



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS

MINUTES FOR INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL GENETICS GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

July 28, 2024 Virtual via Zoom and Daejeon, South Korea

Approximately 31 individuals attended. Attendance fluctuated from 21-31 during meeting.

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); STRV=Short Term Research Visits.

1. Opening and welcome

Tuggle called meeting to order at 7:01 CDT on Friday, June 28, 2024. Reminded attendees that meeting is being recorded. Jun Heon Lee in attendance as chair of the 2025 LOC.

2. Approval of minutes of the virtual General Business Meeting (July 7, 2023)

Motion by Wimmers to approve business meeting minutes from July 7, 2023. Seconded by Looft. Motion passed by show of hands.

3. Secretary's report

Sofia Mikko presents the Secretary Report and review current Executive Committee.

New board member holding the Early Career Scientist position is Dr. Josue Chinchilla-Vargas. Mikko introduced Chinchilla-Vargas and he eh provided a brief statement.

Currently serving ISAG Executive Committee:

President

Christopher Tuggle: serving second term on EC 2023-2027

Treasurer

Klaus Wimmers: serving first term 2021-2025

Secretary

Sofia Mikko: serving second term 2021-2025

Executive Committee Members

Tosso Leeb: serving second term 2021-2025

Sabine Hammer: serving second term 2023-2027

Leslie Lyons: serving first term 2023-2027
Richard Crooijmans: serving first term 2023-2027

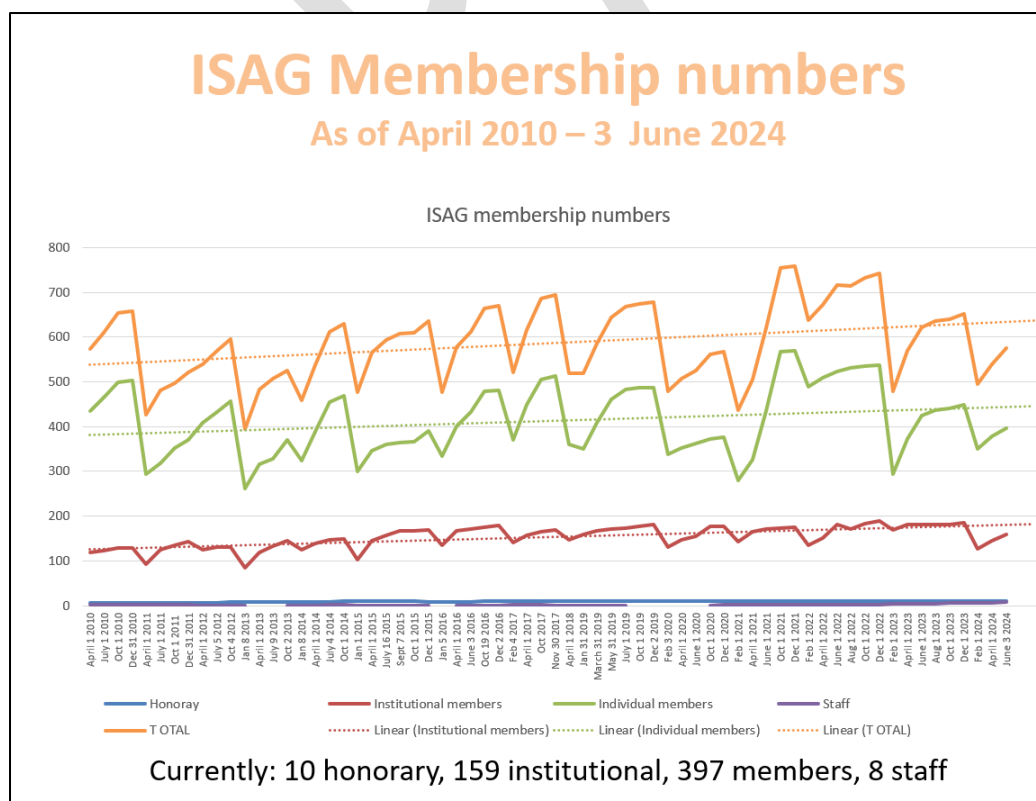
Early Career Scientist on ISAG EC

- A result from the ISAG Future survey
- ISAG EC decided to include an Early Career Scientist (ECS) as an EC member.
- Nominations were accepted during spring 2024, and the web-based member voting closed 15 May 2024.
- The winner is Dr. Josue Chinchilla-Vargas, Breeding Insight, Cornell University, Ithaca, USA

Meeting schedule since GBM2023:

- Annual Business Meeting 7 July 2023, Cape Town on-site – minutes on ISAG website
- Two ISAG Executive Committee
- Two IFAG Board meetings
- One IFAG meetings with South Africa LOC
- IFAG & Publisher's meeting in Weinheim, Germany, 14 June 2024
- Numerous emails

ISAG Membership numbers (April 2010-June 2, 2024)



Future ISAG Conferences:

- ISAG2025 in Daejeon, Korea, 21-25 July
- Preparations for ISAG2027
 - Perugia, Italy
 - Krakow, Poland

4. Treasurer's report

Mikko introduces Klaus Wimmers to present Treasurer's report.

Income statement shows positive increase due to investment performance.

No gift from foundation in 2023 or 2024. In 2023 IFAG funded large number of bursaries.

Short term research visits (STRV) is a new program by ISAG and will have impact on future financials to fund the program. Announced in April 2024.

May spend more money than revenue by up to half a million euros on conference and to promote early career researchers.

ISAG Balance sheet as at December 31, 2023

Draft Annual Report, Schuiteman Audit & Assurance B.V., June 25, 2024

- Assets continue to grow slightly
- ISAG's financial status continues to be very good

| | Dec,2021 [Euro] | Dec,2022 [Euro] | Dec, 2023 [Euro] |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| current assets | | | |
| other accounts receivable | 225,224 | 149,613 | 355,161 |
| securities | 639,482 | 575,722 | 630,764 |
| cash and cash equivalents | 22,972 | 266,346 | 21,117 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 887,678 | 972,681 | 1,007,042 |
| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES | | | |
| equity | | | |
| appropriated research reserve | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 |
| other reserves | 731,430 | 801,487 | 861,983 |
| appropriated fund Dr. Yoshiko Suzuki | 1,876 | 1,876 | 1,876 |
| Sum | 793,306 | 863,363 | 923,859 |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| trade creditors | 6,118 | 1,915 | 1,211 |
| other liabilities | 88,254 | 107,403 | 81,972 |
| other accruals | | | |
| Sum | 94,372 | 109,318 | 83,183 |
| Balance | 887,678 | 972,681 | 1,007,042 |

Profit and loss Account

| | 2021 [Euro] | 2022 [Euro] | 2023 [Euro] | forecast 2023 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| INCOME | | | | |
| membership fees | 95,075 | 101,621 | 95,810 | 90,000 |
| gift from foundation | 19,000 | 54,847 | - | |
| net results investments | 41,575 | -51,434 | 35,447 | 35,000 |
| SUM | 155,650 | 105,034 | 131,257 | 125,000 |
| EXPENSES | | | | |
| executive committee | 5,304 | 16,752 | 7,666 | 20,000 |
| FASS | 11,163 | 9,678 | 21,116 | 15,000 |
| audit costs | 4,573 | 4,755 | 5,696 | 6,000 |
| insurance | 726 | 726 | 709 | 1,000 |
| accounting costs | 2,605 | 2,252 | 1,875 | 3,000 |
| other general expenses | 2,114 | 814 | 856 | 2,500 |
| Plenary Invited speakers | | | 23,248 | - |
| Poster & Suzuki awards, workshop keynotes | | | 9,595 | - |
| STRV | | | | 50,000 |
| SUM expenses | 26,485 | 34,977 | 70,761 | 97,500 |
| TOTAL Profit | 129,165 | 70,057 | 60,496 | 27,500 |

Remarks, News and further plans

- The financial situation of the ISAG remains very good. The assets continue to grow slightly.
- 75% of our capital invested in fixed-rate bonds and 25% in stocks:
- The primary goal is to maintain the value of the entire portfolio while minimizing risks.
- Consensus to allow expenses to exceed revenues, up to a minimum balance of approximately €500,000. In particular, measures to promote early career researchers should be supported. This balance would serve to secure future conferences and, if necessary, provide guarantees or compensate for any potential losses associated with future conferences.

Short-term Research Visits (STRV): announced in April 2024

- ISAG supports Short-Term Research Visits (STRV), allowing ISAG members to visit affiliated laboratories or institutes abroad for up to six months.
- Objectives: Facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration among researchers worldwide. Support young scientists in advancing their research careers. Promote publications in Animal Genetics. Utilize ISAG's financial resources to support its mission effectively

- Conditions: Applicants, sending institutions/PIs, and host institutions/PIs must be current ISAG members. Sending institutions/PIs, and host institutions/PIs must be in two different countries (support cannot be used for a student to visit a lab within the same country).
- Amendments, clarification: Applicants (travelling researchers) must have received their PhD no more than five years prior to the STRV application. Publications in ANIMAL GENETICS resulting from STRV activities are exempt from open access fees

5. Editor's report

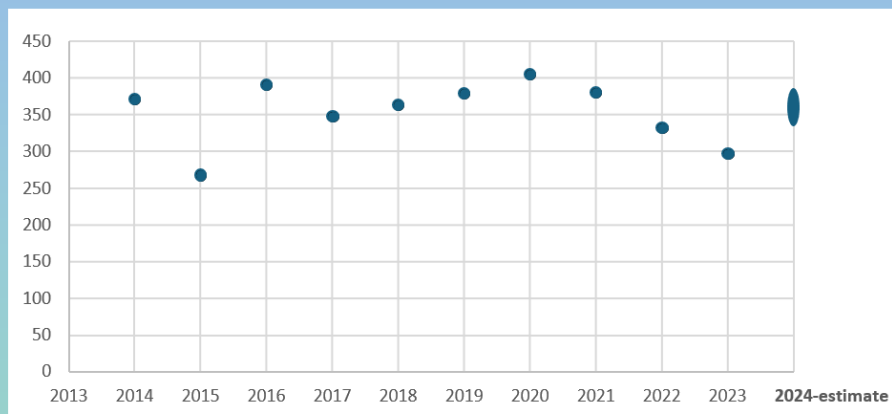
Mikko introduces Hans Lenstra to present editor's report. Provides agenda for his report but notes no update on AI.

Submissions are down but not explanation as to why but submissions are up so far in 2024. China represents half of all submissions. Pie graphs show breakdown of submissions and acceptances by country.

OA is expected to result in higher citations.

Statistics: Submissions.

Submissions



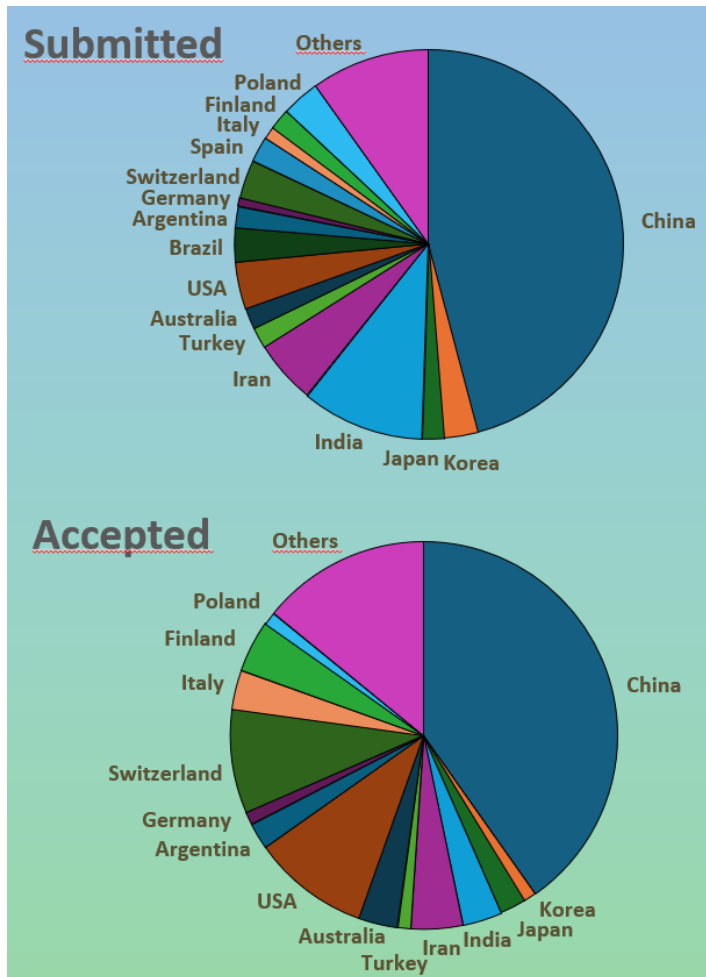
- After a top of 405 in 2020, a decrease to 296 in 2023, but probably more submissions in 2024
- Too many other journals (Frontiers, MDPI, etc.); no Open Access

Lyons asked if ISAG community can assist in lobbying Wiley on moving to OA. Lenstra suggests emails to Wiley saying they both like and want OA.

Lyons asked what percent of submitted/accepted papers are from ISAG members. Lenstra was not sure of that number. There will be a reduced APC for ISAG members and APC is

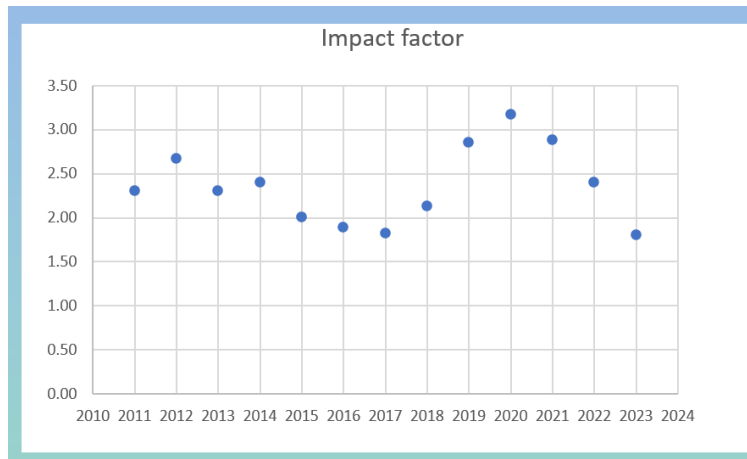
more than membership it would make financial sense to join to get the APC member discount. Lyons suggests encouraging authors to join ISAG to receive discount.

Statistics: Countries of submitters



- Per country: stable distribution
- Acceptance rate:
 - Western > Asian countries
 - China, Korea, Japan > India, Iran
- Trend: several uninvited broad reviews by 'outsiders' scientists from Turkey, Iran, India

Statistics: Impact Factor



- No Open Access (OA → 40% more citations)
- A few years ago a few well-cited reviews
- We want to provide a publishing forum also for minor species (camels, buffaloes, fishes, etc.), which will not attract many citations

Editorial Policy

Scope (see Authors' Guidelines)

- De-emphasized: immunogenetics
- Now broader than livestock: also wildlife, laboratory animals
Multi-omics, epigenetics (not many submissions)
- Genomic selection? (bordering on our expertise)
- Microbiomes
- Not: human genetics, oncogenetics, purely developmental biology

Trends

- Not anymore: single-gene association studies (population stratification!);
microsatellite diversity
- Hopefully: more GWAS studies followed up by candidate-gene analysis
- Long-read sequencing, T2T genomes, pangenomes
 - large (Mbp) structural variations not identified by short-read WGS
 - We will no longer consider short-read based SV papers
- Transcriptomes with substantial individual variation: conceptual progress?
- Also, manuscripts with epigenetic data
- Hardly any submissions on gene editing.

Manuscript Processing

- Data availability: generally complied. Via MTA for commercial or consortium data and in case of legal obstacles
- **Streamlining of submission**
 - Free formatting: almost no formatting requirements at first submission
 - Free, but uniform format for literature references
 - Coming: ReX, automatic extraction of required data during submission
 - Coming: Research Exchange replacing ScholarOne Manuscript?
 - Outside scope: referral to/transferred from Wiley journals (JABG)
 - Continuous publication: as soon as possible publication ahead of print

Minireviews, special issues, virtual issues

- Since 2014: 47 minireviews/60 issues; 18 on invitation; increasing our impact; proposals are welcome
- Special issues on functional adaptation, AI-phenomics, gene editing: not enough submissions. Functional adaptation, AI-phenomics → virtual issue
- Recently: virtual issue with Veterinary Ophthalmology of genetic eye diseases

Near Future: Open Access, Artificial Intelligence

- We are now a 'hybrid' journal with ~40% of the papers Open Access (OA)
- In most countries Article Processing Charge covered by Transformational agreements (government pays for Read & Publish). Some agreements do not cover full Open Access journals: Portugal, Greece, Netherlands, Switzerland
- No agreements with China (!) and Brazil, but China is OA friendly (61%)
- No costs for developing countries
- The ISAG community is craving for OA!
- "Flip" to OA per January 1, 2025 postponed by our publisher. Reasons
 - Drop in submissions: this trend as already reversed
 - Decrease of IF: will decrease more if we do NOT go to OA
 - 40% Chinese papers, not covered by TA: China OA friendly
- We will urge for OA ASAP and accept a temporal decrease of our income

Groenen surprised by no papers on structured variance in AG. Some papers are received but very few of this type or where that is the main focus of the paper.

Khatib in chat notes it would be nice to send reminders to ISAG community to submit manuscripts to AG.

Ubong asked what was meant by immunogenetics de-emphasized. Popular in the past but with whole-genome sequenced these types of papers are not as popular as ISAG community work on other subjects.

Lyons notes she is forming new committee with ISAG and hopes to submit to journal work that may result. How often do 20+ committees do a summary of committee activities and provide a manuscript to AG (what's changed in comparison testing, etc).

216 Crooijmans comments on lower/dropping impact factor and how it could deter younger
217 authors.

218 6. 2025 Conference

219 Mikko introduces Jun Heon Lee as Chair of LOC 2025. Daejeon marketing video played and
220 he invites everyone to attend 2025 conference. Tuggle asks when additional information will
221 be forthcoming and response was in the next month.

222 7. Other Business

223 Mikko comments on comparison tests for 2024-2025 is ongoing and application forms are
224 open and deadline is July 15, 2024.

225 Lyons introduced and noted new workshop formation titled ISAG Animal Genetic Testing
226 Standardization (AGST).

227 Establishing the AGTS Committee in 2025:

228 The ISAG Animal Genetic Testing Standardization (AGTS) Standing Committee has an
229 established Variant Pathogenicity working group focused on the development of standards
230 and guidelines for the interpretation of DNA sequence variants in agricultural and companion
231 animal species. The ISAG - AGTS have and will continue to adapted the guidelines used for
232 human DNA sequence variants classifications that were developed and continually updated
233 by the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and the Association for
234 Molecular Pathology. The animal – focused standards, guidelines and resulting variant
235 classifications are supported by ISAG. Animal genetic testing services should consider the
236 variant classifications when determining if a DNA variant should be offered as a genetic test
237 and how to properly provide sufficient test interpretations and genetic counseling.

238 8. Closing

239

240 Motion to adjourn by Wimmers to adjourn. Motion seconded by Looft. Motion passes by voice
241 vote. Meeting adjourns 7:59 am CDT.