

Minutes of 2020 AAVP Business Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 21, 2020

Time: 2:40–3:40 PM

Place: Virtual via Zoom

Note: Actions or developments that have occurred subsequent to this meeting are noted in [] in the text below.

Quorum

A quorum was present as there were 134 participants in attendance. The membership at the time of the meeting was 303 members, with a quorum being 15% of 303 members, or 45 members.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was approved by 86% of the attendees with 14% abstaining. The minutes of the 2019 business meeting were approved by 71% of the attendees with 29% abstaining.

In Memoriam: Dr. Raffaele Roncalli

A moment of silence was held for Dr. Roncalli who had passed away in 2018. His obituary had been published in the Summer 2020 AAVP Newsletter.

President's Remarks

The President, Mason Reichard, stated that he was very pleased that we were able to present original research through a virtual platform. He expressed appreciation for everyone's patience, understanding, flexibility, and support. Dr. Reichard thanked the members of the Executive Committee and sponsors. Other accomplishments for the 2019/2020 year included establishing Young Investigator Travel Grant Guidelines and the proposed changes to the Constitution regarding voting. The members were reminded to sign up for committees, by emailing committee chairs or by using the "Join a Committee" portal on the website (member only area).

Program Chair

Doug Carithers reported on the meeting program. The meeting theme was "Progressive Solutions for Age-Old Problems." The program included plenaries for presentation by Dr. Ray Kaplan and Dr. John Gilleard, presentations sponsored by Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Elanco, Merck, and Zoetis, and a presentation by the Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist, Dr. Sharon Patton. Presentations by Dr. Emily Jenkins and Dr. Grace VanHoy were planned during the President's Symposium. The President's Symposium had been arranged by Mason Reichard as he had missed the opportunity to arrange this session as the meeting when he was Program Chair was the WAAVP 2019 meeting. An NCVF Clicker Session and a student competition had also been planned. Over 120 oral and poster presentations had been submitted.

Dr. Carithers thanked everyone for the quality and succinctness of their presentations. He was duly impressed.

Amendments to By-Laws and Constitution

Voting by the membership on the proposed changes to the Constitution were postponed to 2021. The changes still needed to be drafted. The proposed changes related to ensuring that

only members current on dues at the time of the ballot have the right to vote for the nominated candidates for office. Currently the Constitution states that membership is still in good standing for two years without payment of dues. Members must be notified of their delinquency by the Secretary-Treasurer and then have 60 days to cure their delinquency. However, with the electronic records system, it is difficult to review past payments. Rather, the system lends itself to getting updates of members who are current. [The proposed changes to the Constitution will be taken up for discussion and drafting of revised wording by the new chair, Lauren Camp, and the committee.]

Election of Officers

Antoinette Marsh was elected Vice President and Brian Herrin and Jessica Rodriguez were elected to the Nominating Committee.

Awards

The 2020 AAVP-Boehringer Ingelheim Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award was presented to Dr. Sharon Patton, University of Tennessee. Dr. Ashley Steuer, University of Kentucky, received the 2020 AAVP–Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Dr. Pablo David Jimenez Castro, University of Georgia, received the 2020 AAVP–CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease. Dr. Tom Kennedy was awarded the 2020 AAVP Distinguished Service Award.

[The award winners in the Best Student Oral Presentation competition sponsored by Bayer Animal Health were Kathryn Duncan, Oklahoma State University, in 1st place, Justin Stillwell, University of Georgia, in 2nd place, and Mark McHugh, Iowa State University in 3rd place. Honorable mentions went to John Sanders, Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, and Jennifer Bellaw, University of Kentucky.

Amanda Jaimie Butler, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada, was awarded 1st place in the Best Student Poster Presentation competition sponsored by Elanco. Kellee Sundstrom, Oklahoma State University, was awarded 2nd place and Eranga De Seram, University of Saskatchewan, Canada, was awarded 3rd place. Honorable mentions went to Evelin Rejman, Ontario Veterinary College, and Boontarikaan Wititkornkul, Aberystwyth University and Rajamangala University of Technology Srivijaya.]

Mason Reichard thanked Lindsay Starkey for all her work as Chair of the Awards Committee and for co-ordinating the student competition during the WAAVP 2019 meeting and the virtual 2020 meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer Report and Budget Discussion

As of June 19, 2020, there were 217 regular members, 63 student members, and 23 emeritus members, for a total of 303 members. With regard to the financial status of the organization, increases in contribution amounts for the various levels of sponsorship had been implemented, \$3,500 had been set aside for the Educators' Symposium, and new Young Investigator Travel Guidelines had been finalized. The association's year-end bank balance had remained approximately at the same level as 2018.

Attending the meeting virtually there were 151 regular member registrations, 55 student member registrations, 33 non-member regular registrations, and 22 non-member student registrations, and one guest speaker registration for a total of 262 attendees. Although most attendees were from the United States (187) and Canada (28), fifteen countries were represented.

The considerations and negotiations regarding the decision to rebook the meeting for 2022 at Snowbird, Utah were shared with the meeting. Dan Snyder emphasized the need to ensure protection for the AAVP was written in to the meeting contract for future meetings in case of future pandemics or other situations where *force majeure* may come in to play.

Ann Donoghue enquired regarding audiovisual costs. [Meeting costs totaled \$17,835.05. These included \$10,195.00 for LifeLearn, who managed the Zoom meeting, and \$7,640.05 for Omnipress.]

Future Meetings

The plans for the meeting in Lexington, Kentucky in 2021 and Snowbird, Utah in 2022 were presented.

Old Business

Mason Reichard thanked the committee that had developed the guidelines for the Young Investigator Travel Awards. The members of this committee were Drs. Brewer, Paras, Little, Zajac, and Vatta.

Members New Business

Heather Stockdale Walden, Chair of the Education Committee, mentioned plans for a virtual educators' symposium to be held in 2020.

Close of Meeting

A virtual handover of the AAVP cowbell from Mason Reichard to Doug Carithers, signifying the transfer of the Presidency, took place thanks to a slide show prepared by Antoinette Marsh. The meeting was closed after that handover.

[[Slide presentations \(linked here\)](#) given at the meeting by the AAVP leadership have been posted on the AAVP website.]

Submitted by Adriano Vatta, Secretary-Treasurer, AAVP