

# ISAE

[www.applied-ethology.org](http://www.applied-ethology.org)

# newsletter

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## President's Piece

Dear ISAE Colleagues,

The annual Congress is over and once again we have dispersed to our respective regions of the globe to continue our work in applied ethology. The demand to attend to urgent issues, research, student education and training, professional development, family, and a host of other responsibilities constantly tug at our shirt tails. Despite the work load, membership of the ISAE remains attentive to the ties that bind us to the web of science and discovery throughout the year. Each issue of AABS verifies that belief. I urge you to continue to engage in your regional meetings and the annual Congress as these events are vital to advancing science and enhancing our collaborative opportunities within the society.

In early August we took over the beautiful green campus of UCD in Dublin for our 42nd International Congress. Laura Boyle, Alison Hanlon and Niamh O'Connell and the local organizers (LOC) developed a program that drew a record-breaking attendance. The scientific theme, *Applied Ethology: Addressing Future Challenges in Animal Agriculture*, produced invigorating discussions in the oral and at the poster presentations. We were treated to a battery of stimulating plenary talks kicked off by the annual Wood Gush Memorial Lecture by Francoise Wemelsfelder. An added feature that worked exceptionally well was an afternoon array of workshops developed for Congress attendees. A hearty thank you Laura, Alison, and Niamh and the LOC for an extraordinary conference.

This year Council said goodbye to officers Derek Haley (Communications Officer) and Moira Harris (Membership Secretary). Both positions command considerable time and effort. Derek and Moira have provided outstanding leadership on Council and service to the ISAE membership. On behalf of the society I would like to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Derek and Moira. Please welcome Keelin O'Driscoll as our new Communications Officer and Hans Spoolder as the Membership Secretary. In addition to Keelin and Hans, Liz Bartle of Portsmouth University was elected as our Honorary Auditor. The ISAE Ethics Committee added Anna Olsson, Kristin Hagen and Maria Jose Hötzel with Hans Erhard and Cheryl O'Connor finishing their term of service. The work of this committee is important to charting an ethical course for conducting our science. Finally, welcome to Candace Croney as the new regional secretary of the USA. Candace replaces Inma Estevez. Our sincere gratitude to Inma for her excellent service to the society.

For our 43<sup>rd</sup> International Congress we head "down-under" to beautiful Cairns Australia. Our ecological backdrop for the meeting is the Great Barrier Reef and the Heritage Rainforest. Carol Petherick (Chair) and Andrew Fisher (Deputy Chair), with the local organizing committee from the Australia-New Zealand-Philippines-Africa region, have organized the Congress around the theme *Applied Ethology for Contemporary Animal Issues*. The sub-themes for the conference sessions are management of unwanted animals, animal emotion and cognition, animals in extensive and natural environments and animal-human interactions. The Wood Gush Memorial Lecture will be presented by Professor Lesley Rogers, a Professor Emeritus at the University of New England, Australia. Professor Rogers co-ordinates the Centre for Neuroscience and Animal Behaviour. She is an accomplished scientist who has garnered numerous national awards for her research on development and brain lateralization with emphasis on animal behaviour. I look forward to her presentation. Please visit the 43<sup>rd</sup> Congress website [www.ISAE2009.com](http://www.ISAE2009.com) to learn more about what our local organizers have planned for you. Announcements on registration,

abstract submission, and housing instructions are forthcoming. I hope you will consider submitting an abstract and engaging in the exchange of science and fellowship at the ISAE summer congress. Members or regions that would like to host an ISAE annual Congress, I invite you to contact Marek Spinka our Senior Vice President. We are open for bids for a future Congress.

I look forward to working on behalf of the ISAE membership during the next year. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the ISAE Officers or your regional secretary with your ideas, concerns or thoughts on how we may be of service to you.

May you all have a wonderful holiday season and joyous New Year.

Best Wishes,

Janice Swanson, PhD

ISAE President

## *Fly on the wall*

### **News from the August 2008 Council meeting in Dublin, Ireland – from Anna Valros and Bas Rodenburg**

Hold on your chairs! The fly has been buzzing around in sunny Dublin! It is time again to let you in on all the details the ISAE Council discussed during the summer council meeting.

The future ISAE congresses will be held in Cairns, Australia (2009), Uppsala, Sweden (2010), Purdue, USA (2011) and Vienna, Austria (2012). Starting from 2010, a **standardized ISAE abstract submission system** will be used. This system will also be used to produce the proceedings. This system will make life easier for future congress organizers and will help to ensure that the proceedings are up to ISAE standards. The ethics checklist will also be incorporated in this abstract submission system.

Regarding the **Congress Attendance Fund**, Council discussed whether it would be a good idea to earmark surplus funds for the Congress Attendance Fund. It was decided to make the Congress Attendance Fund a priority if surpluses come available. In the future, it will be possible to apply for support from the Congress Attendance Fund every five years.

In relation to that, it was decided that **retired ISAE members** can attend future ISAE congresses at a reduced rate (similar to the reduced membership fee).

Council also discussed the **procedure to apply for ISAE membership**. Council discussed whether the short biographies submitted when applying for membership are useful and whether or not they should be included in the application procedure in the Guidelines. It was concluded that they are useful (also for instance as background information for the regional secretaries) and it was decided to keep the current procedure in place.

Regarding the **ISAE special issues in AABS**, the congress special issues have been stopped. Plenary papers and Wood-Gush Memorial papers will be published as leading reviews in AABS,

with an ISAE flag. Together, the Junior and Senior editors will edit one special issue per year. The subject for these special issues can come from ISAE members or from the editors.

Finally, Council decided on three new members for the **Ethics Committee**: Kristin Hagen (Germany), Anna Olsson (Portugal) and Marie-Jose Hötzel were elected as new members of the Ethics Committee. Cheryl O'Connor and Hans Erhard stepped down and are thanked for their contributions.

The flies (yes, there are two of us this time!) will finish off by reminding you all that there will be several interesting and motivating **Council positions** up for election at the 2009 AGM in Australia. This is *your* chance to give your contribution to the development of our society, so do not miss the chance to nominate yourself (or a colleague) for the following positions:

**Junior Vice President** (two-year position, usually followed by two years as President and two years as Senior Vice President). As JVP you will have the chance to work with the different ISAE regions, while working yourself up to the very top of the ISAE hierarchy!

**Secretary** (four-year position). As Secretary you have a front-seat-view to the fascinating inside world of our Society: if you like to coordinate, make sure people don't miss deadlines and to meet a lot of interesting people, this is the position for you!

**Treasurer** (four-year position). Do you like money? Well, I guess we all do, but, more importantly: Do you like to make sure money is properly spent? If your answer is yes, do not hesitate to ask for more information about the position as Treasurer!

**Junior Editor** (two-year position, usually followed by two years as Senior Editor). If you are interested in the process of making a manuscript into a published article, and especially if you have experience of editorial work, you are the perfect candidate for the position as Junior Editor.

There will be further notices regarding these positions, and a formal call for nominations during the spring 2009, but please, do spread the word already now! For more information about the ISAE Council and the positions mentioned above, please contact the Secretary (Anna Valros, [anna.valros@helsinki.fi](mailto:anna.valros@helsinki.fi)) or the current Council members in question. You can also find more information in the guidelines and the constitution.

## *ISAE Council News*

### **Communications officer - Keelin O'Driscoll**

Hello everyone,

I've taken over from Derek Haley as the new communications officer for ISAE. I hope I can do as good a job for you as Derek has done during his tenure on the council. The only news I have is that **the ISAE password for all secure documents is due to change**. You need this password to logon to the members-only on-line discussion forum, and to access some parts of the website. I will send out an email to all ISAE members with the new password early in the New Year, so keep an eye out for the email. If you need the password at any time just contact me, and I will send it to you as soon as I can confirm your status as an ISAE member.

If any of you have any ideas or feedback as to how communication between ISAE members can be improved please get in touch with me. As always, I would also appreciate you keeping us up-to-date about your e-mail, mailing addresses and your telephone and facsimile numbers.

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### **Membership Secretary - Hans Spoolder**

Those of you who were at our AGM in Dublin will know I have taken over from Moira Harris as your membership secretary. This is my first contribution to the newsletter, so let me briefly introduce myself. I am a 43 year old Dutchman, happily married and father of two young sons, and I am working in the field of animal behaviour & welfare. I graduated at Wageningen University (NL), and did my PhD supervised by Sandra Edwards and Alistair Lawrence in the UK, and Piet Wiepkema in Wageningen. My wife and I returned to The Netherlands in 1998, where I now lead an enthusiastic group of veterinarians, stress physiologists and ethologists at the Animal Sciences Group of Wageningen UR. We do contract research for the Dutch government, the farming industry and the EU on a wide range of animal health and welfare issues. It is a fascinating job in exciting times when 'animal welfare' is high on the agenda of our Dutch policy makers!

Together with Mike Hooper of Academic Membership Services (the company that took over from Granta in April of this year) I am trying to provide a linking pin with Elsevier on Applied Animal Behaviour Science and keep our membership list up to date. On that note: I have recently submitted my first batch of ISAE membership applicants and Council has accepted them all. Therefore, please welcome:

Ms Brooke Aitkin (Canada)	Dr Georgget Banhero (Uruguay)
Dr Theresa De Porter (USA)	Dr Ernst Frohlich (Switzerland)
Dr Debra Hickman (USA)	Dr Adele Lloyd (UK)
Mrs Krista McLennan (UK)	Dr Selene Nogueira (Brazil)
Ms Bettina Zwicker (Switzerland)	Dr Arantxa Villagra-Garcia (Spain)
Dr Carolina Vinales Gil (Uruguay)	Dr Alexandra Whittaker (Australia)

If you should have any questions regarding ISAE membership please get in touch. My contact details are:

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### **Procedural Advisor – Carol Petherick Revising the ISAE Guidelines**

The ISAE Procedural Guidelines have just been revised as they are every year around this time and the new document has recently been made available on the website. The guidelines give you a behind the scenes look at the details of who does what on Council and of the procedures that are followed not just at Council meetings but also in the organization of things like the international congress. It is requested that members read through the Guidelines and any feedback would be much appreciated. Please e-mail your comments to [carol.petherick@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:carol.petherick@dpi.qld.gov.au).

## *ISAE Regional News*

### **Canadian region – Stephanie Torrey**

The next regional meeting will be in Montreal July 17-18, 2009 at McGill University. This is immediately following the ASAS/ADSA/CSAS Joint Annual Meeting in Montreal. For more details, contact Stephanie Torrey (Secretary of the Canadian region) at [torreys@agr.gc.ca](mailto:torreys@agr.gc.ca).

### **Mediterranean region – Nuria Chapinal and Xavier Manteca**

Three congresses have been held in the Mediterranean region this year:

- The behaviour and individuality in primates and other mammals (March 17-18, 2008, Lisbon, Portugal)
- The 4th European Conference on Behavioural Biology (July 18-20, 2008, Dijon, France)
- The 4th Ecology and Behaviour meeting (April 14-17, 2008, Toulouse, France)

A regional ISAE Mediterranean meeting is being planned for 2009 or 2010, likely in Italy. More details will follow from the regional secretaries Núria Chapinal and Xavier Manteca.

### **Benelux region**

There was a joint meeting of the ISAE Benelux and the Dutch Society for Behavioural Biology on November 26-28. There were two key note speakers: Prof. Per Jensen from Linköping University spoke about behaviour genetics of domestication, and Prof. Innes Cuthill from Bristol University gave a lecture on the interface between behavioural ecology and physiology and psychology. Furthermore there were presentations from PhD students and (young) researchers in

the field of applied ethology as well as more fundamental ethology. Contact Ingrid de Jong (regional secretary) for more information at [ingrid.dejong@wur.nl](mailto:ingrid.dejong@wur.nl).

### **West Central Europe – Kristin Hagen**

Many of the region's ISAE members were involved in the German Veterinary Society's yearly congress in Applied Ethology, which took place in Freiburg for the 40th time this November. The anniversary was marked with special retrospective lectures, a panel discussion on the animal husbandry industry's interface with applied ethology, and good food and music sponsored by the Internationale Gesellschaft für Nutztierhaltung.

As every year, we had an ISAE regional membership assembly in the context of the Freiburg meeting. Here, it was suggested to hold the Joint East and West Central Europe Regional Meeting, which in our biannual rhythm would normally have been due in spring 2010, in autumn 2009 already, and then again in spring 2011. This way, our regional meetings would typically be in years when the main ISAE congress is outside Europe. We got support for this suggestion from the East Central Europe secretary, and we are thus happy to already announce the date for our 2009 meeting: 25 & 26 September: The meeting will be hosted by Christoph Winkler at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences in Vienna, and details and calls for papers will be published next spring.

The West Central Europe Region's website has been transferred to the ISAE main domain, and is now more regularly updated. Provision of an overview of regional educational and research activities was discussed at the meeting in November, and the plan is to provide this information next year.

### **Nordic region - Margit Bak Jensen**

#### **Nordic Symposium of the International Society of Applied Ethology**

The **21<sup>st</sup> Nordic Symposium of the ISAE** will be held from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009 in Bjerringbro near Aarhus, Denmark.

#### **Programme**

The programme will be completed after we have received your abstracts (see deadline below). In addition to short talks the programme will include two plenary talks.

#### **Plenary speakers**

Dr Colin Hendrie, The Institute of Psychological Sciences, University of Leeds, will review the use of the ethological method in the field of human-animal interactions and in the psychiatric clinic, as well as discuss ways in which human-animal interactions can be assessed using ethology in a therapeutic setting.

Dr. Machteld van Dierendonck, The Veterinary Faculty of Utrecht University, will talk on social relationships in groups of farm animals and on how social relationships relate to group composition and group size. Welfare implications in current husbandry systems in relation to social relationships will be discussed

Deadline for registration and submission of abstract is 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008. The meeting runs from noon 19<sup>th</sup> to noon 21<sup>st</sup> January. A detailed program will follow in December.

The meeting will take place at Nørsgaard Højskole situated in the beautiful Gudenådal near to forest and river.

Further information <http://www.nordicisae2009.agrproject.dk/>

## *Meeting Reviews*

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

### **2008 ISAE annual congress in Dublin, Ireland – reviewed by Marije Oostindjer**

As I enthusiastically packed for my first ISAE conference, which would be held in Dublin, Ireland, I had not done my research very well. I had carelessly packed for weather similar to the Netherlands, while looking at the forecast and the country's history might have given me some clues regarding the excessive rain that was going to fall in the next few days. Regardless, I was looking forward to the conference, which had a very interesting scientific program, with fun excursions and social events, in a very nice city. On arrival, which was about an hour after the welcome reception had started, no drinks were available anymore, which was clearly a sign that everyone was enjoying themselves. The next day started with two very interesting and good plenary lectures, and also the theme sessions were generally of high quality and at times very amusing (dangling a carrot in front of a donkey really does make him walk faster). A personal highlight of the scientific program was the plenary and theme sessions about animal emotions. The program also included an excursion. I chose to go to Dublin Zoo, which was very interesting and informative (and also great for a personal interest: animal photography), mainly caused by the enthusiasm with which the animal keepers guided our tour. The weather was also still lovely then, which contributed to a very nice afternoon. On the Friday evening an Irish night was organized, which included a very good buffet (with excellent desserts), Irish live music all night, and a performance by Irish dancers. I was one of the 'volunteers' that were dragged onto the stage by the very well-trained Irish dancers, which was actually a nice warming up for the Scottish dancing that was organized later in the evening. Thanks to my very good and nice dance partners I survived the evening without a broken leg, and had a lot of fun! The Saturday, and thus the congress, was concluded by a very fun farewell party, which was held in the beautiful Zanzibar in the city centre of Dublin. The rain now had turned really bad, and getting to the city centre was quite a challenge with two people under one very small umbrella. The taxi driver could not ride on the special bus lane because his car would drown, and even walking for a minute would get you completely soaked. Not so strange considering it was the rainiest day in August ever, according to the paper the Irish News. However, the rain did not spoil the great party, with some funky dancing at the end, much to the amusement of some of the locals.

A preview of next year's conference in Cairns, Australia was shown during the closing ceremony of the 2008 conference. Many people got really excited from the 3 minute movie, me included! Hope to see you all next year down under.

# Watery chaos during record flooding

**M**OTORISTS were rescued from trapped cars and hundreds of houses were damaged after record levels of rainfall caused freak flash flooding across Dublin.

Fire officers handled an unprecedented 600 flood calls in the capital on Saturday in the wettest August day in living memory.

The clean-up operation is estimated to cost the city thousands of euro after the combination of monsoon-like rain and a high-tide caused drains to block-up flooding properties.

Dramatic reports were made to Dublin Fire Brigade of motorists trapped in their cars as waters rose around them while one vehicle was swept down a road in a torrent of flood water.

Dublin City Council said an emergency plan was rolled out and staff on holidays were drafted back to work as crews battled to keep the flood waters under control.

While the water subsided yesterday there were still a number of roads badly affected, including the M50.

A spokesman for Dublin Fire Brigade said crews spent most of the night rescuing people from houses and cars.

"Between 4pm and midnight we took about 800 calls in total, probably 600 of those would be flooding



calls," he said.

"We wouldn't generally get that many calls on Halloween."

Met Eireann said that in the 24-hour period from midnight Friday until midnight Saturday 76.2mm of rain was recorded at Dublin Airport, a new record for August.

The previous record was 73mm which was noted in 1986 associated with Hurricane Charlie.

The Fire Brigade said the worst affected areas were in the north of the city while pockets of the south

were also hit by the freak flash floods.

"There was a river flowing down Collins Avenue East (Clontarf)," the spokesman added.

"There was a girl in the car there who said the water was coming in, it was up to her knees and she was floating down the road in a BMW. It (the car) was being swept down the street."

Gardai said there were no reports of injuries.

Dublin City Council said it

launched its crisis management plan and staff on holidays were drafted in along with the Civil Defence to deal with the exceptional levels of rainfall.

Dart, commuter and northern-bound train services were also all affected as services had to be cancelled.

Outside Dublin the bad weather also caused flooding to houses in Co Kildare with reports of overflowing sewage in Celbridge.

In Laos a river burst its banks

along the Ballyroan to Portlaoise Road at Cashel Cross while roads were also awash with water in counties Wicklow and Meath.

The unseasonable weather forced the cancellation yesterday of racing at the Curragh and of the Tullamore

**"There was a girl who said the water was coming in, it was up to her knees and she was floating down the road in a BMW"**

Dublin Fire Brigade spokesman

Agricultural Show for the second year running.

Organisers of the massive Scouting Jamboree in Punchestown also had to move kids from flooded campsites to more permanent facilities.

There is little end in sight to the miserable weather with Met Eireann forecasting heavy rain in the west today will spread to all areas by mid-morning, with a risk of thunder and localised flooding.

Conditions will remain unsettled for most of the week with temperatures struggling to make the high-teens by Wednesday and Thursday.

*(ISAE member Marije Oostindjer is currently doing her PhD at Wageningen University with Dr. Liesbeth Bolhuis and Professor Bas Kemp, and is looking at the development of feed intake in piglets. She attended the 42nd International Ethological Conference in Dublin, Ireland, where she gave an oral presentation on the effects of dietary fermentable starch on behaviour of growing pigs in barren housing or on straw bedding)*

## 4<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level (WAFL) – reviewed by Nicoline Geverink

Ghent, one of the most beautiful historic cities in Europe, was the venue from 10 to 13 September 2008 of the International Workshop on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level (WAFL). WAFL was organised first in Copenhagen in 1999, subsequently in Bristol in 2002 and in Vienna in 2005. The number of congress participants increased from about 40 in 1999 to 100 in 2002 and 200 in 2005 confirming the growing popularity of, and demand for this congress. The Animal Sciences group ([Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research - ILVO](#)) and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine ([Ghent University](#)) joined forces to organise this 4<sup>th</sup> edition of WAFL which was attended by 260 people.

In the amphitheatre of the neo-classical Assembly Hall of Ghent University, keynote speaker Paul Hemsworth started off the 2.5 day scientific programme with his presentation on the integration of stockperson-animal relationships into animal welfare monitoring schemes. Invited speakers Isabelle Veissier, Johan Van Arendonk, Cate Dewey and Wim Verbeke gave plenaries, introducing the topics 'Assessing emotional state and human-animal relations', 'Improving animal welfare by adapting animals to their environment', 'Assessing health status of groups of animals in relation to welfare', and 'Stakeholders' views on animal welfare'. The invited plenaries were complemented by 41 oral presentations and five workshops on topics ranging from assessing cow lameness to zoo animal welfare.

The opportunity to taste a variety of Belgian Trappist and Abbey beers stimulated lively discussions during the Friday poster session, with 101 posters decorating the second floor of the peristyle. A dedicated jury assessed the quality of the posters by PhD and Master students and

rewarded Simone Schehka from the University of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, with the first prize.

After the closing of the conference on Saturday afternoon, a number of attendants stayed in Ghent to participate in the last part of the social programme: a boat trip and pub-crawl through Ghent. Ending up at the central quay, they got the opportunity to enjoy the closing concert of the music festival OdeGand followed by a magnificent bonfire.

For those of you who have missed the opportunity to attend this congress, but also for the attendants who want to look back: go to the website at [www.wafl2008.com](http://www.wafl2008.com), to download the proceedings, look at a variety of pictures from the event, or join a forum on the future format of WAFL.

*(Nicoline Geverink worked as a postdoctoral research associate at the Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research in Belgium, and was a member of the scientific and organising committee for WAFL-2008)*

## *Help with English!*

ISAE offers its members whose first language is not English, a 'Help-With-English' scheme for the preparation of manuscripts for publication in the journal Applied Animal Behaviour Science (and other English-language journals). This service can be of tremendous help for many of our members, besides improving the quality of applied ethology papers published in the literature. The success of the Help-With-English scheme critically depends on the availability of a sufficient number of members whose first language is English and who are willing to help with the editing of manuscripts from time to time. I therefore strongly encourage all native English speaking members to join our list of potential helpers and assist their fellow members in the preparation of manuscripts through this valuable scheme.

### **Potential helpers:**

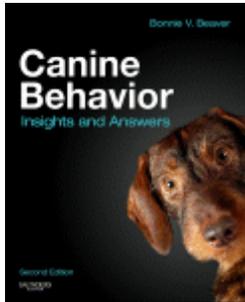
Please send an informal e-mail to [hanno.wuerbel@vetmed.uni-giessen.de](mailto:hanno.wuerbel@vetmed.uni-giessen.de) with your contact details and some indication as to how many manuscripts a year you might be able to handle, as well as your main areas of expertise. Your help will be greatly appreciated and acknowledged in the papers you helped to edit.

### **Potential users:**

Those in need of the Help-With-English scheme, please send an e-mail to [hanno.wuerbel@vetmed.uni-giessen.de](mailto:hanno.wuerbel@vetmed.uni-giessen.de) with the list of authors, the corresponding author's contact details, the title and abstract of your manuscript and the name of the intended journal. Please note that the Help-With-English scheme is not a translation service, and that manuscripts must be written in English (however badly).

Hanno Würbel

## *New Reading in Ethology*



**Canine Behavior: Insights and Answers 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition by Bonnie Beaver**  
(College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX)

**2009 c.336 pages Paperback ISBN: 978-1-4160-5419-1**  
**£30.99 US\$61.95 €43.99**

This book offers cutting-edge information on the latest advances in the field of clinical canine behaviour. It is intended to meet the needs of veterinarians, veterinary students and technicians as well as pet owners dealing with problem pets, pet care personnel who handle dogs in the course of their work, and dog lovers who are seeking understanding of the natural and aberrant behaviours of their canine companions. This new edition establishes a solid foundation for understanding innate, dog-to-dog social interactions, communication, and sensory awareness, so that we humans can learn how to meaningfully and effectively communicate with our best friends. The author's goals are to provide a clear understanding of normal behaviours and to provide the necessary tools to identify problem behaviours and their origins. Only then is it possible to successfully – and humanely – prevent, eradicate, or minimize unacceptable behaviours and build successful, lifelong relationships with our dogs.

### **New to this Edition**

- The latest information on the risks and benefits of psychotropic drugs currently used for behaviour therapy enables you to determine the best treatment.
- Canine Behaviour Drug Formulary that clarifies indications, contraindications, and dosages for safe drug administration.
- The latest insights and treatment options for managing the behavioural and cognitive changes in senior dogs help you adapt to the changing needs of an aging dog.

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

### ***Applied Animal Behaviour Science goes BIG!***

From 2009 the official journal of the ISAE will have a new and modernised look. After the revamp of the cover in 2008, now the size of the journal will increase and the appearance of the articles will change. With the updated layout articles will look fresh and modern and readability will be improved. The new article layout (including an image of the journal cover) allows for improved journal branding and also ensures better visibility of the journal, especially for those readers accessing the journal online. The new look and bigger size will result in a more efficient use of pages and thus allows for more of your most recent original research to be published in *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*.

When submitting your research for publication in *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, please note that the guide for authors has been revised and updated. The most recent version of the guide can be found on the journal home page at [www.elsevier.com/locate/applan](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/applan)

Elsevier also continues to offer a subscription to *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* to ISAE members at highly reduced rates. For 2009 the annual ISAE member subscription rates will be € 100 for a print subscription (28 issues) and € 35 for an electronic only subscription. Remember to select the option to subscribe to *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* when renewing your ISAE membership in 2009.

## *Legal Scene*

**Dr. Bill Jackson, MRCVS DVSM DrMedVet Barrister**

### **CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 2**

Proposition 2, or The Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act, a law that will drastically change the way California's agricultural animal industry, has not only caused consternation among farmers and agricultural groups but has also split the Californian State Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)

The Act will not take effect until January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 but after that date it will make a number of farm operations illegal. These include the confinement on a farm of pregnant pigs, veal calves, and egg-laying hens "in a manner which does not allow them to turn around freely, lie down, stand up and fully extend their limbs". Farmers will have to provide more space for all their animals and costs will rise.

Veterinarians are split, and there has been a spin-off of some of the CVMA membership to form a new group, the Association of California Veterinarians (ACV). "Our biggest issue is having the Humane Societies dictate animal welfare laws" says Dr Michael Karle ACV's leader who is also chair of the CVMA's agricultural committee. "Let the free market dictate what's going on," he says.

CVMA supports the measure. "I really think we'll be able to come up with an improved confinement system in seven years," says CVMA President Dr William Grant II. The parent body, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) does not condemn Proposition 2 but Dr David Crystal chair of AVMA's Executive Board says "Current housing methods could use more consideration and research. Changing housing standards without consideration of how this may affect animal welfare, such as protection from disease and injury, will not be in the animals' or society's best interest.

In the UK and in Europe we have been there before. Tribute must be paid to Ruth Harrison, ISAE member, who wrote the book "Animal Machines" in 1964. This resulted in much UK Government activity with respect to farm animal welfare and the setting up of the Society of Veterinary Ethology (SVE) the forerunner of ISAE. It is ISAE who can provide the necessary research.

Since 1968 we in the UK and in Europe generally have had a plethora of animal welfare legislation much of it based on ISAE stimulated research dealing with matters similar to those addressed by Proposition 2. The UK differs from the USA in that we have always had to consider our urban public. "A highly urbanised economy with a romantic view of its countryside

has yet to come to terms with the un-picturesque aspects of an intensive animal production and efficient agriculture.” (Engledow, Amey et al.1980). In the UK there is much emotion based and anthropological opinion mooted. In contrast it looks as if in the USA it is mainly farmers who are making the running with veterinarians in the middle.

It is encouraging to read that AVMA supports the need for research. I hope I am not being too presumptions in expressing my opinion that the ISAE has never been more needed than today in California. And the climate in California is very good too!

For more information, contact Bill Jackson at [member@sanctuarystreet.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:member@sanctuarystreet.wanadoo.co.uk)

## *ISAE Congress Attendance Fund*

The Congress Attendance Fund is available to assist **ISAE members** in attending the 2009 Congress in Australia through awards to cover the cost of registration and, possibly in a few cases, also accommodation and/or travel. The total sum available in this fund for 2009 is 2000 GBP. ISAE members that received support from the ISAE Congress Attendance Fund during the past five years are not eligible for funding. Applications should be sent to Marek Spinka, ISAE Senior Vice President at [spinka@vuzv.cz](mailto:spinka@vuzv.cz).

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

1. The application should contain the following information:
  - a. Name of applicant
  - b. Postal and email address (or fax number)
  - c. The year the applicant became a member of ISAE
  - d. Occupation or position of applicant e.g. student, active researcher, unemployed researcher etc.
  - e. A justification explaining why the applicant should be given an award. There is no fixed format for this justification, as reasons will vary between applicants.
2. The application itself should not be more than one A4 page. It should be accompanied by a list of publications and/or presentations by the applicant (including local and regional meetings) and a copy of the abstract submitted to the congress.

For additional information, please contact Marek Spinka, ISAE Senior Vice President at [spinka@vuzv.cz](mailto:spinka@vuzv.cz).

## *Courses and Education in Ethology*

The Norwegian University of Life Sciences and Norwegian School of Veterinary Science, with funds from the Norgesuniversitet, aim to create a "virtual animal welfare library" which will be a database of existing online courses and training modules in animal welfare.

The primary goal of the project is to integrate welfare research and teaching programs and online training initiatives to optimize the access of veterinary students, animal scientists, biologists, professionals linked to the animal industry and the lay audience to the most recent scientific information in animal welfare science.

In order to make our list complete we would appreciate to receive information about existing online courses. If you know or if you are familiar with online teaching resources on animal welfare and related subjects (e.g. animal behaviour, stress physiology, pain assessment, human-animal interactions...), we would be grateful if you could share the information with us. Please send the course(s) details to Gry Færevik ([gry.faerevik@umb.no](mailto:gry.faerevik@umb.no)) following the template below:

- Name of the course
- Course objectives (short description)
- Species (Production, research, companion etc.)
- Organizer (University, college etc.)
- Time (when are the course arranged)
- Target audience
- Course requirements (expected qualifications)
- Costs
- Evaluation (project, exams etc.)
- Credit
- Website
- Any other relevant information

## *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>.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>PhD position:</b> Modelling the behaviour of animals from on-line data	Aarhus University, Denmark	<b>Birte Lindstrøm Nielsen</b> <a href="mailto:Birte.Nielsen@agrsci.dk">Birte.Nielsen@agrsci.dk</a>
<b>Lecturer, Animal Husbandry</b>	Mozambique	<b>Hannah Gilman</b> <a href="mailto:hannah.gilman@vso.org.uk">hannah.gilman@vso.org.uk</a>

**Scientist, behaviour section**

Nestle Purina Product Technology Centre  
St. Joseph, Missouri, US

**Tawnya Mason**

tawnya.mason@rdmo.nestle.com

**Graduate Studentship**

Transportation of animals for slaughter in Canada  
University of Prince Edward Island, Canada

**Dr. Michael Cockram**

mcockram@upei.ca

**Opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows**

Ethology  
Centre of Eco-Etho Research & Education, France

**Dr. Marthe Kiley-Worthington**

mkileyworthington@gmail.com

**Welfare Quality help in training and mobility for young researchers**

Various (See details for more information)

**Dr. Isabelle Veissier**

veissier@clermont.inra.fr

**Assistant Director**

Animal Welfare Division

American Veterinary Medical Association, Schaumburg, IL, USA

**Ms. Lori Keane**

lkeane@avma.org

## *43<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the ISAE in Cairns, Australia*

We are making good progress on the preparations for the ISAE Congress next year. For those of you who don't yet know, the congress will be held on 6-10<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at the Cairns Convention Centre. Visit the congress website (<http://www.isae2009.com>) for more information. You will see that we are developing an exciting and stimulating program with some very eminent plenary speakers, including the presenter of the Wood-Gush Memorial Lecture, Professor Lesley Rogers from the University of New England in New South Wales, who will be talking about brain lateralisation.

We are hopeful that the call for abstracts and registration will be open before Christmas. Important dates to note are:

**Close of abstract submission: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009** (there will be no allowance for late submissions, as the process is automated).

**Close of Early-bird registrations: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009.**

Please also note that the usual ISAE "rules" apply with regard to abstracts:

- Each presenting author may present only one oral paper or poster (not both a paper and a poster); we will accept only one abstract for presentation if an author submits multiple abstracts as the presenting author; and
- Presenters must be registered for the congress for abstracts to be included in the program and published in proceedings.

Our social program is also coming together well, as you will see. We are aiming to make everything easily accessible and as affordable as possible. Our theme of "Under Tropical Skies" means that many of the activities will be outdoor (fingers crossed for good weather!) and,

although it is “winter”, the sun can still be very strong. So, remember to bring a hat and sunscreen. Also, for those of you who were in Dublin and were lucky enough to collect a koala, don’t forget to bring it too; you and your koala must be at the Congress to collect your prize!

At the time of writing this, the Australian dollar is quite weak, which means that the congress will be great value for most overseas delegates, so I urge you to make the most of this and register early. You should also be aware that accommodation in Cairns is at a premium in our winter (because of the very pleasant climate at that time of year), so you should make your bookings as soon as possible to ensure that you get what you want. We aim to offer a range of types and star-ratings of accommodation to try to cater for all requirements and budgets.

Cairns is a pleasant, compact city with many local attractions and provides easy access to the Great Barrier Reef, beautiful beaches, stunning rainforest and the unique “outback”. Of course, there’s the rest of Australia too, but remember that it is a big country and you won’t see “everything” (those of you who went to Dublin may recall the slide I showed of an outline of Europe superimposed on a map of Australia). Don’t forget, too, that New Zealand is just a “short hop” across the water; it is also a truly beautiful country, with a lot to see and do in a relatively small area. So, plan to allow yourselves ample time, either before or after the Congress (or both!), to explore and experience this part of the world.

We look forward to seeing you “Down-Under” next year.

Carol Petherick  
On behalf of the Local Organising Committee

## *Future Meetings*

### **ISAE Meetings**

- **43rd International Congress**  
July 6-10, 2009 in Cairns, **Australia**
- **Nordic Regional Meeting**  
January 19-21, 2009 in Aarhus, **Denmark**
- **Joint Regional Meeting for Canada and the United States**  
July 17-19, 2009 in Montreal, Quebec, **Canada**
- **East and West Central Europe Region**  
2010 in **Austria**
- **44th International Congress**  
August 3-7, 2010 in Uppsala, **Sweden**

*Other meetings of potential interest can be found on the Applied Ethology Home Page:*  
<http://www.usask.ca/wcvm/herdmed/applied-ethology/meetings.htm>

## Other Meetings

### 2009

- **Conference on Global Trade and Farm Animal Welfare**  
January 20-21, in Brussels, **Belgium**
- **Livestock Transportation Conference: Are we there yet?**  
January 29, in Calgary, AB, **Canada**
- **Knowing Animals: cross-fertilisation between natural and social sciences for understanding the quality of life of animals**  
March 5-6, in Florence, **Italy**
- **Alberta Farm Animal Care Association (AFAC) – Annual Conference**  
March 27, in Red Deer, AB, **Canada**
- **8<sup>th</sup> European symposium on poultry welfare**  
May 18-22, in Cervia, **Italy**
- **Animal Behavior Society**  
June 22-26, in Pirenopolis, **Brazil**
- **Darwinian selection, selective breeding and the welfare of animals – UFAW Symposium**  
June 22-23, in Bristol, **UK**
- **Minding Animals 2009 – International Conference on Animals and Society**  
July 13-19, in Newcastle, **Australia**

### 2011

- **International Workshop on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm & Group Level (WAFL) – 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting**  
Guelph, ON, **Canada**

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