



IAAAM NEWS

**Volume 39, Number 2,
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Craig Harms, Editor (last time)

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**

€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, 2 – 7 May 2009**

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

IAAAM 39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PROVISORY AGENDA

Saturday May 10, 2008

08:00 – 18:00 Conference Registration

09:00 – 16:00 Board Meeting

08:00 – 16:00 Pathology - Dr. Judy St. Leger

08:00 – 12:00 Epidemiology - Dr. Stephanie Venn-Watson

14:00 – 18:00 Student Forum - Dr. Lisa Murphy

18:00 – 21:00 Icebreaker Reception at the Hotel

Sunday May 11, 2008

07:00 – 10:00 Continental Breakfast

08:00 – 18:00 Conference Registration

09:00 – 10:00 Introductions and Keynote Speaker

10:00 – 10:15 Break

10:30 – 12:30 Scientific Session—Emerging Environmental Threats

12:30 – 13:30 Business Meeting

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:30 Scientific Session—Unique Research

16:30 – 17:00 Break

17:00 – 19:00 Scientific Session--Immunology

Monday May 12, 2008

07:00 – 10:00 Continental Breakfast

08:00 – 14:00 Conference Registration

09:00 – 11:00 Scientific Session—Research Using Current Technologies

11:30 – 13:00 Scientific Session—Emerging Pathogens

13:00 – 15:00 Poster Session, Wine & Cheese

15:00 – 22:00 ‘Discover Rome’

Tuesday May 13, 2008

07:00 – 10:00 Continental Breakfast

08:00 – 14:00 Conference Registration

09:00 – 10:30 Scientific Session—Virology

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 13:00 Scientific Session--Conservation

14:00 – 22:00 Tour and Dinner including live and silent auction (at Zoomarine)

Wednesday May 14, 2008

07:00 – 10:00 Continental Breakfast

08:00 – 14:00 Conference Registration

09:00 – 11:00 Scientific Session—Case Reports

11:00 – 11:30 Break

11:30 – 13:00 Scientific Session—Fish and Shells

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:30 Scientific Session—Parasites

16:30 – 17:00 Break

17:00 – 19:00 Scientific Session—Medicine

20:00 – 24:00 Banquet/Awards

2008 IAAAM CONFERENCE INFORMATION POMEZIA, ROME, ITALY

DATES: 10th – 14th May 2008

Conference cancellation policy:

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

- **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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NOMINATIONS

Elections will be held for President-Elect and two Board Members at Large at the Annual Business Meeting in Rome. The Nominations and Awards Committee is comprised of the current President and three previous Past-Presidents (Laurie Gage, Rhonda Patterson, Bill Van Bonn, Don Stremme). The Committee has proposed the following slate: for President-Elect, Craig Harms, for Board Members at large, John Jones and Fiona Brook. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the business meeting. President Don Stremme will become Past-President, President-Elect Tom Reidarson will become President, Julie Tepper continues into his third year as Treasurer, Lisa Mazarro continues into her fifth year as Secretary, Judy St. Leger begins her third year as Board Member at Large for membership, and Tracy Romano rotates off as Board Member at large for education but will continue to play a key role in the Student Endowment Committee.

Nomination for President Elect: Dr. Craig Harms

Dr. Craig Harms is Assistant Professor of Aquatic, Wildlife and Zoo Animal Medicine at North Carolina State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Center for Marine Sciences and Technology. He received his DVM from Iowa State University in 1989, worked in small animal practice in Alaska for two years, completed an Internship in Exotic, Zoo and Wildlife Medicine at Kansas State University, a residency in Zoological Medicine—Aquatics Emphasis at NCSU, and in 1999 earned his PhD in fish immunology from NCSU. He is board certified by the American College of Zoological Medicine, and currently serves as ACZM Vice President. His clinical and research interests span aquatic invertebrates, fish, sea turtles and marine mammals, making IAAAM his single most useful meeting to attend each year. Craig has been a member of IAAAM since 1999 and has served as Board Member at Large and Newsletter Editor for the past four years.

Nomination for Board Member at Large: Dr. Fiona Brook

Dr Fiona Brook is an independent consultant in reproduction and diagnostic imaging and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and has been a member of IAAAM since 1999. She attained her DCR at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London in 1979 and worked in the UK and the Middle East until 1990, qualifying as an RDMS at Tufts Medical School, Boston in 1983. She began teaching in Hong Kong as an Assistant Professor in 1990 and became an Associate Professor in 1993. She attained a PhD in dolphin reproductive physiology in 1997. She has been involved in teaching and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students worldwide for 18 years and continues this role in her current adjunct position. Her main research focus and interests are controlled breeding and clinical diagnostic imaging of marine mammals and she led the project that culminated in the first successful artificial insemination in bottlenose dolphins in 2000.

Nomination for Board Member at Large: Dr. John Jones

John C. Jones, Ph.D. began working in aquatic animal medicine in 1995 as a doctoral student at the University of Southern Mississippi and became a student member of IAAAM that year as well. John has been an assistant professor of microbiology and immunology at Saint Xavier University in Chicago since 2002 and expresses an interest in the bacterium *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae* and its role in cetacean disease. John has been mainly working to develop clinical diagnostics for rapid detection and strain typing of *E. rhusiopathiae*, as well as, investigating molecular mechanisms of virulence. In 2000, he was asked to take the role as webmaster for IAAAM and has since been a part of creating and maintaining the website as a focus of communications for the organization. Last year, John was involved in researching and proposing changes to the IAAAM web presence to meet growing needs and is currently working on the transition to the new service.

Student Endowment Oversight Committee Formed

During the mid-year board meeting held in Chicago last October, a Student Endowment Oversight Committee was formed to shepherd the formation of the William Medway Student Endowment, which has turned out to be a greater regulatory and logistical challenge for a small non-profit like IAAAM than originally expected. The committee members are Tracy Romano (chair), Judy St. Leger, Julie Tepper, and Lisa Murphy. They continue to make progress, so expect an opportunity to match the generous funds offered by Jay Hyman and Jay Sweeney before too long.

IAAAM Policy and Procedures Manual Available

Past-President Bill Van Bonn has followed through on his objective of completing IAAAM's first Policy & Procedures Manual. The P&P manual is designed to supplement the Constitution and By-Laws with specific information and guidance on how IAAAM conducts business, and will prove invaluable to board and committee members. It is a working document that will be reviewed and updated annually at the business meeting. Considerable progress was made on the P&P manual during the mid-year board meeting, after which Bill compiled the contributions and edited the document, and the 15 page document is now available in the password-protected section of the IAAAM web site.

Proposed Amendments to Constitution and By-laws

The proposed housekeeping amendments to the Constitution and By-laws did not pass, due to a response rate below the required 2/3 of voting members. The board will re-draft the amendments, along with addressing some additional issues raised by an astute reader of the Constitution and By-laws in the course of the vote, and put them before the membership once again next year, in a manner designed to reach the required of 2/3 threshold.

IAAAM Student Scholarships

The winners of the IAAAM Student Scholarships for 2008 have been announced. Each student receives \$500, and will make an oral presentation during the upcoming 10 – 14 May Annual Meeting in Rome. The application pool was once again highly competitive. The winners and their presentation titles are

Alissa Deming—Stress protein and anti-apoptotic protein expression in juvenile green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) fibropapillomatosis.

Cara Field-- Disseminated Fungal Infection in a California Sea Lion with Detection of Cystofilobasidiomycete DNA

Milton Levin—Immunomodulatory Effects of Domoic Acid in California Sea Lions and Southern Sea Otters

Jennifer McGee—Morphological and Histochemical Description of Conjunctiva-Associated Lymphoid Tissue (CALT) In the Florida Manatee, *Trichechus manatus latirostris*

Terry Ng—Discovery of a Novel Anellovirus from a Mortality Event of Four Captive California Sea Lions Using Viral Metagenomics

Student Workshop

“Getting to where you want to be: effective CV’s, letters of application, and making connections”

Every conference provides an opportunity for progress, and IAAAM goes at least one step beyond this by hosting free student workshops to enhance professional development!

In Italy, our workshop is entitled “Getting to where you want to be: effective CV’s, letters of application, and making connections”, and will be held during the afternoon of Saturday May 10 and is expected to last 2 – 2½ hours. The workshop hosts are Dr. Lisa Murphy and Dr. Sarah Poynton. All are warmly welcomed!

The workshop will focus on effective communications between students and the more experienced levels of our profession, and will provide both strategies and details on writing effective CV’s and letters of application, and making connections. The most successful communications are those in which the audience feels that the information is being transmitted – whether in written or spoken form – especially to them. Thus, learning how to communicate from the perspective of the audience is key.

The workshop will be activity and example based, and there will be plenty of opportunities for discussion. To facilitate this, participants are invited to submit their CV’s to the workshop hosts (murphy@vet.upenn.edu, spoynton@jhmi.edu) at least 2 weeks before the workshop, so that they can be edited and returned at the workshop. Participants are also invited to bring business cards to the workshop, so that networks of contacts can be established. If you do not yet have a business card, now is a good time to make one!

Both of the workshop hosts have extensive experience with teaching and encouraging students in their professional development. Lisa, a veterinarian and toxicologist at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Veterinary medicine, is the chair of the IAAAM Student Liaison Committee. In addition to her interests in exotic and aquatic animal medicine, she is also very involved in disaster response and currently serves as President-Elect of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association. Sarah is a Ph.D. parasitologist, with research and diagnostic interests in parasites of aquatic and exotic hosts, particularly diplomonad flagellates in fish in aquaculture. She also teaches scientific communications skills in a variety of institutions in the USA and internationally, and is a free-lance editor of scientific manuscripts.

Potential student workshop participants are kindly asked to register in advance via the Zoomarine website, www.zoomarine.com. Open the IAAAM 2008 conference, and then click on the tab for Workshop Registration. Early registration allows us to plan time allocation during the workshop, and prepare enough handouts! However, even if you are not able to register in advance, you will still be very welcome to come to the workshop.

Workshop: Investigating Epizootics and Monitoring Population Health

2008 IAAAM Workshop: Investigating Epizootics and Monitoring Population Health (Saturday, 10 MAY 2008, 0800-1200). Feel like you have a great grasp on treating individual animal disease, but the idea of responding to a population-wide epizootic keeps you up at night? Join us for a productive and fun morning workshop that will enable you to conduct an epizootic investigation, develop or enhance a population surveillance system, maximize evidence-based medicine, and further expand health monitoring from individuals to populations. Target Audience: Veterinarians, managers, researchers, and others involved in epizootic response, evidence-based medicine or decision-making. Registration and costs: \$85 U.S. dollars includes coffee and snack break, disc with copies of all workshop presentation materials, and guides for creating your own epizootic response plans, health questionnaires, risk models, needs assessments, and more. Payment can be made by credit card, debit card, or PayPal at www.epitracker.com/18.html. Contact: Stephanie Venn-Watson at stephanie@epitracker.com.

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

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|---|---|
| 10 – 14 May 2008 | IAAAM 39 th Annual Conference, Rome, Italy. Abstract deadline: 25 February, 2008 |
| 2 – 7 May 2009 | IAAAM 40th Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas |
| IAAAM 41st Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 2010 | |
| 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) |
| 2 – 13 June 2008 | Diseases of Warmwater Fish, University of Florida, IFAS Tropical Aquaculture laboratory, Ruskin, FL, and The Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience, St. Augustine, FL
(http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/ame/wwf/index.html) |

- 27 – 31 July 2008 WAVMA/MWC Aquatic Veterinary Continuing Education and Professional Development Educational (CEPD) Extravaganza, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, (www.wavma.org)
- 28 July – 1 August 2008 Eighth International Congress on the Biology of Fish, Portland, OR, including a symposium on “Immunity and Disease Resistance in Fish” (<http://fishbiologycongress8.usgs.gov/>)
- 3 – 8 August 2008 Wildlife Disease Association 57th Annual Meeting, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (<http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/parasites/WDA08/>)
- 6 – 9 September 2008 Fish Diseases and Immunology Conference. Radisson SAS Hotel Saga, Reykjavik, Iceland (www.yourhost.is/content/view/210/140/)
- 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)
- 27 April – 1 May 2009 Eastern Fish Health Workshop, Lake Placid, NY (rcipriano@usgs.gov)

Pinniped Reproductive ULTRASONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Workshop I: May 5 - 7, 2008 (Saskatoon)

Workshop II: June 12-14, 2008 (Vancouver)

Two Workshops on Pinniped Reproductive Ultrasonography are being sponsored in tandem by the University of Saskatchewan's Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of British Columbia, and the Vancouver Aquarium with the intention of providing background knowledge and hands-on experience for veterinarians, research scientists, and students. Workshop I will be held May 5-7 at the University of Saskatchewan and will review the principles of ultrasound, equipment and operation, new techniques, and will provide demonstrations and hands-on training with mid-size domestic species. Workshop II will convene at the Vancouver Aquarium June 12-14 to extend that training to applications in pinniped reproductive biology using captive Steller sea lions. As principal instructors for the Ultrasonography Workshops, Drs. Gregg Adams and Don Bergfelt, will review the principles of ultrasonography, equipment and operation, and new techniques, and will provide demonstrations and hands-on training. Company sponsors will make the latest ultrasound equipment available to participants for use in lab sessions. New information on reproductive physiology will be presented with discussions of ultrasonographic imaging of nonpregnant and pregnant pinnipeds.

The registration fee of \$800 (Can\$) includes enrollment in one or both Workshops. The registration fee after April 30, 2008 will increase to \$1000. Note: Registration for Workshop II will be limited.

For registration and more information, contact Don Bergfelt, (e-mail: Bergfelt.Don@epamail.epa.gov; tel: 202-564-8472; fax: 202-564-8483).

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, nmmp_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.

Assistant Professor, tenure track, in Aquatic Animal Health, Bodega Marine Laboratory, UC Davis, CA. (bpgaylord@ucdavis.edu)

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 (Membersrhip@iaaam.org).

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Jay Hyman
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IAAAM Nominations and Awards

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