



**MINUTES FOR INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING; 30 JULY 2021, HELD VIRTUALLY.**

Approximately 177 individuals in attendance.

Key: EC = Executive Committee; OEC = Officers of the Executive Committee; SC = Standing Committee; CT = Comparison Test; GBM = General Business meeting; ISAG (or Society) = International Society for Animal Genetics; IFAG (or Foundation) = Stichting International Foundation for Animal Genetics; AGE= Animal Genetics (the Journal); LOC=Local Organizing Committee (of Conference).

Clare Gill called meeting to order at 7:01 am in Central Daylight Time.

Gill welcomed all attendees and noted remarkable year due to pandemic but conference had over 550 registered attendees and thanked all those who made conference possible including standing committees, committee chairs, South African LOC, ISAG EC, FASS, and sponsors. Conference will be held in South Africa in 2023. EC has been particularly engaged in the virtual environment.

Poster awards

Poster awards organized by Clare Gill and there were 131 posters identified for judging and Gill thanking judges for their assistance. 20 individuals assisted in judging the posters who then meet to determine the winners. 10 poster awards given. Shared feedback from the judges that less is more on a poster.

Poster award judges were:

Adetula Adeyinka
Olivier Hanotte
Tomas Bergström
Ted Kalbfleisch
Cindy Bottema
Kwan Suk Kim
Cathy Ernst
Sue Lamont
Guillermo Giovambattista
Tosso Leeb
Elisabetta Giuffra
Congjun Li
Martien Groenen
Brenda Murdoch
Darren Hagen
Chris Tuggle
Sabine Hammer

Poster award winners were shown on screen and Gill provided overview of what makes a poster an award winner. Digital certificate and monetary award provided to each poster award winner.

Poster winners were:

P107 Zhangyan Pan, University of California Davis, USA
P122 Su Lai Yee Mon, Kagoshima University, Japan
P148 Pengna Luo, Henan Agricultural University, China
P169 Matthias Christen, University of Bern, Switzerland
P223 Kimberley Davenport, University of Idaho, USA
P249 Gillian McHugo, University College Dublin, Ireland
P257 Byeonghwi Lim, Chung-Ang University, Republic of Korea
P267 Paula Reich, Georg-August University, Germany
P288 John King N. Layos, Hiroshima University, Japan
P341 Eduard Molinero, University of Lleida, Spain
P374 James A. Ward, University College Dublin, Ireland
P393 Maria G. Luigi-Sierra, University of Barcelona, Spain
P395 Hong Cheng, Northwest A&F University, China

No Suzuki award was given this year.

Gill handed over to Sofia Mikko as ISAG Secretary for approval of previous minutes.

Motion by Chris Tuggle to approve general business meeting minutes from December 2, 2020. Motion seconded by Fiona McCarthy. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Sofia Mikko provided ISAG Secretary's report.

Currently serving ISAG Executive Committee:

President: Clare Gill, current terms ends 2023, serving second term on EC

Treasurer: Christian Looft, current term ends 2021, serving second term

Secretary: Sofia Mikko, current term ends 2021, serving first term, standing for re-election

Executive Committee Members:

- Tosso Leeb, current term ends 2021, serving first term, standing for re-election
- Martien Groenen, current term ends 2023, serving second term
- Sabine Hammer, current term ends 2023, serving first term
- Chris Tuggle, current term ends 2023, serving first term

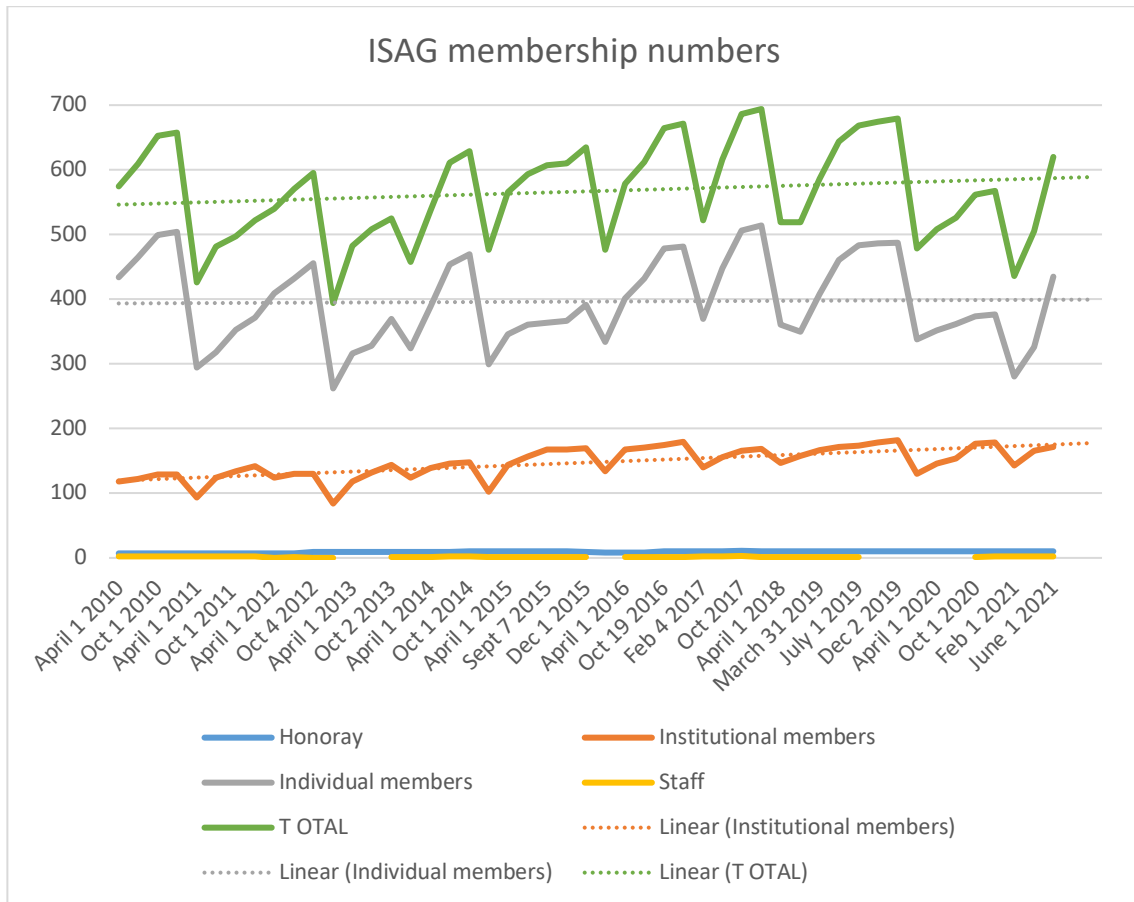
ISAG and IFAG meetings that have occurred:

- Virtual annual GBM 2 December 2021 – draft of minutes on ISAG web
- Two IFAG Board, and five ISAG Executive Committee virtual meetings, combined with numerous emails.
- IFAG & Publisher's virtual meeting 14 June 2021.
- Three virtual meetings with Standing Committee Chairs, of which two were with SCs responsible for CT 2020/2021
- ISAG Executive Assistant Jeremy Holzner from FASS attended ex officio, three ISAG EC meetings, and all four meetings with workshop chairs.

- Planned meeting in South Africa was converted to virtual conference in 2021 and was free of charge for those with a two-year ISAG individual membership.

Membership report:

ISAG individual membership numbers were up slightly since 2010 and institutional membership are up nearly 50% since 2010.



Mikko provided an update on the current round of comparison tests.

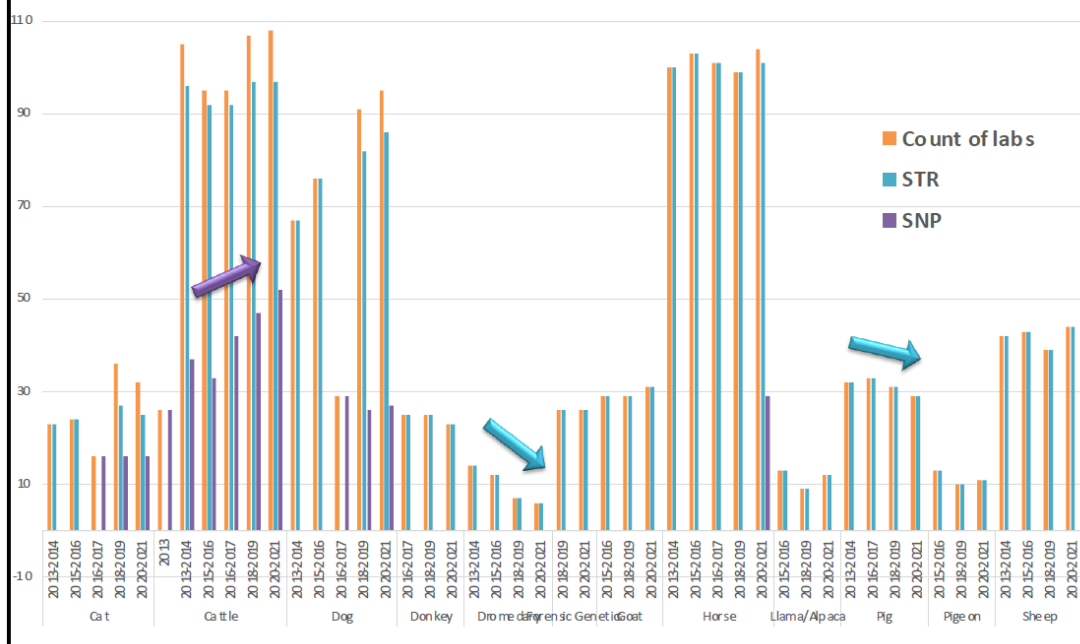
There were 12 total species, institutional membership required for both years of CT, and online application used. Those who apply late are charged an additional fee. Total of 521 CT participants with total of 589 CTs across STRs and SNPs and represents the largest participation in CTs. In total there were 33 requests for additional shipments due to shipping and other issues.

Comparison tests 2020/2021

Comparison Test 2020-2021	Count of labs	STR	SNP
Cat	32	25	16
Cattle	108	97	52
Dog	95	86	27
Donkey	23	23	-
Dromedary	6	6	-
Forensic Genetics	26	26	-
Goat	31	31	-
Horse	104	101	29
Llama/Alpaca	12	12	-
Pig	29	29	-
Pigeon	11	11	-
Sheep	44	44	-
Grand Total	521	491	124

Cattle and horse had largest number of participants at about 100 but dog is showing growth with increase of 50 since 2013-2014 CTs. SNP CT is now offered across four species including cattle, horse (trial), dog, and cat.

Number of Comparison tests 2013-2021



Update provided on future conferences

- Preparations for ISAG 2023 in Cape Town South Africa.
EOIs to organize ISAG 2025 with four submissions received.
 - Daejeon, Korea
 - Perugia, Italy
 - Wuhan China
 - Lincoln, Nebraska, USA

2021 ISAG Election results presented by Sofia Mikko.

Voter count

161 members have voted

Treasurer (2021)

157 votes for Klaus Wimmers

Secretary (2021)

157 votes for Sofia Mikko

Executive Committee (2021)

112 votes for Tosso Leeb

49 votes for Jun Heon Lee

Klaus Wimmers accepts role as new ISAG Treasurer and thanks Christian Looft for his service as ISAG Treasurer. Congratulations to Tosso Leeb in his continuing role on the ISAG EC.

Gill introduced Christian Looft to present Treasurer's report that includes report of ISAG Treasurer and financial administrator.

Christian Looff provided ISAG Treasurer's report.

Overview of balance sheet provided showing increase in ISAG increase in overall balance.

		December 31, 2020		December 31, 2019	
		€	€	€	€
Balance sheet as at December 31, 2020					
after allocation of result					
ASSETS					
CURRENT ASSETS					
Other receivables	(1)				
Other receivables			90,503		110,281
Securities	(2)		572,200		517,450
Cash and cash equivalents	(3)		127,711		32,167
TOTAL ASSETS			<u>790,414</u>		<u>659,898</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES					
EQUITY					
	(4)				
Appropriated research reserve		60,000		60,000	
Other reserves		604,903		523,793	
Appropriated fund Dr. Yoshiko Suzuki Award		<u>1,876</u>		<u>1,876</u>	
			666,779		585,669
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
	(5)				
Trade creditors		800		-	
Other liabilities		51,152		-	
Other accruals		<u>71,683</u>		<u>74,229</u>	
			123,635		74,229
TOTAL LIABILITIES			<u>790,414</u>		<u>659,898</u>

Overview of income statement provided with comparison to previous year. Income was stable with small decrease in membership income. Gift from IFAG received in the amount of 33,000 and small loss on investment. Also outlined was a 2021 profit and loss forecast.

		Forecast	
	2019	2020	2021
INCOME			
membership	91.305	86.911	100.000
Individuals			
Institutionals			
Gift from Found	16.000	33.000	19.000
Net result investments	52.240	-12.695	30.000
TOTAL	159.545	107.216	149.000
EXPENSES			
Executive Committee	7.968	5.280	5.000
FASS	19.287	9.985	25.000
Audit costs	5.340	4.410	6.000
Insurance	647	659	700
Accounting costs	4.834	3.649	4.000
Suzuki Award	2.000		
Poster awards	2.000		2.600
Notary charges	0		
Keynote Workshops	11.591		
Other general expenses	668	2.123	2.000
TOTAL	54.335	26.106	45.300
Profit	105.210	81.110	103.700

The Treasurer discussed the concept of granting discharge and defined it as “an act of a business meeting, by which it states that it does not have the intention to bring claim against the directors”. Looft has requested such a motion at past business meetings and that resulted in discussion on what the motion meant to those asked to grant such discharge. This motion will again be requested at the conclusion of the Treasure’s report.

Treasurer’s remarks concerning ISAG’s financial situation

- Pandemic had nearly no impact on ISAG finances.
- Good relation between visibility of Animal Genetics and income.
- Suzuki Award is prestigious award of 2000 Euros. Funds used to finance the award were left to ISAG by Dr. Suzuki upon her death and is given to best poster from all bursary winners. These funds are nearly depleted but EC has decided to continue with award with ISAG funding it directly.
- We have to motivate young scientists to become ISAG members
- ISAG financial situation is excellent.

Gill thanked Looft for his service to ISAG as Treasurer and asked for questions from members. Rothschild asked for explanation on the granting discharge motion. Looft explained that the discharge is to confirm that there is no concern regarding balances but does not prevent further actions if mistakes or other issues were later discovered and would not exclude illegal activities.

Motion by Chris Tuggle that the Society is granting discharge to the Treasurer and Financial Administrator. Motion seconded by Sabine Hammer. Vote was 95% in favor to 5% opposed. Motion passed.

Hans Lenstra provided ISAG Editor's report.

Editor-in-Chief Johannes A. Lenstra provided recorded report for Animal Genetics but was not available in person during the general business meeting.

Lenstra provides journal statistics on AGE submissions and impact factor. Impact factor now stands at 3.17 from a low of 1.8 in 2017 and is higher than main competitors JABG and GSE and submission are at an all-time high at over 400 for 2020.



Lenstra outlines mission of AGE as a society journal:

- Serve ISAG community – scientific support for breeding of domestic animals.
- This includes “minor” species: donkey, pigeon, several fish species, etc. for such studies, we accept the low impact factor of such studies.
- This includes also well cited minireviews: 30 since 2014, 14 on a domestic species which high impact factor.

Lenstra discussed open science and how it relates to AGE:

- AGE is a hybrid journal that includes an open access option for with an APC of \$3000
- Selected papers are offered with free access.

- Plan-S would be a complete open access journal but would decrease income to AGE and members may not be able to pay the higher APC.
- Data availability via public repositories: complete compliance.

Gill noted AGE is ranked 10 among journals in the agricultural animal science space and thanks Lenstra for his efforts on the journal.

Future ISAG conferences

Gill introduced Ntanganedzeni Olivia Mapholi of the South African local organizing committee with an update on the 2023 conference. Mapholi played a video showcasing what Cape Town, South Africa has to offer ISGA 2023 attendees.

Gill looks forward to meeting in person once again in 2023 and moved on to introducing ISAG conference bidders for 2025 to make their presentations followed by a nonbinding vote to gauge member interest in each location.

- The first video was from Daejeon, Korea.
- Second video was from Perugia, Italy.
- Third video was from Wuhan, China.
- Fourth video was from Lincoln, Nebraska, USA.

Gill thanked all bidders and asked members to vote on their preference noting that the ISAG EC will take this nonbinding vote into consideration when selecting the location of the 2025 conference.

Results:

- 59% in favor of Daejeon, Korea
- 33% in favor of Perugia, Italy
- 5% in favor of Wuhan, China
- 3% in favor Lincoln, Nebraska, USA

Other businesses

Gill turned meeting over to Sofia Mikko for other business of the society.

The Microbiomes committee represented by Claire Rogel-Gaillard. This committee has now held three workshops and qualifies for standing committee status under the name Microbiomes.

Motion by Claire Rogel-Gaillard to approve Microbiomes as an ISAG standing committee. Motion seconded by Sabine Hammer. Motion passed unanimously.

Mikko introduced Leslie Lyons to present motion on development of a working group entitled “Genetic Testing Standardization for Animals”

Working group charge would be to facilitate the exchange of ideas and materials that enhance communication and the accuracy of genetic testing from the membership providers to the animal communities and breed groups they service.

The working group will explore and develop standards for the animal genetic service providers regarding pre- and post-assay industry expectations, including breed and marker nomenclatures, facilitation of gene / disease / phenotypic ontologies, and consistencies in genetic service reporting.

The working group will encourage participation from all species participating in ISAG comparison testing, members from any standing committee as well as other interested members and parties.

The working group will seek advice from non-ISAG groups interested in improving the standards for genetic testing services in animals.

The expectation is the working group will become a future ISAG standing committee.

Motion by Leslie Lyons to develop working group titled Genetic Testing Standardization for Animals. Motion seconded by Tosso Leeb. Motion passed unanimously.

Gill asks for any other business.

Leslie Lyons brought up suggestion that ISAG CT certificates include type of assay used by the lab and asked if it would be possible. Gill asked Mikko to investigate this request and Mikko noted any such inclusion would have to be uniform and applicable for parentage but not the genetic tests and Lyons noted it could be for both but would need further discussion which Mikko will oversee.

Recordings from the virtual conference will be available for 3 months following conference.

Gill adjourns general business meeting at 8:17 am CDT.