

# IAAAM News

Volume 54; Issue 5: October 2023

## 2024 Annual IAAAM Conference

*Galway, Ireland*

*May 19-23, 2024*



Happy October IAAAM Members!

We hope everyone is excited as we are for IAAAM's 54th annual conference in Galway, Ireland May 19-23, 2024!! Those dates may look slightly different than previously reported. We needed to shift the conference by just one day, so please make sure to update your calendars for finalizing travel and hotel stay.

We are also excited to share the official website for the conference! This will have all of the details for registration, abstract submission, sponsorship and exhibitors as well as information about Galway, hotel registration and transportation from multiple airports. This link can also be found on the front page of the IAAAM website. <https://cvent.me/WPBx1L>

Current updates on the website include:

- Draft schedule at a glance
- Sponsor and exhibitor registration (**now open**)
- Details for submitting a technical talk or poster abstract (submission process will **open very soon**)
- Details for submitting pre-conference workshops (submission process set to **open October 23**)
- Travel details and lodging registration (portal available at the **end of October**)
- Attendee registration (portal will open mid to late **January**)

A few details regarding abstract submission and pre-conference workshop proposals are below; however, keep an eye out for further updates via email blasts, newsletters, and the website directly.

All abstracts must be submitted on-line **before Midnight EST (GMT-5) on December 1, 2023**. ALL aspects of aquatic animal health and medicine will be considered; however, the following topics are encouraged for the 2024 conference:

- One Health: presentations that focus on the links between aquatic environmental, animal, and human health
- Fish, Invertebrate and Amphibian health and sustainability, including aquaculture, reproduction, and conservation practices
- Imaging: presentations that use imaging for diagnosis, monitoring, therapeutics and more
- Novel techniques and Innovation: presentations that highlight innovative methodology and treatments in aquatic animal medicine
- Conservation Medicine: presentations that highlight veterinary and zoological expertise being leveraged to benefit any wild aquatic animal species and ecosystem

Those interested in coordinating a workshop must submit a proposal using the online portal that is set to open **October 23rd**. The deadline to submit is Friday, **December 1st**. Although the conference will be offered hybrid, due to trying to keep the workshop fee affordable to attendees, workshops will only be available in person.

Please check out the website created by Cindy Sherwood and her team at Delaney Event Management for more details, updates and deadlines!

# 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 2024. The awards are intended to defray costs of attending the conference, promote student participation in the professional program and further the commitment of the IAAAM to its students. The formal program will extend from May 19th – 23rd, 2024. Awards will be granted 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/fellows, 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. Abstracts must follow guidelines available on the IAAAM conference website: <https://cvent.me/WPBx1L>
3. Curriculum vitae and two (2) letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an active member of the IAAAM.
4. A budget that details how financial support will be helpful.
5. Student presenters must be an active member (with dues paid up-to-date) of the IAAAM, OR the student must provide a third, separate letter from the student's institution verifying student, intern/resident/fellow, or postdoc status. Students are highly encouraged to become active members of the IAAAM prior to applying. Student members are entitled to a lower conference registration rate than non-members.

The Education Member of the IAAAM Executive Board and representatives from 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. We anticipate that awardees will receive monetary stipend, similar to previous years. The rankings will be determined from the entire pool of applicants; separate awards for different academic classes of applicants (i.e. undergraduate, graduate, veterinary residents) will not be offered. Up to one additional travel award may be designated for additional areas as follows: 1) a deserving international applicant and/or 2) a student whose research demonstrates advancements and/or commitment to the application of diagnostic imaging within the field.

**\*\*The deadline for receipt of complete application packets will be Friday, December 1, 2023.\*\*** Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Recipients will be contacted on or around February 1, 2024. Students submitting abstracts for the travel award competition must still separately submit their presentation abstract 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 highly encouraged, though portions, such as letters of recommendation, may still be submitted by regular mail.\*\***

Emailed applications should be sent to: [studenttravel@iaaam.org](mailto:studenttravel@iaaam.org)

Mailed travel award application materials should be sent to the following address:

Molly Martony, DVM, Dipl. ACZM

Mystic Aquarium

55 Coogan Blvd

Mystic, CT 06355

Email (for questions not application materials): [mmartony@mysticaquarium.org](mailto:mmartony@mysticaquarium.org)

**\*\*Regardless of how they are submitted, all application materials are due by December 1, 2023!**

The judging criteria below will be used to evaluate applications submitted for the 2024 IAAAM student awards. The Student Liaison Committee and the IAAAM Executive Board welcome this opportunity to assist deserving students.

<b><u>Category</u></b>	<b><u>Points</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
<b><u>Abstract (500 words or less)</u></b>		<b>50</b>
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	
<b><u>Cover Letter</u></b>		<b>15</b>
Definition of long-term goals	15	
<b><u>Curriculum Vitae</u></b>		<b>15</b>
Commitment to aquatic animal medicine	15	
<b><u>Letters of Recommendation</u></b>		<b>15</b>
<b><u>Budget</u></b>		<b>5</b>
Realistic and justified	5	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>		<b>100</b>

## Membership Dues

Dues will be increased for 2024 to allow us continue to offer more member benefits as part of our ongoing Strategic Plan.

Full members: \$125

Student members: \$75

Reminders will go out closer to time, but you can start paying 2024 dues as of **November 1**. They must be paid by **March 31** to qualify for the discounted conference registration rate.

## IAAAM Committee Highlight Student Liaison Committee

The IAAAM Student Liaison Committee (SLC) oversees the Student Travel Award Competition each year, in addition to the Student Oral Presentation and Poster competitions at the annual meeting. The committee is strongly dedicated to supporting students and providing opportunities to facilitate involvement in the organization and aquatic veterinary field.

The Student Liaison Committee is comprised of IAAAM members who are responsible for judging the student competitions. The committee is always looking for new members who are passionate about students, so if you are interested in judging at least one competition per year please reach out to Molly Martony ([mmartony@mysticaquarium.org](mailto:mmartony@mysticaquarium.org)).

**Students:** See above for Student Travel Award Applications, and check out the IAAAM Student Website for additional aquatic career information which we hope you will find helpful as you navigate your career! <https://www.iaaam.org/iaaam-students>

## New Member Benefit Coming Soon!

**Students, and other interested members:** Stay tuned for a Student Lecture Series, which is currently in the works! We are hoping to implement an informal, student lecture series on various topics in aquatic animal medicine, research, and conservation. Be on the lookout for more details later this fall!

## Thank you Vet Techs, Nurses, and Assistants!



IAAAM celebrates National Veterinary Technician Week! Veterinary technicians, nurses and assistants are essential and critical to the day-to-day function of veterinary practices. National Veterinary Technician Week, first celebrated in 1993, takes place in the third week of October each year, and provides an opportunity to recognize the many contributions made by veterinary technicians, nurses, and assistants. They are indispensable, integral members of the animal health team and are key contributors to the success of veterinary departments and their institutions.



We thank our veterinary technicians, nurses, and assistants who provide their incredible support to aquatic animal medicine, today and every day! Check out the IAAAM social media throughout the week for several vet tech highlights.

## We want to continue to honor our members!

*The IAAAM Communications Committee is interested in highlighting our dedicated members from around the world throughout the coming years. Please nominate yourself or another member for recognition by submitting a summary and up to 3 photos to [iaaamcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:iaaamcommunications@gmail.com).*

*You can also nominate someone by just sending their name, and we will contact them directly. If you are a member outside of the US, please also copy [international\\_relations@iaaam.org](mailto:international_relations@iaaam.org) on your submission. Please answer the following questions when submitting your information:*

- Would you like the highlight to be shared just with IAAAM Members via the newsletter and possibly the website or is it okay to share on our public social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)?
- If shared on public social media, is there any specific information you do NOT want shared? (e.g. place of employment, specific photos, etc.)

## Please submit photos or videos for social media!

*We are looking for our IAAAM members to send in photos and/or videos for the upcoming aquatic animal holidays! If you have any content that can be published on our social media (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn) please send them to [iaaamcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:iaaamcommunications@gmail.com) as soon as possible! Before sending in your content, please make sure that permission is granted by all facilities involved to share on our open access social media pages. Also, please add a watermark or similar if necessary.*



November  
Manatee Awareness Month

Oct 29-Nov 4  
Polar Bear Week



Nov 3  
World Jellyfish Day

Nov 21  
World Fisheries Day



Nov 24  
World Walrus Day

Dec 4  
World Wildlife  
Conservation Day



Dec 13  
National Day of the Seahorse

Dec 28  
U.S. Endangered Species  
Act Anniversary





# Job Listings

## IAAAM Job Bank - Full Listings

**Licensed Veterinary Technician (Part-Time) - SeaWorld San Antonio**

**Veterinarian - Sea World, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia**

**Veterinarian - Dolphins Plus Marine Mammal Responder**

**Research and Necropsy Biologist - The Pacific Marine Mammal Center**

**Hospital Manager/Lead Veterinary Technician - Virginia Aquarium**

**Medical Technologist/Clinical Lab Scientist - SeaWorld, San Diego**

**Assistant Research Professor - MSU Gulf Coast Aquatic Health Lab**

**Veterinary Technician - Gulfarium Marine Adventure Park**

**Veterinarian - Clearwater Marine Aquarium**

**Stranding and Rehab Associate Veterinarian – Audubon Nature Institute**

**Veterinary Technician - SeaWorld, San Diego**

**Veterinary Technician - Coral World Ocean Park, Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands**

# Conferences, Meetings, & Educational Opportunities

## IAAAM Educational Opportunities - Full Listings



### MYSTIC AQUARIUM

#### Veterinary Internship

The Department of Animal Care at Mystic Aquarium, a division of Sea Research Foundation, offers an annual opportunity for graduate veterinarians looking to specialize in aquatic animal medicine through a Veterinary Internship in Aquatic Animal Medicine and Research.

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#### Graduate Research Project in Environmental Toxicology (MS) – Potential long-term impacts of brevetoxin exposure on manatee health

We are seeking a new graduate student to conduct a research project within the 2-year Environmental Toxicology Masters program at the University of South Alabama ideally starting in Spring 2023.





## **Veterinary Externship/Preceptorship Program**

This program is open to veterinary students completing their 3rd or 4th year of training in an accredited veterinary school. Accepted students will train under the supervision of the veterinary and husbandry staff during the administration of the facility's preventative animal healthcare program and any current medical cases.

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## **Pathology Veterinary Student Externship**

The Pathology Veterinary Student Externship is an opportunity for veterinary students in their final/clinical year to gain experience in marine mammal anatomy and pathology.





## 2025 Veterinary Student Externship

The Pacific Marine Mammal Center (PMMC) is accepting applications for 2025 veterinary student externship (open to 3rd and 4th year veterinary students). The PPMC rescues, rehabilitates and releases marine mammals and inspires ocean stewardship through research, education, and collaboration.

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## 2024 AQUAVET® I & II

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University is pleased to announce the 2024 AQUAVET® I & II Programs. They are aquatic

veterinary medicine educational programs (introductory and advanced) that will be presented in Bristol, RI. Veterinary students can receive credits for the course and graduate veterinarians can receive CE credits.



## Recent Publications by IAAAM Members

- [Potassium chloride administered via four routes for euthanasia of anesthetized goldfish \(\*Carassius auratus\*\)](#) - **Ashlyn C. Heniff, Julie A. Balko.**
- [Dexmedetomidine and midazolam intramuscular sedation in brownbanded bamboo sharks \(\*Chiloscyllium punctatum\*\)](#) - **Ri K. Chang, Brittany Stevens, Eva Marie Quijano Cardé, Lance M. Adams**
- [The microbiome of African penguins \(\*Spheniscus demersus\*\) under managed care resembles that of wild marine mammals and birds](#) - Ana G. Clavere Graciette, **Lisa A. Hoopes, Tonya Clauss, Frank J. Stewart, Zoe A. Pratte.**
- [New insights into the pathogenesis and transmission of \*Brucella pinnipedialis\*: systemic infection in two bottlenose dolphins \(\*Tursiops truncatus\*\)](#) - Ignacio Vargas-Castro, José Luis Crespo-Picazo, Manena Fayos, María de los Ángeles Jiménez-Martínez, Laura Torre-Fuentes, Julio Álvarez, André E. Moura, Marta Hernández, Aranzazu Buendía, Sandra Barroso-Arévalo, Teresa García-Seco, Marta Pérez-Sancho, María Jesús De Miguel, Sara Andrés-Barranco, Vicente Marco-Cabedo, Gaizka Peñin-Villahoz, Pilar María Muñoz, Lucas Domínguez, **Daniel García-Párraga, José Manuel Sánchez-Vizcaíno**
- [The pharmacokinetics of meloxicam after administration of multiple 1.5 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> doses to Nursehound sharks \(\*Scyliorhinus stellaris\*\)](#) - Pablo Moron-Elorza, Carlos Rojo-Solis, Teresa Alvaro-Alvarez, Monica Valls-Torres, **Daniel Garcia-Parraga, Teresa Encinas**

*Please submit any recent or upcoming publications that you would like shared with colleagues in future newsletters to [iaaamcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:iaaamcommunications@gmail.com).*

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## Executive Board

**President: Allison Tuttle**  
atuttle@mysticaquarium.org

**President-Elect: Cara Field**  
cara.field@gmail.com

**Past-President: Hendrik Nollens**  
hnollens@sdzwa.org

**Treasurer: Alexa Delaune**  
adelaune@msaquarium.org

**Secretary: Chelsea Anderson**  
chelsea.anderson.dvm@gmail.com

**Board - Membership: Gabby Hernández**  
gabbytica@gmail.com

**Board - Education: Ashley McGrew**  
Ashley.mcgrew@colostate.edu

**Board - Communications: Julie Cavin**  
fishdoc07@gmail.com

## Committee Chairs

**Student Liaison: Molly Martony**  
mollymartony@gmail.com

**Medway Endowment: Allison Tuttle**  
atuttle@mysticaquarium.org

**Site Selection: Sam Dover**  
sdoverdvm@cox.net

**Nominations & Awards: Mike Briggs**  
mbriggs@ix.netcom.com

**International Relations: Sarah Churgin**  
international\_relations@iaaam.org

**Conservation: David Krucik**  
conservation@iaaam.org

**Communications: Barbara Linnehan**  
iaaamcommunications@gmail.com

## Honorary Life Members

Don Abt\*  
Larry Dunn  
Dave Huff\*  
William Medway\*  
Bob Wright\*

Deke Beusse\*  
Joe Geraci\*  
Jay Hyman\*  
Sam Ridgway\*

Greg Bossart\*  
Jack Gratzek\*  
Suzanne Kennedy-Stoskopf  
Michael Stoskopf

Lanny Cornell  
Ted Hammond\*  
Jim McBain  
Jesse White\*

\*deceased

PDF versions of the newsletter can be found on the IAAAM [website](#).



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