

ISAE

www.applied-ethology.org

newsletter

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President's Piece

By the time you are reading this, summer will have arrived in the Northern hemisphere; the students will have finished their courses, leaving the corridors more peaceful and calm (but also somewhat empty); and the European Football Championship will be well underway right on my doorstep. What's not to like?

It is also the time of year when the last hectic preparations for the annual ISAE congress are taking place. Most of you have long since sorted your travel and accommodations, and are now putting the finishing touches on talks and posters. The congress organizers are running from pillar to post to ensure that everything is ready for your arrival for the grand opening on the 12th of July. In the ISAE Council, we have prepared summaries of our activities in the past 12 months, and we hope to see as many of you as possible for the Annual General Meeting (AGM). This is a prime opportunity for ISAE members to have their say about how the Society should be run. Should we spend more money on the Congress Attendance Fund, allowing even more students and researchers from low-income countries to attend our annual congress? What can we do (more) to spread the word about the ISAE? Your opinions and ideas are valued, and the AGM has always been a forum with frank discussions and lots of laughs. Yes, it's true: an AGM can be fun! Why don't you try it this year?

Unfortunately, not everyone has the opportunity to partake in this year's international congress in Edinburgh, which will also be the 50th anniversary of our beloved Society. To celebrate this milestone, several ISAE members and affiliated researchers have compiled a book, *"Animals and us: 50 years and more of applied ethology"*, which documents and celebrates the first 50 years of the ISAE. The book will be available at the congress and subsequently from the ISAE web-site.

One of the main ISAE issues I have been dealing with over the past year is for our Society to become a registered charity. We are currently a non-profit organisation, and becoming a charity would give more legal protection for Council members, and would allow tax-free donations to be made to our Society. Promoting science is a charitable cause, and because we are based in Edinburgh we have made an application to become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). This application is currently under review by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. In connection with this we may have to make some minor changes to our Constitution, but you will hear more about these at a later stage, as they will not be decided upon until the AGM in 2017.

A large proportion of our members are students in applied ethology and animal welfare. On the ISAE Council, we have two student representatives, who look after the interests of all our student members across regions. A new student representative was elected in January, when Maria V. Rørvang from Denmark replaced Claes Anderson from Sweden. Together with the other student representative, Sarah Hintze from Switzerland, she will be organising events for students at the ISAE congress in July. Sarah will be stepping down in December, and I would like to take this opportunity to encourage our student members to consider becoming the next ISAE student representative.

One of the suggestions from the *ad hoc* working group on ISAE Activity in Developing Countries, formed in 2014, was to co-opt a Development Officer (DO) to ISAE Council. The role of the DO is to promote (and encourage members to promote) applied ethology and ISAE activity in countries where the ISAE is unrepresented or under-represented, particularly in Eastern Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and parts of Asia. This position was advertised in the spring 2016, and a person will be appointed at the forth-coming council meeting.

I will finish by wishing all of you a glorious winter/summer (wherever you are) and safe travels to Edinburgh for those of you making your way to the ISAE congress in July. By the time you read this, France may already be European Champions!

Birte L Nielsen / *President of the ISAE* / Paris, 10th of June 2016

ISAE Council News

Senior Vice President – Jeremy Marchant-Forde

Current and Future Congresses

50th Congress – Edinburgh, UK July 12-16, 2016

The 50th Anniversary Congress will be held in Edinburgh – Scotland's beautiful capital city – organized by Cathy Dwyer and colleagues from SRUC, the University of Edinburgh and World Animal Protection. This promises to be the biggest ever ISAE Congress and is not only a celebration of past achievements but also a primer for the society's future. The theme is **"Past and Future: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants"** and **please join the party, where fun and learning is guaranteed.**

51st Congress - Aarhus, Denmark August 7-10, 2017

Planning for next year's Congress is well-advanced and the website is ready to go live after the Edinburgh meeting has completed. Led by Margit Bak Jensen, with help from colleagues from Aarhus and Copenhagen Universities, the main Congress theme will be **"Understanding Animal Behaviour"**. Be sure to mark your diaries.

52nd Congress - Prince Edward Island, Canada July 30-August 3, 2018

53rd Congress - Bergen, Norway August 5-9, 2019

We are excited to have a bid from Bangalore, India to host the 54th Congress 2020 and this has been circulated to Council. We invite any interested parties to start thinking about hosting our 55th Congress in 2021 and feel free to contact me to discuss any questions you may have. If we revert back to our Europe/Rest of the World model, we would be looking for a European venue in 2021, but nothing is fixed in stone!

Continued thanks to all those committed to organizing our Congresses – your time and effort is greatly appreciated.

Congress Travel Awards

Congress Attendance Fund (CAF)

The CAF Committee received 25 applications for the CAF this year, and had many excellent quality candidates. We agreed to fund 10 of the applicants at a total award of £4300. The successful applicants were: Aitor Arrazola, Canada; Luigi Baciadonna, England; Anne Bak, Denmark; Mary Friel, N. Ireland, Megan LaFollette, USA; Fiona Lang, Mexico; Mona Vestbjerg Larsen, Denmark; Allison Pullin, USA; Amy Robinson-Junker, USA; Oceane Schmitt, Ireland.

Nestlé Award

The Nestlé Award is administered through our accounts, but is judged by Nestlé. This year, 4 awards of \$1500 were made to; Lauren Dawson, Canada; Jacquelyn Jacobs, Canada; Naima Kasbaoui, England; Rachel Orritt, England

Abstract handling

ISAE continues to use the Wageningen Agricultural Publishers system and is contracted to do so up to and including 2020. The issue of abstract content was again brought up during the review process. The information regarding both the abstract content and the reviewing process is very clearly detailed in the Appendices of the Procedural Guidelines, but abstract content continues to be variable in the information they contain. We will work to ensure that the abstract submission webpage content is clearer so that abstracts are consistent and high quality.

Junior Vice President's report – Bas Rodenburg

There has been a regional meeting in the Nordic region in 2016, and additional meetings are planned in October 2016 for the Australasian region and the Benelux region. For 2017, the US and Canadian region plan to have a joint regional meeting, and the same applies to the UK & Ireland region. Regional meetings remain very important to ISAE, as these meetings often have a lower threshold for people from the various regions to attend. Regional meetings can also be a good way to get master students with an interest in applied animal behaviour and welfare acquainted with ISAE and perhaps inspire them to find a PhD position in this area.

Another key factor in ISAE's regional activities are of course the regional secretaries. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them on behalf of ISAE for all they have done in the past year! Some regional secretaries have announced they will be looking for someone to replace them in the near future. Our regional secretary for the US Region, Maja Makagon, will hand over her position this summer. Peter Krawcel has been elected by the region to replace Maja. I would like to say thanks to Maja for her contribution to the society and I would like to wish Peter all the best!

At the ISAE meeting in Edinburgh in July 2016, we will organize a lunch meeting with the regional secretaries to discuss how the regions are functioning. A central topic there will be to discuss options to revitalize membership and regional activities in some of our regions. The new Development Officer that will be appointed at the summer council meeting will play a key role

in developing ISAE's strategy to reach out to regions and countries that are currently underrepresented or not represented at all within ISAE. Let us all remember to be active ISAE ambassadors when travelling abroad and consider bringing some ISAE promotion materials to any relevant meetings we may attend in the future!

Treasurer's Report – Krista McLennan

ISAE Accounts to 31st May 2016

International Society for Applied Ethology
Statement of Revenue and Expenses
For year ending 31st May 2016

Revenue:	Final	2015
Ethology Book sponsorship	7,587.53	
Membership subs	22,674.46	22,793.20
Net Interest	22.57	19.80
Scholarship funds from sponsors	0.00	6,324.73
Total Revenue	30,284.56	29,137.73
Expenses:		
AAALAC	71.12	184.39
Bank Charges	1,665.60	1,521.52
Conference Attendance Award	4,723.00	1,909.67
Conference Attendance Fund	6,290.00	
Council Member Costs	1,019.13	318.85
Elsevier AABS	4,437.44	4,848.23
Membership services - Intergage	1,768.80	1,905.60
Regional Payments	2,000.00	1,000.00
SAGEPay	360.00	360.00
Scholarship funds awarded	7,705.77	2,630.82
Subs returns	15.00	0.00
Total Expenses	30,055.86	14,679.08
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	228.70	14,458.65
Beg Fund Balances	72,580.63	58,121.98
End Fund Balances	72,809.33	72,580.63

Points to note:

Minor changes in the categories have been made to separate out new payments (Ethology book and Conference Attendance Award).

We have had no returns from regions this year.

A transfer of £10,000 was made from the current account in to the savings account. This has allowed a slightly higher level of interest to be made as well as acting as a safety net for future use.

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 again this year. This equates to £6,750.24. Travel awards that were not made last year have been transferred over to this year with four travel grants awarded with the total coming to £4224.76. The scholarship funds for this year have now been received but will appear on the statement next year as they came in to the account in June.

£4,300 has been provided to support the conference attendance fund (CAF) this year. This up from £3,500 last year. There were still some payments to be made in June which is why the accounts show less at present. A number of the awards for free conference attendance were taken up this year equating to £1,920. Two ISAE student representatives were also supported to attend the conference this year placed under council member costs. Dr Abdul Rahman Sira has also been supported to attend the conference this year in response to the possible India conference in 2020.

Aarhus University in Denmark was successful this year at receiving funding of £1,000 towards their regional conference. The UK/Ireland region received £1,000 funding to help with this year's annual conference.

Income:

Membership subscription less Elsevier payments = £18,237.02. This is slightly higher from last year (£17,944.97).

£7,587.53 has come into the account from sponsors for the Applied Ethology Book that has been devised in celebrations for ISAE's 50th year. This funding is restricted as it is to be used to pay for the publication of this book. ISAE will also provide an extra £1,000 towards the publishing of this book. We wish to thank the sponsors of this book for their very kind donations.

Audit of accounts 25th June 2016

Auditor: Daniel Bedford BA (Hons) ACA

- International payments still continue to be a source of significant bank charges. If you can meet with the bank to discuss possible solutions, especially as they're an international organisation and might have a solutions. If this doesn't work, paypal is an option but comes with its own set of fees. If there are a significant level of funds going to one region (such as Australia and New Zealand), you could consider opening a bank account but I wouldn't recommend this with a low level of transactions.
- The change of status from Society to Charity can bring about additional costs of compliance and administration. For an organisation of ISAE's current size and complexity, this shouldn't be too extensive in the short term. I'm sure that the Committee are aware of this, but it's important to budget for expenditure and make sure funding is available.

Response to last years audit.

	Current situation	Recommendation
1	The society's cash reserves have increased by £14.5k in the year, leaving a year end cash balance of £72.6k.	<p>With low interest rates expected to continue, the benefit of keeping cash in a deposit account is minimal. I have moved £10,000 from the community account into the savings account. Interest has increased in the last few months.</p> <p>Using a proportion of the cash, whilst maintaining sustainable levels, for the benefit of members (e.g. supporting local projects, further support for membership attendance at the conference, guest speaker's etc.) would meet the objectives of the society. We have increased our Conference Attendance Fund this year. It is the 50 year anniversary and the ISAE has agreed to give £1,000 in support of a book being produced to celebrate this. We have continued to support members with free membership in areas that find it difficult to pay or keep bank accounts. ISAE have also started to invest in a project to increase members in areas that are currently under subscribed.</p> <p>Seeking alternative investments/deposits with a greater return would also provide greater benefits. At the very least, transferring current account cash to the interest generating deposit account (assuming the deposit account cash is easily accessible) is recommended. As above – we have moved money over.</p>
2	I did not see any evidence of control of regional payments	<p>It would be beneficial to request some sort of feedback from the regions following a scholarship distribution or support payment. This could be in the form of a written report stating what was done with the money, with photographs and results (which could also act as good PR for the sponsoring organisation and would assist in attracting further funding), or at the very least a statement of the amount received, with evidence of the costs allocated against the fund. We do request feedback from our regional accounts on a yearly basis and ask representatives to attend the council at congress. I would like to set up a spread sheet to help regions provide evidence of how they are spending the money. Regional accounts are still a problematic area that ISAE are trying to rectify.</p>
3	Scholarship income, membership income and all costs are included within one fund	<p>If scholarships grow, it would be beneficial to carry out analysis between "funds", i.e. split out the restricted scholarship funding to enable the user to clearly identify what costs have been set against this income and which costs are unrestricted. A process can be introduced to track funding distributed against specific grants. I have separated out payments for each of the sponsorship fund types including the CAF and the Nestle sponsored funds.</p>

4	There seems to be little promotion of the benefits available to members (e.g. the use of AAALAC) and therefore these services are underused.	Membership benefits should be communicated to members on a regular basis to ensure they get the most out of their subscription, If those benefits aren't used by members, it would be worth redirecting the funding towards benefits which would be utilised. Members do receive a newsletter four times a year updating them of activities. We will continue to improve the advertisement of this relationship.
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Communications Officer's report - Laura Dixon

This is my last update as CO for the ISAE Council. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and support over the last 4 years. I think it will take some time to adjust to retiring from this role and I will miss updating the webpage. Since the last AGM, I have produced 2 more Newsletters – all of which are posted on the website. There is also the usual updating of pages and contact details and the Membership page has had a slight make-over. Membership renewals were due in May and this is always busy for the CO and MS. There have also been communications about upcoming events and meetings published on the website. Can I also remind members of our Published Article Sharelinks page where free links to recent publications can be made available to members and to email the CO with updates in contact information.

As always, the Employment Opportunities page get viewed the most with over 2400 views in June, followed by the ISAE Meetings page at over 1450 views (most likely reflecting the upcoming congress in July), the News and information page (>985 views), and Upcoming Events (>875). I think this demonstrates the ability of the ISAE webpage to advertise information to a large audience and should be considered when new jobs or events are being promoted, especially since we provide this service for free.

I hope you all have a nice summer and I hope to see many of you at ISAE2016 in Edinburgh.

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

The Special Issue of Appl. Anim. Behav. Sci. based on the 2013 Congress in Brazil, entitled 'Behavioural indicators of health' was published February 2016.

Please remember to post your ShareLinks on the members-only space on the ISAE website when publishing in Appl. Anim. Behav. Sci. This gives all ISAE members temporary free access to all articles published in Appl. Anim. Behav. Sci by co-members.

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

ISAE Regional News

Australasia – Rebecca Doyle

I will be stepping down as the regional secretary at the end of the year. This will be included in the regional meeting notice that is sent around, and I will be looking for a replacement to take over after the regional meeting on 27 October 2016.

The region hosted an applied ethology symposium at the International Ethology Congress in Cairns, August 2015.

Symposium description: Applied ethology - Exploring our impact on animals

Kristin Descovich, Sarah Vick, Rebecca Doyle, Carol Petherick, Kate Littin, Caroline Lee, Amanda Doughty, Raf Freire

The study of animal behaviour remains one of the most important scientific tools by which we can assess our impact on the animals with which we interact. An important aspect of the interaction is the impact on animal welfare, which is of significant concern for all stakeholders that utilise or affect animals, including those in biomedical research, agriculture, zoological institutions, and the pet industry. This symposium examines both the behavioural responses of animals to humans and the use of behavioural measures to assist in evaluating and enhancing animal welfare. Topics included:

- Advances in behavioural indicators of positive and negative welfare
- Cognitive capacity of animals and implications for management
- Behaviour as a reflection of affective state
- Behavioural management for improved welfare
- Human-animal interactions
- The interface between human impact and species conservation/species control
- Life-history effects on welfare

Rebecca also holds a role as independent observer on the *New Zealand-Australia OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis; the David Bayvel Consortium* where she participates in the committee's 6 monthly management meetings. The December, 2015 meeting identified links with the ISAE in the OIE animal welfare network.

There is a regional meeting planned for 27 October in Auckland, New Zealand.

Tips for attracting new members: A 'member's price' will be offered for the regional meeting. This may help to encourage new members to sign up. It is also recognised that our region may both benefit and be able to help support the new role of Development Officer once they're appointed.

Benelux – Liesbeth Bolhuis and Stephanie Buijs

Membership: There are 42 members in the Benelux region, 5 members joined (or rejoined) in 2015

Changes in regional secretaries: None (for now)

Regional meetings: 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.

Tips: Almost all our new members joined on or shortly after the annual meeting, so organizing regional activities seems highly important to increase membership (this isn't news really, but still good to remember). It is very helpful to enable those who want to join to do so at the activity itself (otherwise, they forget their good intentions when they go home). All you need for this is a computer with internet access so people can surf directly to the ISAE site.

Canada – Nicolas Devillers

The membership in the Canada region on May 13th was of 67 members. The Canada region welcomed 18 new members during the last year (since May 2015) but only increased its membership with 7 members (60 members in early 2015). Of those, 27% are students. Most of the members come from the two universities with the biggest programs in animal behaviour and welfare: the University of Guelph (31 members) and the University of British Columbia (14 members). This year will probably be my last year as regional secretary. We will discuss with Canadian members present at the ISAE congress in Edinburgh the best way to determine the next regional secretary before the next regional meeting planned in 2017 in Ames at Iowa State University. Helping with the organisation of the regional meeting will be a good first experience for the new regional secretary, especially in preparation of the international meeting to be held in 2018 at the University of Prince Edward Island (PEI, Canada). Persons interested in being regional secretary can contact me for more information.

No regional meeting was held in Canada in 2015 and 2016. The next joint Canada-USA regional meeting will be held in Ames (IA) and hosted by the Iowa State University in 2017. Dates are still to be determined. The Canada region page (<http://www.applied-ethology.org/canada.html>) is updated regularly and includes information on meetings related to ethology and animal science in North-America, new about regional activities and meetings, and information on educational and research resources in applied ethology in Canada.

East Central Europe - Radka Šárová

Number of members from ISAE East Central Europe region is 5, including one with free membership. In 2015, no conference was planned in this region.

Mediterranean - Emma Fàbrega-Romans

During the first semester of 2016, little activity has been present in the Mediterranean region. The secretary and other members of the ISAE Mediterranean region have discussed several times the feasibility of holding a Video Conference, instead of a regional meeting. However, it appeared also a difficult approach. An informal meeting at the 50th Congress in Edinburgh will be proposed for those attending the event. Members of the Mediterranean region have discussed the inconvenience of physical regional meetings, provided the broad area across which members are distributed and the fact that many other congresses and meetings are offered.

UK and Ireland - Amy Quinn & Simon Turner

The UK and Ireland has two co-regional secretaries due to the large number of members in the area (123 members). Regional meetings are held biannually with the most recent held on 11th November 2015 in Teagasc Moorepark, Fermoy, Co. Cork, Ireland. This was the first time the regional meeting was hosted in Ireland, and it was preceded by a welcoming evening reception in Cork City. Almost 70 participants from more than 15 institutes attended the meeting and shared the results of their recent research.

The talks on the day covered a broad array of topics, including, wild and zoo animal behaviour, feeding behaviour of broilers and horses, emotional perception of dairy goats and gait assessment of farmed ducks and numerous talks on pig and farmed ruminant behaviour. All presenters prepared an abstract which was published in the event proceedings and were assigned an oral slot of either 15 or 5 minutes duration. We found that offering oral slots of short duration rather than a poster session contributed to a more varied and interesting programme and gave many students an opportunity to speak. There were two invited speakers at the meeting. Prof John Quinn from University College Cork gave a fascinating talk on an evolutionary approach to look at individual behavioural differences, focusing on the behavioural strategies used by wild birds in the morning session. After lunch our second invited speaker, Dr Marie Haskell from Scotland's Rural College gave an insightful talk into using preference tests to assess the motivation of dairy cows to use outdoor space. The meeting was attended not just by students and researchers, but also representatives from the industry and agricultural government officials. Due to sponsorship the organisers obtained from Scientific Foundation Ireland (SFI), it was possible to award both travel grants to attend the regional meeting and two student prizes for delivering the best student presentations. Three ISAE student members, Leonor Valente, Simone Foister, and Lucille Bellegarde, were awarded the travel grant, to attend the meeting. The best student presentation prizes were awarded to Brendan Duggan from the Roslin Institute, presenting "Objective gait assessment in Pekin ducks" and Lucille Bellegarde from SRUC presenting "Perception of emotions as social signals in dairy goats". Both student presentation prizes cover the registration fee for the annual congress of the ISAE this summer, in Edinburgh. Presentations by every student were judged by Prof Sandra Edwards, from Newcastle University. The organisers would like to thank Science Foundation Ireland for the funding to support the regional meeting, and Teagasc Moorepark for facilitating the event.

We look forward to seeing all regional members again in the upcoming ISAE 50th Anniversary Congress in Edinburgh, or in the next UK/Ireland regional meeting in 2017.

USA – Maja Makagon

The US Region of the ISAE had a relatively quiet year. Due to the large number of US members interested in attending the 50th Annual Congress of the ISAE, the regional meeting that had been slotted to take place in the spring of 2016 was postponed to the spring of 2017. The meeting will be hosted at Iowa State University and will be organized jointly by the US and Canada regions. This year, the US region of the ISAE re-affirmed its charity status with the US IRS, facilitating the maintenance of bank accounts, and fundraising for regional meetings. In July 2016, the current regional secretary, Maja Makagon, will be passing the baton to the new regional secretary, Peter Krawczel.

Employment Opportunities

Recent Employment Listings include:

PhD: Nesting behaviour of broiler breeders

Location: Vencomatic, Eersel and Wageningen University, Netherlands

Contact: Lotte van de Ven, lotte.vandeven@vencomaticgroup.com, Bas Kemp, bas.kemp@wur.nl, or Bas Rodenburg, bas.rodenburg@wur.nl

Research Associate - Ethology

Location: University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK, Canada

Contact: Jennifer Brown, jennifer.brown@usask.ca

PhD in Applied Ethology

Location: Ghent University, Belgium

Contact: Christel Moons, Christel.Moons@UGent.be

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

Elsevier – AABS Update

Elsevier and the Editors of AABS are exploring the idea of a move from issue based publication to 'article-based publishing' to help introduce speed to publication improvements for authors publishing in the journal. This will be a topic of discussion at this year's Board meeting for *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* which will be held during the ISAE meeting in Edinburgh.

To mark the Society's 50th anniversary, a special golden cover of AABS has been commissioned and will appear on the print journal issues from July 2016 onwards for one year. Elsevier will also be participating in this year's meeting in Edinburgh as an exhibitor and will be pleased to distribute information about AABS and other relevant animal and veterinary science journals to interested attendees.

Ethical Behaviour in Scientific Research

Jeremy N. Marchant-Forde

We are an academic society whose members are mostly engaged in research using animal subjects, much of which involves the scientific investigation of issues regarding animal welfare. On reading the title of this article, you will most likely assume that it will cover the ethics of animal use within our studies, but what I really want to do is to remind you, the reader, that your own ethical behavior is a cornerstone of what the ISAE stands for. We are not a large, anonymous and inhospitable society, working in a broad, nameless field. We are relatively small. We know each other, if not personally, then by name on publications. We pride ourselves in being a friendly, inclusive Society, characterized by meetings that are fun as well as educational with cutting edge science. We are open with each other, we are supportive of colleagues and we mentor and encourage our junior members. It is therefore likely to be a shock should we encounter behavior that falls below the standards that, as a Society, are just assumed to be prevalent among our membership.

It may surprise you to know that ISAE does have a Code of Conduct within its Procedural Guidelines. This Code stipulates:

- 1) ISAE is an independent body and acts to provide impartial scientific information.
- 2) The name and/or membership of the ISAE must not be used to promote personal and/or organizational views and philosophies, unless directly requested/permitted to do so by Council.
- 3) The name and/or membership of the ISAE must not be used for financial and/or commercial gain, unless directly requested/permitted to do so by Council.
- 4) Members must not act in any way likely to jeopardize the integrity of the Society or bring it into disrepute.

And carries the warning that “Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct may result in termination of membership of the ISAE and the forfeiture of any membership fees previously paid.” Whereas Council has, on rare occasion, had to remind members of items 2) and 3), it has not, as far as I know, ever had to address anyone displaying behavior allied to item 4), and indeed we do not appear to have a mechanism in place to apply the “termination” procedure, were a breach of the Code to be maintained by a member after a suitable warning.

Many other societies are much more detailed in their expectations of members’ behavior. For example, the Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct for the American Psychological Association run to 10 sections and 15 pages (<http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/principles.pdf>). It would be a sad reflection of the quality of person admitted to ISAE if we ever needed to stretch our Code of Conduct from our 4 bullet points. But, we should also not be complacent to think that among our members, there are no individuals who may stray from doing what is right, and it is with this caution, that I would like to direct your attention towards a useful summary of issues, as detailed in [What is Ethics in Research & Why is it Important?](#) by David B. Resnik, J.D., Ph.D., who is a Bioethicist with the National Institute of Environmental Health Science in the U.S. Within this document (Resnik, 2015), he summarizes the following, as ethical principles that should be adhered to:

- **Honesty** Strive for honesty in all scientific communications. Honestly report data, results, methods and procedures, and publication status. Do not fabricate, falsify, or misrepresent data. Do not deceive colleagues, research sponsors, or the public.
- **Objectivity** Strive to avoid bias in experimental design, data analysis, data interpretation, peer review, personnel decisions, grant writing, expert testimony, and other aspects of research where objectivity is expected or required. Avoid or minimize bias or self-deception. Disclose personal or financial interests that may affect research.
- **Integrity** Keep your promises and agreements; act with sincerity; strive for consistency of thought and action.
- **Carefulness** Avoid careless errors and negligence; carefully and critically examine your own work and the work of your peers. Keep good records of research activities, such as data collection, research design, and correspondence with agencies or journals.
- **Openness** Share data, results, ideas, tools, resources. Be open to criticism and new ideas.
- **Respect for Intellectual Property** Honor patents, copyrights, and other forms of intellectual property. Do not use unpublished data, methods, or results without permission. Give proper acknowledgement or credit for all contributions to research. Never plagiarize.
- **Confidentiality** Protect confidential communications, such as papers or grants submitted for publication, personnel records, trade or military secrets, and patient records.
- **Responsible Publication** Publish in order to advance research and scholarship, not to advance just your own career. Avoid wasteful and duplicative publication.
- **Responsible Mentoring** Help to educate, mentor, and advise students. Promote their welfare and allow them to make their own decisions.
- **Respect for colleagues** Respect your colleagues and treat them fairly.
- **Social Responsibility** Strive to promote social good and prevent or mitigate social harms through research, public education, and advocacy.
- **Non-Discrimination** Avoid discrimination against colleagues or students on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, or other factors not related to scientific competence and integrity.

- **Competence** Maintain and improve your own professional competence and expertise through lifelong education and learning; take steps to promote competence in science as a whole.
- **Legality** Know and obey relevant laws and institutional and governmental policies.
- **Animal Care** Show proper respect and care for animals when using them in research. Do not conduct unnecessary or poorly designed animal experiments.
- **Human Subjects Protection** When conducting research on human subjects, minimize harms and risks and maximize benefits; respect human dignity, privacy, and autonomy; take special precautions with vulnerable populations; and strive to distribute the benefits and burdens of research fairly.

Take time to read the full article, reflect on your own behavior with respect to the principles above and adjust it if necessary. The ISAE is a great organization with a wonderful membership and long may it remain that way.

Reference

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ISAE 2015 UK/Ireland Regional Meeting Report

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The regional meeting of the ISAE UK/Ireland members was held on 11th November 2015 in Teagasc Moorepark, Fermoy, Co. Cork, Ireland. This was the first time the regional meeting was hosted in Ireland, and it was preceded by a welcoming evening reception in Cork City. Almost 70 participants from more than 15 institutes attended the meeting and shared the results of their recent research. Most of the work presented was conducted in UK or Ireland but some were more exotic (from other European countries and USA). Dr Amy Quinn opened the conference with a warm welcome on behalf of the organisers.



The first invited speaker, Prof John Quinn from University College Cork, gave a fascinating talk on an evolutionary approach to look at individual behavioural differences, focusing on the behavioural strategies used by wild birds. This was followed by the first session which included 8 talks, covering topics such as wild and zoo animal behaviour, feeding behaviour of broilers and horses, emotional perception of dairy goats and gait assessment of farmed ducks.



After lunch, the afternoon session was reopened by the second invited speaker, Dr Marie Haskell from Scotland's Rural College. Her talk on "Using preference tests to assess the motivation of dairy cows to use outdoor space" was a perfect precursor to introduce a series of fine talks in the second plenary session on farmed ruminant behaviour. The last session was wholly dedicated to the latest research regarding pressing issues in pig behaviour and welfare on commercial farms, and included 9 talks with topics ranging from tail-biting and tail-docking, to aggression, to enrichment and antibiotic use. The conference was successfully concluded with a closing buffet in Teagasc Moorepark. The full proceedings will soon be available on the UK/Ireland regional website.

This time the regional meeting was attended not just by students and researchers, but also representatives from the industry and agricultural government officials, as one of the aims of the meeting was to bring together stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds, to help stimulate interest in animal behaviour research in Ireland. Due to sponsorship the organisers obtained from Scientific Foundation Ireland (SFI), it was possible to award both travel grants to attend the regional meeting and two student prizes for delivering the best student presentations. Three ISAE student members, Leonor Valente, Simone Foister, and Lucille Bellegarde, were awarded the travel grant, to attend the meeting. The best student presentation prizes were awarded to

Brendan Duggan from the Roslin Institute, presenting “Objective gait assessment in Pekin ducks” and Lucille Bellegarde from SRUC presenting “Perception of emotions as social signals in dairy goats”. Both students gave extremely interesting and well delivered presentations, and were the deserving recipients of the awards. Both student presentation prizes cover the registration fee for the annual congress of the ISAE this summer, in Edinburgh. Presentations by every student were judged by Prof Sandra Edwards, from Newcastle University. The organisers would like to especially thank Science Foundation Ireland for the funding to support the regional meeting, and Teagasc Moorepark for facilitating the event. We look forward to seeing all regional members again in the upcoming ISAE 50th Anniversary Congress in Edinburgh, or in the next UK/Ireland regional meeting in 2017.

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