



International
Society for
**Applied
Ethology**

Newsletter

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President's Piece

Dear ISAE members,

In my first *President's Piece* in the previous Newsletter, I was looking forward to the dark cloud of Coronavirus lifting and life starting to return to 'normal'. Unfortunately, as the COVID cloud lifts, the dark cloud of the war in Ukraine has blown across Europe. Although the suffering is most acute in Ukraine itself, impacts on food exports and energy supplies are reaching around the globe. If we are to make the world more resilient to such events, I believe we need to increase our efforts to make food and energy production more sustainable and secure, and we need to ensure applied ethology plays its part in improving the sustainability of livestock production. This requires multidisciplinary collaborations to help improve livestock systems so they better meet the needs of the animals, aiming to increase production efficiency whilst also safeguarding animal welfare. To this end, the ISAE is continuing with its efforts to collaborate with the EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science), and we hope to have a joint virtual session linking our Congress in Ohrid, North Macedonia with theirs in Porto, Portugal. We are also planning to continue to collaborate with UFAW (Universities Federation for Animal Welfare) and the OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health).

In our drive to improve environmental sustainability, I believe the ISAE also needs to consider the environmental impacts of our activities and do what we can to reduce them. Joining a conference virtually has a very low carbon footprint, and our 2022 International Congress will be our first 'hybrid' meeting, allowing both virtual and in person participation. As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, flying has a disproportionately high environmental impact, so I encouraged our European members to consider 'no-fly' options if they plan to attend the next two ISAE congresses in person. Getting to and from Ohrid in North Macedonia without flying is not particularly easy, but here is an update on how this can be achieved. From my research there appear to be two main 'no-fly' travel options. The first option is overland via either Zagreb (Croatia) or Budapest (Hungary) to Belgrade (Serbia). These routes look to be served by bus services rather than trains at the moment, but this may change over the summer. Before the pandemic, there was a sleeper train linking Belgrade, Skopje (North Macedonia) and Thessaloniki (Greece). At the time of writing, I'm awaiting confirmation as to whether this service will run this summer, but there are also coach services from Belgrade to Skopje. The congress website will have up-to-date details of these options, and the congress registration fee includes transport from Skopje bus/train station (as well as Skopje airport) to/from Ohrid. The second no-fly option to get to Ohrid is to take a train/coach to Bari (Italy), and then catch an overnight ferry to Durrës (Albania). This is the route I am planning to take, making a holiday of the journey with overnight stops in Paris, Milan and Matera (Italy). Durrës is approximately the same distance from Ohrid as Skopje, and the congress organisers will assist with transfers from Durrës ferry port to Ohrid. The organisers will also assist with transfers from the international airports at Tirana (Albania) and Thessaloniki (Greece), and I would like to thank the congress organisers for this initiative. If

you are planning to join our 2022 International Congress in Ohrid in person, I wish you a safe and pleasant journey, whichever route and mode of transport you use!

Mark Rutter / President of the ISAE (2021-2023)

Updates from your ISAE Council

Council Position Vacancies

Dear ISAE Members,

In 2022, four council positions will be open, including Membership Secretary, Assistant Communications Officer, Procedural Advisor, and Ethics Officer. Please read the descriptions of the positions below and consider submitting an application.

1. **Membership Secretary.** The Membership Secretary duties include managing membership to ISAE, including bringing new applications to the council for voting, updating regional managers about new members, maintaining the online membership database, and ensuring members are subscribed to *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*. The Membership Secretary serves a 4-year term.

2. **Assistant Communications Officer.** The Assistant Communications Officer manages the ISAE social media accounts, summarizes engagement with the social media accounts, and assists the Communications Officer as needed. The Assistant Communications Officer serves a 4-year term.

3. **Procedural Advisor.** The Procedural Advisor is responsible for ensuring ISAE meetings and procedural matters (including Constitutional amendments and data protection) are conducted in accordance with the ISAE Constitution and Guidelines. The Procedural Advisor serves a 4-year term.

4. **Ethics Officer.** The Ethics Officer duties include consulting and advising the council during meetings, chairing the Ethics Committee, and reviewing and updating the ISAE Ethical Guidelines as needed. The Ethics Officer serves a 4-year term.

If you are interested in serving on the ISAE Council, please submit your application materials to me (Carly, comalley15@gmail.com), including 1) a paragraph outlining your interest in the position and relevant skills, and 2) your 2-page CV to be shared with ISAE Members no later than **Monday, 22 August**.

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

Communications

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



Applying Ethology Webinars. We are continuing to maintain the *Applying Ethology Webinars* on the *Animal Welfare Slack Workspace*. Since our launch in 2020, 46 (early career) scientists have shared their research (check out our YouTube channel - link below). If you would like to give a presentation, please fill out this form: <https://tinyurl.com/applyingethologyspeaker>

The *Animal Welfare Slack Workspace* has grown to over 850 members! On the workspace you have access to our *Applying Ethology Webinars*, job postings, recent papers, and methodology questions. The Slack space is open to everyone, regardless of ISAE affiliation. Please email Christian Nawroth or Jen-Yun Chou to gain admittance.

Once you join the *Animal Welfare Slack Workspace*, please join the channels (such as #webinar) you find interesting. The #webinar channel has important information such as speaker biographies and the calendar 'pinned' → 📅 at the top.

For your convenience:

- Calendar of upcoming talks: <https://tinyurl.com/applyingethologycalendar>
- Speaker list and instructions: <https://tinyurl.com/applyingethologywebinar>
- YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe6fHV211isHwiSgGV50Lgw>

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

Christian and Megan look forward to interacting with you online and hope to someday see you in person again!

Christian Nawroth / *Communications Officer of the ISAE (2020-2024)*
Megan LaFollette / *Assistant Communications Officer of the ISAE (2020-2022)*

Editors

Special issues

The Special Issue for the 2021 conference, themed ‘**Developing animal behaviour and welfare: Real solutions for real problems**’ has closed and the remaining submitted manuscripts are being processed by the Junior and Senior editors and guest editors Dr Madan Lal Kamboj and Dr Vijay Pal Singh. Several papers have already been published online in the special issue ISAE 2021 collection. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/applied-animal-behaviour-science/special-issue/10TRJH4FC11>

Any readers wishing to look through the past ISAE Special Issues can find them located together online where all AABS special issues are listed. <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/applied-animal-behaviour-science/special-issues>

The Special Issue for the 2022 conference is in the process of being set-up and will be available for submissions prior to the international congress.

Help with English scheme – volunteers welcome!

Did you know that ISAE has an English grammar and language editing service available to help [members](#) prepare manuscripts for publication, irrespective of the journal choice? This is a key way that ISAE supports diversity in the field of applied ethology. So far this year, we have received 8 manuscripts for correction and a great amount of support from volunteers who assisted with the editing. We are keen to broaden our pool of volunteers. If you have top notch English writing skills and can proofread 2 or 3 manuscripts per year, please get in touch with Kris Descovich to sign up (k.descovich1@uq.edu.au). In addition to supporting our diverse membership, this is something that can be added onto a CV.

ISAE members who would like to request editing assistance should send their manuscript to Kris at k.descovich1@uq.edu.au. Your manuscript will be edited by an ISAE member who has volunteered to help you with the English of your paper. The volunteer should be acknowledged in your paper but will not expect to be included as an author. Revisions may take up to 4 weeks as the service is dependent on volunteer time.

Dana Campbell and Kris Descovich / *Senior and Junior Editors of the ISAE (2021-2023)*

Students

Student Representatives. Hi there! We are the ISAE Student Representatives! We represent all ISAE members who are at undergraduate, graduate, and PhD level. Rachel Caddiell (formerly Park! I got married!) is a PhD candidate at North Carolina State University, the United States of America, and is studying whether there are breed differences in dog sensitivity thresholds and behavioral reactivity, as well as the perception and education related to pain in veterinary medicine. Saskia Kliphuis is a PhD student at Utrecht University, the Netherlands. She studies the effect of early-life interventions to improve laying hen welfare.

2022 ISAE Congress Hybrid Events. From 4th to 8th September, the ISAE International Congress 2022 will take place in Ohrid, North Macedonia! For the first time in ISAE history, the conference will be hybrid. This means you can also attend the conference from home. The early-bird deadline is on the 15th of June, so make sure to [register](#) on time!

Student events during the Congress

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thu.
Meet & Greet (PhD) student only section! 18:00-19:00	Eating w/ Ethologists All are welcome! 13:00-14:00 <i>Advance sign-up required (see below)</i>	VIRTUAL Eating w/ Ethologists All are welcome! 12:30-13:30 <i>Advance sign-up required (see below)</i>	Table Topics All are welcome! 12:30-13:30	
2022 ISAE congress events hosted by the student representatives				

In addition to the [program](#), we have organized 3 events for faculty, scientists, and students throughout the conference. On Sunday, September 4th (18:00 - 19:00) we welcome students to join us for the **Student Meet & Greet** (before the welcome cocktail) to see old friends, meet new ones, and practice your elevator pitch with fellow students. At 19:00, we will join the welcome cocktail together.

Students, faculty and scientists who pre-registered for **Eating with Ethologists** will be matched based on similar interests for an informal, small group networking lunch. During lunch, you are welcome to discuss scientific topics, research plans, career goals, position openings, etc. You will be able to choose the researchers you might want to chat with over lunch when you pre-register for the event. **If you are a scientist or faculty member looking to connect with students, keep a look-out for a sign-up email this June! Students, your sign-up email will be sent out in July!** As this is the first hybrid ISAE Congress, we will be offering **Eating with Ethologists** in two formats. If you will be attending ISAE in person, Eating with Ethologists will be held on Monday, September 5th during lunch (13:00 - 14:00). If you are attending ISAE virtually, Eating with Ethologists will be held on Tuesday, September 6th (12:30 - 13:30).

On Wednesday, September 7th (12:30 - 13:30) we welcome all congress attendees to **Table Topics!** Lunch tables will be labeled with topics (e.g., translating research to industry, attitudes towards animals, cognition and emotion, welfare policy, species-specific topics, technology, and much more!) to facilitate discussions amongst attendees. This event is a relaxed setting to connect with people of similar interests.

NOTE: If you would like to attend the Meet & Greet on Sunday evening, please take into account your travel plans, as many connected flights arrive in Ohrid on Sunday evening.

Educational Material. We are updating the education and training opportunities that are currently listed on the ISAE website. Your contribution is of great importance, to help other students get the best possible education opportunities. Later this year, we will send around a survey to ask you which courses you can recommend for your fellow students in the field of animal behaviour and welfare.

See you soon!

Saskia Kliphuis and Rachel Caddiell / *Student Representatives of the ISAE (2021-2023; 2020-2022)*

Membership

The 2022-23 membership renewal period is currently open. At present we have 583 members, which is slightly down on previous years. Last year we seemed to have a problem with members receiving our renewal emails, which may explain the decline. We are in the process of improving our systems, so hopefully this will be a problem of the past. This year, we still have 179 members that need to renew. So, if you haven't yet renewed, then please do it soon. If you are having trouble, please get in touch (isaemembership@hotmail.co.uk). If you pay via bank transfer, please remember to label the payment with your name so we know who the payment is from.

My four-year term as Membership Secretary is up this year. I have really enjoyed serving as your Membership Secretary! If you are interested in being the Membership Secretary and serving on the ISAE Council, please submit your application materials to Carly O'Malley (comalley15@gmail.com), including 1) a paragraph outlining your interest in the position and relevant skills, and 2) your 2-page CV to be shared with ISAE Members no later than Monday, 22 August. If you have questions about the position itself, please contact me at isaemembership@hotmail.co.uk.

Gemma Charlton / *Membership Secretary of the ISAE (2018-2022)*

Finances

Treasurer's End of Year Report

The report contains the annual summary for the period **January 1st to June 1st 2022**. The table breaks down revenue and expenses in our GBP and Euro accounts. Any discrepancies seen in the amounts being transferred in and out reflect adjustments for exchange rate differences.

The accounts are very healthy, reflecting limited financial activity in the last 24 months as a result of COVID-19. It also reflects the receipt of Purina sponsorship for scholarships to the annual conference (£11,620) and the income from the memberships (£9,728). The Purina funds are transient as they will support attendance to ISAE2022 for successful applicants. Our main expense is to Intergage for membership services specifically on the ISAE website. Additional payments were made this year to support different features. ExOrdo supports conference services (payments, abstract books) and further payments are expected later in the year after ISAE2022. Our accounts for 2021 are being prepared for independent examination ahead of submission to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

ISAE Accounts for period Jan 1st to June 1st 2022

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Revenue:	GBP accounts	Euro account
Congress Income (ISAE2021)	0.00	0.00
Membership subs	7,307.0	0.00
Net Interest	6.3	0.00
Payment returns	0.0	0.00
Returns from regions	0.0	0.00
Scholarship funds from sponsors	11,620.4	0.00
Other	0.0	0.00
Transfers in	9,000.0	0.00
Total Revenue	£ 27,933.6	€0.00
Expenses:		
Bank Charges	504.2	0.58
Conference Attendance Award	0.00	419.6
Conference Attendance Fund	0.00	0.00
Council Member Costs	84.6	0.00

Elsevier AABS	0.00	0.00
ExOrdo (Conference services)	0.00	270.00
Membership services - Intergage	9,728.0	0.00
OPAYO (previously SAGEPay)	257.7	0.00
Regional Payments	0.00	0.00
Scholarship funds awarded	0.0	0.00
Subs returns	79.4	0.00
Wageningen Press	0.0	0.00
Other	0.0	0.00
Transfers out	9,000.0	0.00
Total Expenses	£19,653.9	€690.2
Excess of Revenue over expenses	£8,279.7	€-690.2
Beg Fund Balances	£85,488.0	€6737.7
End Fund Balances	£93,767.7	€6047.5

Emma Baxter / *Treasurer of the ISAE (2017-2024)*

Award Updates

The ISAE Awards nominations opened this year on the 11th of May, and it received nominations until the 19th of June. I hope to have the award committees set by the end of July, with work completed within the following weeks. Name of the awardees will be released during the 55th International Congress in Ohrid. Each award committee is formed by three council members and two ISAE members who are not council members. Being part of the award committees is an excellent opportunity for any ISAE member to contribute to the organisation's work while meeting colleagues from different countries. So, I would like to invite Council and ISAE members interested in being part of the judging committees to contact me (giuliana.miguelp@gmail.com) no later than the 10th of July. Also, I would welcome any suggestions that Council or members might have in promoting the awards in the future, mainly to increase diversity in the nominations.

Giuliana Miguel / Assistant Secretary of the ISAE (2019-2023)

Congress News

2022

After two years of online meeting, we are now indeed coming back to meet in person for our next annual Congress, the **55th ISAE Congress in Ohrid, North Macedonia, 4th to 8th September 2022**. The main theme of the congress is 'Animal behaviour and beyond' and about 235 scientists from around the world will present their latest research. If for any case you do not want or will not be able to come to Ohrid, you can participate online because the Congress will be held in **hybrid format**. For the ones joining in person, the organizers prepared a fantastic social program to let participants enjoy culture, food, and landscape of the region. Please visit the website <https://isae2022.com/> for more information including the program and the beautiful venue. Don't miss it – hope to meet you there!



Future Congresses

Our congress in 2023, the 56th ISAE Congress will have a European host and an exciting venue again: it will be hosted by the Estonian University of Life Sciences and take place in **Tallin, Estonia**, from **August 1st – 5th 2023**. Do not forget to pencil the date in your calendar! We will see how the hybrid option works this year, but in principle this format is planned to be used for future congresses to be more inclusive.

From 2024 onwards we are back to alternating between a European and a non-European location. We have an interesting offer for 2024. Although we do have some expression of interest for congresses thereafter, nothing is fixed yet and thus we would be happy to receive offers to organize one of our next congresses (2025 within Europe, 2026 outside of Europe, 2027 within Europe, 2028 outside Europe ...). **If you might be interested to host an ISAE congress in the future, just contact me** (Susanne.Waiblinger@vetmeduni.ac.at) and I can give you more information.

Susanne Waiblinger / Senior Vice President of the ISAE (2021-2023)

EDIA Committee Update

Members of the EDIA committee have continued to meet bi-monthly to discuss the EDIA mission statement and guidelines for the ISAE with the aim of presenting drafts to council shortly. We aim to present a final draft for approval at the ISAE AGM in September.

In the meantime, to ensure the widest possible representation on the committee, we will shortly be inviting ISAE members to apply to join the EDIA committee. An all-members email will be accompanied by a link to an online questionnaire to gain an understanding of the diversity within ISAE and to identify areas for growth and improvement.

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

Regional News and Development

Development

This year, we are delighted to launch our fourth Developing Countries Congress Attendance Fellowship (DCCAF), funded by the Open Philanthropy Project (OPP), again in person! We received 60 applications for the 2022 DCCAF / ISAE Congress. Applications were evaluated by 13 reviewers. This year 16 successful candidates were selected for the DCCAF award, including travel costs, accommodation in Ohrid, visa costs, all meals and incidental expenses during their travel period for the congress. We have awardees from Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia,

India, Mexico, Nigeria, North Macedonia, and Uruguay. We are very excited to welcome them to Ohrid in September and look forward to a lot of discussions and exchanges!

We are currently organizing a one-day pre-congress workshop and other social activities for our DCCAF awardees. The talks will cover topics such as introduction to animal welfare; understanding applied animal behaviour science and its relevance to animal welfare; the interconnection between animal welfare, animal health and sustainability; how to implement animal welfare changes from different sectors; and the welfare during animal transport. We will have the participation of various international speakers. Farm tours and other activities will also be offered to our awardees.

The ISAE development office was very active this year with the huge effort from our country liaisons in different regions of the planet. The first workshop on "Relevance of Animal Welfare in Nigeria" was run in the North (Feb 17) and South (Feb 24) of Nigeria with the amazing efforts made by Mabel Aworh-Ajumobi (ISAE Country Liaison for Nigeria), Oluwaseun Iyasere (ISAE Australasia-Africa Regional secretary), and the online collaboration of our country liaisons from other regions Andreia de Paula (Brazil), Vijay Pal Singh (India), and Jashim Uddin (Bangladesh), and also all the people who were involved in Nigeria. The participation in both meetings summed around 100 people in person and 300 online, and it gained lots of national attention and media coverage (see <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2022/03/02/fmard-urges-stakeholders-on-oies-standards-for-animal-welfare/> and <https://von.gov.ng/nigeria-ministry-re-commits-to-global-practices-in-animal-welfare-strategy/>). This was an excellent team effort, and we are super happy with the results. Lots of discussion about strategies for improving the welfare of farm animals in Nigeria. Congratulation to all involved in this mission, and thank you all for the hard work!



On June 20th, 2022 our team led by Jashim Uddin (country liaisons for Bangladesh) is producing the "ISAE Animal Welfare Workshop in Bangladesh - Present scenario and future perspective of animal welfare in Bangladesh." This will be the first farm animal welfare workshop held in Bangladesh. The participation of 75 people in person and much more stakeholders online is expected. We look forward to seeing the results of this initiative in Bangladesh. See more information in <https://bangladeshisae.wixsite.com/website>

Finally, the OPP funding allowed us to support the course on pig welfare that will be offered free to 60 participants in person at the National University of Colombia during the First Animal Production Congress of Colombia (COPACO) from 18th to 20th of July, 2022. The course will be recorded and available online afterwards through our ISAE platform. See more information in <https://cienciasagrarias.medellin.unal.edu.co/copaco2022/>

We thank all DCCAF applicant reviewers for their kind and prompt assistance in evaluating the DCCAF applications: Bas Rodenburg, Emma Fabrega, Guiuliana Miguel-Pacheco, Heleen van de Weerd, Jeremy Marchant-Forde, Laura Whalin, Meagan King, Moira Harris, Oluwaseun Iyasere, Rebecca Sommerville, and Vijay Pal Singh.

Maria Camila Ceballos / *Development Officer of the ISAE (2020-2024)*

Jen-Yun Chou / *Assistant Development Officer of the ISAE (2020-2023)*

Africa and West Asia

The Africa and West Asia region now has an official Twitter account (@isaeawa) and email address (isaeawa@gmail.com).

The first regional meeting is planned for December 1-2, 2022. The theme of the conference is “Applied Ethology: from animal welfare to food security”.

Oluwaseun Iyasere / *Regional Secretary for Africa and West Asia*

Benelux

Since March, the ISAE Benelux has new secretaries: Maëva Manet and Liesbeth Van Damme.

Keep the date! The yearly conference will take place in the Netherlands on 24th of November 2022. Yes, we are going live again! The exact location and plenary speakers will soon be sent to the Benelux members.

We have a twitter account: @BeneluxIsae

Maëva Manet and Liesbeth Van Damme / *Regional Secretaries for Benelux*

East Asia

The annual meeting of The Japanese Society for Animal Behavior and Management (JSABM) will be held in Yokohama on September 1 and 2. This year's meeting will be a hybrid of face-to-face

and online sessions. For details, please see the following URL (in Japanese only): <http://jsabm.org/conference/>

Michiru Fukasawa / *Regional Secretary for East Asia*

Nordic

Regional secretary. Marko Ocepek has been the regional secretary for the Nordic Region from 2018-2022 and it is now time to select a new regional secretary. He works at the Faculty of Biosciences at Norwegian University of Life Sciences. Please contact him if you have any suggestions for a new secretary by e-mail: marko.ocepek@nmbu.no

Members in the Nordic ISAE Region. In January 2022, the Nordic Region had 61 ISAE members. The members come from Sweden (21), Denmark (17), Norway (17) and Finland (6). There were no members from Iceland or the Baltic countries currently.

The Nordic ISAE Regional Meetings. The 32nd Nordic ISAE Winter Meeting was held during the 26-28 January 2022 digital at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Lena Lidfors). A plenary talk was held by Magnus Enquist on “New theories of associative learning” and Susanne Waiblinger on “The human-animal relationship and its role for farm animal welfare”. There was 64 researchers, PhD and Master students, and representatives from animal welfare and farmer organisations registered, with 26 short presentations presented at Nordic Regional ISAE meeting. Proceeding of 32nd Nordic Regional Meeting can be found at Nordic ISAE webpage (<https://www.applied-ethology.org/Nordic.html>).

The next Nordic ISAE Winter Meeting will be held in Norway in January 2024.

PhD courses in the Nordic Region. PhD course will be arranged by Graduate School for Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences (GS-VMAS), with deadline for application on 16.08.2022. More information about the course: <https://www.slu.se/en/graduate-schools/graduate-school-veterinary-medicine-and-animal-sciences/gs-vmas-planned-courses/>

The Nordic countries have a tradition of inviting each other’s PhD students to PhD courses and there is 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.

Marko Ocepek / *Regional Secretary for Nordic*

Southwest Europe

During this period, the ISAE SWE region has been busy organising the first regional meeting, that will be undertaken in 14-15th of July in Barcelona, as a joint meeting with redCIBA. The programme will include two workshops, two plenary talks, 20 oral and 22 poster presentations.

In the following newsletter, we should be able to explain the final output! More information can be found at: https://www.applied-ethology.org/ISAE_South_West_Europe_Regional_Meeting_2022.html

Emma Fàbrega and Daniela Alberghina / *Regional Secretaries for Southwest Europe*

UK and Ireland

Learning from experiences: the UK/Ireland Regional meeting 2022

This year we hoped to host our bi-annual UK/Ireland regional meeting, the first since our last pre-pandemic meeting in Nottingham in February 2020. Our plan was to run the meeting alongside the UFAW summer meeting in Edinburgh, using a workshop in the final afternoon of the UFAW conference as a 'bridge' between the two conferences. Laura Shewbridge Carter, May Fujiwara, and Mark Rutter came on board as the final members of our organising committee, to help to liaise with UFAW but more importantly to have people on the ground in Edinburgh to help us choose a great location for dinner 😊 We had progressed to the stage where we had our venue booked, confirmed a plenary speaker (Dr Françoise Wemelsfelder), had our budget approved by the ISAE council, set up our payment system, and sent out several notifications and adverts. People had even started registering for the event, so all we needed was the scientific content... Which unfortunately failed to materialise; we only received two abstracts! As such, we had to make the disappointing decision to postpone the meeting until next year.

Historically the UK/Ireland regional meetings have been very well attended, with lots of varied and high-quality content from both Islands. We really wanted to find out what the barriers were to people attending, and we also thought it was a great opportunity to find out a bit more about the needs and wants of our regional members, to help us make plans moving forwards. We sent out a survey in February this year and got a great response – thank you to everyone who replied!

The major issue seems to have been that we changed the timing of the conference from winter/early spring, to summer. Previously, students in particular had an opportunity to submit abstracts to our regional meeting in the autumn, and then attend a few months later. This meant that both the abstract submission and meeting times did not clash with those of the larger, and often more prestigious conferences, that are normally held in summer. Indeed, most of the respondents (89%) stated that they either didn't have any research to submit at the time we called for abstracts, or else had submitted their work to another conference, including the international ISAE conference. Of the people who selected 'other reason' for not submitting an abstract, it was because the timing clashed with other conferences or holidays. Nevertheless, 63% of respondents stated that they were planning on attending the regional meeting, indicating that there was still interest in attending even if people were not presenting work themselves. Just under half (45%) of respondents said they would have attended the joint ISAE/UFAW workshop, which indicates that the concept of arranging joint workshops or meetings with another

organisation holds promise. Choices in relation to the timing of future meetings were split evenly between favouring Autumn, Winter and Spring, about a third each, which we will bear in mind when we organise the next one.

As was to be expected, Covid was mentioned by many respondents as being a current issue. Several perspectives were expressed; personal risk, the risk of projects being disrupted, and the fact that that now that things are getting back to pre-pandemic norms, there are currently a lot of options for travel to conferences that people have not had in the past two years, creating competition between meetings.

We had considered a 'theme' might be useful for a future meeting, but 75% of respondents were not in favour of that. Although we did not ask for any elaboration on this, it may be because having a theme for a small meeting would reduce the likelihood that any individual would have a relevant abstract, and thus shrink the pool of attendees further. We also wanted to make the next conference as accessible as possible for attendees. The majority (80%) of respondents stated that they would prefer a hybrid meeting (in person and online), rather than only in person or only online.

Our final question was to try and ascertain what our members would like to see in future meetings, and what else we could do for them as regional secretaries. People commented on the importance of the regional meetings for networking, providing students with feedback, and on the potential to find out what the larger research groups in the region are working on. The current format of having a keynote presentation plus submitted talks was considered appropriate, but there were also several suggestions to incorporate workshops or discussion forums into the meetings, particularly with regard to discussing current issues or supporting ECRs.

Overall, although we are disappointed not to be hosting a regional meeting in 2022, the unexpected postponement of the meeting meant that we had a great opportunity to learn more about what our regional members think and would like to see happen in future. We are hugely grateful to Mark, Laura, and May for all their help – there was a huge amount of work done behind the scenes which means we are in an excellent position to organise our next meeting. Special thanks as well to Birte and Huw from UFAW, who were incredibly supportive and accommodating when it came to planning a link between our two organisations. A significant positive outcome from the process is that not only are we all more aware of the possibilities and opportunities for future collaboration between our organisations, but that the most important aspect to consider is the needs of our members when making plans. We look forward to planning our next regional meeting in 2023!

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

USA and Canada

The 14th North American Regional Meeting of ISAE was held April 29-30 at the University of California, Davis. A total of 95 students and professional members from the US and Canada attended the event, with an additional 16 individuals joining the virtual viewing sessions. The keynote lecture was given by Dr. Gail Patricelli (Dept. Ecology and Evolution, UC Davis), which focused on her research of communication and reproductive strategies among sage-grouse (<https://patricellilab.faculty.ucdavis.edu/>). This event was sponsored by USDA NIFA and Boehringer Ingelheim. The final proceedings can be viewed at this link: <http://animalwelfare.ucdavis.edu/14th-na-isae.html>.



Kristina Horback / *Regional Secretary for USA*

Other News

Collaboration with other organizations

As mentioned on the front page, the ISAE has ongoing collaborations with a number of other organisations. The ISAE continues to collaborate with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) in the general area of animal welfare (see <https://www.oie.int/en/animal-welfare/> for details of the OIE's animal welfare activities), and in late 2021 Mark Rutter (ISAE President) participated in the 17th Meeting of the Steering Group of the OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe. Earlier this year, the ISAE was approached by the European Federation of Animal Science (EAAP) about strengthening cooperation between the two societies. In March, the ISAE Presidents (Mark, Susanne, and Janice) held a virtual meeting with Isabel Casasús (EAAP President) and Andrea Rosati (EAAP Secretary General). The meeting was joined by Hans Spoolder and Laura Boyle as they are active members of both societies, and have previously helped with joint activities. Several areas for collaboration were discussed, and it was agreed to try to arrange a virtual joint session between the ISAE's International Congress in Ohrid and the EAAP's Annual Meeting in Porto (as, coincidentally, they are scheduled in the same week). This is quite a logistical as well as a technical challenge, but hopefully we will be able to have a virtual joint session in September. The ISAE's UK and Ireland region were planning a joint workshop with the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) in June 2022. This was as intended to be part of a UK and Ireland regional meeting, but unfortunately the regional organisers did not receive many abstracts, so the ISAE had to withdraw (the UFAW meeting will still go ahead). However, it is hoped that the ISAE and UFAW will be able to have a joint meeting in the not too distant future.

Brexit continues to cause problems, and the fact the ISAE is registered in the United Kingdom has not gone unnoticed in Brussels, so the society can no longer participate directly in the EU Platform on Animal Welfare. We are investigating the possibility of having an EU office, but until then we are relying on our EU members to participate and ensure the science of applied ethology still has a voice in the European Parliament. Our former President, Bas Rodenburg, gives us an update below.

Mark Rutter / President of the ISAE (2021-2023)

EU Platform on Animal Welfare

On 10 November 2021, the 10th meeting of the EU Platform on Animal Welfare took place. This was the first meeting of the platform in its renewed composition. Unfortunately, due to Brexit, ISAE could not continue as a member of the platform, but several ISAE members are taking part as individual experts.

In the first meeting, several new working groups were announced (pigs, poultry, calves/dairy cows, transport, animal welfare labelling and slaughter/killing) and members of the platform

were invited to apply for one or more of these working groups. In the meantime, the composition of the working groups has been decided and can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare/thematic-sub-groups_en. The working groups relate to the ongoing work at EFSA and at the European Commission to update the European legislation on animal welfare (and to gather all underlying scientific knowledge and evidence). The working groups are not asked to produce additional reports, but should serve as a forum where different stakeholders can discuss the main issues linked to their animal species (pigs, poultry, calves/dairy cows) or specific topic (transport, animal welfare labelling and slaughter/killing).

The next meeting of the Platform will be on 30 June and 1 July and can be followed online (https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare/platform-meetings_en).

Bas Rodenburg / Platform member (individual expert)

Elsevier Free Subscription Awards for AABS – Call for Applications

To support access to our Society's journal *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* (AABS) by ISAE members that do not **otherwise** have access to AABS, Elsevier is offering up to **ten free online subscriptions to AABS** for one year. The free subscriptions are awarded by the ISAE council, **with a focus on** members in low to middle income countries. Though we awarded some people this year, there are still more available. If you are interested in receiving a free one-year subscription to AABS, please send a short application (including your name, address, the year you became a member and a short statement of why you should be awarded) to info@applied.ethology.org or your regional secretary by **30th August 2022**.

Employment and Education Opportunities

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

- Research Scientist, Canada (deadline August 1)
- Director, USA
- Postdoc, Poland (deadline August 5)
- Assistant Professor, Austria (deadline July 30)
- Assistant/Associate Professor, USA
- Senior manager, USA
- Behavior Coordinator, USA
- MSc assistantship, USA (deadline October 1)
- PhD position, USA
- PhD position, Canada

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

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

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

Contact Information

Council Members

President	Mark Rutter	smrutter@harper-adams.ac.uk
Senior Vice-President	Susanne Waiblinger	susanne.waiblinger@vetmeduni.ac.at
Junior Vice-President	Janice Siegford	siegford@msu.edu
Secretary	Carly O'Malley	comalley15@gmail.com
Assistant Secretary	Giuliana Miguel	Giuliana.miguelp@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Gemma Charlton	isaemembership@applied-ethology.org
Development Officer	Maria Camila Ceballos	isaedevelopment@outlook.com
Treasurer	Emma Baxter	ISAE_treasurer@outlook.com
Communications Officer	Christian Nawroth	info@applied-ethology.org
Assistant Communications Officer	Megan LaFollette	meglafollette@gmail.com
Senior Editor	Dana Campbell	dana.campbell@csiro.au
Junior Editor	Kris Descovich	k.descovich1@uq.edu.au
Procedural Advisor	Heleen van de Weerd	heleen@cerebrus.org
Ethics Committee Chair	Alexandra Whittaker	alexandra.whittaker@adelaide.edu.au
Honorary Independent Examiner	Daniel Bedford	

Regional Secretaries and Student Representatives

Africa & West Asia	Oluwaseun Serah Iyasere	<u>iyasereos@funaab.edu.ng</u>
Benelux	Maëva Manet Liesbeth van Damme	<u>m.w.e.manet@uu.nl</u> <u>liesbeth.vandamme@ilvo.vlaanderen.be</u>
Canada	Meagan King Clover Bench	<u>Meagan.King@umanitoba.ca</u> <u>clover.bench@ualberta.ca</u>
East Asia	Michiru Fukasawa	<u>michiru.fukasawa.b4@tohoku.ac.jp</u>
East & South Europe	Radka Šárová	<u>sarova.radka@gmail.com</u>
Latin America	Maria Jose Hötzel Ariel Tarazona	<u>isae.latinoamerica@gmail.com</u> <u>amtarazonam@unal.edu.co</u>
Nordic	Marko Ocepek	<u>marko.ocepek@nmbu.no</u>
Oceania	Danila Marini	<u>danila.marini@csiro.au</u>
South and Central Asia	Vijay Pal Singh Sumita Sugnaseelan	<u>vp.singh@igib.in</u> <u>sumi@upm.edu.my</u>
South West Europe	Daniela Alberghina Emma Fàbrega	<u>dalberghina@unime.it</u> <u>emma.fabrega@irta.cat</u>
UK & Ireland	Keelin O’Driscoll Ellen Williams	<u>keelin.odriscoll@teagasc.ie</u> <u>ewilliams@harper-adams.ac.uk</u>
USA	Kristina Horback	<u>kmhorback@ucdavis.edu</u>
West Central Europe	Stephanie Luerzel	<u>stephanie.luerzel@vetmeduni.ac.at</u>
Student Representatives	Rachel Caddiell Saskia Kliphuis	<u>rmpark@ncsu.edu</u> <u>s.kliphuis@uu.nl</u>