



The I.A.A.A.M. News

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Conference Information

May 8-12, 2010

Vancouver Aquarium

The Vancouver Aquarium is a self-supporting, non-profit association dedicated to effecting the conservation of aquatic life through display and interpretation, education, research, and direct action. The Aquarium opened in 1956 and more than 35 million people have visited since that time. Approximately 980 people volunteer at the Aquarium and in 2008, volunteers logged a total of 58,000 hours!

The Aquarium hosts:

- More than 33,700 fishes representing approx. 300 species emphasizing cold water marine habitats of the Pacific Northwest
- Nearly 30,000 invertebrates
- More than 350 amphibians and reptiles
- 60 mammals and birds including beluga, Pacific white-sided dolphins, harbour porpoise, Steller sea lions and northern fur seals
- The Vancouver Aquarium's Marine Mammal Rescue Centre is the largest centre of its kind in Canada responding to approximately 140 live-stranded marine mammals every year



About Vancouver

Voted the "Best City in the Americas" for 2004, 2005 and 2006 by Condé Nast Traveler magazine, it is a dynamic, multicultural city set in a spectacular natural environment. Surrounded by water on three sides and nestled alongside the Coast Mountain Range, Vancouver will be host to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and offers indoor and outdoor activities to please everyone. Population: City of Vancouver: 583,296; Greater Vancouver: 2.1 million – 50.8% of BC's population. Languages: After English and Chinese, the most common languages spoken are Punjabi, German, Italian, French, Tagalog (Filipino) and Spanish.

Things to do in Vancouver:

- Stanley Park - Explore this 400-hectare park
- Granville Island – A charming public market
- Vancouver Lookout – At a height of 130 metres it is the perfect place to survey the city and plan your visit
- Grouse Mountain - Ride the Skyride or hike the Grouse Grind for dramatic city views
- Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden - A sanctuary in the heart of the city
- Vancouver Art Gallery- Highly acclaimed collection of national and international contemporary art
- Capilano Suspension Bridge - Swaying suspension bridge across a canyon and the Capilano River
- Sea to Sky Highway – Drive up Highway 99 for spectacular views on your journey up to Whistler Village
- The Vancouver Neighbourhoods – Experience dim sum in Chinatown, trendy shops in Gastown, art galleries galore in South Granville.
- Robson Street - World-renowned shopping

For more information please visit <http://www.vanaqua.org>

Hotel Information

Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown, Vancouver, BC.

Click [here](#) to register online. Phone: 1-800-207-4150 (Be sure to mention IAAAM for conference rates.)

Rates: \$189/night (Canadian Dollar)

Conference Registration Information

Click [here](#) to register for the conference online (click on the registration link).

Fees (US Dollars):

- Full Registration for Members - \$325.00
- Full Registration for Non-Members - \$375.00
- Student Registration for Non-Member - \$140.00
- Student Registration for Non-Member - \$175.00
- One Day Registration - \$150.00

Registration after April 1, 2010 will be charged an extra \$50.

IAAAM Conference Refund Policy

All cancellations and request for refunds must be submitted in writing by:

- 90 days prior to the start of the conference for a 100% refund.
- 60 days prior to the start of the conference for a 75% refund.
- 30 days prior to the start of the conference for a 50% refund.

No refunds will be granted for cancellations after 30 days prior to the start of the conference.

Requests for refunds will be processed by six weeks after the conference has ended.

Refund requests should contain:

- your name
- the name of any registered guest(s)
- your contact information
- list of charges (registration, activities, workshops, etc)

The form for submitting refund requests is found at:

<http://www.iaaam.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=32&convnabr=7585&showmember=5014279>

Conference Workshops

Harbor Porpoise Pathology:

May 8, 2010: *Morning Session 8:00AM-12:00PM; Afternoon Session: 1:00PM-4:00PM.*

The session will consist of 3-4 groups of 5 registrants. Each group will have an opportunity to perform a complete necropsy with guidance and feedback from experienced pathologists. Routine collection of morphometric data, prosection and tissue sample collection will be reviewed and any gross abnormalities observed during dissections will be discussed in terms of differentials, diagnostic approach, and implications to the overall health of the animals. Fee: \$35. Coordinators: Stephen Raverty & Pam Tuomi

Fish Health Lab:

May 8, 2010: *8:00AM-4:00PM*

The fish health lab will cover many aspects of non-lethal diagnostics currently available to the practitioner - anesthesia, radiology, ultrasound and endoscopy, followed by a session on post mortem techniques and proper sampling for histopathology.

Fee: \$100. Coordinator: Julie Tepper

ACZM Ultra-Short Course:

May 8, 2010: *8:30AM-5:00PM*

The American College of Zoological Medicine's Education Committee is proud to sponsor a 1-day ultra-short course in conjunction with the International Association for Aquatic Animal Veterinarians 2010 Conference. Important topics in aquatic animal medicine will be presented in a series of mini-lectures, and the ACZM boards preparation process will be discussed, with practice exam sections. Fee: \$125/person if registering before April 8th, 2010 or \$150/person if after April 8th or if registering at the door.

Clinical Conundrums:

May 10, 2010: *6:00PM-9:00PM*

Coordinator: Mike Briggs

Marine Species Histopathology Workshop:

May 13, 2010: *8:00AM-4:30PM*

An Overview of Pathology Findings of Marine Mammals within the Pacific Northwest 1998-2008. The workshop will run from 8:00am until 4:30 pm and will consist of the Keynote presentation followed by 10-15 marine species case presentations. Fish, birds, and marine mammals are welcome. These presentations will focus on audience interaction to promote case discussion. All participants submitting a case will receive a DVD set of digital slides and case histories prior to the workshop.

Keynote Speaker: Stephen Raverty, DVM, DACVP

Aquatic Animal Ophthalmology:

May 13, 2010: *9:00AM-1:00PM*

There will be 4 active stations in this year's Ophthalmology Workshop. One will be a Pinniped Ophthalmology examination station. This will teach the basics of how to perform or train to perform Schirmer tear tests, administering eyedrops, fluorescein staining, use of cytology brushes and collection of culture samples, use of various slit lamp instruments and fundic evaluation. The second will have an anesthetized pinniped and we will have Cynthia Kendall, professional ocular ultrasonographer and AcriVet's electroretinography equipment. The third station will teach tonometry comparing the TonoVet and the TonoPen and Acupen. The fourth station will be the Cetacean Ophthalmology station. This will teach the basics and limitations of performing exams on cetacean patients.

Fee: \$100 per person. Coordinator: Carmen Colitz

Call for Student Travel Award Applications

The IAAAM Executive Board will again be granting monetary awards to students planning to deliver oral presentations at the annual IAAAM conference in May 2010. The awards are intended to defray the cost of travel to the May 8-12, 2010 conference in Vancouver, British Columbia 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 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.

****The deadline for receipt of complete application packets will be February 12, 2010.****

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Recipients will be contacted by March 12, 2010. Students submitting abstracts for the travel award competition must still separately submit their presentation for acceptance into the conference proceedings. The IAAAM Treasurer will be notified and will send checks to the successful applicants.

****Emailed applications will be accepted and are encouraged, though portions, such as letters of recommendation, may still be submitted by regular mail.****

Emailed applications should be sent to: studenttravel@iaaam.org

Mailed travel award application materials should be sent 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

The following judgment criteria will be used to evaluate applications submitted for the 2010

IAAAM student awards:

Category	Points	Total
Abstract (500 words or less)		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	
Cover Letter		15
Definition of long term goals	15	
Curriculum Vitae		15
Commitment to aquatic animal medicine	15	
Letters of Recommendation		15
Budget		5
Realistic and justified	5	
TOTAL POINTS		100

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

Professional & Educational Opportunities

Veterinary Intern - The Marine Mammal Center

The Marine Mammal Center in collaboration with the University of California at Davis has an exciting opportunity for a Veterinary Intern, based in Sausalito at The Marine Mammal Center. This position is scheduled to start July 1 2010 and will last for one year. This position requires a DVM degree or equivalent and previous marine mammal or wildlife experience is desirable. Preference will be given to individuals that possess at least one year of clinical veterinary experience. The Marine Mammal Center veterinary staff includes two full-time veterinarians, three veterinary technicians, a medical technologist and research staff. The Veterinary Intern's responsibilities include assisting the veterinary medical staff in providing medical management of a large number of stranded marine mammals (mostly pinnipeds); performing post mortem examinations, sample-taking for various research projects, and record-keeping. A research paper or case report should be completed during the internship.

If qualified, send your CV, letter of intent and three professional references to Dr. William Van Bonn, The Marine Mammal Center, 2000 Bunker Road, Sausalito, CA 94965-2609. E-mail: vanbonnb@tmmc.org

Equal Opportunity Employer (Deadline for applications is 12/30/09).

Internship - Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research, Inc.

Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research, Inc. is offering a one-year, paid internship in Wildlife Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Frink Center for Wildlife in Newark, DE. This wild avian hospital, rehabilitation center; and oil spill response facility treats approximately 3000 native wild birds annually; accepting birds from a multi-state area, and responding to oil spills involving wildlife. Facilities include x-ray machine, rigid and flexible endoscopes, surgitron unit, and nebulizer.

The intern will work closely with the staff of two full-time clinical veterinarians, two CVTs, three full-time clinic supervisors and over 100 volunteers active in bird care. The first few months will be spent learning the daily procedures and protocols, through the attendance of workshops and hands-on clinical experience. By the six-month mark, the intern will assume responsibility for the majority of the medical decisions and treatment regarding the in-house caseload.

Areas of instruction and subsequent responsibilities include: assisting with the operation of the clinic; daily medical treatments and husbandry care; admission of new patients; routine diagnostic procedures (clin-path, radiology, parasitology and necropsy); common medical procedures; euthanasia protocols and procedures; surgery and anesthesia; caseload management; and human health & safety concerns.

The intern will assist with the Introduction to Wildlife Medicine Course taught to the first-year class at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, and with the preparation and presentation of continuing education programs for staff, volunteers, and other wildlife rehabilitators. The intern will also assist in any on-going research projects.

The intern is expected to work 40 - 50 hrs (five days)/week with 4 weeks of out-rotation, up to 15 days paid time off, and 2 days to attend CE (in addition to required time at NWRA conference).

Compensation: \$24,000; health insurance plan (co-pay by employee) and workman's compensation benefits; SIMPLE IRA if eligible; and up to \$1,000 towards travel expenses to attend NWRA and other CE. Travel expenses

will also be paid if the intern is asked to assist with an oil spill response, and additional compensation (paid time off) may be provided if extra workdays are required during this type of emergency.

Qualified candidates must possess a VMD, DVM, or equivalent degree from an accredited college of veterinary medicine. A U.S. veterinary license must be obtained prior to the starting date of the internship; a Delaware veterinary license is desirable, but not required. Candidates must also have direct experience working with wildlife, flexibility to occasionally work nights or emergencies and respond to oil spills, good verbal and written communication skills as well as presentation skills, proficiency with Microsoft Office Programs, a valid driver's license, and current rabies and tetanus vaccines (or adequate titer).

Application Procedure

Interested applicants should submit the following: Curriculum vitae, Letter of interest, indicating career goals, 3 letters of reference

Review of applications will begin on 15 January 2010. Final selection will be made before 10 February 2010. A 15 March 2010 starting date and a 14 March 2011 ending date are anticipated. Applications should be submitted to: Erica A. Miller, DVM, 110 Possum Hollow Road, Newark, DE 19711; 302-737-9543 x116; 302-737-9562 (fax); emiller@tristatebird.org

Veterinarian – The Mirage Hotel and Casino

This person will provide input and medial expertise in support of the Mirage Dolphin Habitat's collection of Atlantic bottlenose dolphins and serve as staff veterinarian, maintaining the program of veterinary care in accordance with USDA regulations. This position is responsible for planning, directing, and executing a comprehensive preventative animal health care program, including routine monitoring of animals and water quality, medical treatments and effective communication with animal care staff and consultants. The MIRAGE has ongoing research programs and this position is integral in the management and direction of those programs. This position is part of senior management and participates in decisions concerning animal management, research and conservation. Essential functions include: experience with marine mammals, monitoring the general health and well-being of the collection, developing solutions to perceived medical problems, diagnosing and treating sick animals and communicating with outside experts and consultants in the veterinary field. Supervision is received from the Director of Animal Care. Please submit resumes by January 31, 2010.

For more information please contact Dave Blasko, Director of Animal Care at the MIRAGE. 702-792-7797 or dablasko@mirage.com

Pos-Doc Training - Oregon State University

NIH NCRR T32 program, Oregon State University, <http://www.ehsc.orst.edu/ncrr>

Post-doctoral training for veterinarians will be available at Oregon State University (OSU) starting 1 July 2010. Successful applicants will be provided with a broad training in biomedical research specifically focused on using aquatic species. Positions are NIH post-doctoral fellows, but candidates are also provided the opportunity to obtain MS or PhD degrees with additional funding support for tuition. Candidates must be a citizen or a noncitizen national of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence at the time of appointment. Their DVM or equivalent degree must be from a school or college of veterinary medicine accredited by the AVMA, or listed by the AVMA as being equivalent.

The training faculty has extensive experience with using aquatic animals in research. Facilities using aquatic species, particularly zebrafish and salmonids, are both outstanding and unique in the United States. Other freshwater and marine fishes are also being studied. Current research using fish models include the study of infectious diseases (of importance to fish or humans), toxicology, oncology and physiology with integration of these disciplines involving multiple faculty members and their laboratories from several departments. The focus the program is research, but candidates will be given opportunities to expand their skills in general fish husbandry and aquatic diagnostics through externships or longer term research collaborations at other OSU laboratories which are listed at the program's website.

The program is funded by NIH National Center for Research Resources and is administered at OSU through the National Institute of Environmental Health Science (NIEHS) Environmental Health Sciences Core Center. Contact Dr. Michael L. Kent for further information (Michael.Kent@oregonstate.edu or 541-737-8652)

Learn about the research facilities on-line at <http://www.ehsc.orst.edu/ncrr>

Wildlife Health Assessment - The Department of Wildlife Management of the North Slope Borough

The Department of Wildlife Management of the North Slope Borough (NSB) is seeking an expert in wildlife health assessment. We prefer a veterinarian (D.V.M./V.M.D.) with advanced research training (Ph.D.) but will consider other applicable educational backgrounds. The NSB is a county-like municipality in the Arctic and occupies the northern one-sixth of the State of Alaska. Within this area and in adjacent waters of the Arctic Ocean, are vast wildlife resources (caribou, fish, waterfowl, whales, walrus, seals, polar bears, etc.). Also on Alaska's North Slope are North America's two largest oilfields and approximately 7,000 full-time residents. Most of the residents are Inupiat Eskimo whose subsistence lifestyle is heavily dependent upon the wildlife resources.

The NSB's Department of Wildlife Management (DWM) conducts studies that relate to the wildlife upon which the Eskimo people depend. The DWM's work focuses upon the most important subsistence use resources (bowhead and beluga whales, seals, walruses, caribou, fish, and waterfowl). In order to reduce industrial impacts to the environment and wildlife, the DWM also has substantial involvement in the review of various technical documents (environmental impact statements, oil exploration plans, etc.) and proposed actions by industry (drilling, seismic exploration, offshore island construction, discharge into marine waters, pipeline routes, etc.)

The individual that fills this Research Biologist position is expected to work cooperatively and collaboratively with other DWM personnel, with Eskimo hunters, and with other researchers. The Research Biologist will be expected to examine subsistence harvested wildlife (bowhead whales in particular) and participate in other management related studies. The DWM currently has several large grants for wildlife health assessment and is expecting approval of several other grants in the coming year. The Research Biologist will also be expected to travel, including internationally to attend the International Whaling Commission and other meetings and workshops.

Interested persons are invited to contact: Taqulik Hepa, Director, Department of Wildlife Management, North Slope Borough, Box 69, Barrow, Alaska 99723. (Phone: 907-852-0350; Fax: 907-852-0351; email: taqulik.hepa@north-slope.org) or Robert Suydam, Senior Wildlife Biologist (Phone: 907-852-0350; Fax: 907-852-0351; email: robert.suydam@north-slope.org).

Danielle De St. Jorre Scholarship - International Ocean Institute

Call for Applications for 2010

Since 2000 the International Ocean Institute presents a Scholarship of Swiss Francs 10,000 annually for one woman from Small Island Developing States (SIDS) involved in marine related research activities to improve their knowledge in the subject of attending training or University Degree programmes. The scholarship has been established to honour the memory of the late Danielle de St. Jorre, Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Environment and Tourism of the Republic of the Seychelles and a member of the Governing Board of the International Ocean Institute, in consideration of all she did in her short life for the benefit of her country, the small island developing states and the world at large.

The International Ocean Institute hereby invites applications and nominations for the 2010 scholarship. You may wish to use the Scholarship for attending the eight- week Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management (Canada, 19th May - 16th July 2010 - <http://internationaloceaninstitute.dal.ca/training.html>), or the five- week Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for Mediterranean and Eastern European Countries at the University of Malta (November-December 2010 - www.capemalta.net/ioimoc).

The application must include a CV and a statement giving the reason for the application or nomination, including how the applicant or nominee intends to use the scholarship if awarded. Applications may be made initially by email before the deadline and followed by a mailed signed original application. The explanatory note on the scholarship, as well as on the eligibility and evaluation criteria is included in the attached Guidelines. Applications should be sent to:

Ms A Vassallo, Programme Officer
International Ocean Institute HQ,
P.O. Box 3, Gzira GZR 1000,
MALTA. ioihq@ioihq.org.mt; antonella.vassallo@ioihq.org.mt
IOI Headquarters, Malta, 2010

List of Eligible Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

- Africa: Cape Verde, Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles;
- Asia and the Pacific: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu;
- Latin America & the Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, US Virgin Islands.

Conferences & Seminars

2010 National Marine Animal Conference

The NOAA Fisheries Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (MMHSRP) is pleased to announce the upcoming 2010 National Marine Animal Conference to be held at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, WV from April 6-9, 2010.

We are currently accepting abstracts until the close date of *January 15, 2010*. The abstract submission form and instructions are located at the NOAA Fisheries Office of Protected Resources website (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/health/>) in the Hot Topics section.

We look forward to your abstract submissions for posters and/or oral presentations. Abstract subjects may include marine mammals (NMFS and USFWS species) or sea turtles. Stay tuned for registration information.

Sincerely, the MMHSRP team

4th Keystone Veterinary Conference

August 12-15, 2010, Hershey Lodge & Convention Center – Hershey, PA. Keystone Veterinary Conference offers up to 30 hours of continuing education credit over 4 days in many areas of veterinary medicine. A special exotics track (12 CE hours total) will be offered this year featuring Dr. Gregory Lewbart, Professor of Aquatic Medicine at North Carolina State University, College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Lewbart is a Diplomate of the American College of Zoological Medicine and was named 2007 Exotic DVM of the Year by Exotic DVM Magazine. He is an author on over 90 popular and scientific articles about invertebrates, fishes, amphibians and reptiles and speaks nationally and internationally on these subjects. He has also authored or co-authored 17 book chapters related to veterinary medicine of the above-mentioned taxonomic groups and edited or co-edited three veterinary books.

Thursday, August 12, 2010:

- Ornamental Fish Medicine I: The clinician will be introduced to the basics of the ornamental fish industry including details about aquaculture, packing, shipping, and preventive medicine.
 - Ornamental Fish Medicine II: This talk will include practical information on water quality analysis, history taking, anesthesia, analgesia, and important and rewarding diagnostic techniques.
 - Ornamental Fish Medicine III: This presentation will focus on clinical cases in a problem-based format and will include practical information on infectious diseases, pharmacology, advanced diagnostic techniques, and surgery.
- 3 additional hours will be presented; topics to be determined.

Friday, August 13, 2010

- Introduction to Invertebrate Medicine: The clinician will be introduced to the field of invertebrate zoology with emphasis on those taxa most commonly seen in captive situations. Options and opportunities for veterinarians interested in this field will be elaborated upon.
- Aquatic Invertebrate Medicine and Surgery: This talk will focus on specific diseases, diagnostic techniques, and treatment options for aquatic invertebrates including jellyfishes, corals, mollusks (snails, clams, oysters, squid, and octopi), horseshoe crabs, and crustaceans (shrimp, lobsters, crabs, and hermit crabs).
- Terrestrial Invertebrate Medicine and Surgery: This talk will focus on specific diseases, diagnostic techniques, and treatment options for terrestrial invertebrates including earthworms, spiders, scorpions, millipedes, and insects.

- Invertebrate Animal Wet Lab: This hands-on wet lab will feature a number of common and popular invertebrates including mollusks, spiders, crustaceans and insects. Participants will become familiar with the anatomy, physiology, and husbandry of this diverse assemblage of animals. Anesthetic, diagnostic, and treatment techniques will be taught and applied.

Conference information and registration will be posted in February, 2010 at <http://www.pavma.org> and <http://www.keystonevetconference.org>.

Annual Symposium of the European Association for Aquatic Mammals

The Annual Symposium of the European Association for Aquatic Mammals (EAAM - www.eaam.org) will be held in Lisbon, Portugal from March 12 - 15, 2010. The conference will be hosted by Lisbon Zoo (www.zoolisboa.pt) and will be dedicated to all disciplines of marine mammal husbandry, veterinary medicine, training, conservation, research, environmental education, display, etc.

All relevant information can be obtained through the conference's website (www.eaam2010.net/Default.htm) and the Symposium's Committee (eaam@eaam2010.net).

Other Items of Importance

Demonstration of target animal safety and efficacy of veterinary medicinal products intended for use in farmed finfish

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has published a draft guideline on “Demonstration of target animal safety and efficacy of veterinary medicinal products intended for use in farmed finfish” (EMA/CVMP/EWP/459868/2008-CONSULTATION)

The document is available on the following webpage: <http://www.emea.europa.eu/pdfs/vet/ewp/45986808en.pdf>

This document provides updated guidance on the preclinical and clinical aspects of the application procedure for those who seek approval of such products. The guideline replaces the “Efficacy of veterinary medicinal products for use in farmed aquatic species” and takes into account the development during recent years, and feedback obtained from users of the previous guideline which was last revised in 1994.

Please provide any comments you may have on this document to vet-guidelines@emea.europa.eu , by using this template: <http://www.emea.europa.eu/pdfs/human/regaffair/submitcomment.doc>

Please note that the deadline for submitting comments is 30th of April 2010.

AVMA Panel on Euthanasia

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) has reconvened the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia and is in the process of revising its Euthanasia Guidelines. Members of the Panel's Aquatics Working Group and the Zoo & Wildlife Working Group are interested in receiving constructive comments regarding the current AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia, available for inspection on the web at: http://www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/euthanasia.pdf.

Specifically, the working groups are interested in hearing from IAAAM members which sections they believe are still appropriate and scientifically justified; which sections are not feasible or no longer justified; if any circumstances are not covered sufficiently; or if there are any other issues that have not been resolved or discussed in the document. Also please provide the working groups with scientific or gray literature citations that are relevant and not presently incorporated in the existing document. The Zoo & Wildlife Working Group is expected to address marine mammals, while the Aquatics Working Group focuses on fish and aquatic invertebrates, but there will be collaboration between the working groups and sharing of comments as appropriate. Please address comments for the Aquatics Working Group to Dr. Roy Yanong (rpy@ufl.edu) and comments for the Zoo & Wildlife Working Group to Dr. Pat Morris (PMorris@sandiegozoo.org), with <IAAAM Member Euthanasia Comments> in the subject line.

European Association for Aquatic Mammals Membership

The EAAM - European Association for Aquatic Mammals has revised the conditions for Individual Membership. As such, and if you already are an EAAM Member, starting of 2010 you will:

- have a reduced annual fee:
 - Full Members: €49 (was €60);
 - Associate Members: €39 (was €60);
 - Student Members: €24 (was €45);
- continue to have reduced fees to attend the EAAM Annual Symposia;
- have access to the Members' special area at the new EAAM website;
- continue to have free online access to scientific journal "Aquatic Mammals";
- receive an extra copy of the EAAM book "The Marine Mammal Contribution - a path with a past and a future" to offer at your discretion.

If you are a former EAAM Member and would like to regain your Member status, you can receive, starting of 2010:

- access to the reduced fees to attend the EAAM Annual Symposia;
- access to the Members' special area at the new EAAM website;
- free online access to scientific journal "Aquatic Mammals" during your membership;
- a free copy of "The Marine Mammal Contribution - a path with a past and a future" for yourself;
- a second free copy of "The Marine Mammal Contribution - a path with a past and a future" to offer to someone of your choice.

If you are considering becoming an EAAM Individual Member, we can offer you:

- free online access to scientific journal "Aquatic Mammals" during your membership;
- a free copy of "The Marine Mammal Contribution - a path with a past and a future " for yourself.

For further information and conditions, please have a look at the EAAM website (<http://www.eaam.org>)

Hastings Introduces the Wildlife and Zoological Veterinary Medicine Enhancement Act Press Release

January 21, 2010

Washington, DC -- Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar-FL) introduced the Wildlife and Zoological Veterinary Medicine Enhancement Act [H.R. 4497]. This legislation will develop affordable and well-qualified opportunities for individuals who are seeking to become wildlife and zoo veterinarians, spur job growth, and promote robust public health policy.

"Wildlife and zoo veterinarians are the primary source of essential health care for, and management of, wild animals in their natural habitat and in captivity. Not only do they preserve natural resources and animal lives, but they help protect human health by preventing, detecting, and responding to exotic and dangerous diseases," said Hastings.

In spite of a growing threat to public health posed by emerging infectious diseases as well as higher risks of large-scale outbreaks, the United States continues to face a shortage of positions for wildlife and zoo veterinarians. This shortage, combined with lower salaries, high educational debt, and insufficient numbers of practical training and formal educational programs specializing in wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine, has dissuaded students from studying and practicing wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine.

"My bill will create new positions for wildlife and zoo veterinarians and limit the amount of educational debt for students while providing incentives to study and practice wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine. My legislation will also advance education by helping schools develop pilot curricula specializing in wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine and by expanding the number of practical training programs available to students," added Hastings.

[This bill has been forwarded to the following House committees: House Agriculture, House Natural Resources and House Ways and Means.] Full text: <http://tinyurl.com/y9ltzgw>

IAAAM MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Complete membership information is available <http://www.iaaam.org> under the membership link, which includes online or 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:

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

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 John C. Jones, Newsletter Editor, at admin@iaaam.org.

For membership information, including dues payment, and address changes contact Cindy Driscoll at cdriscoll@dnr.state.md.us.

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