



International  
Society for  
**Applied  
Ethology**

# Newsletter

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## President's Piece

How quickly time passes! It seems like yesterday I was standing in the sea neighbouring Prince Edward Island in Canada with lobsters between my toes, and now I open my eyes and it is a dark December day in The Netherlands! We had a lovely Congress in Charlottetown, PEI, Canada this summer, with excellent talks and posters, great networking and a fantastic atmosphere in general. And then the dancing: this was the first time that our incredible dancing skills were cut short by the police! Great job, everyone! I would like to take the opportunity once again to thank Michael Cockram and his team for the excellent organisation and all participants for their contribution to this wonderful meeting.

The 2019 Congress looks very exciting as well! We are invited to join Bjarne Braastad and his team in the beautiful city of Bergen in Norway (<http://www.isae2019.com/>) from 5-9 August 2019. The overall theme for the Congress is 'Animal Lives Worth Living', with a large number of proposed scientific sessions. The deadline for abstracts is 15 February 2019! Like in 2018, there will again be an opportunity to bring a group of people from developing countries to the Congress, funded by the [Developing Countries Congress Attendance Fund](#) (supported by Open Philanthropy Project). A unique opportunity for ISAE to help develop applied animal behaviour and welfare science in parts of the world where the field is still in its infancy. Contact Jeremy Marchant-Forde if you'd like to know more about this scheme. Like last year, the organisers plan to have the excursions during the Congress, providing opportunities to visit a research station, cruise the fjords or visit Bergen. All tours will end with a dinner at the rooftop of Bergen, with incredible views. Something to look forward to! Apart from the international Congress, of course, also a number of regional meetings is organised every year. The regional ISAE meetings are of special interest to local MSc and PhD students and sometimes focus on specific topics. Earlier in December, the regional meeting of Latin America took place in Valdivia, Chile and a special regional meeting was held in Dehli, India. Another will be held in Bangalore, India in March 2019 (as part of the much larger 7PCVC congress), leading up to ISAE 2020 in Bangalore and hopefully allowing us to attract attention to ISAE and to the scientific study of animal behaviour and welfare in that region.

On 2 August 2018, our AGM was held. The meeting was well attended with 85 ISAE members present. It was good to see that so many of our members take an interest in the running of the sSociety. Much of what was discussed at the AGM can also be found in the officers' reports in this newsletter and the [previous one](#). A point of special interest for this AGM was the discussion about the ISAE Anti-Harassment Policy and the ISAE Code of Conduct. We adopted the [modified Code of Conduct](#) at the AGM and in November Council approved the [ISAE Anti-Harassment Policy](#). Both texts are included in this Newsletter, with an [introduction on the background](#) from me. At the AGM we also voted in Heleen van de Weerd as Procedural Advisor, Alexandra Whittaker as Ethics Officer and Gemma Charlton as Membership Secretary. Mike Appleby, Anna Olsson, Priya Motupalli and Mike Toscano were all leaving Council: thank you so much again for all you have done for the society! If, as an ISAE member, you would like to take part in the running of our Society, I would encourage you to consider standing for election for one of the four [Council positions](#) that will be up for renewal at next year's AGM: **Junior Editor, Assistant Secretary and Junior Vice President**. You can find out more about these positions by consulting the [ISAE Procedural Guidelines](#) on our website ([www.applied-ethology.org](http://www.applied-ethology.org)).

Apart from the topics described above, ISAE Council is actively engaged in starting up with the ISAE country liaisons and organising activities leading up to (and including) ISAE 2020 in Bangalore, India. Further, ISAE is active in the new [EU Platform for Animal Welfare](#). In this Newsletter, you will find more information from the different working groups linked to this Platform. Needless to say, ISAE is very much alive and a very active society! I hope 2019 will be a very good year for ISAE and for you all and that we will have a great Congress in Bergen, Norway! I wish you all the best for 2019 and look forward to seeing you in Norway! Season's greetings!

**T. Bas Rodenburg** / *President of the ISAE (2017-2019)* / Wageningen, December 2018

## Updates from your ISAE Council

### Website and Social Media

The most popular page within the ISAE website continues to be [Employment and Education](#), with sub-sections for jobs, graduate study opportunities, and internships. These are also the most widely shared links in social media.

Other popular content is the research done by our members, shared via published papers. As mentioned at the AGM, we share links to open-access and temporarily free-access papers written by ISAE members. We have been pleased to see an increase paper links members have sent us to share (along with high-resolution photos for permanent open-access papers) and a several-fold increase in site visits to the [Papers page](#). Although we always share links that you send to us, please note that Elsevier already sends us the monthly list of all free 50-day ShareLinks for *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, the official journal of our Society. If at least one co-author is an ISAE member, we add the link to the website and social media. If you would like to opt out of posting of your papers, please email Jennifer ([info@applied-ethology.org](mailto:info@applied-ethology.org)). If you would like to be tagged when we share your paper on Twitter, send us your username with your paper link.

On a weekly basis, we also add [news items](#), [regional updates](#), [requests for international collaborations or student internship opportunities](#), and [non-ISAE events](#). Please note that the link to the current and future ISAE annual Congresses are on the main [Events page](#). The website for the upcoming Congress is hosted separately by the Local Congress Organizing Committee (for 2019: <http://www.isae2019.com/>).

To share your updates or requests, email [info@applied-ethology.org](mailto:info@applied-ethology.org).

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/appliedethology](http://www.facebook.com/appliedethology)

**Twitter:** [@appliedethology](https://twitter.com/appliedethology)

**Communication Strategy.** At the 2018 pre-Congress meeting, Council discussed how our needs have grown over the past few years. With the major website overhaul completed in 2017 and our twitter and Facebook accounts maturing, we are working toward developing a more focused communications strategy for the Society. Christy has been spearheading an effort within a Council subcommittee to provide a framework for communications to support ISAE and ensure our activities, especially our online presence, are efficient, representative of the society, and meet the needs of current and future members.

Jennifer Van Os / *Communications Officer of the ISAE*

Christy Goldhawk / *Assistant Communications Officer of the ISAE*

## Treasurer's Report

The report contains the annual summary for the period **January 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018**. The accounts are healthy with the main revenue coming from Membership subscriptions and belated profit from the 2016 Congress. The largest outgoing expenses were to Wageningen Press (in relation to annual conference costs for abstract proceedings), Intergage (for membership services) and Elsevier (for *AABS* subscriptions for members). Bank charges include quite large charges for each international payment. We expect further expenditure in the remainder of December, including support for the Latin American regional meeting, further reimbursements to Congress Attendance Fund (CAF) scholars and further Intergage payments.

The CAF allocated £4530 and awarded £3637 to successful applicants. Most reimbursements have been made, although there continue to be issues with some international transfers. Nestle provided scholarship funds for conference attendance and sponsorship of sessions (total £7474.52), and £5958 of this fund was awarded to support attendance at the 2018 Congress by successful applicants. Council member costs include travel and subsistence support for attendance as independent experts and ISAE representatives at international meetings such as the EU platforms on animal welfare and the AAALAC Membership Organisation Board meeting.

Emma Baxter / *Treasurer of the ISAE*

## ISAE Accounts for period Jan 1st to Dec 4th 2018

### *Statement of Revenue and Expenses (in GBP, £)*

#### Revenue:

AAALAC returns	0
Congress Profit	7800.00
Ethology Book sponsorship	0
Membership subs	28,766.18
Net Interest	29.60
Payment returns	2189.60
Returns from regions	0
Scholarship funds from sponsors	7,474.52
Transfers in	5,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>51,259.90</b>

#### Expenses:

AAALAC	0
Bank Charges	1082.09
Conference Attendance Award	3637.00
Conference Attendance Fund	0
Council Member Costs	1530.60
Elsevier AABS	2654.58

Ethology book paid	0
Membership services - Intergage	3455.79
Regional Payments	0
SAGEPay	356.40
Scholarship funds awarded	5958.00
Subs returns	180.00
Transfers out	5000.00
Wageningen Press	9344.30
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>33,198.76</b>
<hr/>	
Excess of Revenue over expenses	18,061.14
Beg Fund Balances	36,859.89
End Fund Balances	54,921.03

## Editors' Report

**Special issues.** The Special Issue of *Applied Animal Behavior Science* based on the Congress in 2017 (Aarhus, Denmark), is titled 'Understanding Animal Behavior' and currently has 9 papers published online. The last two papers are in the final stages, making this issue close to completion with 11 total papers.

The special issue based on the 2018 Congress in Prince Edward Island, Canada, has the theme of 'Ethology for Health and Welfare'. The issue is off to a strong start with 20 authors who have confirmed they will contribute, including several of the plenary speakers. If all goes as planned, the issue will be ready by the next Congress in Bergen.

As a heads up, we will require quite a few reviewers to get the manuscripts through the peer-review process in a timely fashion; therefore, we ask you to promptly respond to review requests – even if it is only to decline. Please also suggest alternative reviewers if you do need to decline.

**Help with English scheme.** The ISAE has an English grammar and language editing service to help members prepare manuscripts for publication in *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*. In 2018 we received five requests for this service to improve manuscripts before publication.

ISAE members can send requests for manuscript editing assistance to the ISAE Junior Editor, Dr. Irene Camerlink, at [irene.camerlink@vetmeduni.ac.at](mailto:irene.camerlink@vetmeduni.ac.at). Please include the manuscript title, contact information, keywords, and a copy of the abstract. You will be connected with an ISAE member who has volunteered to help you with the English of your paper. This volunteer should be acknowledged in your paper but will not expect to be included as an author. If you are an ISAE member interested in serving as a volunteer for this program, please contact Irene for more information. A big thank you again to the volunteers who have helped or have expressed their willingness to help!

**Janice Siegford / Senior Editor of the ISAE**

**Irene Camerlink / Junior Editor of the ISAE**

## Membership Update

We currently have 546 ISAE members, compared with the 425 we had back in June. Details of members in each region and membership type can be found below.

**Gemma Charlton** / *Membership Secretary of the ISAE*

<b>Region</b>	<b>Members</b>
Australasia/Africa	45
Benelux	41
Canada	71
East Asia	21
East Central Europe	11
Latin America	23
Mediterranean	30
Nordic	61
UK/Ireland	82
USA	112
West Central Europe	49
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>546</b>

<b>Membership type</b>	<b>% of members</b>
Full	72.9
Honorary	3.3
Retired	2.4
Student	21.3

## Thank you to former Council members and Student Representative

At the AGM in Canada, Anna Olsson (Ethics Officer), Priya Motupalli (Membership Secretary), Mike Toscano (Education Officer) and Mike Appleby (Procedural Advisor) stepped down from their positions on ISAE Council. On behalf of the Society, I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to them for all their hard work in the interest of ISAE. I would like to welcome Alexandra Whittaker (Ethics Officer), Gemma Charlton (Membership Secretary) and Heleen van de Weerd (Procedural Advisor) to Council and wish them success (and some fun) in their new positions.

**Bas Rodenburg** / *President of the ISAE*

*Late-breaking addendum:* Thank you to our out-going Student Representative, Megan LaFollette, for all her hard work on behalf of the ISAE over the last 2 years, and congratulations to her successor, Laura Whalin, a PhD student at the University of British Columbia, Canada!

## ISAE Congress News

### Recap of 52nd Congress – Prince Edward Island, Canada, 2018

This year's ISAE Congress took place on Prince Edward Island in Canada, and it was supported by the Atlantic Veterinary College of UPEI and assisted by colleagues from Dalhousie University. The 281 delegates from 29 countries experienced the beauty and hospitality of Charlottetown and the excellent conference setting of the University of Prince Edward Island. The Wood-Gush memorial lecture was given by Prof. Stevan Harnad, who works in human cognitive science. His work on human psychology led him to consider issues of animal sentience, and he is the current Editor-in-chief of the journal *Animal Sentience*. Prof. Harnad delivered a provocative view on animal welfare, rights and sentience, subsequently leading to an engaged debate by members of the audience. Not least were questions from Temple Grandin, who later gave a talk on how to cross the divide between academic research and practical application of ethology on-farm.

The Congress had 127 spoken and 110 poster presentations, with a plethora of interesting new results in the world of applied ethology, giving rise to plenty of knowledge as well as questions and discussions. This year, we had the opportunity to view an Animal Welfare Judging Contest, where different animal welfare scenarios were described and presented. The students who took part evaluated which of the scenarios had the better animal welfare, and presented their rationale to the judges and the audience. First started in 2001 in the US, these contests now include several universities and more than 100 participants annually.

The excursions had returned to the former tradition of being held mid-conference, which meant that more delegates could benefit. All groups met up for a lobster feast in the evening (but more animal welfare friendly dinner options were also available ;o)

The Congress dinner drew the crowds, and as usual lots of dancing occurred (the band looked generally – and pleasantly – surprised when, after having played less than 30 seconds, the dance floor was packed!). As the photo (*right*) can confirm, the ISAE delegates know how to party, as the festivities were eventually closed down by the campus police for making too much noise. It was worth it!

Thank you to the organisers for ensuring a great Congress with lots of science, discussions and social activities. A special thanks goes to Michael Cockram, who led the organising team with great success.



*Birte L. Nielsen / Senior Vice-President of the ISAE*

### ISAE Student Representatives' 2018 Congress Recap

During the 2018 ISAE International Congress in Prince Edward Island, Canada, the student representative events were a huge success. They were organized by the student representatives Megan LaFollette and Allison Pullin. This year we ran three different events: **Eating with**

**Ethologists, Student Welcome/Networking Session, and Table Topics.** We ran a follow-up survey to gain additional feedback and present our findings below (n = 130). For all of the events, the majority of participants were satisfied with them (>92% for Eating with Ethologists & Student Welcome/Networking Session; 77% for Table Topics)

The **student welcome/networking session** was held on the first night of Congress during the welcome reception/opening ceremony. It was advertised in the Congress program and website before the Congress. After initial hors d'oeuvres and a cultural performance at the reception, we made an announcement on the microphone to gather all students into a separate part of the building. After a brief introduction of the student reps and an example of an elevator pitch, students were given the networking handout and asked to break into small groups to practice their elevator pitches. This event was attended by a third of students (35 students out of 92 total). Prior to Congress, we created a networking handout with helpful professional development tips to use at Congress and an elevator pitch worksheet. The majority of participants (92%) found the networking handout to be extremely helpful or somewhat helpful. Overall, students enjoyed the event, stating that they felt welcomed and appreciated the opportunity to mingle with other students in a relaxed environment at the very start of Congress. Key future suggestions include holding the event in a separate room (to minimize distractions and excess noise), a “speed dating” activity, and “flash job interviews”. Future handout recommendations were on CV and/or resume writing, including positive and negative examples. For promotion, attendees reported that they heard about the event through email, Congress program, and word of mouth.

**Eating with Ethologists** is our event that pairs students with established ethologists of similar interests. Initially during a pre-Congress survey, 67 professors signed up to participate in the event. Students then identified their top three professors from that list and student-professor groups were created, giving students their top preference. Therefore, a total of 40 professors were matched and participated in the event (some scientists were not selected as first choices by students and therefore were not asked to participate). This year the event was attended by a third of conference attendees (103 participants out of 280 total) and almost three-quarters of all students (63 students out of 92 total). Reasons for not attending included scientists not being matched with a student, being too busy, and a few were uninterested or unaware. Most everyone who participated was satisfied with the event (96%). Overall, attendees thought the event was enjoyable, beneficial, well-communicated, organized, and enjoyed the approximate 2:1 ratio of students to faculty. Key future suggestions include noise control during lunch and allowing faculty to opt-in to sharing contact information with students to allow even more student-faculty connection. For promotion, email communication prior to Congress and advertisement in the conference program were crucial. Attendees reported that they heard about the event through email, Congress program and website, and word of mouth.

**Table Topics** was a brand new event this year that created open lunch conversation groups based on similar research interests for all conference attendees. This event was created from feedback wanting more events similar to Eating with Ethologists that also allowed established ethologists to connect with each other. This event was also attended by about a third of conference attendees (87 of 280). The most popular topics were Cognition & Emotion, Welfare Policy, Welfare in Latin America (which replaced the Global Development Lunch), Play Behaviour, Technology & Welfare, and Abnormal Behaviour. Attendees were mostly satisfied with the event (76%), but as a new event there were many helpful comments. Overall, attendees thought the event was a great idea,

want it to continue in future conferences, enjoyed its informal nature with widespread topics, and appreciated the opportunity to meet/network with people of similar interests. Key suggestions for the future include better promotion of the event and topics, holding the event earlier in the week, better organisation during the actual event, and possibly seeking out experts on a topic to be stationed at each table. Additional ideas included providing a map of the table topics, discussing the plenary topic, posting topics earlier in the week, and voting on topics at the same time as when signing up for Eating with Ethologists. For promotion, attendees reported that they heard about the event through email, Congress program, and word of mouth.

Table Topic	Number of participants
Abnormal behaviour	7
Cognition & emotion	12
Ethology in academia	0
Ethology in industry	4
Ethology and welfare in Latin America	8
Euthanasia	4
Human-animal interactions	6
Lameness	2
Pain	2
Play behaviour	7
Social behaviour	5
Technology and welfare	7
Welfare education	4
Welfare policy	10
Welfare for veterinarians	6

Overall, we really enjoyed the conference this year and running these events! We look forward to continuing them at future conferences to benefit all attendees!

We would also like to thank Megan LaFollette for her two years of service to ISAE as a Student Representative. She has done a wonderful job bringing creative energy and enthusiasm to the student events. ISAE Student Members just finished the process of electing a new Student Representative for a 2019-2021 term: Laura Whalin, PhD student at UBC!

**Megan LaFollette and Allison Pullin / *Student Representatives of the ISAE***

### 2018 ISAE Award Winners

**Honorary Fellows.** Drs Joy Mench and Marian Stamp Dawkins were elected as Fellows of the ISAE and were granted a lifetime membership to the Society.

In the words of Dr Mike Appleby, regarding **Dr Joy Mench**: “it is difficult to imagine that anyone could more fully meet the requirement of being a ‘person of eminence in the field of the aims of the ISAE,’ as she has made extensive and important contributions to all six of the aims listed in our constitution.” Joy is primarily a poultry scientist (although she and her group have also worked on companion, lab and zoo animals), publishing on subjects including handling and transport, housing management and the welfare aspects and sustainability of systems for egg-laying hens and meat chickens. She was also co-author of *Poultry Behaviour and Welfare* (2004) and an editor of several books including *Animal Welfare* and *Biology of Animal Stress*. Perhaps most



important, she has worked with the poultry industry and related organisations throughout her career to ensure implementation of changes for the benefit of people, animals and the environment. Since 1995 Joy has been based at University of California, Davis, making considerable contributions to both undergraduate and graduate teaching and to university life, including as Department Vice Chair. She was given the UC Davis Distinguished Public Scholarly Service Award in 2007 and made Professor Emeritus on her semi-retirement – she is still more active than most of us. That service includes to ISAE. Among other contributions Joy was only our second female president (1999-2001, after Marie-France Bouissou, 1982-3) – which felt important at the time, although of course it was not why she was elected – and organised our Congress in 2001. It is well overdue that Professor Joy Mench should be recognised as an Honorary Fellow of our Society. More information about Dr Mench’s work can be viewed at: <https://animalscience.ucdavis.edu/people/emeriti/joy-mench>

**Dr Marian Stamp Dawkins** has been one of the leading lights in promoting the scientific study of animal behaviour and welfare. Coming from a fundamental ethological background (she did her PhD on the *mechanisms of hunting in birds*), she has devoted a large part of her working life to issues relating to the behaviour and welfare of animals managed by humans. In one of her most famous studies, she applies consumer demand theory to the measurement of ethological needs (Dawkins, 1983); being one of the first to use this method to “ask the animals.” She also measured the space needed in three dimensions by laying hens to perform their normal behaviour, and concluded that the battery cage in use at the time did not allow the birds to perform most of their behavioural repertoire (Dawkins and Hardie, 1989).



Throughout her career, she has taught, tutored, and inspired young researchers to catch the bug that is establishing knowledge about animal behaviour. That she mostly studied non-exotic species, such as the humble chicken, just added to her status. Indeed, in 2004 she managed to get an article on chicken welfare published in Nature! In her classic book from 1980, she says: “/ wrote this book because I believe that the welfare of animals is a very important subject but one about which there is ... confusion and muddled thinking.” She is a sought-after lecturer, with a capacity to convey complex messages in easy-to-understand ways. Marian Stamp Dawkins has been awarded the RSPCA/British Society for Animal Protection prize in 1991, the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour’s Niko Tinbergen Medal in 2009, and the World Poultry Science

Association Robert Fraser Gordon Medal in 2011. In 2014, she was given a CBE for services to animal welfare, and the same year elected a Fellow of the Royal Society for her work on animal welfare. Having already been given a lot of prizes and honours does not always mean that more are deserved, but in this particular case, awarding Marian Stamp Dawkins the title of Honorary Fellow of the ISAE is long overdue. More information about Dr Stamp Dawkins' work can be viewed at: <https://www.zoo.ox.ac.uk/people/marian-stamp-dawkins-frs-cbe>

***Creativity Award.*** This year the recipient of the Creativity Award was **Prof Per Jensen** for his work on the links between epigenetics, domestication, and stress. Per (Pelle) comes from a background in applied ethology but has for a number of years worked on the genetic basis for behavioural variation. Behavioural genetics is one of the least travelled roads in applied ethology, and Pelle's work has improved our knowledge on these issues immensely. He has put forward the idea that epigenetic variation may have been a substrate for selection during domestication. Epigenetics refers to chemical modifications of DNA, which do not change the base-pair sequence. Such modifications affect how genes are expressed and can occur as a response to stress, mediated by steroid hormones. Domestication, in this context, offers an interesting framework of rapid evolutionary changes caused by well-defined selection pressures. His argument, that "*greatly improved understanding of domestication may be gained from extending the field of behaviour genetics to also include epigenetics*" has been a rally-cry for more, and different, research into the processes involved in domestication. Pelle's group have been among the strong proponents of using epigenetic tools as an alternative to other, more commonly used stress measures, such as cortisol, as epigenetics makes it possible to evaluate past exposure to long-term stress (Pértille et al., 2017). Working on the interphase between epigenetics and behaviour has allowed Pelle to investigate genomic aspects of welfare. "*The field of animal welfare, which, among others, concerns the way in which animals respond to environmental challenges associated with stress, will also benefit substantially by including new perspectives from epigenetic insights*" (Jensen, 2015). Recently, working with human-directed social behaviours in dogs, Pelle's group found strong associations between genes affecting social disorders in humans (Autism and ADHD) and those affecting dog sociability and inter-species communication (Persson et al., 2016). Not only does this advance our understanding of dog domestication, it also introduces the dog as a novel model for human social disorders. Pelle has an excellent ability to convey the complexities of epigenetics to audiences from different background. Tackling the issues of epigenetics and genomics from the angle of applied animal behaviour, has given rise to new ways to apply the science of epigenetics. His embracing both domestication and stress in this endeavour has given rise to synergies that would not otherwise have come to light.



**New Investigator Award.** The recipient of the 2018 New Investigator Award was presented to **Dr Alexandra Whittaker**. Alex is a veterinarian who has developed a particular interest in the assessment of animal welfare, and the application of the 3Rs in Biomedical Research. Alex works at the university of Adelaide School of Veterinary Sciences and her current role involves teaching animal welfare, behaviour and laboratory animal science. She is also responsible for establishing the first animal law course in Australia which is designed for students from non-legal backgrounds. Alex began working on her PhD part-time in 2011 under the supervision of Prof Gordon Howarth, assessing a variety of behavioural methods of affective state assessment in rats subject to non-surgical model of visceral pain. Alex's PhD received a Commendation for Excellence.



Alexandra has already supervised 9 Honours and 2 PhD students and now leads a small independent research group focussing largely on the assessment of behaviour and welfare in laboratory animals. Much of the group's current research efforts are directed at measures of affective bias detection in rodents, and how these strategies might be practically incorporated to aid welfare improvement. Current projects are investigating attention bias testing in mice, real-time rodent grimace scoring, and the novel and exciting area of miRNA analysis as a biomarker of affective state.

Since 2012, Alex has been named on 29 publications in international peer-reviewed journals, being first author on 17 of these. Recent publications and grants include her as senior author or principal investigator. This attests to her leadership in the field through her conceptualisation and initiation of projects, and collaborations.

Well done Alexandra – a very worthy winner!

Fiona Lang / Assistant Secretary of the ISAE

## 53rd Congress – Bergen, Norway, 5th to 9th August, 2019



The 53<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the ISAE will take place in Bergen, Norway, 5-9 August 2019. The venue will be [Radisson Blu Royal Hotel](#) at Bryggen, the famous UNESCO World Heritage site by the old wharfs. The theme of the congress is '*Animal lives worth living*'. The [abstract submission](#) is now open, with deadline 15 February 2019. [Registration](#) is also open, with deadline for early-bird registration 15 May 2019. Visit [www.isae2019.com](http://www.isae2019.com) for more information on the venue, scientific

sessions, accommodation, travels to Bergen, excursions, the programme for ISAE students, and the possibility for obtaining a travel award. You can view a video presenting Bergen and the congress facilities [here](#).

The Congress has the following facebook site: [www.facebook.com/ISAE2019](http://www.facebook.com/ISAE2019).

**Bjarne Braastad and Ruth Newberry / 2019 Local Congress Organising Committee**



*Bergen with its famous Bryggen. The Congress hotel is on the left of the photo.*



*Kongesalen, The King's Hall, part of the scientific session area.*



*Mostraumen, part of one of the excursions into narrow fjords.*

## Congress Attendance Fund for ISAE 2019

The ISAE has a Congress Attendance Fund (CAF) to cover the registration fees of 8-10 ISAE members for the annual International Congress, this year in Bergen, Norway. The fund will be allocated to needy ISAE members to cover the Congress registration fee and potentially contribute towards accommodation (but not travel) expenses.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a member of the ISAE (or have submitted an ISAE membership application) before submitting their application. The applicant must have submitted an abstract, and money will only be allocated if their presentation is accepted. Applications for funding will be reviewed by the CAF Committee and will be prioritized on the basis of financial need and quality of the abstract. Researchers and students from developing countries are especially encouraged to apply for this support (but see also the [DCCAF](#)). Please note that support from the CAF to any one person is limited to once in any 5-year period – so if you have received funding in the last 5 years, please do not apply.

The application must contain all of the following information:

1. Name of applicant
2. Postal and email address
3. The year the applicant became a member of the ISAE or the date membership application was submitted
4. Status of applicant (e.g. student, active researcher, unemployed researcher, etc.)
5. A full justification explaining why the applicant should be given an award. There is no fixed format for this justification, as reasons will vary between applicants, but if no justification is given, the application will not be considered
6. A budget for attending the Congress. This should indicate if support for accommodation costs is requested, as well as information on whether other funding is available or have been applied for to cover the remaining costs of attending the congress

The application itself should not be more than one A4 page. It must be accompanied by a short CV, including a list of publications and/or presentations by the applicant (including local and regional meetings) and a copy of the abstract submitted for the Congress. These should be submitted as one PDF file, with the applicants last name as filename (e.g., NIELSEN.pdf).

Applications for the ISAE 2019 Congress are due **4 March 2019** and should be sent to Birte L Nielsen ([birte.nielsen@inra.fr](mailto:birte.nielsen@inra.fr)). Applications arriving after this date will not be considered. Successful applicants will be notified immediately following acceptance of Congress abstracts.

**Birte L. Nielsen** / *Senior Vice-President of the ISAE*

## ISAE Regional News and Development

### Regional Updates

There were many activities going on in the regions in 2018. Please see below for more details. I want to thank the regional secretaries and other members organising these and keeping ISAE lively in the regions. Since the last Newsletter there was no change in the regional secretaries.

**Susanne Waiblinger** / *Junior Vice-President of the ISAE*

### Australasia-Africa

We've had a busy few months in the Australasia-African region with both regional secretaries and many other ISAE members helping to organise the UFAW Animal Welfare Across Borders conference in Hong Kong. It was a great success, with a fantastic line up of speakers including a plenary by ISAE's Senior Vice-President Birte Nielsen on "Hurdles to overcome in the practical application of animal welfare principles - and how to progress."

We now turn our attention to our next regional meeting which will be held in November 2019 in New Zealand. The date and location will be revealed soon, so watch this space!

We would encourage any Australasian-African regional members (or members with links to the region or even if you just plan to visit sometime in the future!) to follow our Facebook page where we will post any updates on the regional meeting, including scholarship opportunities. Our Facebook page is: [www.facebook.com/ISAEAA/](http://www.facebook.com/ISAEAA/)

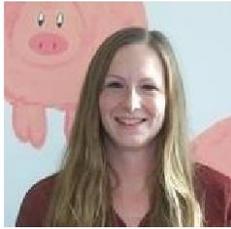
**Kris Descovich and Amanda Doughty** / *Regional Secretaries for Australasia-Africa*

### Benelux

The regional meeting of the ISAE Benelux, which took place in Geel on October 10th was a fantastic success! The presentations ranged from impulsive cats to improving our ethograms in applied ethology, with 4 sessions on: individual differences, methodologies, the discreet charm of the gut, and interactions with other individuals. We also had an exciting keynote lecture by Eddie Bokkers (WUR) on the integration of animal welfare into sustainable development of farms. The presentations were of excellent quality and the discussions lively and stimulating. The tour of the Experimental Poultry Centre was very informative and we were shown novel broiler housing and different types of layer systems.



Our thanks go out to our four chairs: Inonge Reimert (WUR), Ellen Meijer (UU), Claire Diederich (University of Namur) and Monique Bestman (LBI), and to our jury: Cynthia Verwer (LBI) and Esther Majoor (HAS). We would also like to warmly thank Sophie de Graaf (Dierenbescherming), Leoni Jacobs (Virginia Tech), Iris Boumans (WUR) and Inonge Reimert (WUR) for reviewing abstracts.



And a big congratulations to PhD student Anouschka Middelkoop (WUR) for winning the best presentation prize with her talk titled: “Nutritional needs during lactation and playfulness at the creep feeder ease weaning in piglets.”

Thank you very much to all involved!

**Lisanne Stadig and Laura Webb / *Regional Secretaries for Benelux***

## **Canada**

Canadian regional membership continues to slowly increase, with 71 members at the time of writing. The Canadian region membership consists of 55% working professionals, 36% students and 9% Honorary Fellows.

The 52<sup>nd</sup> International congress of the ISAE held in Prince Edward Island, Canada, in summer 2018 was a roaring success. Thank you to Michael Cockram and his team for hosting a fantastic Congress.

The next North American regional meeting will be held in 2020. This is one year later than usual, but accounts for the fact that there was a strong Canadian and US presence at the International meeting in PEI, 2018. Additionally, it will provide a regional meeting for members to attend who are not able to make the International Congress in India in 2020.

**Conference - Save the Date:** The International Society for Equitation Sciences (ISES) will hold its 15<sup>th</sup> International Equitation Science Conference at the University of Guelph, August 19-21 2019. Conference theme: “Horse-human relationships: Where have we come from? Where are we now? Where are we going?” For further updates on this conference, check the ISES website: <https://equitationscience.com/conferences/>. Conference registration will open early in 2019. For more information, email [ISES2019@uoguelph.ca](mailto:ISES2019@uoguelph.ca)

**Yolande Seddon / *Regional Secretary for Canada***

## **East Asia**

The [14th International Conference on Environmental Enrichment](#) will be held in Kyoto, Japan on 22-26 June, 2019.

**Shigeru Ninomiya / *Regional Secretary for East Asia***

## East and West Central Europe Regions

On 11-12th June 2018, the Joint East and West Central Europe Regional Meeting of the ISAE, titled “Animal preferences and animal welfare,” was held in Warsaw, Poland. It was organised by Aleksandra Górecka-Bruzda, PhD, DSc and co-workers from the Institute of Genetics and Animal Breeding PAS and co-organised by the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology PAS and the Polish Ethological Society.



In the meeting, dedicated mainly to students and young researchers, more than 40 participants from Poland, Czech Republic, Austria, Switzerland, Ukraine, Serbia, Macedonia and France were present. Three invited lectures were titled “Welfare of riding horses” (Prof. Martine Hausberger, University of Rennes, France), “Social dominance and social preferences in female cattle” (Dr Marek Špinka, Institute of Animal Science, Prague, Czech Republic), and “Social stress in dairy goats - a matter of horns?” (Prof. Dr. med. vet. Susanne Waiblinger, University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna, Austria).

Other oral and poster communications presented the results of research dealing with various aspects of applied ethology of many animal groups, mainly horses and other farm animals (chicken, cattle, pigs, goats and sheep), along with laboratory rodents, dogs, Antarctic fur seals and ants. In the evening after the first day of interesting talks participants could enjoy a guided tour through the center of Warsaw and continue with networking during a traditional Polish dinner. This event was an excellent opportunity for young scientists to develop international contacts and exchange information. Thanks to ISAE grants (OPP Regional Meeting), most of participants from less wealthy countries could attend this meeting.

## Radka Šárová / *Regional Secretary for East Central Europe*



## Latin America

Hi everybody! Since our last communication our region team has been very busy as you will see below.

Tamara and I (Giuliana) are happy to announce that since the last newsletter we have welcomed 5 new members. There are some members who are in the process of updating their status. So, we have 22 members, including Tamara and I who are up to date with their membership. We are hoping that the recent Regional Meeting may increase our membership in the following months.

The Meeting started on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December with a total of 18 speakers confirmed, from which 12 are from the LatAm region, and 8 were current ISAE members. We had 240 attendants registered for the conference. In addition, two satellite workshops were organised, one on “Equine Husbandry and Welfare” and the second one on “Bioethics in Animal Research.”

The Meeting received a total of 150 abstracts. From this, 119 abstracts were accepted to be presented as posters (n = 95) or short talks (n = 24). We have received abstracts from many countries from the region such as Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay, Brazil, Mexico, Ecuador, Chile, and from other regions (Australia, Ireland, Canada).



*Book of abstracts and notebook given to attendants, drawings by Daniela Fuchslocher <https://www.danielafuchslocher.cl/>*

We offered two social gatherings; one was free for all the attendants and the other was paid. On both there was chance for everybody to meet and network. The first social event included drinks and nibbles in a beautiful setting. The second was a meal at a very popular traditional beer house.



*Attendees enjoy drinks and nibbles in a beautiful setting in Valdivia – time to chat and share*

During the conference our own ISAE LatAm team along with other attendants were keeping the world informed about what was going on in Valdivia. Using the hashtags #BAISAE2018 and #ISAElatAm, Twitter and Instagram were inundated with information about the different talks, speakers and events that happened during these 4 days. If you want to know what we were up to just search for our hashtags.

At the end of the conference, we offered a prize for the best poster and best oral presentation. The selection of the best poster was made by a group of experienced scientists, while the selection of the best oral presentation was made by the public using an interactive tool at the end of each session.

On the second day of the event, the ISAE LatAm team met with the ISAE members and potential members to talk about the future of our region. We discussed different topics such as promoting our organization using the material (e.g., slides), the next regional meeting (Colombia) and what could work for future meetings, like working again in 2021 with OIE Collaborating Centers to bring the BAISAE Meeting to Uruguay.

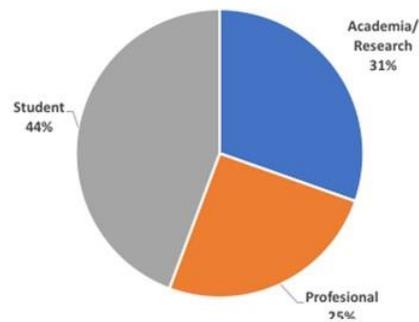
We closed the Meeting with a great feeling from the region. This was a period to meet new and old friends, and to see the amazing research that many have started to do in the area of applied ethology. So, we hope that this will bring new members to our organization particularly from countries where we have very few or none.

## ISAE Travel Awards Latin America Office

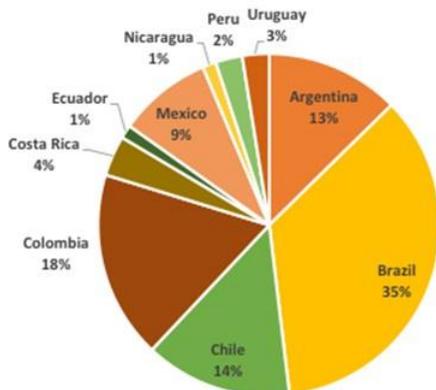


- ✓ 88 applications received
- ✓ 90% accepted
  - ✓ 10% received after deadline
- ✓ 10 countries
- ✓ 68% women

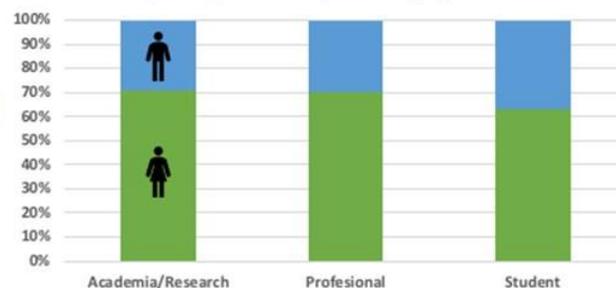
Accepted Applications by Category



Accepted Applications by Country



Accepted Applications by Job Category & Gender



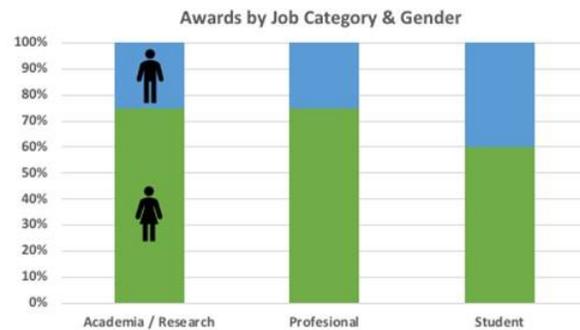
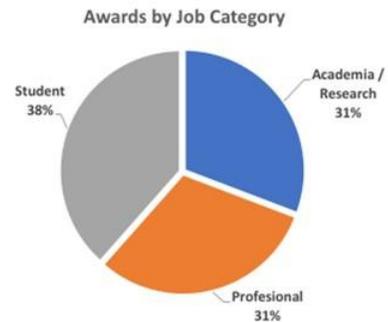
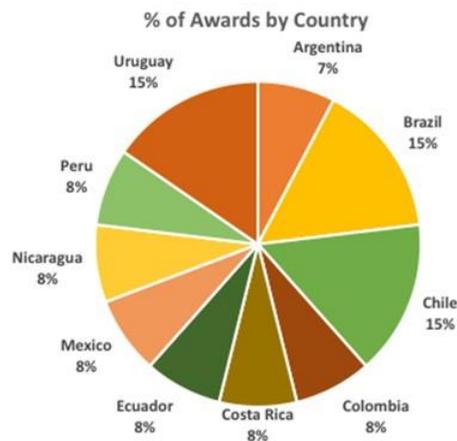
Thanks to generous funding from the open Philanthropy Project (thanks to the actions done by Dr Jeremy Marchant-Forde), the ISAE through its Latin America Regional Secretaries offered the “Farm animal welfare attendance awards.” We received over 80 applications and we were able to

offer 13 awards to attend the meeting. Awards were given based on country of origin, economic need and impact to farm animal welfare. We were able to offer awards to individuals from 10 countries (Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Colombia, Chile, Brazil, Uruguay, Mexico, Peru, Ecuador and Argentina) and from different areas of work or studies. The awardee from Costa Rica couldn't attend, and the award was given to the following two on the wait list.

## ISAE Travel Awards Latin America Office



- ✓ 13 awards granted
- ✓ 10 countries
  - ✓ 5 countries with no ISAE representation



*The awardees (top - left to right): Marcela Valadez (Mexico), Graciela Estrada (Ecuador), Lorena Aguayo (Colombia), Roberto Evaristo (Peru), Franciely de Oliveira (Brazil), Scarlett Barrera (Chile), Laura Salazar (Chile), Carmen Arguello (Nicaragua); (bottom - left to right) Malvina Prieto (Uruguay), Valentina Herrera (Uruguay), Gisela Marcoppido (Argentina), Diego Bottegal (Argentina), Karen Mancera (Mexico). One of the awardees from Brazil, Miguel Machado, could not make it for the picture.*

We started to run a survey with the aim to gather information to help us improve the communication with our members and potential members. We hope that this information will allow us to develop a plan to attract more members in the region and to be able to provide the support that our members need. We hope to gather more participants during the conference before this survey is close.



Finally, a reminder to members to visit and share the updates on our site ([Latin America](#)), here you could also find information about colleagues in the region. Don't forget to get in touch with us if you have any questions or ideas to [isae.latinoamerica@gmail.com](mailto:isae.latinoamerica@gmail.com)

**Giuliana Miguel Pacheco and Tamara Tadich / *Regional Secretaries for Latin America***

### **Mediterranean**

The Mediterranean secretaries during this semester have mostly been involved in three actions. First, they stimulated the attendance of Mediterranean members to the Regional Meeting in the Benelux region, the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. They distributed the information to all membership. Secondly, the secretaries were informed that ISAE members from Portugal are involved in the organization of the EAAP (European Federation of Animal Science) Congress in 2020 in Porto, end of August. They suggested to have a Regional meeting as a satellite to the Congress. The membership was informed and asked to book the date. The secretaries got some replies showing interest in organising such a meeting. Third, the secretaries suggested to run a webinar in 2019. They will try to launch a call for themes and interests at the beginning of 2019, specially oriented to participation of students.

**Emma Fàbrega and Daniela Alberghina / *Regional Secretaries for Mediterranean***

### **Nordic**

**Regional Secretary.** Lena Lidfors has been the regional secretary for the Nordic Region from 2014-2018 and it is now time to select a new Regional Secretary. She works at the Department of

Animal Environment and Health at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Skara, Sweden. Please contact her if you have any suggestions for a new Secretary by e-mail: [Lena.Lidfors@slu.se](mailto:Lena.Lidfors@slu.se)

**Members in the Nordic ISAE Region.** In January 2018 the Nordic Region had 77 ISAE members. The members come from Sweden (25), Denmark (25), Norway (16) and Finland (11). There were no members from Iceland or the Baltic countries at this time.

**The Nordic ISAE Regional Meetings.** The 28<sup>th</sup> Nordic ISAE Winter Meeting was held during the 17-18 January 2018 in Helsinki, Finland organised by Helsinki University (Laura Hänninen, Anna Valros). A plenary talk was held by Mette Herskin on “A review of possible effects of the use of pain relief for post-disbudding analgesia in calves.” There were 28 participants at the Nordic Regional ISAE meeting.

The next Nordic ISAE Winter Meeting will be held in Estonia or in Sweden in January 2020. David Arney will be responsible if the meeting will be in Estonia, and Lena Lidfors will be responsible if the meeting will be held in Sweden.

In 2019 Norway will organise the international conference of ISAE. Therefore, it is a good choice not to have the Nordic ISAE Regional Meeting during this year.

**PhD courses in the Nordic Region.** During 2018 there has been at least three PhD courses held in one of the Nordic countries and invitations has been sent to members of the Nordic Region by the secretary.

The PhD course “Animal Assisted Intervention” (3 ECTS) was held the 19-23 March in Skara, Sweden and was organized by Lena Lidfors and Margareta Håkanson at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. The main lecturers were Aubrey Fine, Marie-Jose Enders-Slegers and Ng Zenitson, and additional lecturers were Jean-Loup Rault, Henrik Lerner. There were around 25 participants including the international lecturers.

The PhD course “Animal Pain” (5 ECTS) was held the 5-9 March in Copenhagen, Denmark and was organized by Mette Herskin at Aarhus University. The main lecturers were Craig B. Johnson, Robert Elwood and Klas Abellsson.

The PhD course “Understanding animal pain” (2 ECTS) was held at the Helsinki University 6-8 November 2018 and was organised by Laura Hänninen. The main lecturers were: Lynne Sneddon, Director of Bioveterinary Sciences at the University of Liverpool, David C.C. Wolfenden, M.Phil in ornamental fish welfare, Curator at Blue Planet Aquarium, UK, Mette S. Herskin, Senior scientist in animal behavior and stress biology at Department of Animal Science, Aarhus University, Denmark, Jo Murrell, Reader in Veterinary Anaesthesia, University of Bristol, UK and Anna Hielm-Björkman, Clinical instructor at the Faculty of veterinary medicine, University of Helsinki, Finland. There were 62 participants (plus teachers and organizers).

For more information see: <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/researchgroups/research-centre-for-animal-welfare/education/understanding-animal-pain>

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. There is a

network for organizing NOVA Ethology PhD courses and another for Animal Welfare NOVA PhD courses.

**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 and the activity on the page is low. So please join and be active on our Facebook page.

**Lena Lidfors / *Regional Secretary for Nordic***

## **UK and Ireland**

A very well attended meeting was held at the Langford Campus of the University of Bristol in February with around 70 delegates and a wide range of extremely high quality presentations. We favoured a format of conventional 15 minute oral presentations and short 5 minute oral presentations rather than posters. Congratulations to the first and second place student prize winners Melissa Smith and Kate Norman. The regional secretaries express their sincere thanks to the local organising committee (Stephanie Buijs, Joanne Edgar, Anna Trevarthen and Carole Fureix). The abstract book and video links to the 24 presentations are available on the [members only](#) part of the ISAE website. We are extremely grateful to Jon Day of Cerebrus Associates Limited for recording and making these videos available and hope that members have found them useful. In the next few months we will begin to organise the next regional meeting and would be interested to hear from institutes who are keen to host this.

**Amy Quinn and Simon Turner / *Regional Secretaries for UK and Ireland***

## **USA**

US regional membership remains high with 130 individuals currently. The next major activity that the region will undertake is a joint meeting with the Canadian region planned for 2020. It is expected that the meeting will be hosted by the University of California-Davis.

Many members were present either as participants or coaches in the annual AVMA [Animal Welfare Assessment](#). A total of 19 undergraduate, 3 graduate, and 10 veterinary teams along with 9 individual competitors represented a range of universities from the US and Canada. Teams were tasked with evaluating the welfare of dairy goats, egg-laying ducks, green iguanas, and polo ponies. The ponies served as the live assessment. Members attending the ISAE Congress in PEI had the opportunity to observe a demonstration of how this meeting functions.

**Peter Krawczel / *Regional Secretary for USA***

## Development

This month was the official launch of the ISAE in India. A one-day workshop was held in New Delhi on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December featuring keynote speaker Prof Clive Phillips of University of Queensland, Australia. Registration for the event was free, and the day ended with a panel discussion with Dr Vijay Pal Singh, Dr Abdul Rahman, Prof Clive Phillips, and Rebecca Sommerville. Many thanks to Dr Vijay Pal Singh for organising this event.



This is the first of several planned events to promote the study of animal behaviour and animal welfare science in the lead up to the 54<sup>th</sup> ISAE Congress to be held in Bangalore, India in 2020.

*Rebecca Sommerville / Development Officer of the ISAE*

## Bringing the science of farm animal welfare to developing countries

The first portions of Open Philanthropy Project's funding to broaden ISAE's efforts in developing countries have been distributed, with contributions made to support regional activities in Eastern Europe, Latin American and East Asia. The first distribution of \$7500 went in June to support the [East/West Central Europe Regional Meeting](#) in Poland, where it was disbursed as travel scholarships to fund a total of 13 attendees from Poland, Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia, Czech Republic and Ukraine. Our second disbursement of \$12500 has been made to the [Latin American region](#) to support the regional meeting held in Valdivia in Chile in early December. The organizers had 88 applicants for funding and Tamara Tadich and Giuliana Miguel did an excellent job in ensuring that the 13 awards given were representative in terms of the applicant demographics and geographical spread with awards going to 9 different Latin American countries. The third distribution has been to support a one-day animal behaviour and welfare workshop in Delhi, India (*see above*) to officially launch ISAE in the run up to our 2020 Congress in Bangalore. The workshop was organized by Vijay Pal Singh, our Country Liaison for India and the funding has been used to help Indian and international speakers attend and deliver several papers aimed at boosting activities in applied behaviour and animal welfare science within India.

Our major initiative has also been launched and that is the **Developing Countries Congress Attendance Fellowship** scheme for the 53<sup>rd</sup> Congress in Bergen, Norway next year. Together with funding attendance at the main Congress, the scheme this year will be augmented by a one-day pre-Congress workshop on animal welfare concepts to be given by three of our renowned society members, and a one-day, post-Congress excursion to multiple 'model' farms. The scheme is advertised on the Congress website at: <http://www.isae2019.com/travel-awards/> with full details

at: <http://www.isae2019.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/DCCAF.pdf>. The scheme is open to non-members and members alike, so please circulate these details to any colleagues who you think might be interested. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

I would like to convey my continued thanks to Lewis Bollard and OPP for their support and to Rebecca Sommerville for all her continued and impactful efforts as our Development Officer.

**Jeremy Marchant-Forde** / *Past President of the ISAE*

## Other News

### EU Platform on Animal Welfare

The EU Platform on Animal Welfare is really gathering momentum now. In 2018, we have had two meetings, one on 21 June 2018 and one on 19 November 2018. The Platform has two official working groups, financially supported by the European Commission (EC). The first is on Animal Transport and the second on Pig Welfare. ISAE has an expert on both official working groups: Dr. Mette Herskin for Animal Transport and Dr. Emma Baxter for Pig Welfare. Then there are four voluntary working groups, with ISAE experts on three of them: Horse Welfare (Dr. Janne Winther Christensen), Fish Welfare (Dr. Moira Harris), Pullet Welfare (Dr. Bas Rodenburg) and Dog Trade. These voluntary groups are established on the initiative of the Platform, but are not supported by the EC. For these voluntary working groups, ISAE provides financial support to the ISAE experts. A common sentiment heard at the Platform meetings is that the means available from the EC are rather limited compared to the ambitious goals of the Platform of its members. This is not going to change in the short term. At the same time, the Platform and working group meetings provide good opportunities for interaction with member states and various stakeholders on relevant welfare topics. ISAE and its experts play an important role in providing objective science-based expertise on these topics. As ISAE representative on the Platform, I stay in close contact with the independent welfare experts on the Platform. These independent experts play a similar role to ours in the Platform's activities and most of them are active ISAE members.

**Bas Rodenburg** / *President of the ISAE*

### Fish subgroup

The subgroup had its first meeting on 25th September 2018 in Brussels. The members include representatives from member state countries, professional organisations (including ISAE), producer organisations and NGOs including Eurogroup for Animals, RSPCA and Compassion in World Farming. We spent some time discussing our remit and terms of reference (as this is not well defined by the EU Platform for voluntary subgroups), knowledge gaps and appropriate outputs for the group. For fish, this is complicated by the fact that many different species are farmed, all with their own requirements which differ quite considerably between species. We discussed priorities in relation to production, handling and slaughter and what was achievable, yet ambitious, in the relatively short time-frame before June 2019. It was decided that we will focus on water quality and handling, two important issues that affect fish at all stages of production, transport and slaughter. The subgroup Chair, Katerina Marinou, will give a

presentation about its work at the Platform meeting on 19th November. The next fish welfare subgroup meeting will be in Athens on 15th January 2019.

*Moira Harris / ISAE Expert on the Fish Welfare working group*

### **Equine subgroup**

Following a call from Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, the Netherlands and Germany, the EU Commission encouraged the establishment of a Member State led 'voluntary' subgroup on equine welfare, alongside the ones on live animal transport and pig welfare sponsored by the EU Commission itself. The aim of the subgroup is to develop a **Guide to good animal welfare practice for the keeping, care, training and use of horses** as well as a similar guide for **donkeys, asses and mules**. In light of the diverse equine welfare challenges that exist across the 28 Member States, the sub-group's members consider that common European guidelines on the keeping and care of equines would be crucial in addressing areas where EU legislation on equines is still lacking.

The subgroup consists of representatives from seven Member States (FR, CZ, SE, DE, NL, IT & DK), two independent experts, three business and professional organisations (FVE, ISAE and Copacogeca) together with Eurogroup for Animals, World Horse Welfare and Animals Angels. Starting with the first meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> 2018, the group has met four times (twice in Brussels, once in Rome and once in Prague) and the horse guide is close to finalization. The donkey, ass and mule guide has been through two revisions, and further revision is planned at the fifth meeting in Copenhagen early 2019.

As the ISAE representative, I have been involved in every part of the horse guide, updating the group with the current scientific documentation (or lack of documentation) on all the various topics (from basic needs incl. social contact, foraging and locomotion to e.g. box and paddock sizes, ammonia levels, roughage quantities, light and noise levels, as well as handling and training). Thus, it has been a rather time-consuming task! Although the group is generally attentive to scientific documentation, I find some compromises very frustrating, e.g. when the guide only states that "horses should be given daily access to pasture or paddock WHERE POSSIBLE together with other horses," although access to full physical contact with other horses is one of the most documented needs for horses.

*Janne Winther Christensen / ISAE Expert on the Horse Welfare working group*

### **Pullet subgroup**

The voluntary working group on pullet welfare met in Copenhagen on 29 October 2018. Pullets are young laying hens which are kept on rearing farms from day-old to approximately 18 weeks of age. Welfare of adult laying hens is regulated by the Laying Hen Directive (1999/74/EC), but no EU legislation exists for the welfare of pullets. Only directive 1998/58/EC applies, concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes, but this directive only supplies general guidelines for all species. The task the working group has set itself is to provide specific guidelines for pullets that would allow specification of Directive 1998/58/EC. The working group is composed of representatives of several member states, NGOs, industry and ISAE. In the first meeting, we have started discussing a draft document outlining aspects that are important to

pullet welfare and that may also affect the welfare of the same birds during the laying period (prevention of feather pecking, keel bone damage, etcetera). A second meeting will be held in The Netherlands in January 2019. After this meeting, we hope to be able to report back to the Platform on our recommendations.

*Bas Rodenburg / President and ISAE Expert on the Pullet Welfare working group*

### **Animal Transport subgroup**

Late 2017 I was invited to represent ISAE in the newly formed sub-group on animal transport. The subgroup takes account of the activities of the Member State National Contact Points<sup>11</sup> and the 3-year project on Animal Transport Guides<sup>12</sup>. Our first task was to suggest important topics within the area. I suggested 'cull animals' - more and more data suggest that these animals are more vulnerable to transport than healthy, younger animals sent to slaughter, and they are not offered any protection by the European Regulation. However, before our first meeting in May 2018, the three following topics – also highly relevant - were chosen: extreme temperatures, cattle exports outside EU, unweaned animals. I am part of the latter group, led by Antonio Velarde. Both our meetings have taken place in Grange in Ireland. At the first meeting, we decided that 'unweaned animals' should focus on dairy calves, transported as young as 2 weeks.

The whole sub-group consists of approximately 30 people, representing DG-SANTE, some Member States, OIE, a number of business and professional organisations (of which ISAE is one), Civil Society organisations, independent experts and invited experts. With so many different stakeholders, discussions are always very interesting – and often not short.



The aims of the subgroup are to – across the three topics - improve knowledge transfer for those working with animals in transport; tools to improve implementation and enforcement of the rules; technical innovations; knowledge/technical gap analysis. As the ISAE-representative, I have focused mainly on ensuring scientific input to the discussions as well as stating areas where knowledge is lacking. The work will continue in 2019, including discussions on whether there is evidence to suggest that calves transported long-distance are experiencing 'undue suffering' – a topic that is highly relevant in terms of the European Regulation, but also challenging due to the lack of scientific definitions.

<sup>11</sup> Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport.

<sup>12</sup> <http://animaltransportguides.eu>

*Mette Herskin / ISAE Expert on the Animal Transport working group*

### *Animals and Us* book now open access

The book, *Animals and us: 50 years and more of applied ethology*, edited by Jennifer Brown, Yolande Seddon, and Michael Appleby, was released for **open access** on July 12, 2018. This worldwide view of applied ethology was produced for the ISAE 50th anniversary in 2016.

<https://www.wageningenacademic.com/doi/book/10.3920/978-90-8686-828-5>

### ISAE Anti-Harassment Policy and Code of Conduct

As discussed during the AGM of the Society in Canada last August, ISAE Council proposed to develop an Anti-Harassment Policy for the ISAE. We developed this policy because we feel it is important that all participants in ISAE activities will enjoy an environment free from any form of discrimination, harassment and retaliation. By adopting this policy, we also make clear where we stand as a society and strengthen our statement in the ISAE Guidelines on supporting and promoting diversity. Adoption of this policy also fits in with our recent decision to become a Scottish charity: the Scottish charity regulator OSCR also urges the Society to be transparent as a charity and report notifiable events to the charity regulator.

During the AGM in Canada, we adopted the new ISAE Code of Conduct, which stipulates that “Members must abide by the Society’s Ethical Guidelines, Anti-Harassment Policy and other policies (as outlined in the Constitution and Procedural Guidelines), as well as legal requirements.” It is good to mention that we also changed the positioning of the Code of Conduct: in the past it only applied to people applying for ISAE membership. In the new situation it applies to all members.

The ISAE Anti-Harassment Policy was accepted by ISAE Council by a majority vote in November 2018. Please find the ISAE Code of Conduct (as decided upon at the AGM in Canada) and the ISAE Anti-Harassment Policy, as accepted by Council, below. Should there be any questions, please contact the President at [t.b.rodenburg@uu.nl](mailto:t.b.rodenburg@uu.nl)

**Bas Rodenburg** / *President of the ISAE*

### ISAE Code of Conduct

The ISAE requires that members agree to abide by a Code of Conduct.

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 organisational views and philosophies, unless directly ordered/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 ordered/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.

5. Members must abide by the Society's Ethical Guidelines, Anti-Harassment Policy and other policies (as outlined in the Constitution and Procedural Guidelines), as well as legal requirements.

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.

*2 August 2018*

## **Anti-Harassment Policy for the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE)**

***Preface.*** The ISAE Code of Conduct states that "Members must abide by the Society's Ethical Guidelines, Anti-Harassment Policy and other policies (as outlined in the Constitution and Procedural Guidelines), as well as legal requirements. 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." Further, the Procedural Guidelines contain the following statement: "The Society recognises the importance of supporting and promoting diversity in its membership and the wider community, in gender, age, ethnicity, geographical representation and other factors. This should be applied in nomination and selection of officers, representatives, lecturers and recipients of funds, awards and honours" (Procedural Guidelines, page 5). Consistent with the ISAE Code of Conduct and Procedural Guidelines, the ISAE Council has agreed the following Anti-Harassment Policy.

***Statement of Policy.*** It is the policy of the ISAE that all participants in Society activities will enjoy an environment free from all forms of discrimination, harassment and retaliation. As a professional society, the ISAE is committed to providing an atmosphere that encourages the free expression and exchange of scientific ideas. In pursuit of this, the ISAE is dedicated to the philosophy of equality of opportunity and treatment for all members, regardless of gender, gender identity or expression, race, colour, national or ethnic origin, religion or religious belief, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities, veteran status, or any other reason not related to scientific merit. Harassment, sexual or otherwise, is a form of misconduct that undermines the integrity of the Society. Violators of this policy will be subject to sanctions.

***Definition of Sexual Harassment.*** Sexual harassment refers to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Behaviour and language that are welcome/acceptable to one person may be unwelcome/offensive to another. Consequently, individuals must use discretion to ensure that their words and actions communicate respect for others. This is especially important for those in positions of authority, as individuals with lower rank or status may be reluctant to express their objections or discomfort regarding unwelcome behaviour. Sexual harassment does not refer to occasional compliments of a socially acceptable nature. It refers to behaviour that is not welcome, is personally offensive, debilitates morale, and therefore, interferes with personal effectiveness. The following are examples of behaviour that, when unwelcome, may constitute sexual harassment: sexual flirtations, advances, or propositions; verbal comments or physical actions of a sexual nature;

sexually degrading words used to describe an individual; display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures; sexually explicit jokes.

**Definition of Other Harassment.** Harassment on the basis of sexual or any other protected characteristic is also prohibited. This conduct includes, but is not limited to the following: epithets, slurs, or negative stereotyping; threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts; denigrating jokes and display or circulation of written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group.

**Scope of Policy.** This policy applies to all people involved in Society activities, including (but not limited to) scientists, students, guests, staff, contractors and exhibitors participating in scientific business, as well as sessions, tours and social events of any ISAE meeting or other ISAE activity.

**Reporting an Incident.** The advice in the case of perceived harassment is to write everything down (times, places, nature of the incident and comments made). Save emails, notes etc. Tell someone you trust as soon as possible. It is likely that you will have to write and sign an official letter of complaint, documenting the nature of the harassment and/or discrimination. Be as detailed as possible. Supporting documentation and statements from witnesses should be submitted with your letter, if these are available. Any individual covered by this policy who believes that he or she has been subjected to harassment should contact the ISAE President or another Society Officer, as appropriate. He or she is not required or expected to discuss the concern with the alleged offender. All complaints will be treated seriously and be investigated promptly. Confidentiality will be honoured to the extent possible.

**The Investigation.** The Council will name an impartial investigator, usually a Society Officer or Council member. Any potential investigator who believes they have a conflict of interest should not serve as an investigator. If necessary, an investigator will be appointed from outside the Society. 2. In most cases, the complainant will be interviewed first and the written complaint reviewed. If the complainant has not already filed a formal complaint, he or she should be asked to do so. 3. The details of the complaint should be explained to the alleged offender by the investigator. 4. The alleged offender should be given a reasonable chance to respond to the evidence of the complainant and to bring his or her own evidence. 5. If the evidence is in dispute, further investigatory steps may include interviewing those named as witnesses (if these are available). 6. If, for any reason, the investigator is in doubt about whether or how to continue, he or she will seek appropriate counsel from within or outside the Society, as appropriate. 7. When the investigation is complete, the investigator should report the findings to the President of the Society or another Society Officer, as appropriate. 8. Cases of harassment will be reported to the Scottish Charity Regulator OSCR, following their procedure for reporting notifiable events (<https://www.oscr.org.uk/managing-a-charity/notifiableevents>).

**Retaliation is Prohibited.** The ISAE will not tolerate any form of retaliation against persons who file a complaint or assist in the investigation. Retaliation is a serious violation of this policy and, like harassment or discrimination itself, will be subject to sanctions.

**Sanctions.** Individuals engaging in behaviour prohibited by this policy, as well as those making allegations of harassment in bad faith will be subject to sanctions. Such actions range from a verbal warning to ejection from the meeting or activity in question without refund of registration fees and the reporting of their behaviour to their employer or to other authorities as appropriate. Repeat offenders or offenders of serious cases may be subject to further sanctions, such as being

banned from participating in future ISAE meetings or other activities. Termination of membership is also possible based on the Code of Conduct.

**Appeal and Questions.** In the event that an individual is dissatisfied with the results of the investigation, he or she may appeal to the President of the Society. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the President of the ISAE or to another Society Officer.

*November 2018*

### Book discount

5m Books will soon be publishing *Animal Welfare Science, Husbandry and Ethics* by Mark Fisher and are offering ISAE members a **20% discount**. Simply enter the discount code **AWSHE20** when checking out online at: <https://www.5mbooks.com/animal-welfare-science-husbandry-and-ethics-the-evolving-story-of-our-relationship-with-farm-animals.html>

### Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest (<http://awjac.org/>) was held on 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November 2018, at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, USA, with Lily Edwards-Callaway as CSU host. About 145 students took part, divided into Undergraduate, Graduate and Veterinary student divisions. The AVMA-supported competition teaches students to assess the welfare of animals in a variety of settings using science-based methods and reasoning. After weighing the evidence, participants present their evaluations. High scorers win prizes in individual, team or overall categories. This year, the welfare scenarios were: 1) green iguanas, 2) laying ducks, 3) dairy goats, and 4) polo ponies, with the polo pony scenario comprising the live assessment.



The competition itself spans two days. On the first day, students evaluate a live scenario and present their findings to a panel of judges. This portion of the contest may be competed as a team or as an individual. On the second day, each student independently evaluates three virtual scenarios and receives scores based on their evaluation as well as their defence of their findings. For those participating as part of a team, the top three individual scores are combined with the live assessment exercise score to determine the overall team score. Along with demonstrating the welfare needs of a range of species, the competition gives students the opportunity to

develop their critical thinking and oral presentation skills. Enhanced knowledge of animal welfare, a strong analytical mindset and well-honed communication skills are valuable takeaways that serve AWJAC participants throughout their education and careers.



The scenarios were drawn up by Janice Siegford and colleagues and judges included ISAE members Maja Makagon, Judith Stella and Katrina Merkies. Teams from The Ohio State University and the University of Guelph won the Veterinary and Graduate Student divisions, with a team from the University of Minnesota winning

the Undergraduate division. Jenny Schefski, Quinn Rausch and Zach England won the individual honours. Congratulations to all participants and many thanks to AVMA and Merck for their continued support of the contest, together with funding from SAVMA and Charles River.

For information on next year's contest, feel free to contact me ([Jeremy.marchant-forde@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Jeremy.marchant-forde@ars.usda.gov)) or AVMA's Dr Sharon Kuca ([SKuca@avma.org](mailto:SKuca@avma.org))



*Jeremy Marchant-Forde / ISAE Representative on the AWJAC Advisory Board*

## Remembering Dr Marie-France Bouissou (1938 – 2018)

Marie-France Bouissou died this autumn at 80 years of age.

Marie-France was born in 1938 and did graduate school at the Science University of Paris. Then she worked for two years for the French Natural History Museum at the Vincennes zoological Park. She was recruited at the National French Institute of Agriculture (INRA) in 1961 to work on the Jouy-en-Josas Centre before being assigned to the Nouzilly Centre from 1967.

During the 1960s she demonstrated the primary role of olfaction in maternal behaviour. Very quickly, Marie-France focused her research activity on the study of social relations in cattle and her thesis revealed the behavioural mechanisms underlying affinity and hierarchical relationships in this species. In particular, she demonstrated in pioneering work the influence of emotional reactivity on the hierarchy in cattle. From the 1990s, Marie-France was interested in the study of the factors of variation of the emotional reactivity in cattle, then sheep, and finally in horses. She was one of the first ethologists who characterized the temperament in horses. Many of the PhD students supervised by Marie-France were fortunate enough to pursue such research in her workplan and to contribute to the scientific study of the emotional processes underlying the understanding of animal welfare.

In addition to her considerable research activities, Marie-France published many popular articles on horses and horse-riding that were her passion. She was fond of horses and dogs, and was a brilliant dancer.

*Pierre Le Neindre / France*

## Remembering Professor Aubrey Manning (1930 – 2018)

Aubrey Manning, who has died at the age of 88, was a renowned biologist and teacher, a presenter on TV and radio and a vociferous advocate for all living things.

As a child he had early on been fascinated by wildlife and he was to go onto study Zoology at Oxford as an undergraduate and then animal behaviour for his PhD with Niko Tinbergen.

After national service he took up a post as lecturer at the University of Edinburgh where he remained throughout his working life (1973 through to 1997) becoming in due course Professor of Natural History. After retirement he took up many pursuits and causes including becoming a presenter on a number of TV and radio series on geology, landscapes and wildlife.

He had many direct and indirect links to applied ethology.

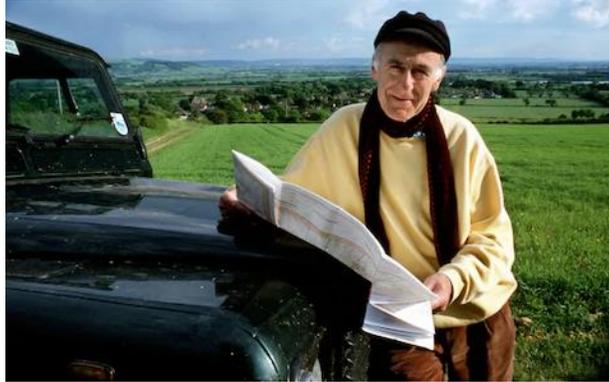
For years he ran a Tuesday lunchtime seminar series which was attended by both pure and applied behavioural scientists from across the university and associated institutes including SAC and Roslin. This very welcoming venue was where many of us studying for PhDs in applied animal behaviour gave our first research talks.

Aubrey was also a very good friend of David Wood-Gush and was typically enthusiastic about David's work with Alex Stolba on the Edinburgh Pig Park and Family Pen System. After David's death, Aubrey helped establish and oversee the David Wood-Gush Memorial Trust Fund which continues to fund the annual Wood-Gush lecture at ISAE meetings.

Aubrey produced his Introduction to Animal Behaviour which (with Marian Dawkins as co-author) has gone onto a remarkable 6 editions; Marian notes that the book "is based on Tinbergen's 4 questions. It is notable that 'applied ethology' to this day is still based on this same framework that formed the basis of his book. Applied ethology is more 'Tinbergian' than pure ethology and I attribute this to Aubrey."

Marian Dawkins has also written to me say that "Aubrey was a Trustee of the Farm Animal Care Trust (FACT) which was founded by Ruth Harrison to promote research into the welfare of farmed species. He threw himself into this with all his usual enthusiasm, helping with educational initiatives, including what has now become the Ruth Harrison Summer Studentship run by UFAW. He gave a lovely talk on Ruth Harrison at the Oxford conference held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of her book *Animal Machines*."

It is almost impossible to capture all the other aspects of Aubrey's life but I would recommend that you have a look at some of his TV series such as Earth Story [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth\\_Story](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_Story). Not only will you be treated to a fascinating account of the earth's history but you can see and hear Aubrey in full flow and realise why he was famous for getting zoology students out of bed to on a Monday morning to hear him lecturing!



*Aubrey in the BBC Two series Talking Landscapes (2001)*

With the passing of Aubrey we have lost one of the 'fathers' of animal behaviour science, someone who could inspire anyone with wonder for the natural world and a great human being. He will be (and is being) greatly missed.

Aubrey leaves behind his wife Joan Hermann and his three sons: Alex, Jake and Josh.

**Alistair Lawrence** / *Honorary Fellow of the ISAE*

### **Request from The Donkey Sanctuary**

As part of the Donkey Sanctuary strategy for the next five years, we have created an aim to ensure that every donkey in the UK can live a happy healthy life. To help us achieve this aim we are looking to provide better information to professionals and donkey owners alike. One strand of this is to provide better behavioural knowledge on donkeys and mules. At this stage, we would like to know what resources and knowledge and in what format would best suit the ISAE and its members. Are there gaps in donkey knowledge we need to fill? What are the most common mistakes, problems you see, or the most common questions you get asked or feel the public and professionals would benefit from having access to?

Please respond to: [corinne.mccafferty@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk](mailto:corinne.mccafferty@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk). We really appreciate your input and very much look forward to sharing these resources you help us to create as soon as they are complete.

**Corinne McCafferty** on behalf of **Ben Hart** /  
*Senior Lead Behaviour and Human Behaviour change, The Donkey Sanctuary*

## Employment and Education Opportunities

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

- [Faculty position](#), U PEI, Canada (closes January 25, 2019)
- [Faculty position](#), U Helsinki, Finland (closes January 31, 2019)
- [MSc position](#), U California-Davis, USA (closes January 15, 2019)
- [MSc position](#), U Calgary, Canada (starts January 2019)
- [MSc or PhD position](#), Virginia Tech U, USA (starts spring 2019)
- [PhD position](#), U Tennessee, USA (starts January 2019)
- [PhD position](#), U Guelph, Canada (starts January 2019)
- [PhD position](#), Vetmeduni, Austria (closes January 20, 2019)
- [PhD position](#), KU Leuven, Belgium (starts January or June 2019)
- [PhD position](#), Aarhus U, Denmark (closes February 1, 2019)
- [PhD position](#), Purdue U, USA (closes March 1, 2019)
- [Postdoc](#), Leibniz Institute, Germany (starts April 2019)
- [Scientific Information Officer](#), RSPCA, UK (closes January 3, 2019)
- [Student internship projects \(3\)](#), Vetmeduni Vienna, Austria (starts January 2019)

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

- **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/appliedethology](http://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](mailto:info@applied-ethology.org). Listings are updated weekly and will be removed 3 months after the posting date if no closing date is given.

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