about the OIE, the Strategy and the Collaborating Centre.



Ahmad Tatar (Iran) is from Gorgan in the North of Iran. He entered animal sciences at university in 1997, graduated from his MSc in animal nutrition in 2006 and is currently completing a PhD in animal nutrition at Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Gorgan, Iran. His Ph.D is about the application of feed additives in poultry nutrition and evaluates its effects on poultry performance, leg health parameters and gut morphology. Ahmad says “I am very interested in interdisciplinary research, such as animal and plant production sciences.” After being a member of the ISAE since 2010, Ahmad has become particularly interested in the application of behavioural studies to his interest in poultry nutrition and is conducting some research on this in Iran. He was the 2008 and 2010 recipient of the World Poultry Congress (Australia) and European Poultry Conference (France) grant as youth program. Also, he was granted Gorgan University’s top Ph.D student for the 2nd time in 2011.

Regarding his scientific activities he published two books (in Persian), registered two patent in animal feed additives, published two international papers in refereed journals, 23 presented papers at international conferences and 20 papers at national conferences. Also, he published 13 papers in Iranian magazines.

Ahmad is keen to work on a Parsi/Persian version of the ISAE website to encourage new members in Iran! He currently lectures at Payam-e-Noor University, Azad Shahr Branch, Iran and will soon complete his PhD at Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources.

Hi, I'm **Rebecca Doyle** – one of the new regional secretaries for Australia/NZ/Asia/Africa. I completed a bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience (Hons) at the University of Sydney in 2006. After this, I completed a PhD with CSIRO Livestock Industries and the University of New England researching cognitive bias, and associated behaviour and physiology in sheep. In 2010 I moved to Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga to lecture in animal physiology and welfare. Here I have continued



research into cognition in sheep, as well as expanding into more applied animal welfare research in pigs and cattle. In 2011 I was the recipient of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy award. I'm really looking forward to being a part of the ISAE and meeting researchers in my region and others.

Canada – Jen Brown with Nicolas Devilliers

Over the 11th and 12th May 2012, the North American Regional meeting was held in Banff, Alberta, Canada. This year's meeting showcased a range of applied ethology research performed primarily from undergraduate and graduate projects, covering farm, companion, laboratory, zoo and wildlife animals with a particularly large number of entrees on lab animal and avian research. Participants attended from a wide range of universities and research facilities, of which amongst others, there was a strong presence from the UBC, Agri-Canada, Prairie Swine Centre, Guelph, Laval, Michigan and Minnesota University. Prizes were awarded to students for the best theatre and poster presentation. The best theatre presentation was awarded to Devina Wong from the UBC, Canada and the best poster to Bruno Muller of the Universidade Federal do Paraná, Brazil.

Conference numbers were down from previous years, with 44 registered attendees, the majority of which were from Canada. Possible reasons for the reduction in numbers was discussed in the business meeting. The high cost of flights when traveling in from the US was highlighted as a contributing factor as was an increase in the number of other animal behaviour and welfare conferences available. A questionnaire was made available in conference packs to gather further feedback on how the conference could be improved.

Other conferences of interest that also took place during the 2011 – 2012 year time period include:

The 5th International conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group level (WAFL), University of Guelph: A well attended international meeting for presentation and discussion of developing assessment and auditing techniques for the welfare of groups of farmed and captive animals. A wide range of topics were presented, with special emphasis on the design and validation of on farm auditing techniques, with the challenges and solutions to auditing animals during transport and slaughter, and more exotic species in zoos. The popularity of this conference in its 5th year demonstrates the importance of this component of animal welfare research.

The 3rd International Beef Welfare Symposium, Saskatoon: A conference brought about by animal welfare concerns surrounding the beef industry. A dynamic group of well respected animal scientists, bovine practitioners, veterinarians and philosophers presented their latest research findings and offered thoughts on emerging welfare issues that face the beef cattle industry. The conference was aimed at processors, retailers, NGOs, government officials, animal scientists, veterinarians and students.



At the last regional meeting in Banff (Alberta), the Canadian region members elected a new secretary. Jen Brown passed the torch to Nicolas Devillers. Many thanks to Jen for her dedicated work as Canadian secretary, and particularly for the nice organization of the last regional meeting. Canadian members can contact Nicolas at Nicolas.Devillers@agr.gc.ca for any items related to ethologic news in Canada. Nicolas was born in France and studied in Bretagne. He graduated in Animal Science in 2000 from the Superior National School of Agronomy located in Rennes and obtained his PhD in 2004 from the University of Rennes and the National Agronomic Research Institute (INRA). His interest in the ethological approach which considers the whole animal in its environment grew throughout his studies and led him to post-doctoral studies on maternal behaviour of sows in Canada. He was then hired as a research scientist at the Dairy and Swine Research and Development Centre in Sherbrooke (Québec) in 2005 to study swine behaviour and welfare. Since then, he has led many research projects on the influence of housing and management practices on the behaviour of lactating sows and their piglets. His research focuses on maternal behaviour of sows, behavioural development of piglets, human-animal relationships and assessment of lameness in sows.

East Asia – Katsuji Uetake

The annual meeting of the Japanese Society for Applied Animal Behaviour (JSAAB) was organized on March 30 at the Nagoya University. This meeting featured 40 general presentations and one special lecture by Dr Kusunose concerning the study on horse behavior. All ISAE members in Japan are registered as members of the JSAAB.

At the AGM of the JSAAB, ISAE2015 was recognized as an official enterprise of the JSAAB as well. This conference is planned to be held at the Hokkaido University, Sapporo (for your information, 629 km far north from the Fukushima nuclear power plants) on September 7-13 to be approved by Council. As for the local organizing committee, Professor Kondo of the Hokkaido University who was the past Regional Secretary of the ISAE as well as the past president of the JSAAB is the prospective president. Other members of the committee are now under consideration. In a related move, Dr Ninomiya is elected as a board member of the JSAAB in charge of the ISAE2015.

East Central Europe – Radka Sarova

The number of members from East Central Europe Region increased to 12.

The main “event” in 2011 was the “Joint East Central and West Central Europe Regional Meeting” which took place in Kostelec nad Černými lesy, Czech Republic, on June 1-4, 2011. The meeting was organized by East Central Europe Region. The Book of Abstracts is available at:

<http://www.applied-ethology.org/hres/ISAE%20Kostelec%202011%20Program%20%20Abstracts.pdf>

The next Joint East Central and West Central Europe Regional Meeting is planned for year 2013 in Switzerland.

Latin America – Maria Jose Hotzel

The team at LETA/UFSC (Laboratório de Etologia Aplicada e Bem-Estar Animal) is busy organizing the 47th International Congress of the ISAE, to be held in Florianópolis, from 2 to 6 June, 2013. The Animal Welfare Laboratory, Federal University of Paraná (LABEA/UFPR), will organise the *IV LABEA Meeting: Animal Awareness and Cognition – In honour of Cesar Ades* (www.labea.ufpr.br), 22 and 23 October, 2012, at the Salão de Atos, Barigui Park, Curitiba, Paraná, South of Brazil. The goal of the meeting is to promote advancements in the discussion regarding the awareness and cognitive capabilities of animals, and to honour Professor César Ades for his contribution in this field of knowledge. This is the fourth of a series of annual LABEA meetings, which this year expects around 300 participants. The main themes are animal emotion and cognition, and these will be approached in scientific, ethical, and political dimensions.

Mediterranean Region- Emma Fàbrega-Romans

During the first semester of 2012, the web page site of the Mediterranean region has been updated with the information provided by the members. It was suggested that the web page could include a brief explanation about the areas of work of the different groups working on behaviour and welfare in the Mediterranean region. However, only a few members provided this information, so if other are interested, please contact us.

We have also continued collaborating with Dr. Marie Christine Menier-Salaün who is involved in a EU project called AWARE. The objective of the specific work package in which Marie-Christine is involved is on mapping the welfare research and education institutions in the European countries. She is in charge of the Mediterranean region and

we have answered some questionnaires to provide information for the project. We added the link of the project in our web page.

Nordic – Satu Raussi

This year the Nordic winter Symposium of the ISAE was held at SLU Skara Sweden at 16th to 18nd January.

The symposium programme included four sessions and totally 22 presentations. The first session on Monday afternoon involved a plenary presented by professor Bo Algers from SLU. Bosse told us about transport to slaughter issues and specifically how logistics may benefit animal welfare. Another plenary was presented by Henrik Lerner from SLU who gave a speech about the role of the animal in the care of humans. We heard many talks about pig behaviour, human-animal studies and dog behaviour. At the end of the symposium workshop about authentic examinations and effects on learning were organised by Maria Andersson from SLU.

Every year the Klaus Vestergaard price is awarded to the best student presentation. This year the price went to Karolina Thorell. Karolina is a student at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences Uppsala and the work she presented was from her master thesis project. Her presentation entitled “Pig behaviour during crowding – a study in organic and conventional herds”. The Klaus Vestergaard price includes free access to next Nordic ISAE symposium.

At the end of the symposium we had a small discussion about how to in future develop the Nordic regional meetings. Some questions were raised should we continue to arrange Nordic symposiums every year or every second year and how to attract more senior researchers to the symposiums. Secretary will compile a questionnaire to be send to Nordic ISAE members about the subject.

Great thanks to the local organisers of the Nordic ISAE Skara symposium! Maria Andersson together with her team had organised everything extremely fluently. Friendly atmosphere made the symposium warm and encouraged discussions.

Next 2013 Nordic ISAE Symposium will be held at Oscarsborg island in the Oslo Fjord Norway 16th to 18th January. Knut Boe with his team from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences will take care of arrangements.

West Central Europe – Claudia Schmeid

In June 2011 we had the Joint East and West Central Europe ISAE regional meeting in the Czech Republic, which is a biannual opportunity to meet researchers from our east neighbour countries, a good chance to hear something about their current work and to network.

In November 2011 the 43rd annual Congress in Applied Ethology took place in Freiburg, Germany. The year before (2010) the West Central Europe region organised a workshop about heart rate variability (held by Jan Langbein, Germany). We offered the possibility for another workshop in 2011, but the members of the region did not suggest any topic or trainer, therefore unfortunately no workshop was conducted this year. I

hope, we can organise one next year. At the moment the West Central Europe region is very busy in preparing the 46th International Congress of the ISAE in Vienna this summer.

UK/Ireland – Laura Boyle and Cathy Dwyer

On the 21st February 2012 the UK and Ireland Regional Meeting of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE) was held at Harper Adams University College. Details of the programme and .pdfs of the individual presentations are available on our regional website at: <http://www.applied-ethology.org/ukireland.html>

The meeting was preceded by an evening reception complete with locally made cheeses, wine and delicious dips on the Harper Adams campus. This was followed by a great meal at The Lamb Inn where contrary to its name, vegetarians and vegans were well catered for! You can read a full review of the meeting later on in the newsletter.

USA – Maja Makagon

The US region played a supporting role in organizing this year's NA-ISAE conference. We are looking forward to hosting the 2014 NA-ISAE conference, the location of which will be announced shortly. Another update is that the US ISAE website is now up and running and is updated semi-regularly. I have been posting US and Canada job openings on the website, and can report that there has been an influx in job openings in our region.

ISAE members on the move!

Dr Jean-Loup Rault recently moved from Purdue University to the Animal Welfare Science Centre, University of Melbourne, Australia.

Jean-Loup has recently finished his PhD entitled: "Oxytocin as a welfare indicator related to the social environment: investigation and potential", and taken up a position as Research Fellow at the Animal Welfare Science Centre in Prof. Paul Hemsworth's group.

His new contact details are:

Dr. Jean-Loup Rault,
Animal Welfare Science Centre
Alice Hoy Bldg 162, University of Melbourne
Parkville, VIC 3010, Australia
Ph: +61 3 9035 7542 (fax 7849)
email: raultj@unimelb.edu.au

Bas Rodenburg was working as Research Associate at the Animal Breeding & Genomics Centre of Wageningen University. From 1 August 2012, he will be appointed as Assistant Professor in a tenure track position at the new Behavioural Ecology group at Wageningen University (<http://www.bhe.wur.nl/UK/>), where he will focus on social behaviour in poultry. He will also join the new Centre for Animal Welfare and Adaptation

(<http://www.cawa.wur.nl/UK/>), a collaboration between Wageningen and Lelystad. The Behavioural Ecology group is headed by Professor Marc Naguib and focuses both on behavioural ecology of wild animals and on behaviour and welfare of farm animals. Bas will be joined by Camilla Hinde, presently working at Oxford University, who was recently appointed as Assistant Professor in behavioural ecology of wild birds.

Dr. Ir. Bas Rodenburg
Wageningen University
Animal Breeding and Genomics Centre
New visiting address: Building 122, De Elst 1, 6708 WD,
Wageningen, The Netherlands
Postal address: P.O. Box 338, 6700 AH, Wageningen, The Netherlands
New phone number: +31 317 484627
E-mail: bas.rodenburg@wur.nl
www.abg.wur.nl/UK/
www.disclaimer-uk.wur.nl

As of February 1, 2012 **dr. Machteld van Dierendonck** has accepted a position of honorary professor in Ethology and Welfare, especially for equines at the Veterinary Faculty of Ghent University.

In October 2011 professor Frank Ödberg retired in Ghent and it was decided to replace him for a few years by a titularis (dr Christel Moons) for the organisation and the basic ethology, and some specialists (dr Tiny de Keuster (companion animals); prof. Dirk Lips (ethics); dr. Frank Tuytens (production animals) and dr. Machteld van Dierendonck (equines).

Dr Machteld van Dierendonck has been working as a behaviour specialist, scientist and practitioner in the field of (equine) behaviour and welfare (assessments) for the last 15 - 20 years. Besides the new small position in Ghent, she currently established her own referral practice Equus Research & Therapy, as well she is guest scientist at the Biology faculty at the Utrecht University (NL). She recently left the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences at the Utrecht University. Before, she spent several years in Sweden, Italy, Iceland and Mongolia in a project reintroducing Przewalski's horse. In October 201 she was accredited associate of the ECVBM (currently named ECAWVB) as equine veterinary behaviour specialist.

Her current work mainly consists of research, teaching (graduates and post graduates) and treating equine patients with (additional) behaviour problems. Additionally she is giving advice to the Dutch government, the equine industry and beyond as well as to equine specialists' worldwide. Her research field is both fundamental and applied. She has published more than 20 peer-reviewed articles, a few book chapters and a (general public) book (in Dutch).

=====
Dr Machteld van Dierendonck | PhD EurProBiol | Equine behaviour specialist

Appl. Anim. Behav. Sci. - news from Elsevier

ISAE June 2012 Newsletter: Elsevier Info

Subscriptions for ISAE members

As a member of the ISAE you can exclusively benefit from a heavily reduced subscription rate to *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, the official journal of the ISAE. From the 1st June 2012 to the 31st May 2013, the reduced subscription rates are as follows: print subscription for GBP 103 or e-only for GBP 37. E-access will allow you to see all full-text content from 1995 onwards, all *Articles in Press*, and all titles and abstracts before 1995. To avail of this exceptional offer and subscribe to *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* please contact the ISAE Membership Secretary.

For a complete overview of Elsevier's offering in Animal Science, Veterinary Science and Veterinary Medicine please visit and bookmark <http://www.elsevier.com/anivet>

Other News

2011 Impact Factors have been released by Thomson Reuters.

The latest Impact Factor* for Applied Animal Behaviour Science has recently been released, The 2011 Impact Factor is 1.918, ranking the journal 6th out of 54 journals in the category, Agriculture, Dairy and Animal Science. This represents a significant improvement since 2010 (IF = 1.555, 13th out of 55).

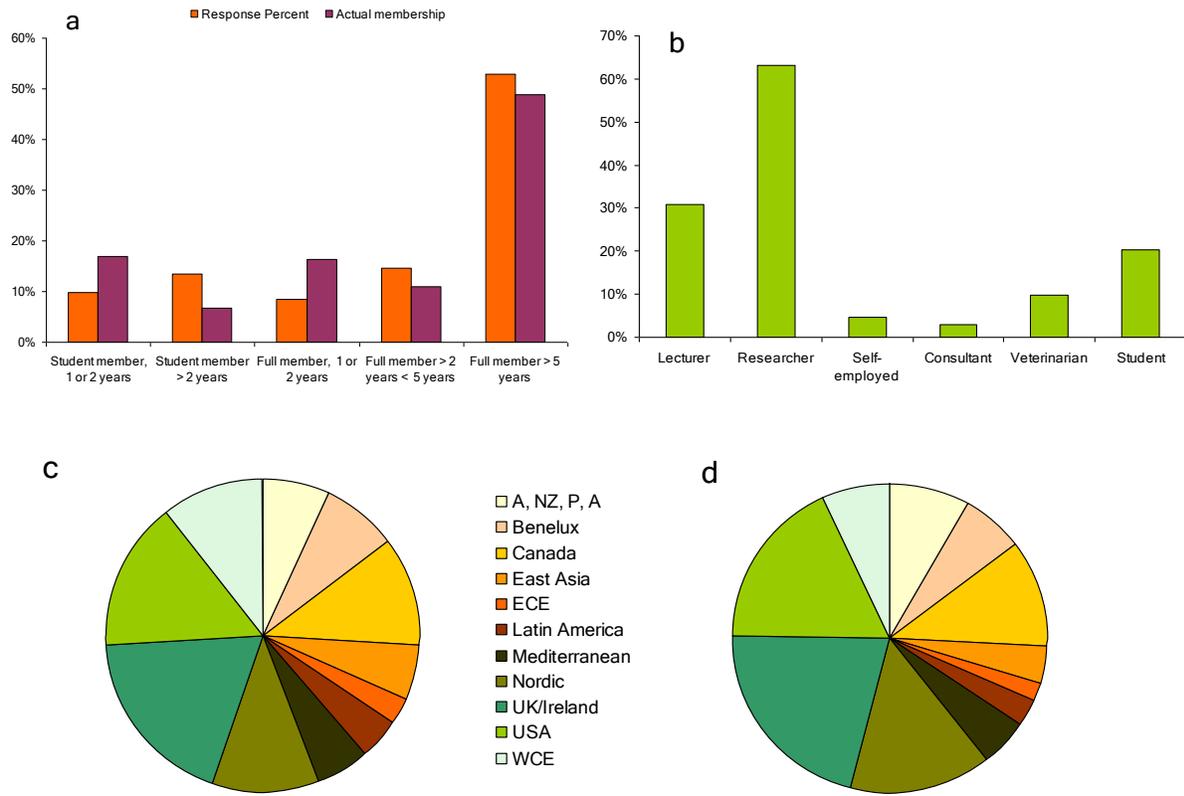
We would like to thank the Journal's editors, reviewers, authors, and readers who have contributed to this result!

**Journal Citation Reports®, published by Thomson Reuters, 2012*

Membership survey

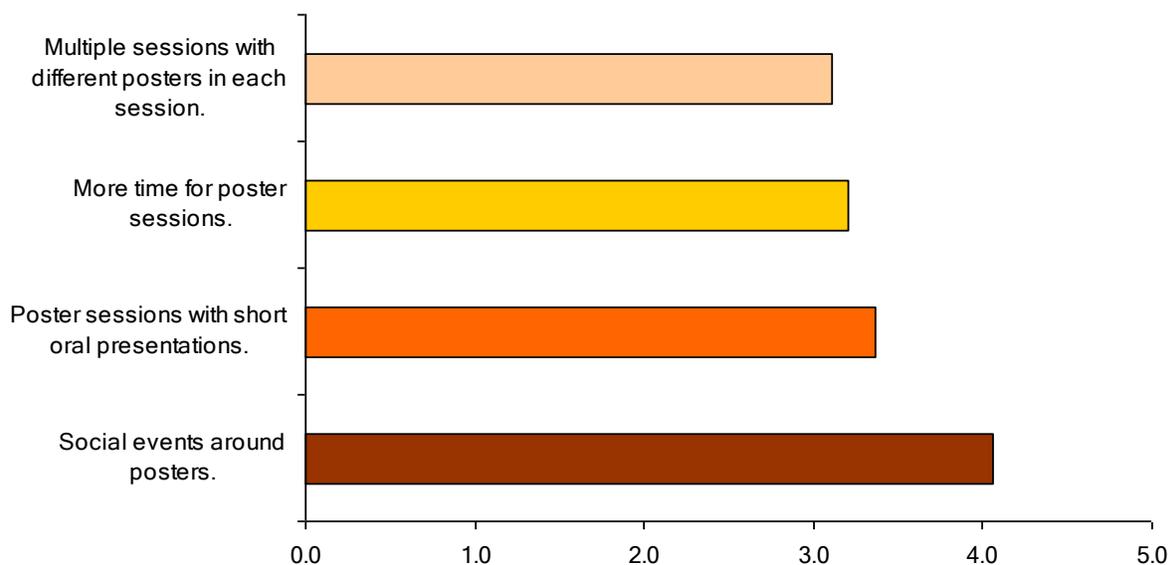
At the AGM last year, the subject of how to improve the annual congress was raised once again. Council decided that the best way to get feedback on ideas and was to carry out a survey across the membership. It took a few months to finalise the questions, and on January 18 this year the survey was finally sent out to the entire mailing list. It closed on 28 February, by which time we had received replies from 248 members (51% - not bad!). We included a few questions at the start of the survey just to get an idea of the demographic of the respondees, and see if it was likely to be representative of the entire membership. The results show that the proportion of respondees from each region, and within each membership category are fairly representative of the proportions in the database (Figure 1). It's perhaps not surprising that the proportion of respondees that have been members for < 3 years was less than the proportion of people who have been members for < 3 years. These people may have been less likely to respond to a survey about the congress, as they are unlikely to have attended many.

Figure 1. Graphical summary of the percentage of each type of member in the ISAE dataset and of the respondees (a), the occupation of the respondees (b), the percentage of respondees in each region (c) and the percentage members in each region (d)



A,NZ, P,A = Australia, New Zealand, The Phillipines, Africa; ECE = East Central Europe; WCE = West Central Europe

Figure 2. Preferences on how to deal with posters. The x-axis represents the average score (ranked from 1-5) for each option.



Poster sessions

The question of how to maximise posters sessions has been an ongoing issue for several years now. The survey included four specific ideas of how to maximise the poster sessions, and also included a box where other ideas could be suggested (Figure 2). In both the defined questions, and in the comments box, the answers indicate that social events around the posters are highly valued – cheese, wine and coffee were mentioned a lot! Having enough space and time around the posters was brought up several times, as was the idea of having short (~ 3 min) oral presentations associated with posters as well (although some people were dead against this idea). Other ideas for maximizing posters included better organization of topics so that posters that are similar are near each other, and having feedback forms at every poster so people can get into contact easily. There was also a comment that we should perhaps find a completely new way of presenting results that is more appropriate for modern times; it will be interesting to explore specific ideas on this.

Poster versus oral presentations

Overall most members seem content with the current situation of 2 parallel sessions, and the remaining abstracts of good enough quality accepted as posters (Figure 3). People appreciate the posters and want to keep them as some work is better suited for posters than for orals. There was also a concern that introducing three parallel sessions would dilute the numbers at each, and mean that interesting talks might be more easily missed. An idea that came up a few times was to have an oral session (short talks) especially for selected posters. This session would not run parallel to any other, so that everyone could attend and not miss any of the main orals, and hopefully then encourage people to go search out the posters. This could help to improve the reputation of posters, so that they are not seen as lower quality.

Many members agreed to keep the current way of deciding on whether abstracts should be accepted as orals, posters, or rejected (i.e. to accept all abstracts not accepted as oral as poster, but maintain a certain scientific standard; Figure 4). Several comments were related to concerns about poster presentations being treated as ‘second class’, while others would like to see a further separation of quality by accepting feature posters or giving some special posters a small oral presentation. There were

Figure 3. Structure of the meeting, oral v’s poster presentations. The x-axis represents the average score (ranked from 1-5) for each option.

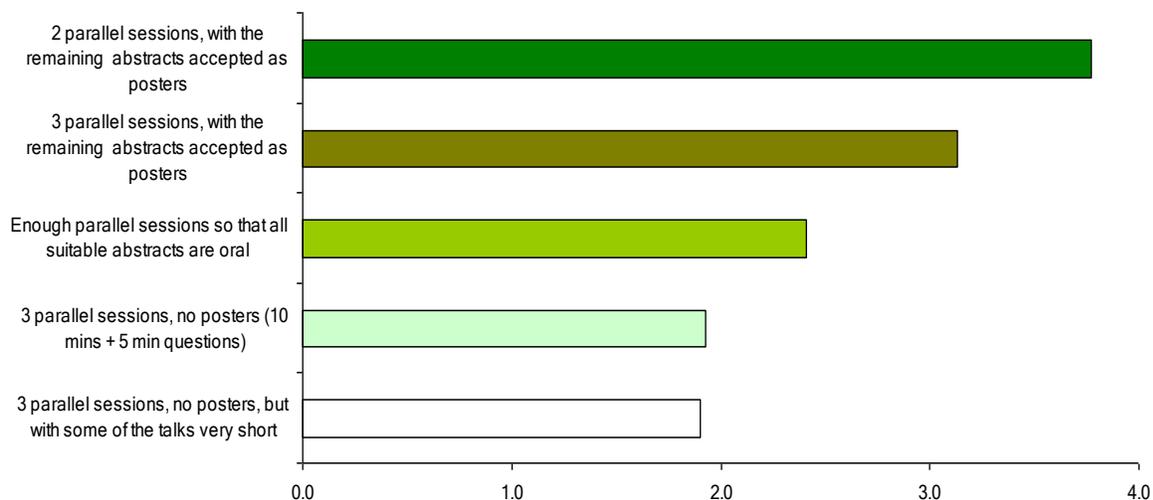
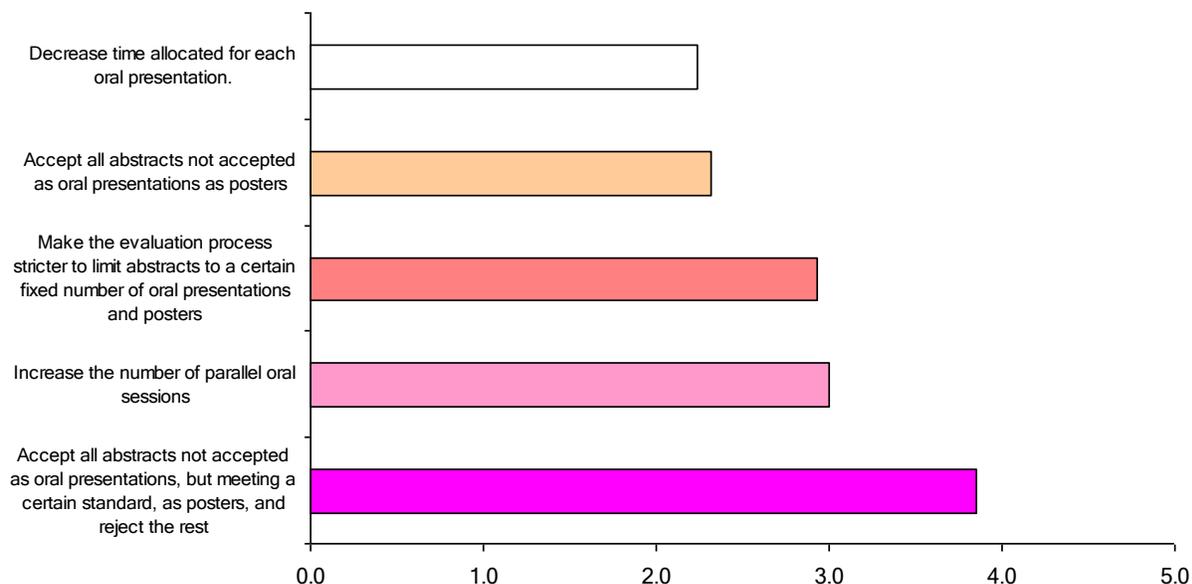


Figure 4. How abstracts should be handled if more than expected are submitted. The x-axis represents the average score (ranked from 1-5) for each option.



also some comments about reducing oral presentation time of either normal presentations or plenaries, while others disagreed. The most common comment to the question of how abstracts should be handled if more than expected are submitted, was that all abstracts that are accepted should be of good scientific quality.

Conference length and cost

Many people would like to see some options for reducing the length or the costs of the conference. The most favoured option was moving the excursions to the end of the conference (Figure 5.), although several members commented that holding the excursions during the meeting is good for networking meeting old friends, and for having a 'rest' and helping to absorb all the new information.

Figure 5. The percentage of respondees who favoured each method of reducing the length of the congress. The x-axis represents the average score (ranked from 1-5) for each option.

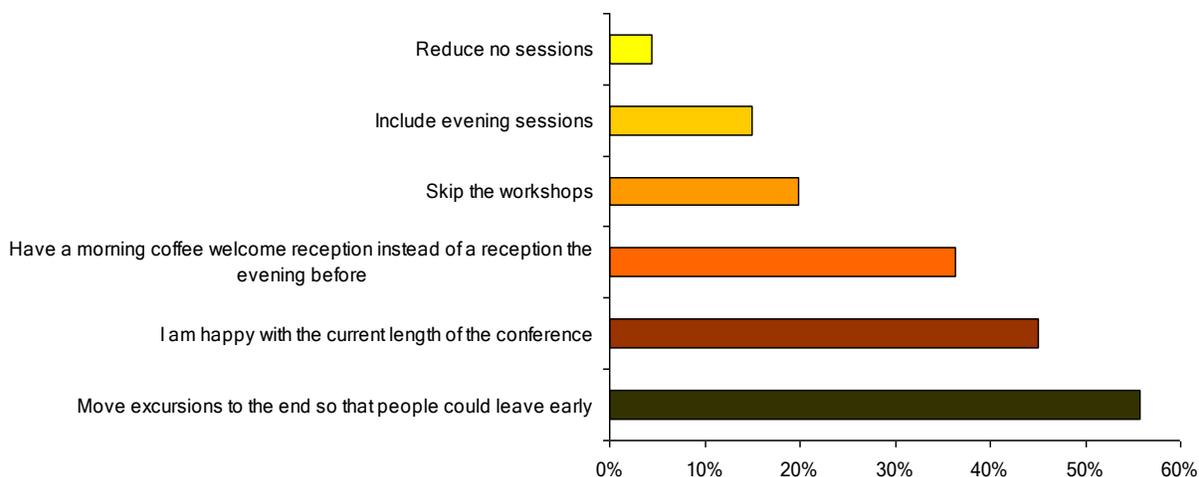
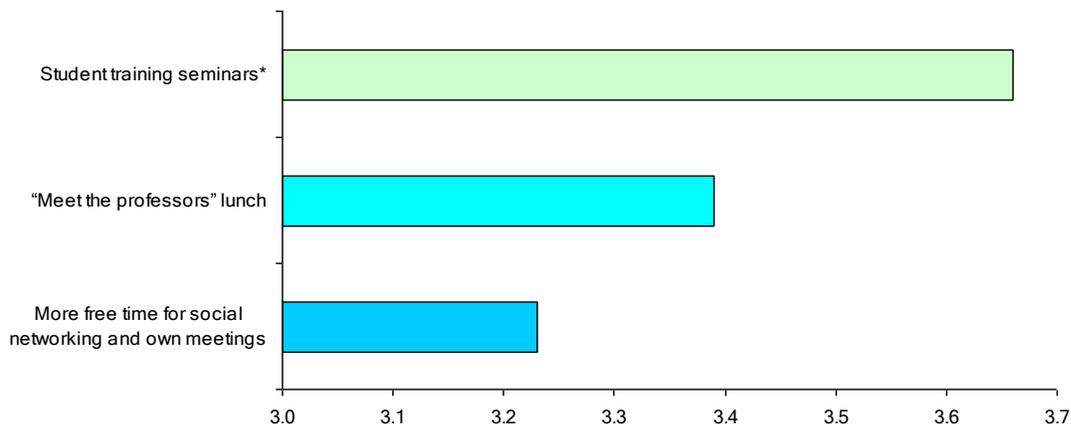


Figure 6. Ideas on how to improve social networking. * scientific writing workshops, ethics, cv preparation, grant writing, etc. The x-axis represents the average score (ranked from 1-5) for each option.



Several people also suggested holding the congress every second year. Other ideas included having options to watching the congress live online, holding it in conjunction with another similarly themed meeting, or grouping topics into days so that people could choose which days they can afford to attend.

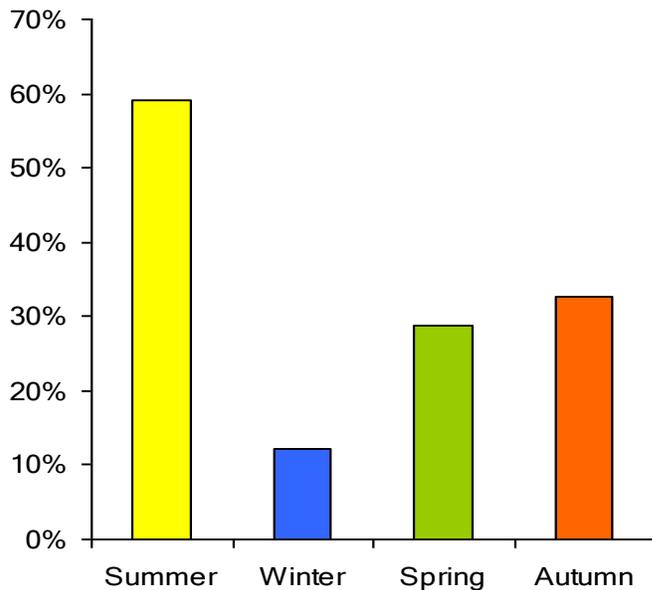
Social networking

Out of the three suggestions that were included on how to improve social networking at the congress, the most favoured was having student training seminars (Figure 6). These could be extended to include non-student attendees as well. Although many people liked the idea of more programmed social networking, several of the people who commented pointed out that there are already lots of opportunities to socialise and network at ISAE meetings (2 X coffee breaks each day, lunch break, social events, excursions), and that by introducing new 'networking' time we would only make the congress longer.

A 'meet the professors' lunch is valued by some, but the comments express worry about the professors being 'more important' than everyone else. However this may be due to the wording of the question, and interpretation of 'professor', which has different meaning in different countries. It might have been better to suggest having a 'meet the expert' lunch and explain that it could be an opportunity for people new to an area of research to meet people who are more experienced. Several commenters also raised concern about new members who are in most need of opportunities to meet new people. We could have a 'meet the new isae member lunch' or other events where people that have been at the conference many times make sure first timers or people arriving alone are welcomed. Another idea that was mentioned several times was to have some sort of meetings or discussion time where people who are working in similar areas can be introduced to each other.

The timing of the conference

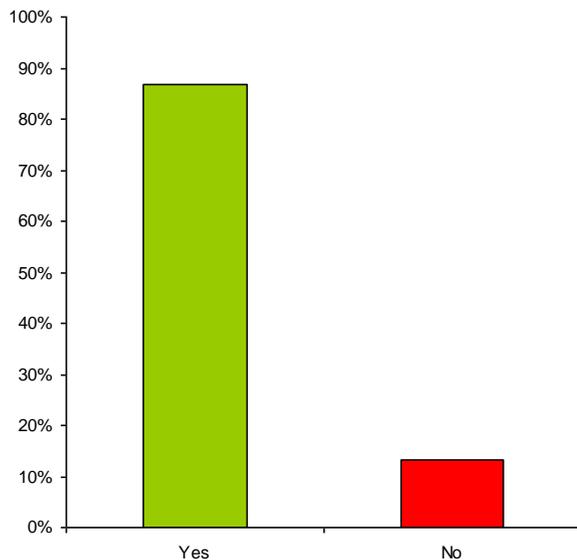
Figure 7. Preferred timing of the congress (Northern Hemisphere seasons)



Most people agreed that summer (northern hemisphere) is the optimal time of year for the conference. Unfortunately this is when the cost of flights is highest, and children have holidays, but other times are too busy with teaching, and might be impossible for students who need to attend classes.

Student representative

Figure 8. Support for a student rep on council



Overall, people like the idea of a student representative. However several members pointed out that it is already possible for students to be on council, because there is no rule that they cannot be elected to any of the council positions, and there are potential difficulties with voting for someone unknown to many people in the society, and continuity. It could be difficult to select the person because people are only students for a short period of time, so perhaps a new person would need to be elected each year. There were several questions about what the role of the student officer would be, but also many comments about how much of the membership is made up of students, so this large group should be

represented on council. Several people suggested the option of having the student representative not as a full member but as an assistant to the education officer or with limited voting rights like the regional secretaries.

Help needed! – ISAE documents looking for a home

A message from Frank Odberg

Some time ago I informed Council Members that quite bit of documents (+/- 50cm x 30 x 20), mainly from the seventies, that are of interest for the early history of our society are still in my cupboard at the university. I am retired since October and am afraid I cannot keep those items at home. It was quite a job to make room for the personal documents I accumulated during my career and wished to keep. However, there is still uncertainty concerning my succession and room is getting scarcer anyway. It would be a pity the SVE/ISAE documents would be lost. The problem is that ISAE has no permanent secretary's office where archives can be kept. I received the suggestion to scan them so all members could examine virtually our history. That is quite a job and I am still too busy to care for that (You will agree it is a shame for an ISAE-member I even haven't found time to start schooling my new horse!...).

Is there somewhere an official institution prepared to act as keeper? Has anybody a solution? If so, please contact a member of the ISAE council. Please note the documents are located at Ghent in Belgium.

Meeting Reviews

The ISAE Newsletter welcomes reviews from all meetings of potential interest to ISAE members

Report from the UK/Ireland ISAE regional meeting, Harper Adams University College, Shropshire, England, February 20 – 21, 2012

This February the 20th and 21st, the regional meeting of the UK/Ireland branch of ISAE was held at Harper Adams University College in Shropshire. This was the first regional get-together for many of the students and recent graduates who attended. Luckily the snow that threatened to ruin the 2010 meeting held off and everyone arrived in time for a very nice wine and cheese reception at the Regional Food Academy on campus. This friendly evening welcome was a perfect way for everyone to get to know one another. But for the students, one of the enduring memories of any conference is the food! Harper Adams certainly didn't disappoint us with some truly delicious spreads over the course of the meeting. Even the carnivores applauded the all-vegetarian options, which were lovely and particularly fitting in an ISAE meeting where we are concerned about unnecessary food wastage.

After some socialising and chatting with colleagues from far off institutions, we decamped to the Lamb Inn in Edgmond for an evening meal. As always at ISAE, catching up with old friends and colleagues was a highlight.

Dr Mike Appleby's keynote lecture on 'Animal Worldfare' was an appropriate start to the meeting the theme of which was "Animal Welfare in an International Context: Research and Education". Mike updated us on the challenges facing animal welfare in an international context. The next session on Animal Management and Welfare featured a variety of talks, including Sam Ward's 'When Sheep Behave Baa'd', which was a lovely example of demonstrating a welfare problem existing in the farming system based on good science and then offering a viable solution. In addition to the welfare of farmed animals, Andrew Kelly from the RSPCA discussed the issues inherent in taking temporary duty of care responsibility of injured wildlife and how the RSPCA then works to ensure their successful release into the wild.

The second session on Animal Behaviour and Welfare was the cause of many broken hearts when Leigh Murray discussed the plight of Jethro, the rescued donkey without a pair bond in her study of companion recognition in domestic donkeys. The second session was then followed by a workshop in Animal Welfare Education, led by Fritha Langford who gave a brilliant introduction to the topic. The group activity, designing an education tool for multiple age groups, proved to be an enjoyable – if somewhat bizarre experience – with everything from card trading games to websites and cyber pets being discussed at the end.

Moira Harris and Mark Rutter of Harper Adams deserve a lot of credit for organising such a successful regional meeting. It really was a very enjoyable affair, generating lots of discussion on welfare, how to teach it and the challenges facing us, both locally and internationally.

Finally, there were whispers that the next UK/Ireland Regional Meeting of ISAE might be hosted by SAC during the winter of 2013. Hope to see you there!

Jull MacKay (SAC) and Dayane Lemos Teixeira (Teagasc)

Describing Canine Aggression

For the past six years we have specialized in canine aggression, something we did not expect to do when starting in the field as trainers almost twenty five years ago. After a personal problem, we had gone back to graduate school to study applied canine behavior and unintentionally our business slowly transformed. At this point, 90% of our clients are referred to us via veterinary / humane society referral or court mandated; for moderate to severe aggression.

Many times we have clients referred to us after seeing another behaviorist, veterinarian or trainer. When the client comes to us they often have a preliminary diagnosis and very often it is wrong or incomplete. The most common two are, 'my dog is over protective of me' or 'my dog has fear aggression'. When we look into the case, we usually discover that no intake form was done and there is no basis for the diagnoses or the dog's body language and responses were misread.

An intake form should seek out more than just the pedigree information and chief complaint. It should question the dog's behavior in many situations, how the dog interacts with owners, strangers and other animals. The dog's reaction to situations

should be questioned from different angles, the environment should be discovered and any changes in the dog's physical condition should be questioned. All of this (the indirect assessment) should give a 'picture' as to the dogs behavior, environment and human responses.

When the evaluation or direct assessment is conducted, it should be complete. A dog should never be diagnosed as having fear aggression since this is a partial and incomplete diagnosis. So, let's start by examining why it is incomplete and how it should be documented.

First, is the aggression offensive or defensive? Next is it affective (a normal response for a canine) or non-affective (not a normal canine response for the given situation or stimulus).

Next, the exact triggers should be documented (what is the response to visual, auditory and tactile stimuli). Does the environment alter the behavioral response (location, time of day, physical environment, etc)?

Why is the dog reacting in an aggressive manner; and this should not be an emotional response by the evaluator but instead based on data. Describe how the dog's escalation occurs i.e. wrinkle on the forehead followed by the tail raising and ears moving forward, higher head posture, fixation followed by vocalization and lunging or air snapping. If you utilize protective gear and evaluate the full level of aggression, is the dog biting and what type of bites (single contact bites, multiple contact bites), what is the intensity of the bite (how hard, is the dog biting and shaking), what is the duration of the aggression, after the bite what does the dog do (does he / she retreat, stay fixated, etc). Does the dog's response vary depending upon the environment (owners present, their home versus outside, moving objects versus stationary objects, etc)?

Antecedent behavioral consequence sheets should be collected to determine patterns and variables. This should examine what was occurring prior to and during the incident, how the humans reacted, where it occurred (location, time, who was present, etc), how the dog reacted to the humans reaction.

Once you have all the data, you can now start to determine when the behavior started and if possible, determine what caused the original association or behavior that led to the current aggression.

Now you can come up with a diagnosis and treatment plan.

For the diagnoses, is the dog displaying territorial aggression, dominance based aggression, interspecies aggression, anxiety based aggression, etc. VERY rarely will it be only one, instead usually a combination of aggressions and if so, list and explain it; why are you saying it (you should have the triggers and reactions so that you can detail your diagnoses).

Finally, you can now develop a modification program to alter the dogs association or reaction. If you are NOT changing the underlying cause of the aggression then you are implementing a management program, not a modification program. Sometimes this is fine but if this is what you are doing, state it, don't imply that you are working to change

the dog's behavior but instead are managing the dog's responses (they are not the same thing).

If you are unsure, reach out to a colleague. If you are utilizing psychopharmacological intervention, make sure you know what you are doing (how the medicine effects the receptor pathways in the central nervous system, why one medicine should be used over another, contraindications, etc); another topic for another day. Don't feel funny asking others for help and don't try doing more than you can do, none of us know everything about every species.

Sincerely,
Daniel Forst, BCCABC
Canine Case Squad, Inc.

Aware Project



The European project AWARE promotes the effectiveness and added value of the research on animal welfare in new and candidate EU countries through the exchanges of young researchers from one laboratory to another within the European Research Area.

A mobility desk has been set up to help

1/ **young researchers** to refine their professional plans, identify their expertise and network with relevant organisations, find a grant for a thesis or a post-doc position, and get into contact with potential host institutions in Europe.

The applicant can benefit of a personal follow-up during their mission.

2/ **host institutions** to refine their needs in terms of human potential and find an applicant to their research proposal and who matches their expectations.

Whenever you plan to look for a research position or to recruit a young researcher for working on animal welfare, we strongly encourage you to contact the Mobility Desk.

Research positions sent to the Mobility Desk are regularly advertised and candidates can apply at any time.

Even in case you already know candidates, we can help you to check that they really correspond to your needs.

Note :

- This help is free of charge.
- The mobility desk gives some information for young researchers to find financial support

For more information and contact with the **AWARE Mobility desk:**
<http://www.aware-welfare.eu/aware/44987/5/0/60>

For more information on AWARE: www.aware-welfare.eu



Animal Welfare in Finland – 1st National Report!

Animal welfare is of popular interest, and has gained prominence in social discourse in recent years. The subject is discussed in the news almost weekly. Forming an overall picture and having informed discourse on animal welfare is difficult, because people have rather splintered or biased knowledge on animals and animal husbandry. Making purchasing decisions on animal welfare grounds is difficult as well. The purpose of Finnish National Report on Animal Welfare is to offer citizens independent and reliable information on animal welfare in Finland. In addition, it gives the stage to the various parties promoting the welfare of animals.

Increasing knowledge

Animal welfare research in Finland is rapidly increasing, and is worth supporting and developing in the future as well. Finland, too, ought to offer a university degree on animal welfare.

Animal welfare considerations are included in all vocational degrees on animal professions. Animal welfare should be taken into account in national curricula as well. Teaching material and teachers' knowledge on animal welfare should be updated.

Commercial and advisory organizations provide animal welfare training for those working with animals, for example in the context of various projects. Animal welfare information services provided by animal welfare organizations, and especially the educational activities aimed at children and youngsters, are active. The organizations bring issues of animal welfare into public discourse, and actively participate in politics. Many owners of companion or hobby animals lack information on the welfare prerequisites of their animals, such as their natural behavioral needs, correct nutrition, exercise and companionship. Reliable, unbiased and research-based information on companion and hobby animal welfare is scarce and difficult to identify amidst other kinds of information.

Public measures

Legislation plays a central role in animal welfare, and the authorities control compliance with its requirements. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has initiated modernization of the Animal Welfare Act, a task expected to take several years.

Control of animal welfare has been improved. State funds have been used to employ special municipal veterinarians dedicated to the task of control, as well as provincial veterinarians for regional state administrative agencies. Preventive animal welfare work, such as regular inspections on animal activity subject to notification, can thus be conducted with greater frequency.

The society encourages better animal husbandry through various subsidies. Support on animal welfare, investment or organic animal production comes on the condition of measures that exceed the minimum requirements of animal welfare regulations. Systems comparable to the Finnish investment and animal welfare support either do not exist in other EU countries or see very little use there.

Cooperation throughout the chain of authorities involved in ensuring animal welfare should be further developed, including the police and the justice system. This would, in addition to providing a well-functioning control system, result in a streamlined, efficient and consistent prosecution of animal welfare crime.

A Farm Animal Welfare Council and a Companion and Hobby Animal Welfare Council have been founded in conjunction with the Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture. These assist the Ministry in animal welfare issues and policy formulation. State funds have also been applied to found the Finnish Centre for Animal Welfare to promote cooperation between animal welfare control and research, as well as animal welfare publicity.

Other measures

Welfare of Finnish animals is improved by the low incidence of diseases and the unique preventative animal health care system, under constant improvement. In recent years, the bovine and porcine health care system has been intensely developed from the viewpoint of animal welfare. On the other hand, deficiencies observed by the authorities indicate that there is still work to be done on animal husbandry. In addition, preventative measures against exhaustion of animal workers should be found, as an exhausted caretaker is an animal welfare risk.

An animal welfare labelling system would help consumers choose goods produced with special consideration for animal welfare. Unlike several other countries, Finland has not adopted such a labelling system yet, even though organic animal production to some degree takes into account animal welfare improvement. Verification of animal welfare ought to be on a farm-by-farm basis, and the system should be transparent, reliable and controlled by an independent agency. The system should economically encourage the producers to improve animal welfare. In the promotion of animal welfare, the role of the entire food production chain should be reinforced, including that of retailers.

Animal breeding aimed at increasing productivity has resulted in health problems in farm animals. In companion and hobby animals, emphasis on appearance criteria in the breeding selection has e.g. weakened the welfare of several dog breeds. Animal breeding can be used to affect animal welfare, and should better take into account those characteristics beneficial for welfare.

Injured wild animals are currently treated in a number of zoos and parks as well as in bird houses. Organizing of this treatment should be the responsibility of an official authority.

Better animal welfare through cooperation

Promoting of animal welfare calls for action by several different parties. Research aims to establish the factors affecting animal welfare, and animal welfare authorities control compliance with the requirements of the law. Animal welfare societies and organizations as well as various other parties strive to distribute information to the people and to influence decisionmaking on animal welfare. Through increasing knowledge, the influence of the citizens on animal welfare issues increases as well. Cooperation of all the parties involved is necessary for achieving the common goal of animal welfare improvement in our country.

Further information

Finnish Centre for Animal Welfare

P.O. Box 57

FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland

Director Satu Raussi, Ph.D.

satu.raussi@helsinki.fi, gsm +358 50 4156 570

Publicist Reeta Törne, M.Sc.

reeta.torne@helsinki.fi, gsm +358 44 3001 295

Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities related to applied ethology that are brought to the attention of the Communications Officer, are posted to the ISAE Home Page. Below is a sample of positions currently available. Please check the ISAE Home Page for further details and for application deadlines: <http://www.applied-ethology.org/employment.htm>.

- **Research chair:** Dairy-herd longevity
Location: McGill University, Montreal, Canada
Contact: Dr. Kevin Wade, kevin.wade@mcgill.ca
- **Technical:** Poultry behaviour research (anticipated position)
Location: Purdue University, USA
Contact: Dr Maja Makagon, makagonm@msu.edu
- **Behavioural Scientist**
Location: AFB International, Missouri, US
Contact: afbstaffing@afbinternational.com
- **Assistant professor:** Animal behaviour
Location: Kansas State University, US
Contact: Dr. Duane L Davis, davis@ksu.edu
- **AWARE Mobility Desk:** Linking young researchers and host labs
- **Research officer:** Food Business
Location: Compassion in World Farming, Surrey, UK
Contact: Mandy Ray, Mandy@ciwf.org.uk
- **PhD position:** Humane on farm swine euthanasia
Location: Iowa State University, US
Contact: Dr. Suzanne Millman, smillman@iastate.edu

46th Congress of the ISAE in Vienna, Austria



ISAE 2012 – final programme

The organising committee is pleased to invite you to the 46th Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology with the General Theme
”Quality of Life in Designed Environments?”

The congress will take place at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna, Austria, between **July 31 and August 4, 2012**, jointly organised by the Institute of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare of the Vetmeduni Vienna and the Division of Livestock Sciences of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences BOKU.

As ISAE 2012 comes closer, planning develops, and we are happy to announce that the **final programme** is available online now: <http://isae2012.com/scientific-programme.html>!

You may also be interested to find more information about the Wood-Gush-Memorial-Lecture and Plenary Speakers: <http://isae2012.com/speakers.html>

Main topics:

Positive Emotions

Intra- and Interspecies Relationships

Behavioural Indicators of Welfare

Mutilations and Welfare

Behavioural Development: Genes, Epigenetics and Ontogeny

Free Papers

For more information please visit the homepage [http://isae2012.com/!](http://isae2012.com/)

We are looking forward to seeing you in Vienna!

On behalf of the Local Congress Organising Committee

Susanne Waiblinger & Christoph Winckler

Future Meetings

ISAE Meetings

- **47th International Congress**

June 2- 6, 2013 in Florianopolis, **Brazil**

- **48th International Congress**

July 28 – August 1, 2014, Europa Convention Centre, Vitoria-Gasteiz, **Spain**

Other meetings of potential interest can be found on the Applied Ethology Home Page:

<http://www.usask.ca/wcvm/herdmed/applied-ethology/meetings.htm>

ISAE Council

President	Anna Valros	Dept. Clinical Veterinary Sci., University of Helsinki, P.O.Box. 57, Helsinki, Finland, 00014 Tel: +358-9-19149571 Fax: +358-9-19149670 E-mail: anna.valros@helsinki.fi
Senior Vice-President	Vicky Sandilands	Avian Science Research Centre, Scottish Agricultural College, Ayr, Ayrshire, KA6 5HW, Scotland, Tel: +44 (0)1292 525421 Fax: +44 (0)1292 525098 E-mail: vicky.sandilands@sac.ac.uk
Junior Vice-President	Jeremy Marchant-Forde	Livestock Behaviour Research Unit, 125 South Russell Street, West Lafayette, IN, 47907, US Tel: +1-765-494-6358 Fax: +1-765-496-1993 E-mail: jeremy.marchant-forde@ars.usda.gov
Secretary	Charlotte Stewart	Moulton College, West Street, Moulton, Northampton, NN3 7RR, UK Tel: +44 (0)1604-491131 x 609 Fax: +44 (0)1604 491127 E-mail: charlottestewart@hotmail.co.uk
Assistant Secretary	Marije Oostindjer	Department of Chemistry, Biotechnology and Food Science, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, P.O. Box 5003, Aas, N-1432, Norway E-mail: marije.oostindjer@umb.no
Membership Secretary	Hans Spooler	Animal Sciences Group of Wageningen UR PO Box 65, 8200 AB Lelystad, The Netherlands Tel: (31) 320 293 532 Fax: (31) 320 238 050 E-mail: Hans.Spooler@wur.nl
Treasurer	Marie Haskell	Sir Stephen Watson Building, Bush Estate, Penicuik, EH26 0PH, Scotland Tel: +44 (0)131 535 3205 E-mail: Marie.Haskell@sac.ac.uk
Communications Officer	Keelin O'Driscoll	Animal and Bioscience Research Dept., Animal and Grassland Research and Innovation Centre, Teagasc, Grange, Co. Meath, Ireland Tel: (353) 25 42633 E-mail: keelin.odriscoll@gmail.com
Senior Editor	Ngaio Beausoleil	Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, College of Sciences, Massey University Private Bag 11-222 Palmerston North, New Zealand Tel: +64 6 350 7504 Fax: +64 6 350 5699 E-mail: N.J.Beausoleil@massey.ac.nz
Junior Editor	Stephanie Torrey	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Department of Animal and Poultry Science, University of Guelph, 50 Stone Road East, Building #70, Guelph, ON N1G 2W1, Canada Tel: +1-519-824-4120 x53660 Fax: +1-519-836-9873 E-mail: storey@uoguelph.ca

<i>Legal Advisor</i>	Bill Jackson	19 Raven's Croft, Eastbourne East Sussex BN20 7HX, UK Tel & Fax: (44) 1323 733589 E-mail: member@sanctuarystreet.wanadoo.co.uk
<i>Auditor</i>	Liz Bartle	Head of Accounting Finance Department University of Portsmouth
<i>Procedural Advisor</i>	Moirra Harris	Animals Group, Harper Adams University College, Edgmond, Newport, Shropshire,TF10 8NB, UK Tel. +44 (0)1952 820280 E-mail: mharris@harper-adams.ac.uk
<i>Education Officer</i>	Laura Hanninen	University of Helsinki, Research Centre for Animal Welfare, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, PO Box 57, Helsinki FIN-00014, Finland Tel: +358 9 191 49 790 E-mail: laura.hanninen@helsinki.fi
<i>Ethics Committee Chair</i>	Ian Duncan	University of Guelph, Department of Animal and Poultry Science, Guelph, Ontario, N1G 2W1, Canada Tel: +1 519 824 4120 ext.53652 E-mail: iduncan@uoguelph.ca

ISAE Regional Secretaries

Australia & Africa	Ahmad Tatar	Dept. of Animal Sciences, Basij square, Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Gorgan, Iran. Tel: +98 911 375 3980 E-mail: tatar@gau.ac.ir
	Rebecca Doyle	Lecturer Animal Physiology, Charles Sturt University, Boorooma St., Wagga Wagga, Australia Tel: 02 6933 4721 E-mail: rdoyle@csu.edu.au
Benelux	Ingrid de Jong	Animal Sciences Group of Wageningen Box 65, 8200 AB, Lelystad, The Netherlands. Tel: (31) 320 238192 Fax: (31) 320 238094 E-mail: ingrid.dejong@wur.nl
Canada	Nicolas Devillers	2000 College Street, PO Box 90 Stn Lennoxville, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1M 1Z3 Tel: 819-565-9174(223) E-mail: Nicolas.devillers@agr.gc.ca
East Asia	Katsuji Uetake	Department of Animal Science and Biotechnology, School of Veterinary Medicine, Azabu University, Japan Tel: +81-42-754-7111 (ext. 382) Fax: +81-42-754-7661 E-mail: uetake@azabu-u.ac.jp
East Central Europe	Radka Sarova	Institute of Animal Science, Pratelstr, P15, Prague 5, Prague 10, CZ 10400, Czech Republic Tel: +42 -267 009765 E-mail: sarova.radka@gmail.com
Latin America	Maria Jose Hotzel	Universidade Federal De Santa Catarina, Rod. Admar Gonaga, 1346, Florianopolis, SC88.034001, Brazil Tel: +55-48-232-0499 E-mail: mjhotzel@gmail.com
Mediterranean	Emma Fabrega	IRTA, Centre Avaluacio del Porci Tel: 972630236 (ext 1437) Fax:972630533 E-mail: emma.fabrega@irta.cat
Nordic	Satu Raussi	Finnish Centre for Animal Welfare e-mail: satu.raussi@helsinki.fi tel. +358504156570
UK / Ireland	Laura Boyle	Teagasc, Moorepark Research Centre, Fermoy, Co. Cork, Republic of Ireland Tel: +353 25 42389 Fax: +353 25 42340 E-mail: laura.boyle@teagasc.ie

	Cathy Dwyer	Behavioural Sciences, Scottish Agricultural College, Bush Estate, Edinburgh, EH9 3JG, Scotland, Tel: +44 (0)131 535 3228 Fax: +44 (0)131 535 3121 E-mail: cathy.dwyer@sac.ac.uk
USA	Maja Makagon	Department of Animal Science, 3270J Anthony Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1225 Tel: +1-517-432-7494 E-mail: makagonm@msu.edu
West Central Europe	Claudia Schmied	Institute of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare, University of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinärplatz 1, 1210 Vienna, Austria E-mail: claudia.schmied@vu-wien.ac.at