



International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine

IAAAM News

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MESSAGE FROM THE IAAAM PRESIDENT ELECT

With memories of the Gold Coast still fresh in our minds it's already time to start thinking about 2015 in Chicago. We're eagerly looking forward to some amazing spring weather thanks to a guarantee from Chris Dold and hope that many of you will plan to arrive early to enjoy the Easter weekend in the Windy City and/or stay on for a few days of fun after the conference. On August 12th USA Today ran a story announcing that Chicago has grabbed the top spot among U.S. destinations for where companies and associations are planning meetings and events, beating out Orlando and Las Vegas. In the next newsletter we'll plan to include plenty of information and links about Chicago sightseeing and seasonal events for all.

With the Scientific Program rapidly taking shape, our 2015 plenary session will take advantage of our host location and start us off with a Great Lakes focus that then feeds into the larger global theme of how aquariums along with other institutions and organizations are engaged in the preservation and management of aquatic species and their ecosystems. In anticipation of a larger-than-usual number of presentation and abstract submissions for 2015 we've already started to recruit session chairs to help with the huge organizational task of putting together the scientific sessions, including an entire fish-themed day on Friday, April 10th. Genny Dumonceaux and Barbara Biancani will be coordinating the poster session, Ilze Berzins will be chairing a One Health session, and Greg Lewbart and Craig Harms will be making sure we all get our invertebrate and sea turtle fixes while we're in Chicago. If you are interested in being a 2015 session chair, please contact me directly at murphyjp@vet.upenn.edu. The tentative deadline for abstract submissions is **January 15, 2015**.

Workshops will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2015, featuring an all-day program presented by the American Association of Fish Veterinarians (AAFV). Space is available but limited at both the conference hotel and the aquarium, so if you are interested in organizing a workshop please contact me by email no later than **October 1, 2014**.

Our hosts at the Shedd have been working hard to find sponsorships for the conference, but your help is still needed! Please consider having your institution or organization sponsor either the conference in general or a specific conference event. IAAAM conferences are unique opportunities to interact with an international group of aquatic veterinarians, researchers, and other allied professionals. For more information about conference sponsorships, please contact Bill Van Bonn by email at BVANBONN@sheddaquarium.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE 46TH IAAAM ANNUAL CONFERENCE HOST

Greetings Friends and Colleagues-

Plans are well underway for a fabulous conference here in Chicago in the spring. As you know the dates are a bit earlier than typical this year and we will be running **Monday through Friday April 6th through 10th**. Dr. Dold as our President is guaranteeing awesome spring weather! Our conference hotel is the delightful [Swissôtel Chicago](#) just a hop, skip and jump from [Shedd Aquarium](#) where we are developing grand plans to host you all for the Ice Breaker and the Poster session. Swissôtel Chicago is the only Swissôtel in North America, and they have agreed to honor the conference room rates for three days prior to and three days following the actual conference. So—if you'd like to spend the Easter holiday in Chicago and be settled in for the conference you are all set! Our partners at the [Chicago Zoological Society](#) are also readying a free afternoon at the zoo followed by an evening student auction event sure to entertain. We are also making plans for the first ever veterinary technician event and session at **IAAAM** so plan to bring along your technicians too. See you all soon!

William Van Bonn, DVM
Vice President, Animal Health
John G. Shedd Aquarium

Conference rate hotel reservations are now available at the Swissotel:

VIA PHONE

1-888-73-SWISS ([1-888-737-9477](tel:1-888-737-9477))

VIA EMAIL

reservations.chicago@swissotel.com

VIA WEBSITE

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/iaaam2015>

All bookings should be made no later than **Friday, March 6, 2015**

46th IAAAM WORKSHOP REQUEST FORM

If you would like to run a workshop at the 2015 IAAAM conference please return this form via email to Lisa Murphy (murphylp@vet.upenn.edu) **no later than Tuesday, October 1st**. Returning this form does not guarantee that we will be able to accommodate your request.

Name of workshop:

Name of person running workshop:

Contact information (phone and email):

Date:

Time:

Type of room (classroom or wetlab):

Equipment needs:

Location (conference hotel vs. offsite and if offsite, where? If offsite, how will participants get there?) :

Is this an IAAAM workshop or sponsored/run by an outside group?

2015 IAAAM MEMBERSHIP DUES UPDATE

We are now officially operating on a calendar year. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31 each year. All current memberships will expire December 31, 2014 and must be renewed prior to March 1, 2015 to qualify for member discounted registration at the 2015 Annual Conference.

Complete membership information is available <http://www.iaaam.org> under the membership link, including online or downloadable new membership/renewal forms to accompany payment. **You can also use the “Check your membership status” link if you are not sure when you joined or renewed last.** There will be no “early payment discount” option for the coming year so all dues will be payable according to the amounts shown in the following descriptions of Membership categories.

FULL MEMBER – \$50.00/year - Persons contributing to the advancement of, or devoting a portion of their professional activities to, aquatic animal medicine practice, research, teaching or management.

STUDENT MEMBER – \$30.00/year - Students having an interest in veterinary practice, research, husbandry, management or conservation of aquatic animals. Student membership is open to all full-time undergraduate, graduate, veterinary and postdoctoral students enrolled in formal programs at academic and comparable institutions as well as individuals enrolled in full time internships and residencies. Must have a IAAAM member sponsor. (Contact Membership Board member for additional information.)

SUSTAINING MEMBER / ASSOCIATION – Individuals, institutions or associations which make significant financial contributions (\$250 or more) to sustain the IAAAM. (Contact Treasurer for additional information).

LIFE MEMBER - Upon professional retirement, full members in good standing for a minimum of 10 consecutive years of active membership may be afforded life membership by the Executive Committee upon petition by the member.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER - Individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the promotion of aquatic animal medical science and the objectives of the Association.

The **LIBRARY / INSTITUTION SUBSCRIPTION** option is not currently available. Due to the prohibitive expense of printing and mailing paper copies of the Conference Proceedings, the IAAAM Executive Board is polling current members to determine the interest and need for continuing this membership option. This category only applies to libraries and institutions wishing to receive our meeting proceedings and access to the membership only sections of the website and does not affect other membership categories.

Dues payment may be made anytime by credit card at the “Join IAAAM” or “Renew Membership” links on the website at <http://www.iaaam.org>. If paying by check, be sure to make your check payable to “IAAAM” and mail your *completed membership form and payment* to:

IAAAM/ Pam Tuomi, DVM
c/o Alaska SeaLife Center
P.O. Box 1329
Seward, AK 99664

Questions? Email pamt@alaskasealife.org (Treasurer) or Martin.Haulena@vanaqua.org (Membership Board Member)

OTHER NEWS

Medway Scholarship Program Update

Mark your calendars. The 2015 Medway Scholarship applications will be due **March 2, 2015**. Now is the time to start thinking about suitable projects and lining up potential students for 2015 summer projects.

Bill Medway Fund

The Medway Fund is part of the IAAAM 501(c)3, so all or part of your donation is tax deductible. The fund is still in need of donations. Please click on the DONATE tab under **Education** on the main IAAAM website to donate.

Medway Scholarship Student Reports

Wondering what our previous Medway scholarship winners are up to? Below is a report written by scholarship winner, Kelsey Seitz, describing her experience and research. We'll provide an update from Ashley Barratclough in our next newsletter.

Kelsey Seitz

The IAAAM Medway student research scholarship allowed me to pursue an amazing project this past year with the National Marine Mammal Foundation (NMMF). The project focused on the application of hepatic ultrasound in bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) to standardize a technique for liver ultrasonography and to identify the normal and/or abnormal features in a group of dolphins. With the help of the amazing veterinary staff, technicians and trainers at the NMMF and Navy Marine Mammal Program, we were able to complete our goal of performing hepatic ultrasound scans on all 30 dolphins over my summer break from veterinary school. It was an incredibly educational experience to learn in great detail about the physics and functions of ultrasound, how to scan dolphins, and how to analyze the sonographic data. The logistics involved with the project were also very educational because I learned how to schedule medical procedures into a busy working animal agenda with the help of the training and supervising staff. These experiences are ones that I will certainly find useful in my future endeavors and career in

aquatic animal medicine. I was already able to utilize the skills that I learned during this project in senior clinics and in an externship at Sea World San Diego.

Unparalleled mentors from the NMMF and UC Davis have guided me through the scientific writing process and I have drafted a scientific manuscript that I hope to submit for publication by the end of the year. I feel so grateful for this unique opportunity presented to me by IAAAM and am so appreciative of my mentors at NMMF and UC Davis for making this research project happen. Every part of this endeavor, from the literature search to the ultrasound exams and scientific writing, has been an extremely enlightening and educational experience. I was very excited and honored to present this project in Australia this past May at the IAAAM annual conference. This entire process has strengthened my passion for aquatic animal medicine and solidified my goal to pursue a career in this exciting field. I am hopeful that this study will contribute to the health and conservation of marine mammals.

I am currently in my fourth clinical year in the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. Upon graduation in May of 2015, I hope to participate in a clinical internship. After that I hope to achieve my goal to become an aquatic animal veterinarian!

2014 IAAAM Conference Student Presentation Winners

Congratulations to our 2014 Student Presentation winners!

- Jessica Weeks won first place in the undergraduate, veterinary, masters, and PhD student category with her presentation: *Computed Tomography Analysis of Lung Volume in Rescued Green Sea Turtles*.
- Dr. Laura Thompson won second place in the undergraduate, veterinary, masters, and PhD student category with her presentation: *Combined Effects of Stressors and Pressure Associated with Diving on Lymphocyte Function in Belugas*.
- Dr. Christine Molter won first place in the veterinary intern, resident, and post-doc category for her presentation: *Pharmacokinetics of a Single Subcutaneous Dose of Sustained Release Buprenorphine in Northern Elephant Seals*.
- Dr. Greg Frankfurter won second place in the veterinary intern, resident and post-doc category for his presentation: *Critical Care for Critical Patients: Parenteral Nutrition Formula and Delivery in Third Stage Starveling Phocids*.

2014 IAAAM Conference Student Auction

Thanks to everyone who helped make the 2014 Student Auction a great success! All told, IAAAM members gave \$5,018 to help our valued students.

Associate Veterinarian – Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta, GA

The Georgia Aquarium is seeking applicants for an associate veterinarian. The following application materials should be submitted electronically to Tonya Clauss at tclauss@georgiaaquarium.org by **15 October 2014**:

- a curriculum vitae or resume
- a letter of intent reflecting the applicant's goals in the area of aquatic animal medicine
- 3 letters of recommendation, two of which should be written by veterinarians

Applicants should also visit the Georgia Aquarium's **[Join Our Team Web Page](#)** to fill out an electronic application for the associate veterinarian position.

[Click here to see more information about this position.](#)

The Newsletter of the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine is published four times a year (usually in January, April, August, and November). An annual conference is held every year in the spring and electronic proceedings from that conference are mailed out in June or July to current members not in attendance. The International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the art and science of aquatic animal medicine and health.

Newsletter submissions are welcomed, although the newsletter editor and the IAAAM board reserve the right to edit and/or refuse the publication of any submissions. The deadlines for submissions are December 1, March 1, July 1, and October 1. Submissions should be made in WORD, without complex formatting. For submissions contact Stephanie Venn-Watson, Newsletter Editor, at stephanie.venn-watson@nmmf.org.

For membership information, including address changes, contact Marty Haulena at martin.haulena@vanaqua.org

IAAAM EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:

Christopher Dold (christopher.dold@seaworld.com)

President-Elect:

Lisa Murphy (murphyLP@vet.upenn.edu)

Past-President:

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Treasurer:

Pam Tuomi (pamt@alaskasealife.org)

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Marty Haulena

(martin.haulena@vanaqua.org)

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Stephanie Venn-Watson

(stephanie.venn-watson@nmmf.org)

Board – Education:

Katie Colegrove (katie.colegrove@gmail.com)

IAAAM COMMITTEE CHAIRS

IAAAM Nominations and Awards:

Tracy Romano (tromano@MysticAquarium.org)

IAAAM Site Selection:

Sam Dover (sdoverdvm@cox.net)

IAAAM Student Liaison:

Allison Tuttle (atuttle@searesearch.org)

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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Sam Ridgway

Jesse White*

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*deceased