

MINUTES FOR INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING; 21 JULY 2017, DUBLIN, IRELAND

Approximately 90 individuals in attendance.

In Attendance for the Executive Committee: James Kijas (President), Ingrid Olsaker (Secretary), Christian Looft, (Treasurer), Stephen Moore, Noelle Cockett, Clare Gill, Martien Groenen, Romy Morrin-O'Donnell (local organizer of the 2017 Dublin conference, Ex-officio), and Hans Lenstra (Editor in Chief, Ex-officio)

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); WB = Wiley Blackwell; LOC=Local Organizing Committee (of Conference).

James Kijas called meeting to order at 11:32 am. Kijas noted that only individual member of ISAG are eligible to vote.

POSTER AWARDS

James Kijas invites Noelle Cockett on stage to announce the Suzuki Award and Poster Awards. Noelle Cockett oversaw the poster judging process. Almost 300 posters requested to participate in the poster contest and 27 judges assisted. Each judge was assigned approximately 25 posters. Travel bursary posters judged as part of the overall competition and for the Suzuki Award. Noelle Cockett displays list of judges and thanks them for their service.

Poster Judges

Cynthia Bottema	Wansheng Liu
Daniel Bradley	Joan Lunney
Fiona Buchanan	Hideyuki Mannen
Daniel Ciobanu	Fiona McCarthy
Emily Clark	Stephanie McKay
Shannon Clarke	Sofia Mikko
Richard Crooijmans	Michelle Mousel
Christopher Davies	Brenda Murdoch
Clare Gill	Claire Rogel-Gaillard
Elisabetta Giuffra	Teruaki Tozaki, mac
Olivier Hanotte	Mick Watson
Bjorn Hoyheim	Stephen White
Hasan Khatib	Klaus Wimmers
Tosso Leeb	

Winner of the **2017 Suzuki Award** is **Marie-Christine Bartens** for the abstract titled, “*Polymorphism in TLR2 in different dairy cattle breeds suggest immune functional modulation (MT163).*”

Noelle Cockett announces the 13 winners of the poster competition:

- Artur Gurgul, National Research Institute of Animal Production, Poland
- Taichiro Ishige, Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan
- Wioleta Drobik-Czwarono, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Poland
- Julia Metzger, University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover Foundation, Germany
- Wengang Zhang, Chinese Academy of Agriculture Science, China
- Deborah Velez-Irizarry, Michigan State University, USA
- Kyle Schachtschneider, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA
- Christine Wurmser, TUM, Germany
- Marta Verdugo, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
- Kimberly Davenport, University of Idaho, USA
- Jana Sochorova, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
- Nima Rafati, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Ankita Sharma, University Institute of Engineering & Technology, India

Noelle Cockett noted the judges had a difficult time selecting the winners within their section and even asked to include more. This year’s posters were of very high quality.

GBM

James Kijas takes stage and proceeds to approve minutes of business meeting 2016 in Salt Lake City, Utah. No feedback received and request for motion was made.

Motion to approve 2016 business meeting minutes made by Joan Lunney. Motion second by member in attendance (*name unknown*). Motion carries.

In Memoriam

Cees Buys, a long standing member of ISAG, passed away in 2017. James Kijas asks for others from the floor with no others brought forward. Moment of Silence observed in honor of Cees Buys.

ISAG Fellows

James Kijas announces two new Fellows of the Society who are Ernest Bailey and Joan Lunney. Bios are read for each new Fellow and each were presented with a plaque.

Constitution

Changes were sent to membership by email and comments were received from four members. The constitution and requested changes were discussed at the EC meeting on July 16, 2017.

ISAG is registered in the Netherlands and must follow Dutch law. Constitution was written in Dutch and translated to English so includes some minor translation issues that will be addressed.

The changes requested are listed below:

Amendments for the distributed text for the Constitution of the Society:

Article 4 - Members / Institutions

Old:

3.
 - a. Honorary members of the Society are natural persons ~~who upon recommendation of the Executive Committee have been appointed by the general meeting as such in respect of special services rendered to the Society or in the furtherance of its objects.~~
 - b. A decision ~~to elect~~ a person Honorary member requires ~~a majority of no less than~~ two-thirds of the ~~valid~~ votes cast irrespective of the number of members ~~present in person or represented having the right to vote at the meeting.~~
 - c. ~~Except for the provisions set out hereinafter in Article 8 paragraph 3, Honorary members have no financial obligations towards of the Society.~~

New:

3.
 - a. Honorary members of the Society are natural persons ~~with status with respect to the purpose of the Society, who have been elected by the general meeting on the recommendation of the executive committee.~~
 - b. A decision ~~to appoint~~ a person to Honorary member requires ~~at least two-thirds~~ of the votes cast, irrespective of the number ~~of members entitled to vote present or represented at the general business meeting.~~
 - c. Honorary members have the right to vote and are appointed for life. Subject to the provisions of Article 8 paragraph 3 below, honorary members do not have financial obligations towards the Society.

A new award was added called Fellows of the Society and description of this has been added to the constitution for approval:

Newly inserted to Constitution of Society:

4.
 - a. Fellows of the Society are individuals that have been members of the Society for a minimum of 10 years and in good standing who, by virtue of their extraordinary achievement for the Society, have been nominated by the membership and elected by the executive committee.
 - b. A decision to appoint a person as a fellow requires a majority of votes from the executive committee members.
 - c. Fellows are elected for life and do not have privileges.

General changes also being made related to translation issues but of note are to change "House rules" to "Bylaws".

Motion to accept changes of constitution as presented made by Keith Ballingall. Motion seconded by Stephen Moore. Motion carries with two opposed.

Max Rothschild noted that there was no discussion in the meeting and that honorary members should be able to be nominated by the membership and not just the EC.

Ernest Baily would like to see the full document before approving. He also suggested a committee should be appointed to review and draft changes. James Kijas noted that an *ad hoc* committee has been formed to draft the bylaws for approval. The present approval is for the constitution changes and not for the bylaws to be drafted for future dissemination and approval.

Secretary's report

James Kijas invited Ingrid Olsaker on stage to present the *Secretary's report*:

Activities of Board

Telephone/web conferences:

- September 12, 2016: Executive Committee. Discussion on the 2019 conference.
- November 22, 2016: President, Treasurer and Secretary (Board). Discussion on conference issues 2017 and 2019.
- January 6, January 12, February 1, 2017: Board members and MCI, LOC, Weatherbys representatives.
Discussions on the Dublin conference and budget.

Numerous email messages:

Board members, Financial Administrator, Dublin conference organizers. Discussions on the Dublin conference and budget.

Meetings:

Publishers meeting + Board meeting May 22 - 23, 2017 in Oxford UK, President, Treasurer, Secretary + Financial Administrator at board meeting and Editor in Chief at publishers meeting

Executive Committee Meeting, July 16, 2017 Dublin, Ireland

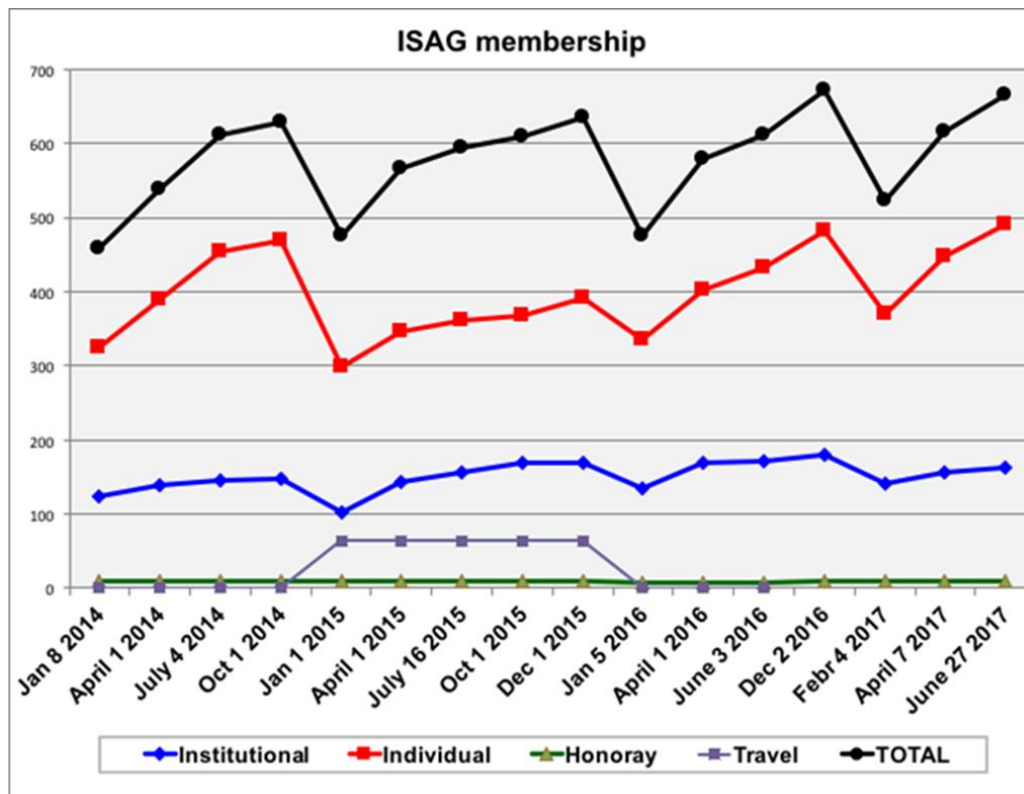
Meeting with committee and workshop chairs, July 21, 2017, Dublin, Ireland. Treasurer, Secretary, ISAG Executive Assistant, C. Gill (EC) and most workshop chairs

ISAG / IFAG matters handled by email:

Selection of conference site for 2021: Bids received from South Africa, Belarus and France.

Memorandum of understanding (MoU) document for 2019 will be signed. The MoU describes the duties and tasks of ISAG and of the organizers.

Membership numbers:



Comparison tests:

2015-2016:

- Cattle (SNP and STR), Horse, Sheep, Goat, Cat, Dog, Dromedary, Alpaca/llama and Pigeon (STR)
- No test for Pig
- Online submission of application forms and online reporting of typing result
- Computing by FASS

2016-2017:

- Cattle (SNP and STR), Horse, Donkey and Pig (STR), Cat and Dog trial tests for use of SNP
- No other tests
- Horse had a trial SNP test as well but organized outside of ISAG at no cost to Horse SNP participants.

Shipment of samples:

- One courier account at FedEx.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS

- Participants invoiced for sample handling and shipping after application deadline.
- DNA samples received after payment of the sample handling invoice.
- FASS provided forms and shipping documents to duty laboratories

Second shipments:

- Demand time, resources and money
- Discussing new shipment process

Online reporting of typing results:

- Excel templates based on previous tests provided by Standing Committees + duty lab
- Information on deadlines should be only on the web.
- Standing committees need to be specific, accurate and in time for the next tests.
- FASS act as computing laboratory

Liability:

The Rules and Policy documents accepted by participants. One request for some small changes

Tentative deadlines for 2018 - 2019 proposed.

Animal Forensic trial test organized by the “Animal Forensic Genetics Committee”

Notes on the new contract with Wiley

- Signed in 2016
- Ten years duration
- No fee for online access to Animal Genetics for individual ISAG members
- Institutional ISAG members need to have ordinary subscriptions as for non-members

James Kijas asks for questions or comments in regards to secretary's report with none asked.

James Kijas invites the Treasurer Christian Looft to present the financial report. Christian provided an overview of *ISAG financial situation*.

BALANCE of ISAG (December 31, 2016)

ASSETS

FIXED ASSETS (1) 0

CURRENT ASSETS

Other receivables (2) 112.053

Securities (3) 338.228

Cash (4) 52.238 Ad (1) No equipment, no real estate

----- Ad (2) To be received from Foundation; Deposit in FASS; Loan to Organisers next Conference,
prepaid costs

502.519

===== Ad (3) Shares and Bonds

EQUITY and LIABILITIES

Ad (4) Cash

EQUITY

Ad (5) Pure , net owned money. This includes remaining from Suzuki Award (€ 5876)

Other reserves (5) 407.997

Ad (6) Duties to be paid, (short term debts) and money received too early: Accountancy re 2016;
Banking costs december 2016; Membership fees for 2017 , officially not yet owned.

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Other liabilities (6) 94.522

502.519

=====

certified by Schuiteman Accountants, Netherlands



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS

Profit and Loss Account-ISAG		
	2015	2016
INCOME		
membership	total 79512	91.109
Individuals	15.902	
Institutionals	63.610	
Gift from Foundation	0	37.500
Net result investments	12.267	25.922
TOTAL	91.779	154.531
EXPENSES		
Executive Committee	27.399	35.412
FASS	14.207	20.257
journal	7.724	7.853
accountancy	5.679	5.824
Insurance	769	637
Students	0	
Suzuki Award	0	2.000
Poster awards	0	2.254
Support ISAG members	0	
FASS support for Dublin	0	0
net result investment		
miscellaneous		
TOTAL	55.778	74.237
Profit	36.001	80.294

The financial situation is excellent

Two conferences in consequent years will lead to a deficit in 2017

Income from investments are stable

Support our journal!!!!

Membership fees will be the same

Christian Looft concludes main portion of financial report and asked for questions or comments. There were none.

Christian Looft provides a more in detail financial review of the comparison test. Notes that costs from FASS handling computing has not increased the overall cost of CTs since computing labs in previous CTs were also paid.

COSTS RELATED TO COMPARISON TESTs 2016/2017 (n= 221/287)						
			all-in EURO			
INCOME				EXPENSES		
Payment for <u>shipment</u> :			16.000	General		2.500
				<u>Invoicing</u>		2.570
				<u>Shipment</u>		3.500
				Courier (FEDEX)		24.000
				Computing		2500
				<u>Duty labs</u>		22.000
			<u>16.000</u>			<u>57.070</u>

Future of Comparison Tests as discussed in the EC

Reduction of the deficit!!!!

New handling-fee: EUR 75 / USD 85

Strengthen the procedures

- shipments and related administration

- support of duty labs by establishing a central distribution of DNA-samples. Cecilia Penedo asks question regarding handling fee and what exactly was supposed to cost in relation to that fee in previous tests. Costs are being decreased elsewhere that could financially support CT expenses.

Using a central distribution lab should reduce costs since duty labs would provide all DNA samples to the central lab who then will distribute to all CT participants. Concern is that this change may only benefit the society and not the participants. Christian Looft noted that it is a responsibility to guarantee the

financial viability of the Society. Money from institutional memberships should also contribute to the overall goals of the Society and not just supporting the CTs.

Notes that EC has received letter from Standing Committees regarding CTs and the letter will be reviewed and responded to but not at this GBM.

Luis Cancela asks why income from institutional membership fees is not used to support to CTs. Christian Looft believes that those funds should **also** contribute to the overall support of the society.

ISAG is attempting to streamline the CT sample process with other views included and discussion will go on beyond this meeting. Organizing CTs is a very complex and time consuming activity and there is hope to increase efficiencies.

Motion that the society is granting discharge to the treasurer and financial administrator made by Ernie Bailey. Motion seconded by Clare Gill. Motion carries.

James Kijas retakes stage and notes importance of standing committees and their involvement in the conference.

Changes at the request of standing committees:

In the past the pig comparison test was organized by the Pig Genetics and Genomics committee. The results of this year's pig comparison test were, on request of the "pig" committee discussed within the "Applied Genetics and Genomics in other Species of Economic Interest" workshop. And during this workshop the following motion was accepted:

"Future Pig comparison tests will be organized by the Applied Genetics and Genomics in other Species of Economic Interest committee and discussed within their workshop."

The ISAG-FAO committee also had changes but no one from the committee were present to provide details.

James Kijas invites Hans Lenstra, AGE Editor in Chief, to stage to present *Editor's report*:

Our position, strengths

- Society Journal: commitment of reviewers and Editors
- High quality reviews
- Reasonably fast: average time to first decision 24 days.
- Selective: 34% to peer review
- Consistent policy
- Automatic check of plagiarism
- Since 2015: online only: free full color figures

- Excellent technical editing and copy-editing
- Hybrid Open Access OA: USD 3000
- Public availability of published datasets
- Revenues for ISAG

Weak points

- Decreasing impact, now at 1.8 but stabilizing
- Effect of a few highly cited reviews disappeared
- Emergence of Open Access and/or genomic journals
- Will change if present trend towards Open Access continues

Our scope and target

- Adjustments depending on progress of science and number of submissions 34% of submissions sent out for peer review.
- Read the Authors' Guidelines!
- Impact does not reflect the general quality of our papers, but a relatively low number of highly cited papers
- On the short term, a fancy journal will boost your career
- On the long term, better be well cited in Animal Genetics than not cited at all in Nature!

Data availability

- Allows reproducing data and meta-analysis: BIG DATA
- Dedicated databases:
 - nucleotide sequence db, Ensemble Variation Archive, animalQTLdb, animalgenome.org
- For other data, Dryad, FigShare
 - Exceptions after consulting Editor-in-Chief:
 - Consortium data
 - Data from breeding company: restricted access
- Accession codes to be provided during submission
- How do other journals handle this?
 - Mandatory data availability often not enforced

Question regarding data availability: Statements are hit or miss and some papers do not include one when it is obvious that they should. Is there a formal policy and how is that enforced? Journal does not have a data availability subsection but is enforced by the EIC at his discretion. If authors are unwilling to share data after agreeing to the paper could be withdrawn.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS

Modernization

Wiley just announced a web-oriented user-friendly manuscript processing and a more modern journal design.

Election Results reviewed by James Kijas. Ingrid Olsaker and Noelle Cockett have served maximum terms allowed and were not up for reelection.

Secretary (2017)

59 votes for Clare Gill

73 votes for Sofia Mikko

Treasurer (2017)

131 votes for Christian Looft

Executive Committee (2017)

41 votes for Tosso Leeb

39 votes for Leslie Lyons

19 votes for David MacHugh

33 votes for Chris Tuggle

TOTAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP VOTES: 132

The new members of the EC are those noted in bold and red above

James Kijas thanks Noelle Cockett for her contribution to the EC and the society.

FUTURE CONFERENCES

Spain 2019 Conference Presentation given by Romi Pena

-Meeting will take place on July 7-12, 2019 in Lleida, Spain.

-Will use convention center for meeting due to limited space at university.

Conference Invitations for 2021 have been requested from the membership and there is interest from three groups:

-Minsk (Belarus)

-Toulouse (France)

-South Africa

Representatives from Minsk, Belarus were not available to present at business meeting but provided a slide. Representatives from both France and South Africa were at the GBM and each provided a brief presentation for the membership to consider as the location of 2021 ISAG conference.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS

Motion from ISAG EC to charge the ISAG EC with making a decision on the 2021 meeting location by Mid-2018. Motion carries with one opposed.

Ernie Bailey asks Toulouse if 1000 participants could be accommodated in Toulouse France. Auditorium for 500 but a room set for 1200 people is available for plenary sessions.

South Africa had workshop rooms for 500 but auditoriums can hold more people.

There is no formal ISAG policy regarding repeating venues or countries. There had been an informal policy to try and not repeat venues but it depends on the proposals received. This was in relation to countries and not continents.

Informal show of hands on preferred 2021 location requested by James Kijas. Results: Belarus 0, France 11 and South Africa 38 hands.

Remarks on the future of ISAG and process to move forward:

- Main goals to be determined
- Actions required to achieve those goals
- Benefit for the membership
- Process by email with 2018 EC debate.
- Results presented at 2019 business meeting.

Other business requested and none brought forward.

James Kijas thanks the local organizers for a very successful and enriching meeting.

James Kijas calls Christian Looft to stage to thank Ingrid Olsaker for her service to the EC and the society with special slide and presents her with a certificate noting her service from 2010-2017 and asks those in attendance to thank her.

James Kijas adjourns meeting at 1:34 PM