



IAAAM NEWS

**Volume 39, Number 1,
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Craig Harms, Editor

www.iaaam.org

Mission: *To advance and promote the art and science of aquatic animal medicine and health.*

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Important Dates:

**IAAAM 39th Annual Conference
Rome, Italy, 10 – 14 May 2008**

Abstract deadline: 25 February 2008

Early registration and conference hotel rate deadline: 28 March 2008

€25 Late registration fee period: 29 March – 28 April 2008

€40 Late registration fee period: 29 April till meeting

Last day to order printed proceedings for receipt before the meeting: 15 April 2008

**IAAAM 40th Annual Conference
San Antonio, Texas, 2009**

**IAAAM 41st Annual Conference
Vancouver, Canada, 2010**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

The 39th Annual IAAAM Conference in Rome, Italy

It's time to be putting together abstracts and papers for the upcoming 39th annual IAAAM meeting, hosted by Pedro Lavia and his staff from Zoomarine in the lovely city of Pomezia, near Rome Italy. I trust you are following my list of "to do's" so you should have no problems getting to the meeting. **Conference and Hotel Registration** are currently open and can be completed online by opening the <http://www.zoomarine.it/> or <http://www.zoomarine.it/indexuk.php> website, clicking on the flashing blue IAAAM Conference 2008 button, and then opening the appropriate tab.

The scientific program will include both invited and submitted papers and a formal poster session during a lunch break, hosted by Zoomarine and featuring some of their favorite wine and cheeses. Can you think of a better way to hold members captive and improve poster viewing? The invited papers will highlight medicine, biology and conservation, and then break tradition with concurrent afternoon master sessions given by experts in their given field. Speakers will be chosen from submitted abstracts and papers and be given 30 minutes for their presentation. Sessions will most likely be divided by taxa and close with an organized conundrum discussion. For the remainder, I'm expecting at least 70, 15 minute presentations, with enough time for questions. So far there are three preconference workshops tentatively scheduled: Marine Mammal Pathology by Judy St. Leger; Epidemiology by Stephanie Venn-Watson (formally Wong); and a Student Forum by Lisa Murphy. If all goes well we will finish each daily session by 1800, in time for you to visit the beautiful city of Rome before the sun sets.

On the Zoomarine website you will also find tabs for the **Program, Workshop Registration, and Call for Papers**. Please note that workshops are limited to 50 members and the deadline for abstract, paper, and poster submissions is *February 25, 2008*! If you are submitting an abstract or paper, please notice you will be asked for permission to make it available to Google Scholar or other outside search engines, at a yet to be determined date after publishing with the IAAAM. You will hear more about this during the business meeting; however our current plan is to release them at least 12 months after the meeting.

Now, are you ready for change? In an effort to green up our organization and become more environmentally responsible I have contracted two companies Veterinary Information Network (VIN) and Omnipress to provide the best product available at the lowest cost to our members (with the fewest trees being destroyed). My goal is to satisfy the majority of members, knowing that I will disappoint or even anger a minority. My hope is to eliminate *printed* proceedings, however I know there will always be a few who cannot live without filling their bookshelves.

To that end, my plan is have the papers, abstracts, and an archive posted on the secure sites of both IAAAM and VIN websites at least 3 weeks prior to the meeting, in plenty of time for members to print abstracts of particular interest. Furthermore, all rooms at Hotel Selene have internet access, and since both American and European systems are compatible, all of the conference participants will have no problem connecting to the outside world from their laptops. For those who haven't yet discovered wireless internet, VIN and our hosts are providing an internet Café with free use of the VIN internet service.

Omnipress will provide hard copy proceedings at a cost of \$35 US, including shipping, delivered to the conference if ordered in the Conference Registration form before April 15, 2008. After that date proceedings may be ordered from the Omnipress eStore (www.omnipress.com), under the services tab, and delivered directly to their doorstep. Please don't panic, all attendees will receive a thumb drive containing the entire archive and an updated directory as well as a handout with agenda, titles of abstracts or papers, authors, and a short description of the abstract with enough room to scribble notes. This change will not only save a grove of trees but the entire cost of this meeting will be absorbed by VIN and Omnipress. This is a potential savings over well over \$11,000, with the only requirement that our organization agree to a five year contract with VIN. Since the executive committee cannot make this commitment without the approval of the membership, we will bring this to a vote during the second business meeting.

I know how difficult a few of these changes may be for some of you but for our organization to remain on the cutting edge we need to lead by example. Winston Churchill once said "To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often." Remember, please check to see if your passports are current, submit papers and abstracts by *February 25, 2008*, register to the meeting by *April 15, 2008* (and decide whether to purchase a printed proceedings), reserve a hotel room before they become scarce, and arrange flights as soon as possible! I look forward to seeing each and every one of you and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions in the coming months.

Ciao!

Tom Reidarson, President-Elect

MESSAGE FROM OUR HOSTS IN ITALY

Dear Friends,

We are all thrilled and excited for the upcoming 39th IAAAM Meeting that will take place close to Rome, at Zoomarine Italy in May 2008.

You certainly know the expression "When in Rome do as the Romans do". Remember then to fully sink in the rhythms, food and art of the so-called *città eterna* (the eternal city). Particularly find some time to explore the historic centre of Rome, listed by [UNESCO](#) as a [World Heritage Site](#), aside from the events we specifically organized such as the "Discover Rome" scheduled on Monday afternoon. History and art literally fill your soul when walking through the streets and corners of Rome.

We are looking forward to see you in Rome on May 10th. For the time being, on behalf of the Organization Committee, Zoomarine Italy's staff and Mr. Pedro Lavia, *arrivederci a presto* (i.e.: see you soon).

Alessandro Bortolotto, Cristina Pilenga and Sonia Azinhais Lopes

2008 IAAAM CONFERENCE INFORMATION POMEZIA, ROME, ITALY

DATES: 10th – 14th May 2008

DEADLINES

- **1st February 2008:** deadline to submit for intention to hold a workshop on 10th May 2008 .
- **15th February 2008:** preferable deadline for purchasing airline tickets.
- **1st March 2008:** deadline to check IAAAM membership status in order to receive member rates for the conference.
- **25th February 2008:** deadline for abstract submission.
- **28th March 2008:** deadline to register for Hotel in order to receive conference rate
- **3-6 months before the conference:** deadline to renew the passport.

Conference cancellation policy:

If the registrant is unable to attend the conference for any reason, then the following refund arrangements will apply:

- **By 10th April 2008:** no cancellation fee.
- **10th April – 25th April 2008:** 25% cancellation fee.
- **25th April – 2nd May 2008:** 50% cancellation fee.
- **2nd May – 10th May 2008:** 100% cancellation fee.

NOTE: Remember to plan for taking an auction item to the meeting and/or spending additional vacation time either before or after the meeting.

OFFICIAL LOCATION for CONFERENCE and ACCOMODATION

Hotel Selene
Via Pontina Km 30
00040 Pomezia, Roma – Italy
Telephone: +39 06 91 17 01
www.hotelselene.com

KEY CONTACTS

ZOOMARINE CONTACTS

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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 2008. The awards are intended to defray the cost of travel to the May 10-14, 2008 conference in Rome, Italy 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. An 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 judgment 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.

****The deadline for receipt of complete application packets will be February 25, 2008.**** Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Recipients will be contacted by March 25, 2008. **Students submitting abstracts for the travel award competition must still separately submit their presentation for acceptance into the conference proceedings.** The Treasurer of the IAAAM will be notified and will send checks to the successful applicants.

****This year, emailed applications will be accepted and are encouraged, though portions, such as letters of recommendation, may still be submitted to Dr. Murphy by regular mail.**** Emailed applications should be sent to: studenttravel@iaaam.org

Candidates mailing their travel award application materials should send them 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 (for questions not application materials): murphyhp@vet.upenn.edu

****Regardless of how they are sent, all application materials are due by February 25, 2008****

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.

AVMA Animal Agriculture Liaison Committee

Dr. Roy Yanong, our representative to the AVMA Animal Agriculture Liaison Committee, will be attending a meeting of that committee on 7 – 8 February. If you have any aquaculture issues of concern you would like to convey to Dr. Yanong, please contact him directly at ropy@mail.ifas.ufl.edu.

IAAAM Auction

Be thinking about (and acquiring) items for the live and silent auctions at the IAAAM conference to benefit student programs. This has been a highly successful and entertaining event at recent meetings. Contact Dr. Tracy Romano, Education Board Member, for additional information and offers to assist. (Education@iaaam.org)

Upcoming Meetings and Education Opportunities

- 10 – 14 May 2008 IAAAM 39th Annual Conference, Rome, Italy. Abstract deadline: 25 February, 2008
- IAAAM 40th Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas, 2009
- IAAAM 41st Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 2010
- 22 – 24 February 2008 Shark Reef 3rd Annual Aquatic Medicine Seminar, Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, Nevada (JJewell@mandalaybay.com)
- 28 – 30 March 2008 SEAMAMS, Southeast and Mid-Atlantic Marine Mammal Symposium, Charleston, SC (<http://www.musc.edu/mbes/seamamms/>)
- 31 March-4 April 2008 Eastern Fish Health Workshop, Atlantic Beach, North Carolina, including a special session on VHS. Abstracts and early registration due 1 February. (rcipriano@usgs.gov)
- 9 – 11 April 2008 Davis Foundation Diagnostic Pathology of Aerial, Terrestrial, and Aquatic Wildlife Course, Madison, WI. (<http://www.cldavis.org/courses/upcoming.html#66>)
- 22 – 25 April 2008 Florida Marine Mammal Health Conference III, Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience, Marineland, Florida and St. Augustine Beach, Florida. (<http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/marinemammal>)
- 18 – 22 May 2008 XXXI International meeting for the Study of Marine Mammals, Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico. (<http://www.somemma.org/>)
- 18 May – 14 June 2008 AQUAVET® Courses I and II (<http://www.aquavet.info>)
- 3 – 8 August 2008 Wildlife Disease Association 57th Annual Meeting, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (<http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/parasites/WDA08/>)

11 – 17 October 2008 American Association of Zoo Veterinarians and Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians Joint Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA
(www.aazv.org or www.arav.org)

Veterinary Medical Externship, US Navy Marine Mammal Program, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, San Diego, CA. Contact: Erika Putman, Coordinator of Volunteer Opportunities, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Code 71510, 53560 Hull Street, San Diego, California 92152, (619) 767-4100, mmmp_intern@spawar.navy.mil. For additional information on the Navy Marine Mammal Program go to: www.spawar.navy.mil/sandiego/technology/mammals.

Veterinary Internship/Research Opportunities in Aquatic Animal Medicine at Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, CT. 1 June 2008 – 15 June 2009, with option for renewal. Application deadline 1 January 2008. Contact: Dr. Allison D. Tuttle, Staff Veterinarian, Mystic Aquarium, 55 Coogan Blvd., Mystic, CT 06355, 860-572-5955, Atuttle@MYSTICAQUARIUM.ORG. A general orientation to the Mystic Aquarium facility and programs can be obtained at <http://www.mysticaquarium.org>.

Genomic Enablement of Aquaculture, an Interdisciplinary PhD Program to Improve Aquaculture Through Genomic Sciences: Molecular Mechanisms of Immunity to Disease, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. Research will be focused on molecular mechanisms of immunity to fish pathogens. For details on the research focus, see www.cvm.ncsu.edu/cbs/noga_ed.htm. Application review begins 15 December 2007 and remains open until filled. Starting date no later than 15 May 2008. Send applications to the Department of Zoology graduate program (<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/zoology/graduate.html>). Address all enquiries to Edward J. Noga, Professor of Aquatic Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences, 4700 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 (ed_noga@ncsu.edu).

Aquaculture and Fisheries Scholars Program, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, offers early acceptance to veterinary college to top NCSU undergraduate fisheries majors interested in fish health careers. For more information, see <http://cnr.ncsu.edu/fer/fishwild/FisheriesScholarsProgram.html>.

FDA/CVM Student Summer Intern Program, Rockville, MD. Starting 2 June, 2008, lasting 10 weeks, pay \$4500 -5000.

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

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.

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 (Memberships@iaaam.org).

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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