

AAVP Newsletter

American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists

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In this issue

IN THIS ISSUE	1	2021 AAVP AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT	15
FROM THE PRESIDENT	2	NOMINATED AAVP AWARDS	15
FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER	4	AAVP-Boehringer Ingelheim Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award	15
2022 AAVP MEMBERSHIP DUES	4	AAVP William C. Campbell One Health Award.....	15
2021 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT	5	AAVP-Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award. 16	
AAVP LEADERSHIP, COMMITTEE CHAIRS /		AAVP-CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease.....	16
MEMBERS	7	BEST STUDENT PAPER AND POSTER COMPETITIONS	17
AAVP 2021 – 2022 OFFICERS AND LEADERSHIP	7	STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS	17
2021 – 2022 COMMITTEES	7	<i>Looking Ahead To 2022 AAVP Awards</i>	18
ELECTED COMMITTEE	7	ELECTRONIC MEDIA COMMITTEE REPORT	18
<i>Nominating</i>	7	EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT	19
APPOINTED COMMITTEES	7	DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION	
<i>Archives</i>	7	COMMITTEE REPORT	19
<i>Constitution and Bylaws Committee</i>	7	AAVP 67TH ANNUAL MEETING 2022 – SNOWBIRD,	
<i>Awards Committee</i>	8	UTAH	20
<i>Education Committee</i>	8	FUTURE PARASITOLOGY MEETINGS	21
<i>Electronic Media Committee</i>	8	FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE AAVP.....	21
<i>Finance Committee</i>	9	CONFERENCE OF RESEARCH WORKERS IN ANIMAL	
<i>History Committee</i>	9	DISEASES (CRWAD) 2021	21
<i>Program Committee</i>	9	AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE & HYGIENE	
<i>Publications/Outreach/Research Committee</i>	9	(ASTMH) 2021	21
<i>Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee</i>	10	INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARASITOLOGY (ICOPA)	
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT	10	2022.....	21
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT	11	WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF	
AAVP HOOKWORM TASK FORCE REPORT	11	VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY 2023.....	21
HISTORY COMMITTEE REPORT	12		

AAVP Mission Statement

The mission of the AAVP is to lead and partner with our members in advancing veterinary parasitology education, research, practice and service to improve human and animal health. AAVP members are practitioners, educators, and scientists from academia, industry, and government. We will accomplish this mission by providing:

- An annual conference for sharing research and educational advances
- Support to students interested in veterinary parasitology
- A bi-annual educators symposium
- Electronic discussion forums
- Veterinary publications
- Speakers and programs to veterinary professional meetings

From the President



Martin Nielsen
President

Dear friends,

Well, if we thought that 2020 was a crazy year, 2021 is certainly doing what it can to supersede it. The pandemic seems to be raging stronger than ever, and it continues to affect our lives in multiple ways. With the AAVP, we have been challenged with organizing our annual meeting, which is so important to all of us. Last year, heroic efforts from Doug Carithers, Alan Marchiondo, and Adriano Vatta resulted in a very successful virtual conference. This year, we were, yet again, challenged with defining a meaningful format for the meeting. The past year's experience with virtual meetings and conferences had taught us that the biggest drawback to the virtual format is the very limited opportunities for social interaction. This is so important to all of us, but for our student members, the opportunity to meet (or be introduced to) people working in veterinary parasitology is invaluable for future career options. With the pandemic, our student members have now seen two years' worth of networking opportunity disappear or diminish substantially, so we were very motivated for offering an in-person meeting, if at all possible. Furthermore, a cancellation of the in-person meeting would result in another penalty fee for cancelling the venue. As we were coming out of the winter and approaching spring, the COVID vaccines were being rolled out, the infection numbers were heading in the right direction, and restrictions were being lifted in the state of Kentucky. As you know, we made the decision to organize this year's annual meeting as the first hybrid event in AAVP history, and I have no doubt this was the right decision. Yes, we experienced some technical challenges along the way, but that is just part of the experience of doing something for the first time. But I was so pleased to see so many students and young members attend in person and enjoy all the social interaction again.

This year's meeting would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our secretary-treasurer, Adriano Vatta. Meticulous and detail-oriented as always, Adriano does all the tedious work behind the scenes to keep the AAVP running. The workload is particularly substantial around the annual meetings, and Adriano is a tremendous support to the program chair and organizing committee. Jessica Rodriguez, our electronic media committee chair, played a pivotal role with the meeting app and responding to questions and queries during the meeting. Our awards committee co-chairs, Shelly Michalski and Molly Savadelis, did a tremendous job with all the awards, particularly the student presentation competitions, which were challenging in the hybrid format, to say the least. A big thank-you also to our student representatives, Kathryn Duncan and Julie Thompson for organizing some excellent student programming, including a new panel discussion session. Last, but not least a warm acknowledgement to the anonymous reviewers and all session moderators.

While we all hope for the 2022 annual meeting to be our return to normal, we are painfully aware that this may not be the case. The executive committee and our 2022 program chair, Antoinette Marsh, are currently working on finding the best and safest meeting format and will keep the membership informed as we move forward. While the world has proven pretty unpredictable, we can at least say this: The 2022 Annual Meeting will happen one way or the other!

This coming year, we will see a couple of new initiatives rolled out. A hookworm taskforce has been formed under the leadership of Antoinette Marsh (chair) and Pablo Jimenez (co-chair). The decision to do this was driven by research done by AAVP members (Ray Kaplan and Pablo Jimenez), and it is a great example of the role the AAVP can play in the scientific and veterinary communities: To gather and distill information, and



The view at Mane Chance
Farm, University of
Kentucky

to communicate effectively about pertinent issues to the outside world. I applaud this initiative and look forward to learning more about drug-resistant canine hookworms.

Another new initiative sprung out of this year's Annual Meeting. As Andrew Peregrine accepted this year's Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award, he took the initiative to bring the attention to AAVP's role in supporting diversity and inclusion. While I have always considered our organization to be extraordinarily supportive and including – especially to our student members – I do agree that we currently don't have a clearly defined and visible mission for supporting diversity and inclusion. Andrew's presentation at this year's meeting sparked a lot of positive and enthusiastic conversation about the topic, and it was clear to me that many of our members felt included and welcomed because of these conversations. Following this, we have now formed an ad hoc committee under the leadership of Meriam Saleh (chair) and Andrew Peregrine (co-chair). This committee is going to invite suggestions and input from the membership and will make recommendations to the executive committee. Again, I applaud the initiative and look forward to the feedback.

Reflecting upon these two new committees, I think they reflect AAVP's roles very nicely. We are a scientific society, and we play important roles in responding to research findings and communicating about them to the outside world. But we also have a huge responsibility for community and network building and supporting our members in the best possible ways. Despite all the pandemic challenges, I feel we are as strong as ever and we are moving ahead with lots of energy and optimism.

Happy fall to everyone!

Email: martin.nielsen@uky.edu Tel: 859.218.1103

Submitted by Martin Nielsen, AAVP President

2022 AAVP Membership Dues



Adriano Vatta
Secretary/Treasurer

The renewal period for AAVP membership for calendar year 2022 is from October 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022. Please renew your membership if you have not already done so. Any members who have not renewed their memberships by January 31, 2022 will lose their membership privileges.

Please note that even if the website indicates that your membership expires sometime after January 31, 2022 (a glitch that occurs from time to time), if you are not specifically paid-up for 2022, the official record will indicate that your membership has expired..

Annual dues for regular members are \$75.00 per year and \$30.00 per year for students.

Dues should be paid online by clicking on the "Membership" tab at the top of the AAVP web page (<http://www.aavp.org>) and then clicking "Join / Renew Online". If you login to the site

before clicking "Join / Renew Online", your personal information will be prepopulated on the renewal form. Once you have made your payment, you should receive an e-mail from the AAVP confirming that your account has been updated. If you require a formal receipt for payment, please contact me. If you are experiencing any problems with the payment of your dues online, please contact me and I will assist you.

Members who are in good standing may purchase an online subscription to *Veterinary Parasitology* for an additional \$50.00 per year. The subscription will be valid for the calendar year 2022, and the link for payment of the subscription is also to be found on the "Membership" tab of the AAVP website.

Thank you for continuing to support the AAVP!

Dr. Adriano Vatta
Secretary/Treasurer, AAVP
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Submitted by Dr. Adriano Vatta, Secretary/Treasurer, AAVP

Dues Reminder
Deadline for
payment:
January 31, 2022
Pay online at:
<http://www.aavp.org>

2021 Annual Meeting Report



Adriano Vatta
Secretary/Treasurer

The 66th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists was held as a hybrid meeting with both in-person and virtual components. The actual in-person meeting was held from June 19–22, 2021 and remote attendees were able to participate online during some of the scheduled sessions. All the prerecorded talks were available for viewing online until August 22, 2021 on the conference website. Judging of student presentations occurred in the weeks following the meeting. The theme of the meeting was “Current Challenges and the Avenues Ahead.”

The Executive Committee successfully negotiated to amend the contract with the Hilton Lexington Downtown to accommodate the expected reduced attendance. This was needed as the original contract had been negotiated at the end of 2019 for a full in-person meeting. We agreed to rebook the venue for the 2023 meeting. We also met the renegotiated food and beverage minimum and minimum room nights. Partly to meet the latter requirement, AAVP sponsored the room costs for student attendees.

Despite the hybrid format for the 2021 meeting, attendance totaled 210 registrants. There were 72 in-person attendees and 138 virtual participants. Of those, 29 and 35 were student attendees, respectively. In terms of membership of the AAVP, as of June 16, 2021, there were 390 members, of which 269 were regular, 100 were student, and 21 were emeritus members. The corresponding number for the total number of members at the same time during the previous year (June 19, 2020 to be precise) was 303 members, with 217 regular, 63 student, and 23 emeritus members, indicating that our membership has increased by 87 members!

Meeting of the Executive Committee and the Chairs of the Committees

The meeting of the Executive Committee and the chairs of the committees was held in-person at the Hilton Lexington Downtown, Lexington, Kentucky, with additional attendance virtually via Zoom on Friday, June 18, 2021. The complete minutes of this meeting and the business meeting will be made available on the AAVP website. It should also be noted that the reports from the committee chairs were published in the summer 2021 newsletter. Discussion points to note from the meeting were those around the establishment of a fund in the name of Dr. David Young. Dr. Yoko Nagamori was thanked for her service as the outgoing chair of the Nominations Committee and the new chair, Dr. Alice Lee, was welcomed. Dr. Ann Donoghue, Chair of the Archives Committee, agreed to provide a safe storage space for the proceedings from previous meetings, and these have now been shipped to Ann’s house. A half-day virtual Educators’ Symposium was discussed and this will now be held on Monday, December 13, 2021.



AAVP Conference Organizing Committee (L to R): Kathryn Duncan, Adriano Vatta, Antoinette Marsh, Julie Thompson, Doug Carithers, Martin Nielsen, Alan Marchiondo (not shown)

AAVP Business Meeting and Awards

The business meeting was held on Monday, June 21, 2021 as a hybrid meeting with those attending in person in the Grand Kentucky Ballroom of the Hilton Lexington Downtown and remote participants attending via Zoom. The AAVP business meeting was presided over by the AAVP President, Dr. Doug Carithers. Dr.



Outgoing AAVP President, Doug Carithers, receives a plaque of service recognition while incoming President, Martin Nielsen, receives the Cow Bell

Martin Nielsen advanced from Program Chair and President Elect to the presidency, with Dr. Antoinette Marsh advancing from Vice President to President Elect and Program Chair. Dr. Jennifer Ketzis was elected Vice President. Dr. John Gilleard and Dr. Gui Verocai were elected to the nominating committee. During a separately convened student committee meeting, Dr. Leonor Sicalo Gianechini was elected as the student representative to serve with Dr. Julie Thompson. Dr. Kathryn Duncan, whom Leonor replaced, is thanked for her many contributions as student representative to the Executive Committee.

New business discussed included mention of the Dr. David Young fund. Dr. Martin Nielsen had led the successful negotiation of a contract with *Veterinary Parasitology* to provide 20% off the costs for open

access publication of articles by AAVP members. The latest (9th) edition of *Veterinary Clinical Parasitology* had been published as an eBook with the spiral-bound hard copy to follow (which is now available).

A transfer of the presidential cow bell from Dr. Carithers to Dr. Nielsen was conducted.

We again thank our donors for their support for the named awards at a total of \$5,400. The funds were provided by Boehringer Ingelheim (\$1,500 for the AAVP–Boehringer Ingelheim Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award), CAPC (\$1,000 for the AAVP–CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease), and Merck Animal Health (\$1,000 for the AAVP–Merck Animal Health Graduate Student Research Award). A special thanks to Elanco for picking up the sponsorship for both the Student Oral and Poster Presentation Awards (\$1,900—three places per award category). The Student Oral Presentation Awards were previously sponsored by Bayer. Elanco also generously took over the sponsorship of the sponsorship of the evening social event previously sponsored by Bayer so that two of the evening socials were sponsored by Elanco—a big thank you to Elanco for this sponsorship too.

Future Meetings:

2022—June 25–28, Snowbird, Utah

2023—June 10–13, Lexington, Kentucky

Respectfully submitted,

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Submitted by Dr. Adriano Vatta, Secretary/Treasurer, AAVP



Dr. Kathryn Duncan is presented with the AAVP-CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease by Dr. Byron Blagburn

AAVP Leadership, Committee Chairs / Members

AAVP 2021 – 2022 Officers and Leadership

Martin Nielsen, President martin.nielsen@uky.edu
Doug Carithers, Past President doug.carithers@boehringer-ingelheim.com
Antoinette Marsh, President Elect and Program Chair marsh.2061@osu.edu
Jennifer Ketzis, Vice President jketzis@rossu.edu
Adriano Vatta, Secretary Treasurer adriano.vatta@zoetis.com
Julie Thompson, Student Representative jmthompson2961@gmail.com
Leonor Sicalo Gianechini, Student Representative sicalo.leonor@uga.edu
Al Marchiondo, Program Coordinator amkj46@aol.com

2021 – 2022 Committees

Here follow the lists of the committee members as October 2021. We would appreciate it if members and chairs would review the lists and provide any updates to the Secretary-Treasurer so that the lists may be brought up to date.

Elected Committee

Nominating

Alice Lee, Chair (2022)	alice.lee@vetmed.ufl.edu
Andy Moorhead (2022)	amoorhead@uga.edu
Brian Herrin (2023)	bhh@vet.k-state.edu
Jessica Rodriguez (2023)	jessica.rodriguez@zoetis.com
John Gilleard (2024)	jsqillea@ucalgary.ca
Gui Verocai (2024)	gverocai@cvm.tamu.edu

Appointed Committees

Archives

Ashley McGrew, Chair (2020)	ashley.mcgrew@colostate.edu
Alan Marchiondo	amkj46@aol.com
Frank Hurtig	frank.hurtig@virbacus.com

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Lauren Camp, Chair (2023)	lcamp@purdue.edu
Sriveny Dangoudoubiyam (2023)	sdangoudoubiyam@gmail.com
Miguel Suderman (2024)	msuderman@cellsystems3d.com
Roberto Cortiñas (2024)	rcortinas@unl.edu

Awards Committee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Serve Thru</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Shelly Michalski (Co-Chair)	2022	michalsk@uwosh.edu
Molly Savadelis (Co-Chair)	2023	molly.savadelis@zoetis.com
Joe Camp	2022	jcamp@purdue.edu
Christian Epe	2022	Christian.Epe@boehringer-ingenelheim.com
Peter Thompson	2022	peter.thompson@ars.usda.gov
Dean Dailey	2022	dean.dailey@boehringer-ingenelheim.com
Lora Ballweber	2022	Lora.ballweber@colostate.edu
Meriam Saleh	2022	Meriam.saleh@okstate.edu
Javier Garza	2023	Javier.GarzaPhD@gmail.com
Kelly Allen	2023	Kelly.Allen10@okstate.edu
Lisa Young	2023	youngli@elanco.com
Rachel Imai	2023	rimai@uoguelph.ca
Lindsay Starkey	2024	las0080@auburn.edu
Alice Lee	2024	alice.lee@vetmed.ufl.edu

Education Committee

Andy Moorhead, Chair (2023)	amoorhed@uga.edu
Antoinette Marsh	marsh.2061@osu.edu
Heather Stockdale-Walden	hdstockdale@ufl.edu
Araceli Lucio-Forster	al33@cornell.edu
Ashley McGrew	ashley.mcgreg@colostate.edu
Jennifer Ketzis	jketzis@rossu.edu
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Richard Martin	rjmmartin@iastate.edu
Matt Brewer	brewermt@iastate.edu
Grace VanHoy	vanhoy.2@osu.edu
Roger Ramirez-Barrios	arapuey@gmail.com
Lauren Camp	lcamp@ucdavis.edu

Electronic Media Committee

Jessica Rodriguez, Chair (2022)	jessica.rodriguez@zoetis.com
Frank Hurtig (2022), Editor	frank.hurtig@virbacus.com
Brian Herrin (2022), Assistant Editor	bhh@vet.k-state.edu
Meriam Saleh (2022)	meriam.saleh@okstate.edu
Dean Dailey	Dean.Dailey@boehringer-ingenelheim.com
Roberto Cortiñas	rcortinas@unl.edu
Tejbir Sandhu	tejbirsandhu@yahoo.com
Ann Donoghue	ardonoghue@gmail.com
Erica Burkman	eiburkman@gmail.com
Ashley Steuer	ashley.steuer@uky.edu

Finance Committee

Jim Miller, Chair (2023)	jmille1@lsu.edu
Chris Adolph (2023)	chris.adolph@zoetis.com
Andy Moorhead (2022)	amoorhed@uga.edu
Ashley McGrew (2022)	ashley.mcgrew@colostate.edu , ashlinton98@hotmail.com
Pete Hann (2022)	pete.hann@bayer.com

History Committee

Ashley McGrew (Chair) (2024)	ashley.mcgrew@colostate.edu
Alan Marchiondo (2024)	amkj46@aol.com
Amy Biddle, (2024)	asbiddle@udel.edu

Program Committee

Jennifer Ketzis (2022), Chair	jketzis@rossu.edu
Doug Carithers (2023)	doug.carithers@boehringer-ingelheim.com
Martin Nielsen (2022)	martin.nielsen@uky.edu
Adriano Vatta (2020)	adriano.vatta@zoetis.com
Julie Thompson (2022)	jmthompson2961@gmail.com
Leonor Sicalo Gianechini (2023)	sicalo.leonor@uga.edu
Al Marchiondo (2023)	amkj46@aol.com

Publications/Outreach/Research Committee

Miguel Suderman, Chair (2021-2022)	msuderman@cellsystems3d.com
Dr. Erica Burkman	erica.burkman@boehringer-ingelheim.com
Dr. Kathryn Reif	kreif@vet.k-state.edu
Dr. Saurabh Verma	saurabh.verma@boehringer-ingelheim.com
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Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee

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Andrew Peregrine, Co-Chair (2023)

University of Guelph

aperegri@ovc.uoguelph.ca

Lauren Camp, UC Davis

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Frank Hurtig, Virbac

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Malika Kachani, Western University

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Ariceli Lucio-Forster, Cornell University

al33@cornell.edu

Ashley McGrew, Colorado State University

ashley.mcgrew@colostate.edu

Jessica Rodriguez, Zoetis

jessica.rodriguez@zoetis.com

Barbara Shock, Lincoln Memorial University

barbarashock@gmail.com

Grace VanHoy, Ohio State University

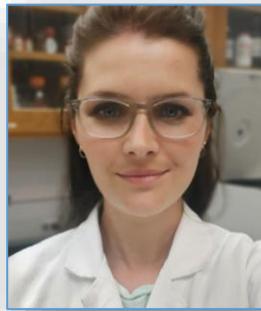
grace.vanhoy@gmail.com

Student Representatives Report



Julie Thompson (2022)

jmthompson2961@gmail.com



Leonor Sicalo Gianechini (2023)

sicalo.leonor@uga.edu

Welcome to Leonor Sicalo who joins me, Julie Thompson, as Student Representative to AAVP! Leonor is a DVM from Uruguay, working under Dr. Ray Kaplan's supervision at the University of Georgia. Prior to engaging in the research program at the Kaplan Lab, Leonor worked as a veterinary clinician on different ruminant production systems from Uruguay and Argentina. She also gained hands-on training in bovine, ovine, and equine parasitological

diagnosis at the Parasitology Laboratory in INTA Balcarce, Argentina. Currently, her research focuses on anthelmintic resistance in gastrointestinal nematodes, mainly from cattle and small ruminants. She's very eager to keep learning and also, really happy to be part of the AAVP. We are excited to have you, Leonor, and we are so thankful for all of Kathryn Duncan's hard work as she completed her term this year!

We were so thrilled to see everyone in person and online at the AAVP meeting in Lexington. The editorial board Q&A was a HUGE hit and we hope to incorporate more of these discussions for AAVP 2022, as well as a crash course in reviewing scientific papers. Get your thinking caps and hiking boots ready, and we look forward to seeing you all at Snowbird, UT for AAVP 2022! We will continue providing updates until then, but as always, please reach out if we can be of any assistance!

Respectfully submitted by: Dr. Julie Thompson



The team from Dr. Nielsen's lab (L to R): Jennifer Bellaw, Mackenzie Smith, Jennifer Cain, Constance Finnerty, (AAVP President, Martin Nielsen), Alyssa Carpenter, Nichol Ripley, Sierra Orzech, and Holli Gravatte

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee is charged with developing the ballot for the annual election of officers and two new members of the committee itself. In the upcoming Spring 2022 election, we will have 3 positions to vote on: Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Nominating Committee. As the committee begins the process of developing the ballot this fall, we invite AAVP members to submit names of colleagues that they believe will serve the organization well in the above-mentioned roles. We ask that, prior to submission, members first discuss their nomination with the potential nominee to be sure that they are willing and able to serve in the position(s), which may entail a considerable time commitment. Please feel free to reach out to the Nominating Committee chair at the email address below with any questions.

To keep the list of nominees manageable, we ask that each AAVP member submit no more than 2 names for each position to the committee chair at alice.lee@vetmed.ufl.edu by Nov. 10, 2021. The committee will consider all recommendations and present the top-ranked candidates for the spring ballot. We thank you for your engagement and look forward to your input!

Respectfully submitted by: Dr. Alice Lee, Chair

AAVP Hookworm Task Force Report

Drug-resistant canine hookworm guidance documentation is under development by the AAVP Hookworm TaskForce.

Following the 2021 annual meeting, the AAVP formed a national task force to address an emerging issue in canine and human health: multi-anthelmintic drug resistant (MADR) *Ancylostoma caninum*, which are canine hookworms resistant to two or more drug classes of FDA-approved dewormers (benzimidazoles, macrocyclic lactones, tetrahydropyrimidines (e.g. pyrantel)). This AAVP Hookworm Task Force, which is composed of 25 members, including veterinarians and parasitologists from academia, industry and government, is developing guidance for veterinary practitioners related to the standard of care for the diagnosis and treatment of MADR *A. caninum*.

“Multiple anthelmintic resistance in *Ancylostoma caninum* is much worse than we feared,” said Dr. RayKaplan, Professor of Parasitology and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies at the School of Veterinary Medicine, St. George’s University. “It has been found in almost every Greyhound fecal sample we recently evaluated from breeding farms and racing tracks, and clinical reports and preliminary molecular data suggest it has entered the pet dog population where we are now finding suspected cases in many non-Greyhound dogs as well.”

Key information for veterinary practitioners:

- 1) MADR *A. caninum* was first identified in racing Greyhounds in the US, many of which have been adopted as pets. Suspected cases are now emerging in non-Greyhound pet dogs across the US. More surveillance is required to determine the geographic distribution as well as the percentage of pet dogs infected.
- 2) No validated test for MADR *A. caninum* is currently available for clinical use. Suspected cases can be evaluated using Fecal Egg Count Reduction Tests (FECRT) which may provide some insight into product efficacy. MADR hookworm infections need to be addressed; failing to implement appropriate diagnostics and treatment could result in a standard of care deficiency.
- 3) In dogs documented to have patent hookworm infections after treatment, veterinarians should perform a FECRT, comparing the fecal egg counts before treatment with those at 10 to 14 days after treatment. Dewormers most likely are not effective if hookworm fecal egg counts do not decrease by 75% or more 10–14 days after treatment. The AAVP Hookworm Task Force is developing educational materials to assist practitioners with performing a FECRT. In the meantime, most commercial and university veterinary diagnostic laboratories can provide this service or offer guidance.
- 4) The single most important step to limit reinfection and spread is immediate removal of fecal material. Proper disposal of feces can protect dogs from reinfection and prevent further spread of MADR hookworms. Hookworm eggs shed in the environment develop within a few days into infective larvae that can infect other dogs and may be a source of infection to humans, potentially causing cutaneous larva migrans.

Recently published studies provide additional guidance regarding treatment of suspected MADR *A. caninum*, including:

a) Hess et al. Combination Anthelmintic Treatment for Persistent *Ancylostoma caninum* Ova Shedding in Greyhounds. *J Am Anim Hosp Assoc.* 2019;55(3):160-166. DOI 10.5326/JAAHA-MS- 6904.

b) Jimenez Castro, P.D. and R.M. Kaplan, *Persistent or suspected-resistant hookworm infections.* Clinician's Brief (parasitology), 2020 (August).

“MADR hookworms present an even greater need for veterinarians to counsel owners on parasite control, fecal hygiene measures, and required routine diagnostics,” said Dr. Pablo Jimenez Castro. The AAVP Task Force encourages state veterinarians to share information about drug-resistant hookworms because of the potential widespread transmission and zoonotic risk.

Veterinarians should report suspected treatment failure to the product manufacturer or to the Food and Drug Administration by calling 1-888-FDA-VETS or online at <http://www.fda.gov/reportanimalae>. Reporting these cases will assist in determining the extent of MADR hookworms in dogs across the country.

The information provided is current as of September 3, 2021; however, the veterinary and animal health community is rapidly moving forward to address questions such as the use of historic parasiticides, genotyping, and the geographic distribution of these MADR hookworms.

More in-depth guidance on diagnosis and management of MADR hookworms will be available soon from the AAVP Hookworm Task Force.

Respectfully submitted by: Antoinette Marsh, Chair; Pablo Jimenez Castro, Associate Chair- AAVP Hookworm Task Force

History Committee Report

As a committee, we plan to meet monthly this fall. We are actively recruiting new members onto this committee—both students and full members—so please feel free to reach out to [Ashley McGrew](#) with any inquiries, suggestions, or interest. We'd love to have you!

We continue to identify and build a library of important “landmark” papers/manuscripts related to parasitology, as well as other historically significant content that will ultimately be posted to our website. We are currently digitizing media and will reach out to membership for feedback as we prepare to upload new content. One of our first projects is the conversion of a collection of vintage glass-plate slides to a more useable/accessible format. Other goals for the coming year include: a bank of historical trivia, Who's Who in Parasitology (e.g. historical figure profiles), and a PowerPoint shell comparing historical perspectives and emerging trends—this latter file will then be used to create a podcast or video-recorded panel discussion that can be posted on the website. These ideas are still being developed, but we hope to engage newly recruited members in these exciting efforts.

As a committee, we wanted to formally acknowledge the passing of our beloved colleague and friend, Dr. Bert Stromberg, for whom an announcement went out to the AAVP membership in late August. Two long-time members of AAVP and close colleagues of Dr. Stromberg, Lou Gasbarre and Tom Klei, have written a more in depth memorial for Bert that is printed below. Additionally, we would direct you to links at the University of Minnesota [here](#) and [here](#) for their recognition of this great colleague who we will all sorely miss.

In Remembrance of Dr. Bert Stromberg



Dr. Bert Stromberg passed away at his home with his family on August 11 after a long and gallant struggle with a serious, debilitating disease. He was a dedicated teacher, mentor, scientist, administrator and leader who made major impacts in everything he touched. He is considered to be a true gentleman and scholar who was not only serious about his work and students but also jovial and fun loving. What a smile.

He was Born in Trenton, New Jersey, and earned a BA degree in biology from Lafayette College in 1966 where he first experienced basic parasitology research with Professor Bernie Fried which served as a stimulus to a lifelong career. He received his master's degree in zoology from the University of Massachusetts in 1968. He earned his Ph.D. in immunology and parasitology under the tutelage of Professor E.J.L Soulsby, a giant in the field, in the Laboratory of Parasitology, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania in 1973. He became an assistant professor there where he worked for five years gaining the rank of Associate Professor. In 1979, he joined the faculty of parasitology in the

Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, in the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine as an Associate Professor.

He became a full professor in 1986, and in 1989 was named acting chair of the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology. From 1985 to 2000, he was an adjunct professor with the Institut Agronomique et Veterinaire Hassan II in Rabat, Morocco as part of a United States Agency for International Development program, serving as a mentor to students from Morocco who came to the college to study. He, in turn, traveled to Morocco for about two weeks at a time to teach and conduct research. In 1990, he was appointed director of graduate studies for the veterinary pathobiology graduate program, and in 2000, he was named Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs and co-director of the Clinical Investigation Center. His other positions have included: Assistant Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station from 2002-2007, Co-director of International Programs from 2000-2011, and Faculty Adviser of the parasitology section of the Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory since 2006.

One of his major accomplishments was the founding of the Summer Scholars Research Program for veterinary students at Minnesota. This was a competitive grants program through the NIH designed to foster interest in biomedical research by veterinarians. He was the director of the program from 2001-2011. Students from Minnesota were always prepared to participate at the national meeting and they had fun.

During the late 70's and early 80's the field of parasitology in Colleges of Veterinary Medicine, industry and government had a growth spurt. During this period the AAVP underwent significant changes in its scientific program, membership, and activities. This was in large part because of the influx new faculty and researchers brought to the association. Dr. Stromberg was one of these people. He was the 20th President of the AAVP, 1989-1990, and played an active role in the Association throughout his career. It is important to note that he initiated the AAVP list serve and served as its manager until his retirement. While not a veterinarian he was elected to the American College of Veterinary Microbiologist as an Honorary member, in the specialty category of parasitology.

Dr. Stromberg's leadership was not limited to academic institutions or parasitology. He and his students were regular participants in the Annual Conference of Research Workers in Animal Disease (CRWAD) held in Chicago. He served as President of this group in 1996-1997.

During all of these teaching and administrative duties Dr. Stromberg maintained a significant, extramurally funded veterinary parasitology research program.

He began his research career in the laboratory of professor E.J L. Soulsby at the University of Pennsylvania. This was at a time when immunology was undergoing a major shift as a result of the beginning recognition of

T lymphocytes as a major component of immune responses. Almost nothing was known concerning the interaction of the host immune system and complex nematode parasites. He performed seminal research in this field using a rodent-*Ascaris* system and greatly contributed to our understanding of the stereotypic response to nematode parasites by their mammalian hosts.

Dr. Stromberg left U. Penn and began a very diverse research program at the University of Minnesota. In the field of Veterinary Parasitology, he was truly a renaissance man. He published numerous papers covering a broad range of parasites and their hosts. Some of the major areas were: work in Morocco defining nematode infections in local sheep, work defining the trematode/wild ungulate/cattle interface, and chicken coccidiosis.

What Dr. Stromberg will be most remembered for are his important research endeavors that defined the epidemiology, treatment, and control of gastrointestinal nematodes and coccidia in American beef and dairy cattle. If a question concerning these issues arose from other Parasitologists, Veterinarians, Producers or the Pharmaceutical industry, Dr. Stromberg was the person to call.

In the latter part of his career Dr. Stromberg became interested in the possibility that some cattle nematodes were developing resistance to macrocyclic lactones. He played a major role in a NAHMS study that implied such resistance was fairly widespread and in a second study which found that the surviving parasites after treatment were an economic concern for producers.

One of his greatest skills was to act as an impartial moderator when disagreements concerning research interpretations and directions arose. Those who knew him will greatly miss his generous smile and infectious laughter.

We can only say, "Bert you done good"!

Respectfully submitted by: Ashley McGrew, Chair

2021 AAVP Awards Committee Report

Nominated AAVP Awards

A huge thanks to those who nominated and provided letters of support for all of the nominees in this year's pool for the following awards. Also, thanks to the members of the 2021 AAVP awards committee for the time and effort devoted toward reviewing and selecting from the field of nominees: Alice Lee, Christian Epe, Dean Dailey, Frank Guerino, Gui Verocai, Janice Liotta, Javier Garza, Jim Miller, Joe Camp, Kelly Allen, Lindsay Starkey, Lisa Young, Lora Ballweber, Meriam Saleh, Molly Savadelis, Peter Thompson, Rachel Imai, Shelly Michalski and Susan Little.

AAVP-Boehringer Ingelheim Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award



Andrew Peregrine

Dr. Andrew Peregrine, of the University of Guelph Ontario Veterinary College, was selected as the 2021 Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist. This prestigious award recognizes and honors the outstanding contributions of an AAVP member to the advancement of veterinary parasitology. Dr. Peregrine's full biography was featured in the annual meeting's proceedings, and his presentation entitled, "From Kenya to Canada: Lessons Learned?!" took place during a special awards session at the meeting in Kentucky. In addition to the honor this award brings, Dr. Peregrine received a plaque and a \$1,500 monetary award provided by Boehringer Ingelheim.

Congratulations to **Dr. Peregrine** on receiving this award!

AAVP William C. Campbell One Health Award

Dr. Michael Yabsley, of the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study at the University of Georgia was selected as the 2021 William C. Campbell One-Health Award recipient. This is an award that recognizes and celebrates remarkable veterinary parasitologists who have made extraordinary contributions to One Health, defined as the collaborative effort of multiple disciplines—working locally, nationally, and globally—to attain optimal health for people, animals, AND our environment. Dr. Yabsley's full biography was featured in the annual meeting's proceedings, and his presentation entitled "My experiences on why parasites belong in a One Health framework" took place during a special awards session at the meeting in Kentucky. The award consists of an engraved plaque specifically recognizing the awardee for their contributions to One Health. The AAVP contributed toward the reimbursement of expenses necessary for the recipient to attend the Society's annual meeting.



Michael Yabsley

Congratulations to **Dr. Yabsley** on receiving this award!

AAVP-Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award



Jeffrey Gruntmeier

Mr. Jeffrey Gruntmeier, of University of Florida, was selected as the recipient of the 2021 AAVP-Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Under the supervision of Dr. Heather Walden, Jeff's Ph.D. work has focused on heartworm diagnosis and antigen detection. Mr. Gruntmeier has authored or coauthored several manuscripts and abstracts presented at multiple international parasitology conferences and was awarded a grant through the National Center for Veterinary Parasitology (NCVP) for part of his work. He has also written parasite guidelines for the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC). His award included reimbursement of travel expenses by the AAVP, an engraved plaque and a monetary award of \$1000 provided by Merck Animal Health. Jeff's presentation took place during a special awards session at the annual meeting in Lexington entitled, "Effect of increasing temperature on the denaturation of canine IgG and its ability to inhibit heartworm antigen detection."

Congratulations to **Mr. Gruntmeier!**

AAVP-CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease

Dr. Kathryn Duncan was been selected as the recipient of the 2021 AAVP-CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease for her work on ticks and tickborne diseases of veterinary importance, heartworm disease, and diagnosis and treatment of intestinal parasites of domestic animals. She is currently a resident in Veterinary Parasitology at Oklahoma State University through the National Center for Veterinary Parasitology (NCVP). Her most recent publications discuss ticks of importance to dogs and cats as well as intestinal parasites detected from dogs attending dog parks. She presented in the student session on Equine tick-borne rickettsial infections in northeastern Oklahoma." Dr. Duncan received an engraved plaque and a monetary award of \$1000 provided by CAPC.

Congratulations to **Dr. Duncan!**



Kathryn Duncan

Best Student Paper and Poster Competitions

The student competition for the 2021 virtual meeting was a tad different than in years past, but the students persevered and thrived in the new format! In total, 38 students participated in the competition (29 in the platform competition and 9 in the poster competition)! The Best Student Paper competition and the Best Student Poster competition were sponsored by Elanco. There were 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards given in each category with \$500, \$300, and \$150 honoraria, respectively.

Each student pre-recorded and uploaded their platform or poster presentation and was available for a Q&A session with the judges live via Zoom.

	<u>Platform Competition</u>	<u>Poster Competition</u>
1st place (\$500)	Corinna Hazelrig (University of Georgia) Abstract #42	Hans Desale (Tulane University) Abstract #85
2nd place (\$300)	Alec Thompson (University of Georgia) Abstract #50	Victoria Wagner (Université de Montréal) Abstract #77
3rd place (\$150)	Camila Queiroz (University of Calgary) Abstract #27	Megan Lineberry (Oklahoma State University) Abstract #89
Honorable Mention (free 2022 registration)	Eleonore Charrier (University of Calgary) Abstract #31	Theresa Quintana (Kansas State University) Abstract #82

Endless thanks go out to our members who were willing to devote their time toward virtual judging and put forth the effort to provide written feedback to the students: Kelly Allen, Joe Camp, Dean Dailey, Alice Lee, Susan Little, Shelly Michalski, Meriam Saleh, Molly Savadelis, Lindsay Starkey, Gui Verocai, and Lisa Young.

Many students have reached out to me following the meeting to thank all of you for the constructive comments provided.

Student Travel Grants

Thanks to the AAVP for providing travel funding for students to attend the meeting in Lexington, Kentucky. In total, there were 13 students who applied for travel grants.

Student (Institution)	Student (Institution)	Student (Institution)
Kathryn Duncan (Oklahoma State University)	Corinna Hazlerig (University of Georgia)	Elizabeth Kass (University of Rhode Island)
Sidney Long (Ohio State University)	Leonor Sicalo Gianechini (University of Georgia)	Alec Thompson (University of Georgia)
JB Collins (University of Georgia)	Morgan Friedman (University of Georgia)	Nicole Szafranski (University of Tennessee)
Caroline Sobotytk (Texas A&M)	Julie Thompson (Tulane University)	Matthew Kulpa (Texas A&M)
Laura Horton (University of Tennessee)		

Looking Ahead To 2022 AAVP Awards

Nominations are now open for the named AAVP awards for 2022. Check out the nomination and eligibility requirements posted on the AAVP website (<https://www.aavp.org/aavp-annual-awards/>). Nomination packets will be due early in April 2022. Check your listserv emails for reminders and official deadlines. Completed packets can be turned in via email at any time up until the deadline to either of the awards committee co-chairs: Molly Savadelis (molly.savadelis@zoetis.com) or Shelly Michalski (michalsk@uwosh.edu).

If you missed the opportunity to sign up to join the awards committee, please contact either co-chair to join on for the next three years.



Shelly Michalski



Molly Savadelis

Respectfully submitted by: Molly Savadelis and Shelly Michalski, Co-Chairs, AAVP Awards Committee

Electronic Media Committee Report

Objectives: The Electronic Media Committee (EMC) shall be responsible for providing material to update the AAVP social media accounts (e.g. Facebook and Twitter); a member of the EM Committee will be tasked with posting/updating the social media accounts for the organization. Social media posts can consist of interesting news articles, press releases, and AAVP announcements. All posted material should be in accordance with AAVP policies; the moderator will use discretion over postings. In addition, the EM Committee will assist with providing resources and content that can be posted on the AAVP website. For example, the EM Committee will assist the Newsletter Editorial Board Committee in publishing the AAVP Newsletter electronically.

Request for feedback: If you have any feedback or suggestions about the website or social media content, please contact the Chair.

Social Media: Our Facebook page (American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists) currently has 2,708 “likes” and 3,246 following. Please inbox the page if you’d like us to share any posts of interest. We have continued growing our Twitter presence including sharing job postings, posts from AAVP members, and new publications and accomplishments from AAVP members. As of Sep 2021, we have 991 followers! We are almost past the 1,000 mark! If you’d like AAVP to share one of your posts or a post of interest, please tag @AAVParasit in your post or retweet, or send us a message.

Committee members: Jessica Rodriguez– Chair, Frank Hurtig– Newsletter Editor, Brian Herrin– Newsletter Assistant Editor, Meriam Saleh, Dean Dailey, Roberto Cortiñas, Tejbir Sandhu, Ann Donoghue, Erica Burkman, Ashley Steuer

Respectfully submitted by: Dr. Jessica Rodriguez, Chair

Education Committee Report

We are excited to announce a virtual educator's symposium to take place on Friday December 17, 2021 from 11 AM to 3 PM Eastern (in order to accommodate our West Coast colleagues. The purpose of this symposium is to reflect on what we have learned about teaching during COVID. In other words, what teaching strategies do we want to keep and what did not work as well as we would have liked. There will be no keynotes, but rather numerous breakout groups so that you can interact with as many colleagues as possible. To register, please fill out this brief survey [[click here to access](#)].

Respectfully submitted, Andy Moorhead, amoorhed@uga.edu

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Report

The inaugural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee is comprised of 11 volunteer members from across academia and industry. The current committee roster is listed below, and we welcome input and suggestions from all AAVP members.

Lauren Camp, UC Davis

Frank Hurtig, Virbac

Malika Kachani, Western University

Araceli Lucio-Forester, Cornell University

Ashley McGrew, Colorado State University

Andy Moorhead, University of Georgia

Jessica Rodriguez, Zoetis

Barbara Shock, Lincoln Memorial University

Grace VanHoy, Ohio State University

Andrew Peregrine, University of Guelph, DEI Committee Co-Chair

Meriam Saleh, Texas A&M University, DEI Committee Chair

Our first committee meeting took place on October 8th via Zoom. We are working to create and distribute a survey to assess DEI efforts the membership would like the organization to undertake. Please be on the lookout for the survey in your inbox before the end of the year!

I would like to share a link to this 1-page article titled "Keep quiet about homophobia or open up?" from *Science* magazine for those who may be interested (<https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.373.6556.826>). We hope to make pieces like this and other DEI resources available to the membership as we move forward.

Respectfully submitted, Dr. Meriam Saleh, Chair, DEI Committee, msaleh@cvm.tamu.edu

AAVP 67th Annual Meeting 2022 – Snowbird, Utah

Make plans to attend the 2022 AAVP Annual Meeting, June 25–28, 2022, at Snowbird, Utah!



The 67th Annual Meeting of the AAVP is shaping up to be one of the biggest and best, and in a gorgeous, easy-access location! The Snowbird Resort, just outside of Salt Lake City, offers an ideal venue with a meeting room design perfect for our AAVP sessions. A wide variety of options for sleeping accommodations will also be available, with single rooms, suites or condos, sleeping up to 10. All of this and beautiful scenery and summer activities too! Mountain roller coaster, Alpine slide, tram rides, mountain biking, hiking, etc. Make plans to attend!



Future Parasitology Meetings

Future meetings of the AAVP

67th Annual Meeting: 25–28 June 2022 – Snowbird, UT

68th Annual Meeting: June 10–13, 2023 – Lexington, KY

Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases (CRWAD) 2021

The 101st Annual CRWAD Conference will be held 3–7 December, 2021. AAVP continues to support the best student competition in the parasitology section of the CRWAD meeting. [CRWAD](#)

American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) 2021

The 70th annual meeting of ASTMH will be held in a completely virtual format 17 – 21 November, 2021.

<https://www.astmh.org/>.

International Congress of Parasitology (ICOPA) 2022

The XIV International Congress of Parasitology will be held August 21 – 26, 2022, at the Bella Center Copenhagen in Copenhagen, Denmark. [ICOPA](#)

World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology 2023

The 29th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology will be held at the ITC Grand Chola, Chennai, India, 20 – 24 August, 2023. <https://waavp2023.com/>



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The American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists Newsletter is published three times each year with issues in the winter, prior to the annual meeting and the fall. Contributions to the Newsletter are highly encouraged and should be submitted by the dates listed below.

AAVP Newsletter Deadlines for Submissions

Newsletter	Deadline
February 2022	January 15, 2022
May 2022	April 15, 2022
October 2022	September 15, 2022

Please contact the editor with questions regarding these dates.