



IAAAM NEWS

**Volume 37, Number 4,
November 2006**

Craig Harms, Editor

www.iaaam.org

Mission: To advance the art and science of aquatic animal medicine and health, encourage the free exchange of knowledge in the interest of improving the health care and husbandry of domestic aquatic animals, and promote the proper conservation and management of wild aquatic animals.

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**IAAAM 38th Annual Conference
Orlando, FL May 5th to 9th, 2007**

Message from the President

We host a marvelous conference!

If you have attended in past years I am sure you will agree. If you have not attended in the past, come to Orlando and see for yourself. President-Elect Don Stremme has been diligently arranging a group of robust scientific sessions and workshops. And of course Orlando offers a rich variety of fun activities sure to satisfy all tastes. We look forward to seeing you there.

In conjunction with the scientific sessions we also hold the organization's annual business meeting. All members are encouraged to attend and participate. Last newsletter we reprinted our mission, vision and by-line statements, asking the membership to keep these in mind when considering some proposals for change. More information regarding issues to be voted on by the membership at the upcoming meeting is included in this edition. Please review it seriously and come prepared to contribute to the decision making process.

What is an aquatic animal?

This might be an interesting question for us all to answer individually. There would likely be a variety of definitions developed reflecting one's own experiences, professional and personal pursuits. One thing appears certain; the medical care and management of aquatic animals is gaining more and more societal visibility and importance. It is timely for us as a group to decide if our role will include something more than simply hosting marvelous conferences.

We have a marvelous Executive Board!

And I would like to thank them for the hard work they have all endured behind-the-scenes since our last meeting. Many hours of valuable time are donated to the IAAAM by board and committee members- all too often thankless work. Please make a point of showing your appreciation to the board and please consider joining this group or forwarding the name of a willing individual to the nominating committee. We need active members.

Stay Well,

William Van Bonn, DVM
IAAAM President
Flossmoor, IL

Message from the President-Elect

2007 Conference Update

The 38th Annual IAAAM Conference will be held at the Coronado Resort in Orlando, Florida, from Saturday, May 5th to Wednesday, May 9th 2007. That is just 6 months from now! It's time to do your planning.

Our host Andy Stamper from Disney will be filling us in on his plans in this same newsletter. Kudos to Andy for agreeing to host this meeting at the last minute, when a change of venue was required. He has been working hard to make up for the lost year of planning. Watch the web site for updates and a registration form (all coming very soon).

On Saturday we will have two workshops. Ruth Francis-Floyd will host the ACZM ultra-short course and Judy St. Leger will host a pathology workshop. Lisa Murphy is putting together a fun student evening. Mike Briggs will be inviting you to the return of the conundrums session. Mike Walsh is putting together a panel discuss called Profiles in Excellence, Lessons Learned. More information about each of these is included in this newsletter.

We are again using a web-based abstract collection site hosted by OmniPress, the company that publishes our proceedings. It has been tweaked to make things easier. The site opened November 1st. Here is the link:

<http://iaaam.omnicms.com/iaaam/2007/callforpapers.cgi>

The abstract submission site will be open until Saturday, 2-24-07. It will not be possible to be included after that date, so be sure to mark it on your calendar.

The web site instructions are easy to follow. Be sure to save your access codes (userID and password) in case you must make changes. The acceptable format for uploading an abstract is Microsoft WORD. Formatting instructions and a sample abstract are included on the web site.

The site asks for a first and second choice for the session where you want to include your paper. I'll try to meet your request, but the final scheduling will depend on the amount and content of abstracts received. I plan to have student presentations on the same day for ease of judging.

I have made a few changes this year. We plan to provide a continental breakfast each morning prior to the meeting. This will last longer one morning, when I have included the poster session.

CE credits will be available thanks to our association with the ACZM. We are very grateful to them for making this possible.

See you in May!

Donald W. Stremme, VMD
IAAAM President-Elect
Cape May Beach, NJ



Disney's
ANIMAL PROGRAMS
WALT DISNEY WORLD® RESORTS, LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA

Dear IAAAM Members,

On behalf of the Disney family, we want to express our sincere pleasure at being your hosts for the 38th Annual IAAAM Conference, May 5th - 9th, 2007. We will host the event at Coronado Springs Resort in the middle of Walt Disney World® Resorts in Orlando, Florida.

At Coronado, you will be central to all the Disney Theme Parks as well as SeaWorld of Orlando. The cost of a hotel room at Coronado Springs will be \$155.00 per night (single/double occupancy) with a \$15 per person per night (18 years and older) charge for each additional person (up to four people in a room). For more information on the Disney World Resorts please explore www.disneyconventionear.com/intro.

This year, we will be trying something new to ease some of the pain of registration. The registration will be web-based and include the IAAAM registration as well as the added option of reserving a room at the Coronado Springs Resort. A list of other hotel choices will be provided in future updates.

As an additional amenity for those flying into Orlando Regional Airport and staying at any of the Disney Resorts, there is the opportunity to catch the "Magical Express" from the airport to your hotel. Once you arrive by air, Disney's service will start the moment you touch down. The Magical Express will pick you up at Orlando International Airport, retrieve your checked luggage, and take you to your resort. Your luggage will go straight from the airport to your resort room, leaving no need to hassle with your luggage at baggage claim. Disney's Magical Express Service is complimentary and exclusively available when you stay at a Disney Resort hotel. When the meeting is over, they will do it all in reverse order. More information will follow in future emails. The current round limo/cab trip from the airport to any of the hotels is approximately \$50.

If you are interested in staying at the Coronado Springs Resort, we request that you REGISTER EARLY! Disney Resorts are VERY popular and you need to REGISTER EARLY to ensure your stay on site where the conference is being held. When we have the registration website ready, I will send additional information to you. Also, you will see follow-up emails from me to make certain you don't forget to REGISTER EARLY!

We look forward to seeing you in May!

Sincerely,

M. Andrew Stamper D.V.M., Dipl. A.C.Z.M.

Research Biologist/Clinical Veterinarian
Disney's Animal Programs
Walt Disney World Resorts



Call for Student Travel Award Applications

The Student Liaison Committee has been appropriated the sum of \$2000.00 to award to students intending to deliver **oral** presentations at the annual IAAAM conference in May 2007. The awards are intended to defray the cost of travel to the May 5 - 9, 2007 conference in Orlando, Florida in order to promote student participation in the professional program, and to further the commitment of the IAAAM to its students. Moneys will be awarded on a competitive basis, with the goal of supporting as many students as possible. Undergraduate students, Masters and PhD students, veterinary students, veterinary interns/residents, and postdocs are eligible. The requirements for all applicants include the following:

1. A cover letter that describes the future plans of the applicant with regard to aquatic animal medicine.
2. A copy of the abstract of the paper to be presented. This abstract must not exceed 500 words in length. Only abstracts will be considered.
3. Curriculum vitae and two (2) letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an active member of the IAAAM.
4. An itemized budget that details the travel expenditures (i.e. airfare, lodging, meals, etc) and indicates the funds available from student stipends and personal resources.
5. The student presenter must be a member (with dues paid up-to-date) of the IAAAM.

The Education Member of the IAAAM Executive Board and the Student Liaison Committee will review the applications. Applicants will be ranked according to judgement criteria that will include: the quality of the written abstract (500 words or less), the justification/significance of the work, the complexity of the work relative to the student's academic achievements, and the commitment of the student to aquatic animal medicine. The intent of the Student Liaison Committee and the Executive Board is to fund as many students as possible, beginning with the highest ranked and continuing through the list of ranked applicants until the appropriated funds have been exhausted. No awards will exceed \$500.00. The rankings will be determined from the entire pool of applicants; separate awards for different academic classes of applicants (i.e. undergraduate, graduate, veterinary) will not be offered.

****In response to requests from the IAAAM membership, the deadline for receipt of the original signed applications has been extended this year to February 15, 2007.** Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Recipients will be contacted by March 15, 2007. **Students submitting abstracts for the travel award competition must still separately submit their presentation for acceptance into the conference proceedings.**** The Secretary/Treasurer of the IAAAM will be notified and will send checks to the successful applicants. The Student Liaison Committee and the IAAAM Executive Board welcome this opportunity to assist deserving students.

Candidates should send their application information to the following address:

Lisa A. Murphy, VMD, DABT
Assistant Professor of Toxicology
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine
New Bolton Center – Toxicology Laboratory
382 W. Street Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
Phone: 610-925-6217
Fax: 610-925-8117
Email: murphyLP@vet.upenn.edu

The following judgment criteria will be used to evaluate applications submitted for the 2006 IAAAM student awards:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Abstract (500 words or less)</u>		50
Quality of the written abstract	20	
Definition of hypothesis and objectives	5	
Justification	5	
Design	5	
Results or observations	5	
Conclusions	5	
Complexity and academic achievement	5	
<u>Cover Letter</u>		15
Definition of long term goals	15	
<u>Curriculum Vitae</u>		15
Commitment to aquatic animal medicine	15	
<u>Letters of Recommendation</u>		15
<u>Budget</u>		5
Realistic and justified	5	
TOTAL POINTS		100

The Student Liaison Committee and the IAAAM Executive Board welcome this opportunity to assist deserving students.

THE CONUNDRUM SESSION IS BACK!

To: Fellow IAAAM clinicians

From: Michael Briggs, DVM, MS

Re: The return of the conundrum session (as seen historically at the IAAAM annual conference)

Many IAAAM members, including me, have enjoyed the Conundrum Sessions that have occurred from time to time during our annual meetings. I did a “non-scientific survey” asking whether we should have a conundrum session or not and got 100% response. Of the 100% response, I also received 100% “Yes we should have it!” (Okay, there were just four of us, but our percentage of response was much higher than Don’s for the entire 2006 conference!) Somewhere in the middle of complaining too loudly about not having one; I have become the “session chair” of one. Don Stremme has found some time to allow us to have one in 2007 at the meeting in Orlando. It will probably be Monday evening, May 7th at 6 pm - location to be announced.

One of the stipulations for me to chair this session was to set parameters and rules on it and not just have an endless extension of more papers? Don agreed, so we are going to have a “Conundrum” session. When you look up Conundrum in a Thesaurus, one gets the words, puzzle, mystery, challenge, problem, and riddle. No where does it say, “Another resolved case,” or “Damn, I’m right again!” It also doesn’t say anything about being partially complete with a research project and “results will be given next year!”

What we are looking for are clinical cases that are baffling.... puzzling... caus’n you to scratch your head... Cases you are so bewildered about it you just can’t imagine going another day without telling EVERYONE how totally confused you are! But seriously, we would like to receive a loose outline of the case with basically; signalment, history, clinical presentation, diagnostics, rule-outs, clinical course, treatments, some supporting work you may have done as in a literature search for the rule-outs, etc. We don’t want this to become a treatise on some fascinating disease you have solved. That is for the regular sessions. Nor do we want the recipe on how an ELISA is done or another laboratory technique we could look up in a book. PowerPoint presentations are discouraged as they tend to distract from the “feel” of just discussing a case with friends and colleagues. Also, long video of animals swimming around the tank or gradually eating more and more are discouraged. It is basically coming down as semi organized “shop talk.”

Please submit any ideas for this session to me by the time final papers are due. Since this is more casual than our formal presentations, there will be room for you if you have something crop up after that, but I want to get a feel for how many might be actually presenting things. Depending on interest and number of folks interested, I would like to have three or four more complete or complex conundrums and I am hoping to assemble a “Panel” to help with a variety of questions that crop up that clinicians deal with all the time. It is sometimes good to revisit issues that we all thought everyone knew about but are still asked by other veterinarians, trainers,

and water quality personnel. Things like the questions, “Should we do salt dips on sea lions with bad eyes?” “Why are the sea lions teeth black?” “Are salt tablets effective for pinniped that live in fresh water?” “How can you tell when a jelly fish has been humanely euthanized?” These questions may be put in a “Hit List” format, so please send me any thoughts or ideas on that and I will try and make something come of it. I also hope that if there is a paper given during regular sessions with a “hot topic” we might be able to discuss that, as often there is too little time during the sessions. If there is enough interest in other issues that are a point of debate or needs the flow of open ideas, we will do that as well.

Again, I hope we can make this a very interesting session. Fish, bears, dolphins, shore birds, seals and sea lions.... Everyone is welcome! If you like to think and help solve our tough problems or just want to get into a relaxing information trading mode, this is the session for you!

My contact information is:

Michael B. Briggs, DVM, MS
289 Butte View Drive
Bolingbrook, Illinois 60490

E-mail: mbbriggs@ix.netcom.com

**Pathways to Success in Marine Animal Medicine and Clinical
Research, Lessons and Observations
IAAAM Evening Session
Monday, 7 May, 7 – 9:30 pm**

An evening session which will consist of short lectures (5 to 6 minutes only, if we can hold them to that) given by a number of notable leaders (12 picked for this first attempt) in the veterinary marine animal medicine and clinical research fields. Each speaker will be enlightening the audience with their views on what personal and/ or professional traits (5 or so most important) contribute to success, what personal and/ or professional foibles or traits that inhibit success (perhaps what mistakes they have made?) and what sage advice they would give to those thinking they would like to follow in their footsteps. The goal for this first, hopefully biannual, affair is to educate our new members to those that have set the standards, to provide examples of where this field has grown and is going, and to provide hope to those who have the courage to stick with this fascinating area of medicine. This year’s panel will consist of:

Marine Mammal Medicine

Jim McBain
Jay Sweeney
Bill Van Bonn
Larry Dunn

Clinical Research

Joe Geraci
Sam Ridgway
Jack Gratzek
Ruth Francis-Floyd

Fish

Brent Whitaker
Greg Lewbart
Don Stremme
Ilza Berzins

After their short lectures we will have a panel discussion for questions from the audience and will ask each audience member to write down their opinion on successful traits in their personal and professional lives, their opinion on what hampers success and their advice. The findings will be posted on the web site and given at the next meeting.

If enjoyable and successful, and the membership feels it is worthwhile, we can repeat the format with another panel hosted by an international member with the panel reflecting that moderators picks. Another future panel should also focus on basic researchers and their views of success. We hope you can all share in this fun event.

Second Annual Marine Mammal Pathology Workshop

The Second Annual Marine Mammal Pathology Workshop hosted by The C.L. Davis Foundation will be held in on Saturday May 5th from 8:00 until 4:30 pm. The workshop will be held in conjunction with the IAAAM meeting in Orlando, Florida. This workshop is designed to increase interactive discussion regarding the pathology of marine mammals. Pathologists, clinicians, and interested students are invited to attend.

This year's Keynote speaker will be Dr. Dave Rotstein from the University of Tennessee. Dr. Rotstein will present material regarding the pathology investigation of stranding and mass strandings of marine mammals.

This year's workshop will again be on the general theme of marine mammal pathology. Case submissions can include classical lesions, novel conditions, common diseases in uncommon species, and diagnostic conundrums.

To submit a case, please contact Dr. Judy St. Leger: Judy.St.Leger@SeaWorld.com

The workshop attendance fee will be \$50 and will include a DVD of the slides and case materials.

Should IAAAM develop official position statements or should IAAAM establish a policy that it does not develop official position statements?

A mechanism for generating official policy statements by IAAAM was drafted and approved at the 2004 Annual Business Meeting in Galveston, Texas, as follows:

Policy/Position Development Process

1. Individual in consultation w/ member of the Governmental Affairs/Policy Committee (GAPC), submits proposed policy/position or other request to either Executive Board or Governmental Affairs/Policy Committee-- ***Positions taken by the Government Affairs/Policy Committee—should be restricted to those that provide guidance on or that promote aquatic animal medicine and health.***
2. GAPC discusses, consults with experts from membership, provides feedback, and either approves/disapproves moving forward with position development.
3. GAPC may assign “project to a team”. Project team develops timeline and policy position.
4. First draft submitted to GAPC, posts on website, and consults other reviewers, as necessary.
5. Project team incorporates/resolves comments, submits second draft to GAPC and Executive Board--either minor changes, or return to project team for additional work
6. Project team resolves any Executive Board concerns; Executive Board-approves document by simple majority. Document is posted on the website for two weeks to allow for comments by the membership.
7. Project team incorporates/resolves any additional comments and produces final draft for formatting, printing, and signature.
8. Copies are provided to appropriate targets, posted on the Website, GAPC and Secretary maintain copies.

This mechanism was applied in the development of a position statement in support of passage of the Farr Bill, H.R. 3545, The Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act, and a letter to that effect was sent to Congressman Farr on July 15, 2004. Both the letter and the position development process were reprinted in the August 2004 IAAAM Newsletter. This is the only time the mechanism has resulted in a position statement by IAAAM. It was applied again in 2006 in response to a request for an official endorsement by IAAAM of the AAZV euthanasia document. At that time, objections were raised about whether or not developing and issuing policy statements was an appropriate activity for IAAAM, irrespective of the merits of the case. Due to time constraints with the request, this issue could not be resolved in a timely manner, and no official endorsement was issued. It was also noted that we do not have a standing Government Affairs/Policy Committee. This mechanism does not apply to IAAAM’s representation on AVMA Committees (AVMA Animal Agriculture Liaison Committee, AVMA Committee on Environmental Issues, and AVMA Food Safety Advisory Committee), but IAAAM may be involved in developing policy positions by that representation. The question posed above, **“Should IAAAM develop official position statements or should IAAAM establish a policy that it does not develop official position statements?”** will be considered at the 2007 annual meeting. Please provide your feedback to members of the executive board prior to the meeting.

Congratulations to New ACZM Diplomates!

The American College of Zoological Medicine held its certifying examination 23 - 24 October at Disney's Animal Kingdom, Orlando, Florida. New diplomates are Sara Childs-Sanford, Christine Fiorello, Chris Hanley, Eric Klaphake, and **David Miller***.

*current IAAAM member

American College of Zoological Medicine (ACZM) Ultra-short Course

The ACZM Education Committee will sponsor a 1-day ultra-short course in conjunction with the IAAAM Conference in Orlando. The ultra-short course is divided into two main sections. The first section is meant to introduce to the attendee to the ACZM, reasons for becoming a Diplomat of the ACZM, how to become eligible to take the ACZM examination, and provide study and test-taking strategy, including a short mock exam. The second section consists of lectures intended to cover specific topics in-depth. Ruth Francis-Floyd will coordinate this year's course. The cost of this course will be approximately \$120 and will include a binder of ACZM information handouts, lecture materials and refreshments. The course will be limited to 25 attendees (minimum 6). Further details on registration and schedule will be posted on the IAAAM and the ACZM web sites. The Ultra short-course is held approximately once per year in conjunction with AAZV, WDA, IAAAM or related organizations.

Positions Available:

The Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, FL is seeking a Staff Scientist/Program Manager and a Senior Biologist/Deputy Program Manager for their Stranding Investigation Program.

(<http://www.mote.org/index.php?src=gendocs&link=JobOpportunities&category=JOBS>)

Other job opportunities are listed at the IAAAM web site.

Upcoming Meetings and Education Opportunities

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 5 – 9 May 2007 | IAAAM, Disney, Orlando, Florida. |
| 2008 | IAAAM, Rome, Italy. |
| 12 – 15 November 2006 | Defenders of Wildlife Marine and Terrestrial Carnivore Conference--Carnivores 2006: Habitats, Challenges, and Possibilities. Will include session on dolphin foraging ecology. (www.carnivoreconference.org) |
| 2 – 3 December 2006 | Fish and Chelonian Diagnostic Endoscopy, Athens, Georgia
(http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/conferences/2006/Dec/02/fish.phtml) |
| 6 – 7 December 2006 | Fourth Annual One Medicine Symposium. Public Health, Agriculture and Wildlife: the Common Thread. Research Triangle Park, North Carolina (http://www.multi-hazard.net/) |
| 8 – 9 December 2006 | Crissey Zoological Nutrition Symposium, Raleigh, North Carolina.
(http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/conted/zoonutrition/index.htm) |
| 9 – 11 March 2007 | Workshop on Beluga Whale Research, Husbandry and Management in Wild and Captive Environments. Valencia, Spain.
(http://www.cac.es/microsites/belugas_workshop/index.html) |
| 4 – 6 April 2007 | First Annual CL Davis Symposium on Diagnostic Pathology of Diseases of Aerial, Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife. Madison, WI. Contact Dr. Samuel W. Thompson at cldavisdvm@comcast.net . |
| 14 – 18 April 2007 | 14 th Annual Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians (ARAV). New Orleans, Louisiana. (http://www.arav.org/) |
| 18 – 22 June 2007 | Eastern Fish Health Workshop, Eisenhower Inn and Conference Center, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Contact Rocco Cipriano (rcipriano@usgs.gov) |

Join ADVENTURE AQUARIUM veterinarian, Don Stremme, for an Eco-Tour of South Africa. You will have the chance to explore Cape Town, Durban and other areas for about 2 weeks in February 2006, where you will see hippos, penguins, porcupines, leatherback turtles, dolphins, seals and sharks! The cut off date for this trip is the end of November 2006. For more information contact the travel agent, Pelin Karaca at 800-451-7111 ext 338 or Pelin@holbrooktravel.com.



Memorandum

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Suite 100
Schaumburg, IL
60173-4360

phone 847.925.8070
800.248.2862
fax 847.925.1329
www.avma.org

Date: August 30, 2006
To: Interested Parties
From: Drs. Bill van Bonn, David Scarfe
Cc:
Re: Solicitation of Additional Manuscript Reviewers and Authors for increased Aquatic Veterinary Medical Articles for the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

To support the rapidly increasing discipline of aquatic animal medicine, the attached implementation plan has been developed in collaboration with the AVMA's Publications (Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association) staff. It is provided as background information and should not be construed to imply that AVMA will be mandated to implement these actions.

Before other aquatic veterinary features are initiated in the JAVMA we are seeking additional experts to serve as manuscript reviewers. We also seek potential authors and manuscript titles.

Potential Reviewers: Individuals interested in being reviewers should provide their complete contact information and indicate those fields or areas of aquatic veterinary medicine in which they have expertise and would be willing to serve as a JAVMA manuscript reviewer.

Potential authors: Corresponding authors interested in having manuscripts published in JAVMA should provide the tentative manuscript title, all potential authors, and full contact information for each author.

Please e-mail this information to:

Dr. Bill van Bonn (bvanbonn@sheddaquarium.org)

and

Dr. David Scarfe (dscarfe@avma.org).

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AQUATIC ANIMAL MEDICINE FEATURES

Implementation Process

August 2006

William Van Bonn & David Scarfe

INTRODUCTION

Contemporary veterinary medicine clearly includes an increasing number of aquatic animal species from marine mammals, to commercial aquaculture, ornamental (pet) finfish, amphibians and invertebrates. Veterinarian involvement is wide, involves all veterinary disciplines and includes governmental activities and program diseases, private industry and academic research, therapeutics and biologics, private clinical and university teaching hospital practice, wild fisheries rehabilitation, seafood safety, public health and biosecurity.

Being uniquely positioned, the JAVMA is able to provide a cohesive source and exchange of centralized, moderated and peer-reviewed aquatic veterinary information to veterinarians actively engaged in this wide range of aquatic veterinary activities and species.

This document outlines the process and requirements for three focused areas of aquatic veterinary publications in JAVMA and focuses on education through publication of didactic exercises, clinical case reports, updates or reviews of clinically relevant topics to aquatic animal veterinarians, and emerging issues that directly affect the practice of aquatic animal medicine. It also outlines the process and requirements for expediting solicitation, review, and processing of manuscripts in order to assist JAVMA staff, authors, and JAVMA readers.

AREAS FOR PUBLICATION

Manuscripts will be accepted for processing, review, and possible publication under the following sections:

- Aquatic Animal Section
- Current features in Veterinary Medicine Today
- Emerging Issues in Aquatic Veterinary Medicine—New feature within Veterinary Medicine Today

Authors will submit manuscripts for possible publication through established JAVMA channels and prepared in accordance with published JAVMA guidelines. These manuscripts would be processed in accordance with existing JAVMA policy.

Aquatic Animal Section

Aquatic animal reports are full-length manuscripts of an Original Study, Retrospective Study, Clinical Report, or Descriptive Report, as currently published in JAVMA under species categories in accordance with established JAVMA instructions for authors and manuscript processing.

Veterinary Medicine Today Features

Manuscripts on aquatic animal medicine will also be considered for publication in the Veterinary Medicine Today section of the JAVMA in current features, such as “What is Your Diagnosis?”, “Timely Topics in Nutrition,” or “Topics in Drug Therapy.” Manuscripts could include descriptive approaches to clinical aquatic cases illustrating contemporary aspects of aquatic clinical practice that are of immediate use to veterinarians desiring to expand their involvement in aquatic animal

medicine or use of existing or emerging diagnostic tests or procedures, surgical approaches or techniques, and the optimal use of drugs.

Emerging Issues in Aquatic Veterinary Medicine

Emerging Issues in Aquatic Animal Medicine would represent a new feature within the current Veterinary Medicine Today section of JAVMA.

Manuscripts considered for publication in this section would include brief, but complete and accurate, new or evolving issues of importance to the veterinary profession, but they may not be typically viewed as hard science or may be seen by clinical practitioners as immediately applicable to the practice of aquatic veterinary medicine (ie, more of a head's-up focus on emerging issues). Examples include legislative or regulatory issues, emerging environmental or ecological issues, and animal behavior or welfare.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Manuscripts for the Aquatic Animal Section or Veterinary Medicine Today Features

Manuscripts intended for the Aquatic Animal section in JAVMA or existing Veterinary Medicine Today features in the JAVMA (such as “What is Your Diagnosis?”, “Timely Topics in Nutrition,” or “Topics in Drug Therapy”) must be submitted in accordance with current established JAVMA instructions for authors (see http://www.avma.org/journals/javma/javma_ifa.asp).

Instructions for Emerging Issues in Aquatic Animal Medicine (New Feature)

Emerging Issues in Aquatic Animal Medicine should have the following format:

- Preferably one, but no more than two, printed pages (manuscript submissions approximately 3 double-spaced typed pages; approx 750 to 1,000 words).
- References should be limited to 8 in number
- Authors should follow all general guidelines for manuscript preparation and submission, including guidelines for preparation of electronic copies of figures, provided in the online Instructions for JAVMA Authors.
- Manuscripts submitted need to contain the following sections:
 - **Title** – Title must clearly indicate the topic and significance to clinical veterinary medicine.
 - **Author/s** – If multiple authors, at least one of them should be a veterinarian, and affiliations of all authors (especially the corresponding author) must be noted.
 - **Introduction** – A brief overview of the issue, how this relates to veterinary medicine, and a review of the pertinent information related to the issue.
 - **Body of the manuscript (identify relevant subheadings as necessary)** – Describes the relevant issues in detail.
 - **Discussion and Conclusions** – Relates the issues directly to the practice of, or impact on, aquatic veterinary medicine.
 - **References** – All citations cited in the body of the manuscript.

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING, MANAGING AND PUBLISHING CONTRIBUTIONS

Publication frequency will be a function of the number of suitable manuscripts submitted and reviewed through AVMA's standard processes. Before the new feature is started, at least 5 manuscripts must be received, processed through peer review, and tentatively accepted for publication.

- All manuscripts should be submitted to the JAVMA, preferably online (<http://avma.manuscriptcentral.com>) to expedite processing. However, manuscripts may also be submitted electronically to the JAVMA secretary (JAVMA@avma.org), who will assist with uploading of the manuscript and associated materials.
- Manuscripts submitted for consideration should identify the desired section or feature for inclusion (Original Study, Retrospective Study, Clinical Report, or Descriptive Report for the Aquatic Animal section; or the specific feature in the Veterinary Medicine Today section (such as Timely Topics in Nutrition, Topics in Drug Therapy, Emerging Issues in Aquatic Animal Medicine, etc).
- Manuscripts submitted for consideration will be routed to the appropriate AVMA Scientific Editor. A specific AVMA Scientific Editor will be designated to handle the new Emerging Issue in Aquatic Animal Medicine feature.
- The AVMA Scientific Editors will ensure manuscripts are reviewed in a timely manner. The AVMA Scientific Editor who handles the Emerging Issues in Aquatic Animal Medicine feature will work with a designated coordinator to ensure each manuscript is peer-reviewed by 2 or more reviewers. Review of each manuscript should be accomplished within a 3-week period.
- Based on reviewer's comments, the AVMA Scientific Editor will:
 - Reject the manuscript and inform the corresponding author, providing reviewer's key issues;
 - Request the corresponding author resubmit the manuscript with consideration of reviewer's comments; or,
 - Route the manuscript, with reviewer's comments to the appropriate JAVMA editorial staff for editing, formatting, and publication.

PROMOTION AND OTHER NECESSARY ACTIVITY

The following activities will need to be implemented:

1. Solicitation and compiling of potential reviewers for each section.
Subject matter expert reviewers will be sought from the membership of several of the small established or developing organizations with an aquatic veterinary focus (e.g. International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine (IAAAM), Eastern Aquaculture Veterinary Association (EAVA), Association of Aquatic Veterinarians of British Columbia (AAVBC), Canadian Association of Aquaculture Veterinarians (CAAV), Association of Reptile and Amphibian Veterinarians (ARAV), American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV), Fish Veterinary Society (FVS), etc).
2. Solicitation of manuscripts for each section.
Manuscripts will be solicited from members of the aforementioned organizations with an aquatic veterinary focus.
3. Designate coordinator who will work with the appropriate AVMA Scientific Editor to ensure efficient, effective peer review of manuscripts submitted for the Emerging Issues in Aquatic Animal Medicine feature.
4. Coinciding with publication of the initial installment of the new feature, Instructions for Authors for the Emerging Issues in Aquatic Animal Medicine feature will be added to the JAVMA Web page (http://www.avma.org/journals/javma/javma_ifa.asp).

IAAAM Membership Information

<http://www.iaaam.org/memberinfo.htm>

Complete membership information is available at the link above, which includes downloadable new membership/renewal forms to accompany payment.

Membership is available in the following categories:

FULL MEMBER – Persons contributing to the advancement of, or devoting a portion of their professional activities to, aquatic animal medicine practice, research, teaching or management. \$50.00/year, discounted to 40.00/year if paid by 1 July.

STUDENT MEMBER – 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. \$30.00/year, discounted to 25.00/year if paid by 1 July.

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

LIBRARY/INSTITUTION MEMBER - Libraries and institutions wishing to receive our newsletters and meeting proceedings. \$70.00/year, discounted to 60.00/year if paid by 1 July.

Payment is due by July 1st, each year. March 1st is the last day to pay and still get the member conference registration rate. If paying by check, be sure to make your check payable to “**IAAAM.**” Please send your completed membership form and payment to:

Judy St. Leger, DVM
SeaWorld of California
500 SeaWorld Drive
San Diego, California 92109

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 those 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 RTF (Rich Text Format), or WORD, without complex formatting. For submissions contact Craig Harms, Newsletter Editor, at NCSU CMAST, 303 College Circle, Morehead City, NC 28557, or by phone at 252-222-6339, or by email (Newsletter@iaaam.org).

For membership information, including dues payment, and address changes contact Judy St. Leger, 500 SeaWorld Drive, San Diego, CA 92109 7904 or by phone at 619-225-4259 or by email (Membership@iaaam.org).

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