



International
Society for
**Applied
Ethology**

Newsletter

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Contents

President's Piece	3
Updates from your ISAE Council	4
Council Position Vacancies.....	4
Communications	5
Editors	5
Updates from Elsevier.....	6
Students	8
Membership.....	9
Finances	9
ISAE Award Updates	11
ISAE Congress News.....	11
Congress Updates	11
ISAE Regional News and Development.....	12
Development.....	12
Planned changes to the ISAE Regions.....	13
Regional Updates	13
Other News	16
ISAE collaboration with the OIE	16
EU Platform on Animal Welfare.....	16
Member survey of the Society's Journal.....	16
New book: Bearing Witness Ruth Harrison and British Farm Animal Welfare (1920-2000)	17
Employment and Education Opportunities	18
Contact Information.....	19
Council Members	19
Regional Secretaries and Student Representatives	19

President's Piece

Dear ISAE members,

This is already the third newsletter clouded by the pandemic and I strongly regret that we will again not be able to meet in India to experience the country, its culture and the holy cows. Instead, we will meet virtually for the **54th International Congress of the ISAE** from **August 2nd to 6th** – and it will be a great event as well - with an exciting program with many contributions and participants from all over the world – and with opportunities for networking using specific tools besides listening to presentations and discussing research. Thus, I hope that many of you will join in. [Registration](#) is still possible!

By means of the Developing Countries Congress Attendance Fund (DCCAF), sponsored generously by the Open Philanthropy Project, we could again invite people working in the field of farm animal welfare in countries featured in this year's congress and related activities – this year it will be a group of 36 students, scientists and governmental or industry representatives from Latin America, Africa and Asia. The success of the DCCAF and other **ISAE Development** activities in the past is reflected in increasing membership in new countries and regions where applied ethology and ISAE was not yet established. These changes prompted Council to plan a **reorganisation of the ISAE regions** as detailed in this newsletter.

The ongoing restriction due to the pandemic illustrated the need to update our constitution so that we are fully capable of acting even with a virtual format of the Annual General Meeting (AGM). We therefore organized a short extraordinary AGM in March to **change our constitution** accordingly, so that a virtual meeting and online voting is legally acceptable in lieu of a physical meeting.

As usual, our regular **Annual General Meeting** (AGM) will be linked to the Congress, where you can hear and discuss the reports of the different Council Officers. Three **Council Officer positions** will be vacant this year: Secretary, Junior Editor and Junior Vice President, and will be elected by means of an online-voting tool. Please read further for details about these positions and how to apply, should you be interested in serving on Council.

In addition, we are searching for ISAE members that are interested in being part of the new **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee** working on ways to further promote these aspects in the ISAE. You already received the call with details on the tasks and application via email.

In this newsletter you will also find a summary of the results of the [member survey](#) about the Society's Journal. Participation in the survey was very good, with 31% of the members completing it. Thanks to all of you who took the time to respond and share your views with Council!

Our collaboration with the **OIE**, the World Organisation for Animal Health, has intensified, reflected in extended participation of ISAE representatives in OIE meetings described below. Furthermore, ISAE experts continued their work within the **EU Platform on Animal Welfare** and results will be presented on the Platform meeting in June.

Thus, quite active months lie behind us, but also months still largely affected by the pandemic. Although our constitution is now fully prepared for a virtual future, I hope these times will come to an end soon all over the world and we will be able to meet in person again. But first I am looking forward to meeting many of you on my screen during the Congress and the AGM!

I wish you all the best for a healthy and enjoyable summer or winter,

Susanne Waiblinger / President of the ISAE (2019-2021)

Updates from your ISAE Council

Council Position Vacancies

Dear ISAE Members,

This year, three ISAE Council Positions are open, including Junior Vice President, Junior Editor and Secretary. This is my last congress as ISAE Secretary, and it has been an amazing opportunity to meet ISAE members all over the world and connect with ISAE Council. I look forward to staying involved with the ISAE, and I look forward to receiving your application for any of the positions below!

1. **Junior Vice President.** The Junior Vice President assumes the duties of the President if the President is unable to serve, coordinates the Regional Secretaries and assists the Treasurer when there are applications for regional funds. The Junior Vice President typically serves a 2-year term, and then transitions into a 2-year term as President, followed by a 2-year term as Senior Vice President.
2. **Secretary.** The Secretary's duties include arranging ISAE Council and business meetings, recording meeting minutes and compiling the ISAE newsletters, among other duties. The Secretary typically serves a 4-year term.
3. **Junior Editor.** The main responsibilities of the Junior Editor include assisting the Senior Editor with the annual special issue of *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* and helps to coordinate the Help-with-English scheme. The Junior Editor usually serves a 2-year term, followed by a 2-year term as Senior Editor.

If you are interested in serving on the ISAE Council, please submit your application materials to me (Marisa, merasmus@purdue.edu), 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, 19 July**. We also ask that you create a short, 2 to 3-minute video introducing yourself and briefly discussing your interest in the position and your qualifications for the position. We will play the video during the Annual General Meeting before voting so that all ISAE members in attendance have the opportunity to become acquainted with you.

Marisa Erasmus / Secretary of the ISAE (2017-2021)

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 have proved to be helpful to organize your projects, software that you use for data analysis, and Open Science resources that you would like to share.

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!

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 2020 Special Issue themed ‘**COVID-19 and confinement**’ is almost completed. Eight papers have already been published or accepted (see below). Once complete, all articles will appear [here](#) freely accessible.

The Special Issue for the 2021 conference, themed ‘**Developing animal behaviour and welfare: Real solutions for real problems**’ is already in preparation. Submission is open under the Article selection ‘SI:ISAE2021’ and you can soon find more information under ‘Call for papers’ at the AABS website (<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/applied-animal-behaviour-science/call-for-papers>).

The journal’s website has had some changes and all ISAE Special Issues are now located together in the Article Selections: <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/applied-animal-behaviour-science/article-selections/isae-special-issues>.

Special Issue ISAE 2020: COVID-19 and confinement

Pinillos, R. G. (2021). One welfare impacts of COVID-19—A summary of key highlights within the one welfare framework. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 236, 105262. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2021.105262>

Hockenull, J., & Furtado, T. (2021). Escaping the gilded cage: Could COVID-19 lead to improved equine welfare? A review of the literature. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 105303. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2021.105303>

Camerlink, I., Nielsen, B. L., Windschnurer, I., & Vigors, B. (2021). Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on animal behaviour and welfare researchers. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 236, 105255. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2021.105255>

- Kappel, S., Schmitt, O., Finnegan, E., and Fureix, C. (2021). Learning from lockdown-Assessing the positive and negative experiences, and coping strategies of researchers during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 236, 105269. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2021.105269>
- Meneses, X. C. A., Park, R. M., Ridge, E. E., & Daigle, C. L. (2021). Hourly activity patterns and behaviour-based management of feedlot steers with and without a cattle brush. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 236, 105241. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2021.105241>
- Vandresen, B., & Hötzel, M. J. (2021). Pets as family and pigs in crates: Public attitudes towards farrowing crates. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 236, 105254. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2021.105254>
- Williams, E., Carter, A., Rendle, J., & Ward, S. J. (2021). Understanding impacts of zoo visitors: Quantifying behavioural changes of two popular zoo species during COVID-19 closures. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 236, 105253. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2021.105253>
- Chou, J-Y. & Camerlink, I. (2021). Online conferences as an opportunity to enhance inclusiveness in animal behaviour and welfare research: a case study of the ISAE 2020 virtual meeting. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, in press.

Help with English scheme. The International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE) has an English grammar and language editing service available to help members prepare manuscripts for publication, irrespective of the journal choice. In the last half year, we received 7 manuscripts for correction and great support of volunteers who made the corrections.

ISAE members should send requests for manuscript editing assistance to: the ISAE Junior Editor, Dr. Dana Campbell at Dana.Campbell@csiro.au. Please include the manuscript title, contact information, key words, and a copy of the abstract. Your manuscript will be edited by a (native English) ISAE member who has volunteered to help you with the English of your paper. It may take up to 4 weeks before you receive the revisions as it is based on volunteers. The 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 Dana for more information.

Irene Camerlink and Dana Campbell / Senior and Junior Editors of the ISAE (2019-2021)

Updates from Elsevier

Applied Animal Behaviour Science (AABS) is proud to be the official journal of the ISAE. **There have been several changes for the journal recently and we would like to take the opportunity to inform the ISAE members of these.**

AABS has two new Editors in Chief since December 2020:

- Irene Camerlink, who handles papers about farm animals and
- Péter Pongrácz, who handles papers about other animals, like companion animals, wildlife, zoo, and lab animals.

Following a new editorial structure, the Editors in Chief are supported by a team of five Associate Editors:

Janice Siegford (formerly AABS Reviews Editor), Sebastian McBride and Aline Cristina Sant'Anna deal with farmyard animal papers. Raf Freire and Chiara Mariti work on 'other animal' papers.

AABS has also moved to a new online submission system, named *Editorial Manager*.

This system is already in use for more than 7,000 journals across publishers. The appearance of the submission system is largely similar to the previous one, and is straightforward to use.

Authors can keep their credentials with which they used to access the previous submission system to log in to Editorial Manager: [Login to Editorial Manager \(elsevier.com\)](#)

In the new submission system, there are a few additional questions for authors to complete, especially for suggesting potential reviewers and for details about ethics approval. There is also a new template available for the Author Declaration statement that has to be uploaded with the manuscript files.

With the changes to the journal, we have reintroduced the monthly editorials, which are from now on freely accessible to everyone. For the ISAE Special Issues, authors (ISAE members) benefit from having their Special Issue publication made freely accessible after the collection is complete, for a period of 12 months, without costs to the authors. It remains that any ISAE member is entitled to 20% discount on APC for publishing Open Access in the journal.

Elsevier Support Center

In case you have any questions, you can visit [Elsevier Support Center](#) and then click on the section that you are interested in. Specifically, for queries about the publication process, you can navigate [this page](#) to find relevant answers. For further assistance, you can scroll towards the bottom of the page and choose your preferred way to directly contact Elsevier's support centre.

Author tools and resources

[Here](#) you can check out the updated page with all the tools and resources that Elsevier provides to make the author's tasks easier at every stage of their publication.

Using graphical abstracts to enrich and expand the reach of your research

Graphical or visual abstracts increase utility and readership in a bite-sized, visual format. Click [here](#) to read about what is a graphical abstract, how you can design it and how you can publish and share it.

Marianna Georgouli / Associate Publisher STM Journals Elsevier

Students

2021 ISAE Virtual Congress Event. Due to COVID-19, the 2021 ISAE Congress in Bangalore, India will be held virtually. This year, we will host an online *Eating with Ethologists* during Congress! Students, faculty, scientists, and post-docs who register for Congress by June 30 (early-bird deadline) will receive a sign-up email for the online Eating with Ethologists. Like the in-person Eating with Ethologists we have held in the past, this is a voluntary event and each interested scientist/faculty/post-doc may be matched with 2-3 students based on similar interests. During the informal, networking, 'virtual-lunch,' you are welcome to discuss scientific topics, research plans, career goals, position openings, etc. Faculty, scientists and post-docs - please consider signing up so that we can group you with interested students. Students - you will be able to choose (from the interested researchers) who you might want to chat with over lunch. Please keep a look-out for sign-up emails in the next few weeks!



Applying Ethology Webinars. With Christian Nawroth and Jen-Yun Chou, we have continued to maintain the *Applying Ethology Webinars* on the *Animal Welfare Slack Workspace*. Since our launch in 2020, 29 early career scientists have shared their research (check out our YouTube channel Animal Welfare Slack - 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 800 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 Laura Whalin or Rachel Park 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, AND the channel is regularly updated with zoom links for upcoming talks, and notifications for where to find past talks!

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/UCe6fHV211isHwiSgGV5OLgw>

Student Resources. Consider checking out the [Education and Resources](#) section on the ISAE website! There is information about webinars, graduate study, time management, teaching, and more!

Laura Whalin and Rachel Park / Student Representatives of the ISAE (2019-2021; 2020-2022)

Membership

The 2021-22 membership renewal period is currently open. At present we have 649 members, which is similar to previous years. So far, 164 members have renewed their membership and payments are still coming in, so we are likely to see the number of renewals increase over the next few weeks. Please renew if you haven't yet, and if you are having trouble please get in touch (isaemembership@applied-ethology.org)!

If you pay via bank transfer, please remember to label the payment with your name so we know who the payment is from.

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

Finances

Treasurer's Mid-Year Report. The report contains the annual summary for the period **January 1st to May 31st 2021**. The table now includes our Euro account activity. The account was started last year to reduce the impact of Brexit when paying for services or council members using the Euro. The discrepancies in the transfers in and out amounts reflect adjustments for exchange rate differences.

The accounts are healthy, which reflects the limited financial activity in the last 18 months as a result of COVID-19. It also reflects the receipt of Purina sponsorship for scholarships to the annual conference (£10,668). These funds will be transient with successful candidates securing payment for their registration at ISAE2021. We also received a partial refund from the down payment provided for the cancelled ISAE2020 congress in India. The largest outgoing expense comes under 'Other' and refers to payment to ExOrdo to host our ISAE2021 virtual congress (£10,450). Other reasonably significant expenses were to Elsevier for Applied Animal Behaviour Science memberships and Wageningen for cancellation of publication services for the 2020 congress. Our accounts for 2020 have been prepared for the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and will be inspected by the independent examiner ahead of our submission.

ISAE Accounts for period Jan 1st to May 31st 2021

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Revenue:	GBP accounts	Euro account
Congress Profit	0.00	0.00
Membership subs	1,569	0.00
Net Interest	1.85	0.00
Payment returns	0.00	0.00
Returns from regions	4,980	0.00
Scholarship funds from sponsors	10,668	0.00

Other	0.00	0.00
Transfers in	15,000	12,993
Total Revenue	£ 32,219	€12,993
Expenses:		
Bank Charges	425	31
Conference Attendance Award	0.00	0.00
Conference Attendance Fund	0.00	0.00
Council Member Costs	0.00	0.00
Elsevier AABS	0.00	1,218
Membership services - Intergage	804	0.00
Regional Payments	0.00	0.00
SAGEPay	130	0.00
Scholarship funds awarded	0.00	0.00
Subs returns	0.00	0.00
Wageningen Press	0.00	1,125
Other	960	10,450
Transfers out	26,500	0.00
Total Expenses	£28,818	€12,824
Excess of Revenue over expenses	£3,401	€169
Beg Fund Balances	£55,211	€2,073
End Fund Balances	£58,612	€2,242

Emma Baxter / Treasurer of the ISAE (2017-2021)

ISAE Award Updates

From April to June 1st, we have accepted nominations for this year's awards. For the New Investigator Award, only for this year, we have accepted nominations for candidates that completed their PhD studies less than 6 years ago to accommodate that no nominations were accepted in 2020. We have our judging committees set up and ready to pick a deserving winner. I would especially like to thank Christian and Megan who have been doing a great job promoting the awards on social media and via email. Despite our very best efforts to promote the awards, it seems that not all our members are taking advantage of this great opportunity. I would welcome any suggestions that ISAE members might have in promoting the awards in the future, particularly to increase diversity on the nominations.

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

ISAE Congress News

Congress Updates

As you probably know by now, ISAE 2021 will take place online from 2 until 6 August 2021. You can register for the congress through: <https://isae2021.exordo.com/registration/new>

Even though the congress will be online, we will try to give it as much a similar look and feel as a normal ISAE Congress. We will ask all presenters of oral presentations to upload a recording of their presentation, but we will also have two live stages where presenters of oral presentations are invited to give their talk live at a given point in the program. These two live stages should make joining the congress quite a similar experience as the live congress with two parallel sessions. Poster presenters are asked to upload a PDF of their poster, but can also include a short movie clip with a poster pitch in which they present their poster. Both for oral presentations and posters, delegates can post questions in the online system. Of course, questions can also be taken live on one of the live stages! Please keep an eye on <https://isae2021.exordo.com/> for the final program and any further updates! With over 250 abstracts submitted, it promises to be a great congress!

For ISAE 2022, we will have the congress in beautiful Ohrid, North Macedonia in the first week of September. The organisers will present next year's congress during ISAE 2021 ONLINE at the closing ceremony.

For 2023, we have accepted a bid from Estonia to meet in the beautiful city of Tallinn.

For 2024 and beyond, we are still looking for bids! For 2024, we have a strong preference for a location outside of Europe – so if your team is interested please feel free to contact the Senior Vice President of ISAE (who is responsible for the international congress).

This will be last congress as Senior Vice President of ISAE. I have really enjoyed the past six years as JVP, President and SVP and it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the society and to interact with many different members! Thank you all for making this such a vibrant and friendly scientific family! I look forward to staying part of this family for many years to come!

Best wishes,

Bas Rodenburg / *Senior Vice President of the ISAE (2019-2021)*

ISAE Regional News and Development

Development

This year is the third time that we will be launching the Developing Countries Congress Attendance Fellowship (DCCAF), funded by the Open Philanthropy Project. We received 43 applications for the 2021 DCCAF / ISAE Congress. The evaluation of the applications was made by 11 invited reviewers, in addition to the Development and Assistant Development Officers. Due to the virtual format of this year's Congress and the high quality of the applications, we decided to award more DCCAF candidates than in the previous in-person congresses. Thirty-six successful candidates were selected as this year's DCCAF awardees. They are from Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, India, Iran, Italy (working in Estonia), Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, South Africa, Taiwan, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

In order to support scientists from/working in developing regions to attend the Congress, participate in stimulating discussions in applied ethology, and promote diversity and inclusiveness, we also provided the opportunity for other eligible DCCAF applicants to opt-in to receive full financial support to register for the Congress.

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 the introduction to animal welfare, understanding applied animal behaviour science and its relevance to animal welfare, and the interconnection between animal welfare, animal health and sustainability. Virtual farm tours and other activities will also be offered during the workshop.

The ISAE Development Officers are also participating in the ISAE proposed workshop "Ethics for applied ethology and animal welfare research," an important topic that needs more attention. We encourage all researchers from developing countries to participate.

We want to thank all reviewers for their kind and prompt assistance in evaluating the DCCAF applications: Andreia de Paula Vieira, Bas Rodenburg, Jashim Uddin, Jeremy Marchant-Forde, Mabel Aworh, Manja Zupan Šemrov, Mark Rutter, Moira Harris, Rebecca Sommerville, Susanne Waiblinger and Vijay Pal Singh.

Maria Camila Ceballos / *Development Officer of the ISAE (2020-2024)*
Jen-Yun Chou / *Assistant Development Officer of the ISAE (2020-2022)*

Planned changes to the ISAE Regions

The ISAE currently has eleven regions which have not seen any major changes since 1995. The COVID pandemic has accelerated the use of 'virtual' conferences, but this has highlighted the challenge of organising meetings across the world's time zones. Interest in applied ethology also continues to spread around the world, with new countries being added to the list of those with ISAE members. The council has therefore decided to reorganise the ISAE regions to reduce the number of time zones some regions span and also to better reflect the current distribution of ISAE members. The proposed changes are as follows:

Split the Australasia/Africa region to create two new regions: **Oceania** (Australia, New Zealand) and **Africa and West Asia** (Africa, Iran, Israel and Turkey).

1. Split the East Asia region to create two new regions: **East Asia** (Japan, China and Taiwan) and **South Asia** (India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Malaysia).
2. Reorganise and rename the Mediterranean region and the East Central Europe (ECE) region: a new **Southwest Europe** region will comprise France, Italy, Spain and Portugal, and an **East and South Europe** region will add Greece, Albania, Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina to the current ECE countries.

These changes will create a total of thirteen regions. The Council would welcome any feedback on these planned changes and invite members to submit their comments to the JVP (Mark Rutter, smrutter@harper-adams.ac.uk) before 23 July, 2021. Comments will be considered by Council with the aim to establish the new regions in August 2021.

Regional Updates

We have new Regional Secretaries for the Australasia/Africa Region. **Oluwaseun Iyasere (Nigeria)** and **Danila Marini (Australia)** have taken over from Amanda Doughty and Kris Descovich. I would like to thank Amanda and Kris for all their work coordinating the society's activities across the Australasia/Africa Region and welcome Oluwaseun and Danila to their new roles.

Mark Rutter / Junior Vice-President of the ISAE (2019-2021)

Benelux. We had a fantastic online version of our PhD course 'Fundamentals of Animal Emotion' with guest lecturers from all over the world, including Prof Georgia Mason and Dr Jamie Dallaire (Canada), Prof Mike Mendl and Prof Bridget Waller (UK), Dr Elodie Briefer (Denmark), Prof Emeritus Ruut Veenhoven, Louise Kremer and Dr Hetty Boleij (Netherlands), and Lisette Leliveld (Italy). The course was very popular with 90 applications for only 24 places (to allow for group work and interaction), 5 of which were saved for participants from developing countries who were given the opportunity to join the course for free. The online nature of the course did not allow for social components or networking over snacks and drinks; however, it did allow for many more participants and lecturers to be involved from many more places around the world, which ultimately made for a dynamic, interactive and high-quality course. The lecturers provided extremely high-quality online teaching, using many fun interactive tools, and this can be seen in the evaluation of the course which was extremely positive. To give the participants a sense of connection to the course despite them all following the course at home, we sent them a welcome package with snacks

and drinks and the latest book of Frans de Waal entitled 'Mama's last hug – Animal emotions and what they tell us about ourselves'.

We aim to give this course at least every other year. In addition, we are planning the next ISAE Benelux regional meeting, which should take place somewhere in November and we are looking into a possible symposium on positive welfare for NGOs and the industry.

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

Canada. Since January 2021, we have been holding virtual ethology journal club meetings over the lunch hour every two weeks for any interested ethology graduate students, undergraduate students, faculty, and researchers who want to join us. Each time we gather, we discuss a different animal behaviour science topic. It's been a great way to meet graduate students and visit with colleagues from other provinces and dig deeper into specific behaviour topics. We have initially focused on ethology groups located in the Canadian prairies, but are interested in expanding this initiative across Canada.

Clover Bench and Meagan King / *Regional Secretaries for Canada*

East Asia. The online meeting of the Japanese Society for Animal Behaviour and Management, including oral presentations, one workshop mainly for students and young researchers, and one symposium on animal welfare is planned for September 8-10, 2021. Most Japanese ISAE members will join the meeting.

Shigeru Ninomiya / *Regional Secretary for East Asia*

East Central Europe. We are organizing the Joint East and West Central Europe ISAE region online conference to be held on September 23rd and 24th, 2021. For more information please see the conference website: <https://isaeregion.wixsite.com/eastcentral/regional-meeting-2021>.

Radka Šárová / *Regional Secretary for East Central Europe*

West Central Europe.

Meeting announcements:

- **53rd International Congress on Applied Ethology of the German Veterinary Society 25 – 27 November 2020 in Freiburg, Germany**

This year the congress is planned as a hybrid congress, allowing participants to join in person or online. During the congress, the ISAE West Central Europe Region and German Veterinary Society (DVG) have again included a time slot for PhD students to shortly present their projects. Interested students can still apply for this year's short presentations. For more information, please contact Antonia Patt (antonia.patt@fli.de)

Further, the West Central Europe Region will have the annual general meeting during this conference.

- **ISAE East- and West Central Europe joint regional conference 23 - 24 September 2021**

You can now register for the joint conference of the East and West Central Europe ISAE regions. This online conference will be held in September 23rd - 24th, 2021 and has the theme 'Behaviour of Farm Animals'. We invite you to submit your abstract before June 21st. For more information, visit <https://isaeregion.wixsite.com/eastcentral/regional-meeting-2021>.

Antonia Patt / Regional Secretary for West Central Europe

UK and Ireland. The UK/Ireland region has been quiet since the last regional meeting held in February 2020, in University of Nottingham. However, that means that it's time for us to start ramping up our plans for the next one. If anyone would like the opportunity to host the meeting, or is curious about what it entails, we would be delighted to discuss what is involved and provide support - please just drop us a line. Inclusion of a virtual aspect is something which we would also like to consider, as travel may not be as easy as in previous years. The meeting is normally held in the spring of the year, so we would like to have a venue sorted out by September – looking forward to hearing from you!

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

USA.

Virtual Networking Event

In April 2021, 11 professional members and 17 student members of the ISAE working in the United States participated in a virtual networking event. Given that many conferences were canceled or provided in a virtual platform, our students are missing out on engaging with scholars of applied animal behaviour. The goal of this event was to build new connections, brainstorm current or future research or teaching ideas, and engage with members of our regional ISAE community. Many thanks to Marisa Erasmus, Victoria Cussen, Courtney Daigle, Brian Greco, Angela Green-Miller, Katherine Houpt, Maja Makagon, Emily Miller-Cushon, Beth Ventura, and Shawna Weimer for volunteering their time to chat with our budding animal welfare scholars.

14th North American Regional Meeting of ISAE

After close consultation with our funding partners and university administrators, we've made the difficult decision to postpone the 14th North American Regional Meeting of the ISAE to the spring of 2022 (in-person at UC Davis). We will re-open the abstract submission in Dec 2021 and plan a new agenda for the 2022 meeting. Previously selected oral and poster presenters are asked to resubmit their abstracts or submit a new/updated abstract. We want to thank all students, faculty, and professional members for their support, open discussions and encouragement. As everyone has been reminding us, great things happen when the ISAE community comes together and connects at the regional meetings.

Kristina Horback / Regional Secretary for USA

Other News

ISAE collaboration with the OIE

It has now been four years that the ISAE and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) have agreed on a closer collaboration in the area of animal welfare (for OIE Animal Welfare activities see <https://www.oie.int/en/animal-welfare/>) and last year we decided to further intensify the collaboration (for information on the scope of our collaboration see Newsletters N°50 and 57). For the first time an ISAE representative, our Senior Vice President Bas Rodenburg, could participate in a meeting of the Steering Group of the OIE Platform on animal welfare for Europe. Bas gave a short presentation about ISAE and it was concluded that ISAE will be welcome as an observer in future meetings of the Steering Group. Similarly, there are plans to involve ISAE representatives in the OIE platforms on animal welfare of the other OIE regions, where action plans for animal welfare for the region are developed. On a global level, the OIE Global Forum on Animal Welfare met online for three days in April and May 2021 and Susanne could participate for the ISAE. The theme was 'Animal Welfare and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'. After some introductory presentations, the participating OIE national focal points and OIE collaborators from all over the world rated and discussed the potential linkages of the 17 SDGs with animal welfare first in smaller working groups and then presented and discussed it in the plenary session. The potential impact of improving animal welfare on the SDG in question, as well as the potential impact of achieving the SDG on animal welfare, were rated separately. Interestingly, the participants widely agreed on a positive linkage between animal welfare and many of the SDGs in both directions. However, discussions also revealed some disagreement and some potential for conflicts between these aims depending on the SDG and the exact measures for their achievement. In sum, it was an interesting and stimulating meeting supporting the importance to consider sustainability issues when dealing with animal welfare, as well as the significance of improved welfare for a better world for humans.

EU Platform on Animal Welfare

As regular readers of the Newsletter and attendees of our AGM know, ISAE is a member of the EU Platform on Animal Welfare that was launched 2017. Since the last Newsletter, no meeting of the Platform took place. The new subgroup on Animal welfare labelling, where ISAE has no seat, will report on its progress in the next Platform meeting in June as will the subgroup on pullets with Bas Rodenburg as ISAE representative. Three further voluntary subgroups initiated by platform members have experts representing ISAE (fish - Moira Harris, piglet castration - Heleen van de Weerd, equines - Janne Winther Christensen). These groups are ongoing, although some of them have already finalized recommendations. All documents adopted by the platform (platform conclusions), as well as presentations and recordings of the platform meetings can be found at the website of the Platform <https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare>. For more information see the previous Newsletters. Finally, it is good to mention that the mandate of the Platform has been renewed until 2025 and a call is currently out for new platform members (individual experts and organisations).

Member survey of the Society's Journal

As announced in the last Newsletter, Council launched a survey about the needs and preferences of ISAE members with respect to the **Society's Journal**, which for the past 20 years has been the Elsevier journal

Applied Animal Behaviour Science (AABS). The survey was open for responses between the 14th of December and 6th of January. Participation was very satisfactory with 31% of the members completing it and a representative distribution regarding gender and regions. The survey revealed quite strong support for AABS but also differing needs of members reflecting our global distribution and the varying challenges people face in their work. The [detailed report](#) is available in the membership area of our website. Here are the key findings:

- Two thirds of the responding members prefer to keep AABS a hybrid journal, i.e. with a free publication option, but most of these would prefer a much lower OA fee for members
- The vast majority of responding members is at least partly in need for a fee free publication option; nearly half of them are very much or greatly dependent on the possibility to publish without costs
- However, 11% of the respondents on average, in some regions up to 20-30%, indicated that they are unable, or do expect to be unable in the future, to publish in AABS because it is not a Gold Open Access journal.
- AABS is respected scientifically and preferred as the Society's journal, but the review/publication process needs to be improved (e.g. partly it is unacceptably slow)
- There should be a reduced cost for OA publishing for members and via vouchers for reviewers
- The ISAE support of members from developing countries could/should extend to them getting their work published in a well-recognised journal such as AABS.

In conclusion, many members support AABS as a hybrid-journal to remain as the Society's journal. Nevertheless, the survey also revealed some criticism of AABS, ideas for improvements and specific needs of some members. Council is considering these in ongoing discussions and negotiations with Elsevier.

Susanne Waiblinger / President of the ISAE (2019-2021)

New book: Bearing Witness Ruth Harrison and British Farm Animal Welfare (1920-2000)

There is a new open access book on the life of Ruth Harrison and British Farm Animal Welfare in the book series on the history of social movements. You can access it here: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-030-62792-8>

Employment and Education Opportunities

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

- Lecturer/Professor, UK (deadline August 1)
- Educator, USA (deadline July 26)
- Postdoc, Denmark (deadline August 1)
- Postdoc, Canada
- Postdoc, Canada
- Postdoc, USA
- PhD position, Netherlands/Ireland (deadline July 23)
- PhD position, France
- PhD position, USA (start Fall 2021)
- MSc positions (2x), Canada
- PhD position, USA
- PhD position, USA
- PhD position, Canada
- MSc or 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](#) 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 weekly and will be removed 3 months after the posting date if no closing date is given.

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