

ISAE

www.applied-ethology.org

newsletter

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President's Piece

It was with great pride that I took over from Jeremy Marchant-Forde in September as President of the ISAE. Jeremy had made the transition very easy, and he continues his hard work for our Society as its Senior Vice President, who deals with and advises on the annual congresses. Replacing me as Junior Vice President (JVP) is Bas Rodenburg from Wageningen University in the Netherlands. The role of the JVP is to support our Regional Secretaries in their efforts to sustain and organise the 11 different regions of the ISAE. Together with the rest of the ISAE Council, the three presidents oversee the running of the Society, and we are always happy to hear from members, should you have questions or suggestions relating to how the ISAE functions.

Each year at the international ISAE congress, we hold a business meeting – a so-called annual general meeting (AGM) – where all of you as members of the ISAE are invited. At this meeting, the ISAE council presents what has happened since the last congress together with the budget of the Society. This is also the meeting where we elect new council members, and where ISAE members raise issues of concern. Some of these are discussed and voted upon straight away at the AGM, whereas others need more work before constructive changes can be brought about. One such issue, which was raised at the AGM in Japan this summer, was about the legal status of our Society. We are now looking into various options for achieving charitable status, and I will keep you informed of our progress.

Council is also currently making an effort to ensure that anyone with a scientific background in applied ethology and animal welfare science has at least heard about our Society. We are only as strong as the size of our membership, and we may lose some members simply because the annual membership renewal requires an active effort (although for most it can be done with a few clicks and a valid credit card). I would like to encourage all of you to ask your colleagues (and supervisors) if they have kept up their ISAE membership (and if not, why not?). In order to spread the word, we have produced a leaflet and a poster – both of which are downloadable from the ISAE website. If you are going to a meeting where you think there may be potential candidates for ISAE membership, please do not hesitate to put up a copy of the poster (which can be printed in A3 or A4) and bring a handful of leaflets to display.

Our Communications Officer, Laura Dixon, has started a clean-up of our website. If you haven't already done so, take a look at the new ISAE Award winner's web-page (http://www.applied-ethology.org/ISAE_Award_Winners.html), where the past winners of the ISAE Creativity and ISAE New Investigator Awards are displayed with a description of the work which merited the award. The Membership page is also being updated – to cater for the wave of new membership applications that we anticipate in the run-up to our 50th Anniversary Congress in Edinburgh on 12-16 July 2016. I will take this opportunity to remind you that Laura's term as Communication Officer runs out this summer, so if you feel at home organising websites and producing two newsletters per year, please contact Laura directly, or the ISAE Secretary, Jean-Loup Rault, for more information (email list at the end of this Newsletter). You can also find a description of the position in our Procedural Guidelines, available on the ISAE website.

Some of you may think of the ISAE mainly in terms of the annual international congress, which of course is one of the major events for applied ethologists worldwide. But please remember also to keep an eye on upcoming Regional meetings. You may find that a subject close to your heart is covered by a meeting held in a region other than your own, so check out the list on the ISAE web page regularly (http://www.applied-ethology.org/isae_meetings.html). For example, the Nordic region has a meeting on Maternal and Neonatal Behaviour in Denmark on the 20-22 January 2016.

I will finish this first attempt to write a President's Piece (which became more technical than I intended) on a personal note. I find the ISAE to be the friendliest and most welcoming scientific society that I know, and I thank all of you for contributing to this feeling of 'family of peers'. I look forward to following the developments of our Society at close hand in the coming years, and I especially hope to see as many of you as possible at the congress next July.

Season's Greetings to all of you,

Birte Nielsen

President of the ISAE

ISAE Council News

Senior Vice President – Jeremy Marchant-Forde (report in conjunction with Anna Valros)

1. Congress attendance fund

This year we got 10 applications for the CAF award, all from PhD-students. As the applicants were very even in quality and financial need, and as funding travel for one/some of the applicants would have meant a big sum being spent on these, while leaving many applicants without any funding, we decided to stick to the ISAE policy not to (usually) fund travel expenses. Instead we decided to fund all applicants with a similar sum, which should be enough for registration and accommodation (£350), in total £3500. The successful applicants were: Nur Nadiyah Md Yusof, UK; Karen Mancera, Australia; Lisanne Stadig, Belgium; Yu Zhang, Australia; Leonie Jacobs, Belgium; Emilie-Julie Bos, Belgium; Jennifer M. Chen, USA, Peta Taylor, Australia; Sandra Alvarez Betancourt, UK; Brendan Duggan, UK.

2. Abstract handling system

We approached the end of our current contractual agreement with WAP for the abstract handling services and book/ebook production of Congress Proceedings with the current 49th Congress. WAP have provided a quote for a further multi-year period (with similar terms as the current agreement) and we did also made enquiries with other providers. At the Council meeting, it was decided to renew the agreement with WAP out to and including the 2020 Congress and that over this time period, the agreement fee would be paid direct out of ISAE funds, rather than be a budget item for each local congress organizing committee. The savings for the LCOC will be passed on directly to the Congress delegates. Printed versions of the abstract book will still require an additional fee.

3. Future congresses

2016: 50th Congress: *Edinburgh, UK 12-16th July*

2017: 51st Congress: *Aarhus, Denmark*

2018: 52nd Congress: *Prince Edward Island, Canada*

2019: 53rd Congress: *Bergen, Norway*

2020: 54th Congress: *Bid expected from Bangalore, India (in cooperation with UK).*

Thank you to the local organising committees of each of these congresses for taking on the responsibility of organising our annual meeting.

Junior Vice President's report – Bas Rodenburg (report in conjunction with Birte L Nielsen)

One region has changed their secretaries in the past year, as Amy Quinn and Simon Turner replaced Laura Boyle and Cathy Dwyer as Regional Secretaries for the UK/Ireland Region. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the ISAE to thank all of our Regional Secretaries (new and experienced) for volunteering your time and energy to the Society. The Society also thanks the two outgoing Secretaries for your service – we appreciate all you have done.

There have been a number of regional meetings and gatherings associated with other meetings in the last year (Australasia & Africa, Benelux, East Asia, UK/Ireland). Unfortunately East and West Central Europe had to cancel their joint meeting due to too few registrations. The next Nordic regional meeting will be 20-22 January 2016 near Billund, Denmark, and the biennial joint regional meeting of the Canada and US regions is planned for spring 2017 to be held in Iowa.

The informal meeting of regional secretaries and the JVP usually held at the annual congress did not take place this year, as only three RS were present at the congress in Sapporo, Japan.

Membership Secretary's report – Priya Motupalli

Membership continues to grow slowly but steadily. As of September 4, 2015, there were 494 members in the database, with 119 yet to renew. This is an increase from the number of removals over the past few years (see chart below), but I expect the final removal number will end up being similar to past years as removed members continue to renew slowly over this membership year.

Communications Officer's report - Laura Dixon

This will be my last Winter Newsletter and I will be handing over the Communications Officer post at the Edinburgh ISAE Congress in 2016. If anyone interested in being nominated for CO wants more information on what is involved, please email me.

As always, the Employment Opportunities page gets updated the most often, this is followed by the News and Information section and the Meetings page. As Birte mentioned, a new page on the website dedicated to our ISAE Award winners has been created and the Membership pages have been updated.

Also don't forget to update your contact information with us if you move or change jobs ☺

Secretary's Report – Jean-Loup Rault

The council will have their annual web based winter meeting towards the end of Jan 2016. There is one council position up for renewal in 2016 – Communications Officer

Assistant Secretary's Report – Fiona Lang (report in conjunction with Marije Oostindjer)

This past year, 4 nominations came in for the New Investigator Award, and 1 for the Creativity award. Both awards will be awarded this year and I thank all nominators and committees for their efforts. The New Investigator Award has not been very easy to judge due to lack of criteria in the call for nominations, and lack of information in the nomination letters. The call for nomination text will be amended for next year to include criteria.

Sylvie Cloutier has stepped down as AAALAC expert; Brianna Gaskill has been appointed instead. All experts are thanked for representing ISAE last year and in the coming years.

Procedural Advisor's report – Mike Appleby

I have provided exciting Procedural Advice for minor matters, as needed, in the course of the year. The most substantial requirement (although still fairly minor) was for amendments to the Procedural Guidelines following the Council Meetings in July and December 2014 and the 2015 AGM, which is part of the annual process of keeping the Guidelines up to date.

Regions often need to have control over finances for meetings and other activities, and the way they do this needs to be transparent and open for auditing. The Guidelines required them to open a local bank account, but in some regions this has proved difficult, so the sections on Regional Secretaries and Regional Funds were changed to allow other arrangements.

Regional Secretaries were required to make reports to Council twice yearly. This has been altered to a single report, prior to the mid-year Council meeting.

ISAE has a Congress Attendance Fund to support the attendance of members at the annual congress, particularly students. The requirements for applications now specify inclusion of a detailed budget.

Treasurer's report - Krista McLennan

ISAE Accounts to 31st May 2015

International Society for Applied Ethology
Statement of Revenue and Expenses
For year ending 31st May 2015

	Final	2014
Revenue:		
Membership	22,793.20	17,033.83
Net Interest	19.80	19.80
Returns from regions	0.00	444.00
Scholarship funds from sponsors	<u>6,324.73</u>	<u>2,630.81</u>
Total Revenue	<u><u>29,137.73</u></u>	<u><u>20,128.44</u></u>
Expenses:		
EMSCRCARD	0.00	74.00
SAGEPay	360.00	360.00
AAALAC	184.39	0.00
Conference Attendance Fund	1,909.67	1,693.44
Bank Charges	1,521.52	1,017.12
Membership Services – Intergage	1,905.60	1,816.80
Elsevier AABS	4,848.23	1,257.57
Regional Payments	1,000.00	1,515.85

Council Member Costs	318.85	547.43
Scholarship funds awarded	2,630.82	40.00
Total Expenses	14,679.08	11,322.21
Excess of Revenue over expenses	14,458.65	8,806.23
Beg Fund Balances	58,121.98	49,315.75
End Fund Balances	72,580.63	58,121.98

Points to note:

This year the accounts are presented in comparison to the previous year as suggested by the auditor last year. This makes it easier for comparison. Minor changes in the categories mean we can now see what sponsorship has come in and what sponsorship money has been paid out. We no longer pay for the EMSCRCARD service hence £0.00 this year. We missed a previous payment to AAALAC hence the £0.00 last year. We have had no returns from regions this year.

Nestle have offered to provide student sponsorship for the conference as well as general sponsorship. They have provided 3 x \$1,500 student travel awards and general conference support of \$5,500, making their total contribution to \$10,000. This equates to £6,324.73. The general conference support has been paid to the Japanese congress organisers (£3,481.01). The remaining funds will be awarded at the congress in Sept 2015 and so will appear in next year's balance.

This year £3,500 has been placed aside for the conference attendance fund. The conference attendance fund displayed includes last year's payments as well as the two payments for this year. There was one recipient from last year that did not take up the award.

The Australian region was successful this year at receiving funding towards their conference of £1,000.

Income:

Membership subscription less Elsevier payments = £17,944.97. This is higher from last year and likely reflects the increase in subscription fees.

Senior and Junior Editor's Report - Margit Bak Jensen and Janice Siegford

A special Issue based on the 2013 Congress in Brazil, 'Behavioural Indicators of Health' will be published in the first 2016 issue of Applied Animal Behaviour Science.

Please remember to post your ShareLinks on the members-only space on the ISAE website when publishing in AABS. This gives all ISAE members temporary free access to all articles published in AABS by co-members. This initiative is a follow up on the membership survey in November 2014.

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

Education Officer's report – Mike Toscano

Information exchange

- Following on a suggestion from Birte Nielson, I have been investigating creation of a database which would be made available to ISAE members for the purposes of exchanging technical materials and expertise. For example, for the former, equipment that allows detailed observations of animals that is held by one group could be exchanged for a period of time allowing another group to use it. The database would serve to facilitate that exchange by informing those without particular equipment of those whom do. While in theory there exists many benefits, discussion with prospective users has indicated several problems summarized below.
 - How would responsibility for damaged, lost, and malfunctioning equipment be handled? While this would not be a responsibility of the database or ISAE which would serve to maintain it, the potential risks may preclude many from utilizing the database.
 - Could the same information be gained from a detailed literature search to see who has performed similar and research in the past?
 - How would the database be updated and kept relevant?
- Given these concerns, it might be beneficial for the council to consider discussing whether the idea has merit and should be pursued further.

Establishing networks

- The establishment of a Facebook site for ethology-minded educators has not been established nor the LINKEDin page updated as suggested by the previous Education Officer. The work will be pursued in the coming year.

Ethics Officer's report – Anna Olsson

2014-15 was the first year in office for me, having taken up the post as Ethics Officer after the AGM in Victoria, Spain in August 2014.

The main activity has been the review of abstracts for the congress, which worked well and timely, with good communication between the congress organizers and the ethics council. Nine abstracts had been flagged for ethics review and were reviewed by the ethics council, which settled on the following outcome:

	Number of abstracts	Observations
Acceptable as is	1	
Acceptable after changes	7	Revised abstracts reviewed and accepted by the congress organizer
2 nd review required	1	Revised abstract reviewed and accepted by the ethics officer

I have also been approached by the procedural advisor about a revision of the ethical guidelines. Indeed, an update would be timely and should be done within the present period of office.

ISAE Regional News

Benelux – Liesbeth Bolhuis and Stephanie Buijs

ISAE Benelux Meeting 2015. Our one-day annual conference was held on October 15th, at “De Hooibeekhoeve” in Geel, Belgium. De Hooibeekhoeve is the educational centre for dairy farming of the province of Antwerp. Approximately 60 people from 13 different organizations attended the meeting. The meeting consisted of oral presentations, poster presentations, a small excursion to the Hooibeekhoeve’s facilities and a dinner. Topics for the oral sessions were ‘Enrichment and fearfulness’; ‘Consciousness in fish, pigs and researchers’; ‘Perinatal and transgenerational effects’ and ‘Lameness and disease’. The presentations dealt with common farm animals such as dairy cattle, calves, piglets, sows, broilers and laying hens, but also with fish (turbot), ferrets, humans and Japanese quail. The presentation prize for students was awarded to Merel Verhoeven, PhD candidate at Wageningen University, for her talk entitled ‘Time to loss of consciousness and the relation with behaviour in fattening pigs stunned with carbon dioxide’. Apart from the talks, several interesting posters were presented during the conference and there was ample opportunity for networking. We really enjoyed this day and would like to thank all participants, and the others who helped to make the ISAE Benelux Meeting 2015 a success: Inonge Reimert for organisation of the meeting, reviewing abstracts and being a member of the presentation jury; Caroline Clouard for reviewing abstracts; Jan Wijnen and Monique Ooms for technical and organizational support; Marc Bracke, Elske de Haas, Ingrid de Jong and Frank Tuytens for chairing sessions; Maaïke Cox and Vivian Goerlich-Jansson for being members of the presentation jury; people from De Hooibeekhoeve for their assistance, and of course the ISAE. The proceedings of this meeting can be found at the ISAE Benelux region website.

New members from the ISAE Benelux region. We have welcomed several new ISAE members during the past six months: Jerine van der Eijk (Wageningen University, the Netherlands), Anouk van Spronsen (Wageningen University, The Netherlands), Olga Szczodry (Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (ILVO), Belgium) and Vivian Goerlich Jansson (Utrecht University, The Netherlands), Claire Diederich (University of Namur, Belgium).





Canada – Nicolas Devillers

The next regional USA-Canada meeting will be held in Spring 2017 at Iowa State University.

Nordic Region – Lena Lidfors

From January 2014 Lena Lidfors is the ISAE Regional secretary. She works at the Department of Animal Environment and Health at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Skara, Sweden. She can be contacted by e-mail: Lena.Lidfors@slu.se

Members in the Nordic ISAE Region

In January 2014 the Nordic Region had 75 ISAE members, which is 2 members increase since 2013 but a decrease compared to 2012 and 2011. I have not got any information about the number of members during 2015 yet

The Nordic ISAE Regional Meetings

There was no Nordic meeting in 2015, as we have changed to having meetings every second year. The next winter meeting will be held the 20-22 January 2016 in Billund, Denmark. The meeting is organised in connection with a PhD course also organised by Aarhus University.

Nordic ISAE internet page

The ISAE Nordic internet page is a good opportunity to spread information about Regional meetings. It has not been up-dated by the new regional secretary since she took over.

Facebook

The Nordic Region has a Facebook page where all ISAE members can join. The page is only open for members. There are still not so many members who have joined the “ISAE Nordic” Facebook. The Regional secretary will have to advertise it better among members.

PhD courses in the Nordic Region

The Nordic countries have a tradition of inviting each other's PhD students to PhD courses and there is also the NOVA/BOVA/NordPlus funding that can be used for paying PhD courses and exchanges of PhD students and teachers between the Nordic and Baltic countries. There is a network for organizing NOVA Ethology PhD courses and another for Animal Welfare NOVA PhD courses. Unfortunately NOVA has reduced the amount of money for these courses, and it is difficult to afford to invite international lecturers.

Aarhus University will give a PhD course on Maternal behaviour on the 18-22 January 2016 in Denmark.

The PhD course on “Risk assessment” was offered in March 2015 by Jan Hultgren and Stefan Gunnarsson at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. The course had to be cancelled

due to too few participants. This was the second time it had to be cancelled, so it will not be offered again.

Increasing members from Baltic countries

At the moment the Nordic Region has only one member from Estonia. Even though the Nordic Regional ISAE meeting was organized in Tartu, Estonia in 2011 we have not managed to get more members from the Baltic countries. The new Regional secretary will try to get more members from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania during the coming years, and try to organize a new Regional meeting in one of these countries.

Economy

The Nordic Region of ISAE does not have any bank account or own money. When regional meetings or courses are organized it is the responsible university that handles all the money. The Nordic Region has given a Klaus Vestergaard prize to the best presentation during the Nordic Regional meeting for many years. The money came from a Danish Animal Welfare organization. The prize money has covered attendance, travelling and accommodation to the next Nordic Regional meeting. However, this money is now finished and we have discussed how to raise money so we can continue to give a prize during the coming Nordic ISAE meetings.

UK/Ireland – Amy Quinn and Simon Turner

A successful regional meeting was held at the Moorepark campus of Teagasc in Cork, Ireland on the 11th November. This was the first time that the meeting has been held in the Republic of Ireland and around 50 delegates attended. The next international congress of ISAE will be held in the UK and we therefore aim to organise the next regional meeting in 2017.

USA – Maja Makagon

It has been a fairly quiet year for the US Region of the ISAE, which currently counts just over 100 members. The North American Regional Meeting of the ISAE, which has traditionally been held jointly by the US and Canada regions every other year has been postponed to spring of 2017. Our last joint meeting was held at Michigan State University in the spring of 2014. The meetings have typically been timed to provide an alternative conference venue for US and Canada based ISAE members who are unable to attend the International Congress when it is held in Europe. The decision to move the upcoming North American Regional Meeting was made jointly with members of the Canada Region, and reflects the high interest of members of these two regions in attending this year's International Congress (and thus, lower interest or need for the regional meeting). Given that the 2017 International Congress is also scheduled to be held in Europe, we anticipate to have good participation in our 2017 regional meeting, which will be hosted by Iowa State University.

Employment Opportunities

Recent Employment Listings include:

Postdoctoral Fellow in Dairy Calf Welfare

Location: Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand

Contact: Ngaio Beausoleil, N.J.Beausoleil@massey.ac.nz

Assistant Professor of Applied Animal Ethology

Location: UC Davis, California, USA

Contact: Cassandra Tucker, cbtucker@ucdavis.edu

Assistant Professor in Companion Animal and Equine Behaviour and Welfare

Location: University of Minnesota, Minnesota, USA

Contact: [View website](#)

SPCA Scientific Officer - Animal Welfare

Location: SPCA Auckland, New Zealand

Contact: Arnja Dale, arnja.dale@sPCA.org.nz

PhD: Thermal stress

Location: Purdue University, IN, USA

Contact: Brianna Gaskill, bgaskill@purdue.edu

See the [Employment Opportunities](#) page for more!

PhD Course: Maternal and Neonatal Behaviour

18 – 22 January 2016

Objectives: The course will give students a basic understanding of:

- 1) The biological processes controlling maternal behaviour and enhancing filial bonding
- 2) The impact of 'quality' of maternal behaviour on fearfulness, learning and social responses of the young
- 3) The effect of the environment on peri-parturient and neonatal behaviour.

The students will:

- 1) Become familiar with the state-of-the-art of central parts of mammalian maternal behaviour
- 2) Understand the biological control of mammalian maternal behaviour incl. neurophysiological and hormonal control
- 3) Understand the biological mechanism of the formation of the mammalian mother-young bond.

Part of the PhD course involves active participation in the Nordic ISAE symposium at the location.

Target group: This course targets PhD students and researchers within biological science, veterinary, agricultural and health sciences working with mammals, including animal model studies, experimentation in zoo and animal parks.

Key lectures:

Professor Cathy Dwyer

(Animal Behaviour and Welfare Research Team, Scotland's Rural College (SRUC), Edinburgh, Scotland)

Associate professor Janne Winther Christensen

Senior Scientist Lene Juul Pedersen

Senior Scientist Jens Malmkvist

Senior Scientist Karen Thodberg

Senior Scientist Margit Bak Jensen

(All from The Behaviour and Stress Biology group, Department of Animal Science, Aarhus University)

Location: Vingsted Hotel and Conference Centre, Vejle, Denmark <http://www.vingsted.dk>

Further information:

<http://anis.au.dk/en/education/maternal-and-neonatal-behaviour>

PhD Course: Animal Pain

7-10 March 2016

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

Objectives: to give PhD-students an overview of the concept of animal pain from a biological perspective. The course is based on presentations and lectures by internationally recognised researchers and practitioners, participants presenting relevant parts of their projects, combined with group work and plenary discussions. The final part of the course constitutes a written project.

Target group: PhD students and researchers within science, veterinary, agricultural and health sciences working with animals, including animal model studies, experimentation, in zoo and animal parks, and with scientific questions related to animal pain.

Key lectures:

Dr. Pierpaolo Di Giminiani, Newcastle University, Newcastle, United Kingdom:

Nociceptive responses – why and how to quantify in animals?

Prof. Victoria Braithwaite, Penn State University, PA, USA:

Why does pain hurt?

Prof. Dan Weary, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada:

Pain and suffering in animals

Further information:

<http://projects.au.dk/animal-pain/>

Wanted: ISAE Student Representative

Are you interested in applied ethology? Would you like to help developing this field of science? Then a student representative position within ISAE might be the right for you!

The International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE) represents professionals from various areas providing a forum for the presentation and discussion of advances in applied animal behaviour science and education. We are currently looking for a student who is interested in representing the student members of the society within the ISAE council and in running social and training events for other students while getting help with the cost of going to international ISAE conferences. Once elected, student representatives will serve a period of two years. Are you interested? Please send a 1-page CV and a statement describing your motivation and how you would like to contribute towards improving the student ISAE experience.

Applications should be submitted to the current student representative Sara Hintze by Jan 5th, 2016 (sara.hintze@vetsuisse.unibe.ch). Once all applications are received, the council will vote for their preferred candidate.

If you want more information, do not hesitate to contact the current student representative Sara Hintze or the Education Officer Michael Toscano (michael.toscano@vetsuisse.unibe.ch)

HSI Travel Award



If you're a graduate student researching ways to improve the lives of farm animals, you can apply for a travel award to the 50th Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology, which will be held at in Edinburgh, Scotland, from July 12 to July 16, 2016.

Humane Society International will provide funds for at least three graduate students to attend the International Congress and present their research.

Selection will be based on the potential for the applicants' research to improve farm animal welfare. Preference will be given to students indicating financial need. Applications must be in English.

Submission deadline: March 7, 2016

Submit applications and requests for information to:

Sara Shields, Ph.D.

Behavior and Welfare Specialist

Farm Animals

Humane Society International

2100 L St., N.W. Washington, DC 20037

ISAE.Awards@hsi.org

For information about HSI, visit hsi.org.

ISAE Council

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