

# Minutes for International Society for Animal Genetics Annual General Business Meeting; 30 August 2022

## **Opening and welcome by the ISAG President Clare Gill**

The updated ISAG constitution stipulates an obligation to hold an Annual General Meeting (GBM) for the members of the society. This year, the GBM was held as a hybrid meeting with people attending on-site in Cape Town, and others attended via Zoom link on 30 August, 2022, at 15:00 – 16:00 h central European time (13:00 – 14:00 h UTC; 8:00 am - 9:00 pm US Central Time; 23:00 - 24:00 in Sydney, Australia). The meeting was administrated by FASS, and attendees were required to use of the Zoom client.

## **Minutes of the Virtual GBM in 2021**

The minutes are available on the ISAG website.

## **Secretary's report – Sofia Mikko**

### **Currently serving ISAG Executive Committee**

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

**Treasurer:** Klaus Wimmers, current term ends 2025, serving first term

**Secretary:** Sofia Mikko, current term ends 2025, serving second term

### **Executive Committee Members:**

- Tosso Leeb, current term ends 2025, serving second term
- 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

### **Activities of the IFAG board and ISAG Executive Committee**

The IFAG Board (President Clare Gill, Treasurer Klaus Wimmers, and Secretary Sofia Mikko) have had three scheduled web meetings, 8 March 2022, 6 April 2022 and 23 June 2022. Since the Annual Business Meeting 30 July 2021, the ISAG Executive Committee have had one scheduled web meeting, 6 May 2022. All meeting where digital, and beside these there were numerous email conversations.

### **2023 conference preparations**

All IFAG board, and EC meetings handled the planning of ISAG2023 Conference in Cape Town, South Africa.

### **2025 conference preparations**

At the Virtual Annual Business meeting 30 July 2021, Prof. Jun Heon Lee, Chungnam National University, Daejeon (South Korea), Prof. Emiliano Lasagna, University of Perugia, Perugia (Italy), Prof. Shuhong Zhao, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan (China), and Prof. Marylinn Munson, Neogen Genomics, Lincoln (Nebraska, USA) presented their preliminary bids to arrange the ISAG conference in 2025. The ISAG members voted for South Korea ISAG2025. At the ISAG EC meeting 6 May 2022, the decision was taken to proceed with the South Korean LOC as organizers of ISAG2025.

### **Editorial businesses**

Ross Houston stepped down as an Associate Editor 1 March 2022, and Pam Wiener, Roslin Institute succeeded him.

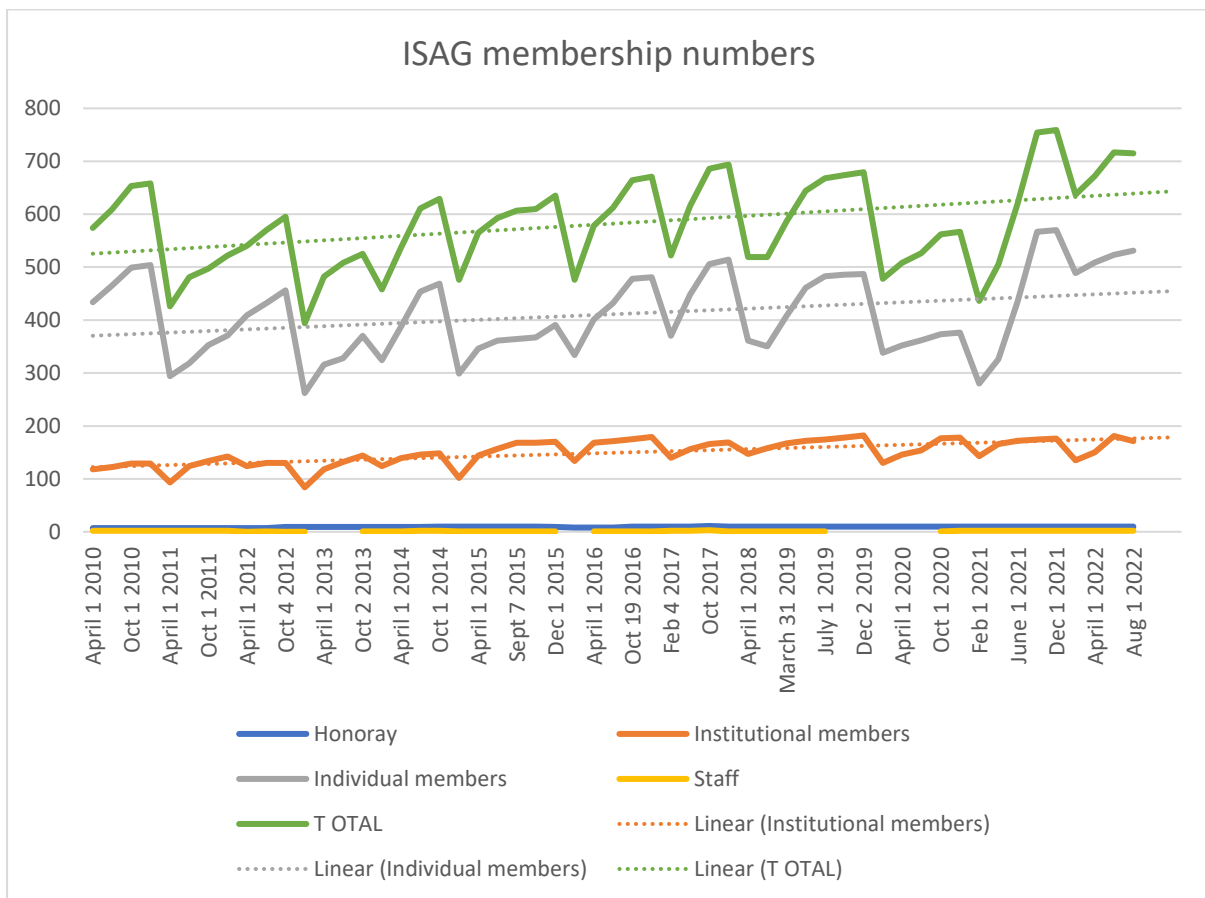
Daniel Ciobano stepped down from the Editorial Board 1 March 2022. The Editorial Board will be updated at the 2023 ISAG conference.

A publisher's meeting was held in Oxford, 11 July, 2022. Attendees were: IFAG Board (Clare Gill, Klaus Wimmers and Sofia Mikko), editor-in-chief Hans Lenstra and representatives from Wiley (Robert Heath, and Laura Soto Vasquez). Discussions about marketing, Open Access, and APC Pricing.

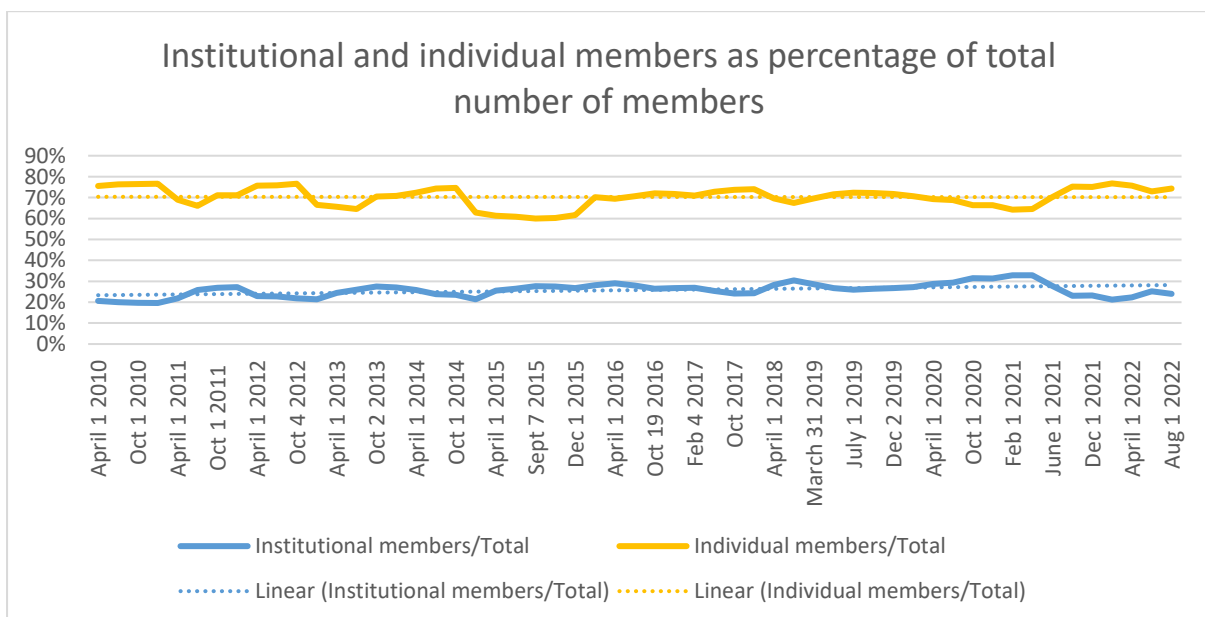
The Impact Factor of Animal Genetics is now 2.9.

### **Overview of the ISAG membership numbers**

The ISAG individual membership numbers have increasing slightly over the period April 2010 to August 2022 and represent about 75% of the total number of members. The institutional members represent about 25% of the total number of members. The number of members has steadily increased since 2010. Currently there are 10 honorary, 171 institutional, 531 members and 2 staff (Figure 1 and 2).



**Figure 1.** The ISAG membership numbers during 2010 to August 2022.



**Figure 2.** The proportion of individual and institutional ISAG members during 2010 to August 2022.

### **Comparison Test (CT) 2022/2023**

The ISAG Standing Committees offers comparison tests for the period of 2022 to 2023. Online application forms for each test were available on the ISAG website, and the deadline for applications was 15 August 2022. To participate in comparison tests, laboratories need to be paid Institutional Members of ISAG and must maintain that membership for both years of the comparison test process (2022 AND 2023). The applications are currently administrated, and the duty laboratories will be informed about the number of samples to distribute.

Committees and Duty Laboratories in the 2022-2023 CT

#### *Animal Forensic Genetics Committee*

Chair: Guillermo Giovambattista ([guillermogiovambattista@gmail.com](mailto:guillermogiovambattista@gmail.com))

#### *The 2022-2023 International Forensic Genetics DNA Typing Comparison Test*

Duty laboratory information: Torsten Brendel, Eurofins Genomics Europe Applied Genomics GmbH, Ebersberg, Germany

#### *Applied Genetics of Companion Animals Committee*

Committee chair: Peter Dovc ([Peter.Dovc@bf.uni-lj.si](mailto:Peter.Dovc@bf.uni-lj.si))

#### *The 2022-2023 International Cat (Felis catus) STR and SNP DNA Typing Comparison Test*

Duty laboratory: Robert Grahn, University of California, Davis

#### *The 2022-2023 International Dog (Canis lupus familiaris) STR and SNP DNA Typing Comparison Test*

Duty laboratory information: George Sofronidis, Orivet, Australia

#### *Cattle Molecular Markers and Parentage Testing Committee*

Committee chair: Jiansheng Qiu ([jqiu@neogen.com](mailto:jqiu@neogen.com))

#### *The 2022-2023 International Bovine (Bos taurus) STR and SNP DNA Typing Comparison Tests.*

Duty laboratory information: Emilio Lasagna, University of Perugia, Italy

#### *Equine Genetics and Thoroughbred Parentage Testing Standardization Committee*

Committee chair: Marcela Martinez ([mmartinez@sra.org.ar](mailto:mmartinez@sra.org.ar))

#### *The 2022-2023 International Horse (Equus caballus) STR and SNP DNA Typing Comparison Tests*

Duty laboratory information: Rebecca Bellone, VGL, UC Davis, USA

#### *The 2022-2023 International Donkey (Equus asinus) STR DNA Typing Comparison Test*

Duty laboratory information: Laura Patterson, Etalon Diagnostics, USA

#### *Applied Genetics and Genomics in Other Species of Economic Interest Committee*

Committee chair: Amparo Martinez ([mailto:amparomartinezuco@gmail.com](mailto:mailto:amparomartinezuco@gmail.com))

*The 2022-2023 International Llama/Alpaca (Lama glama/Vicugna pacos) STR DNA Typing Comparison Test*

Duty laboratory information: Rebecca Bellone, VGL, UC Davis, USA

*The 2022-2023 International Pig (Sus scrofa domesticus) STR DNA Typing Comparison Test*

Duty laboratory information: Rebecca Bellone, VGL, UC Davis, USA

*The 2022-2023 International Pigeon (Columba livia) STR DNA Typing Comparison Test*

Duty laboratory information: Angelika Podbielska, National Research Institute of Animal Production, Poland

*The 2022-2023 International Dromedary (Camelus dromedarius) STR DNA Typing*

Duty laboratory information: Hanaa Ahmed, Qatar Genetic Lab, Qatar

*The 2022-2023 International Sheep (Ovis aries) STR DNA Typing Comparison Tests*

Duty laboratory information: Agata Piestrzynska-Kajtoch, National Research Institute of Animal Production, Poland

*The 2022-2023 International Goat (Capra hircus) STR DNA Typing Comparison Tests*

Duty laboratory information: Clementine Rodellar, Universidad de Zaragoza, Zaragoza, Spain

## Treasurer's report – Klaus Wimmers (Treasurer), Anke Förster (Financial administrator)

### ISAG Balance sheet as of December 31, 2021, after allocation of results

Certified by Schuiteman Accountants, Netherlands

As can be seen from the balance sheet, the total assets have increased in 2021 compared to 2020.

		Dec 31, 2021	Dec 31, 2020
	[Euro]		
<b>ASSETS</b>			
current assets			
other accounts receivable		89633	90503
securities		585146	572200
cash and cash equivalents		164309	127711
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>839088</b>	<b>790414</b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>equity</b>			
appropriated research reserve		60000	60000
other reserves		633185	604903
appropriated fund Dr. Yoshiko S		1876	1876
<b>Sum</b>		<b>695061</b>	<b>666779</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
trade creditors		5516	800
other liabilities			51152
other accruals		138511	71683
Sum current liabilities		<b>144027</b>	<b>123635</b>
<b>Balance sheet</b>		<b>839088</b>	<b>790414</b>

The overview of the profit and loss account shows increased income compared to the previous year with roughly unchanged expenses. The budget for 2022 includes lower income from membership fees and increased travel expenses related to the preparation of the 2023 ISAG Conference in Cape Town for ISAG Board members.

### ISAG profit and loss account with a forecast for 2022

	2021	2020	forecast 2022
<b>INCOME</b>			
membership fees	43915	86911	50000
gift from foundation		33000	19000
net results investments	19939	11891	18000
<b>SUM</b>	<b>63854</b>	<b>131802</b>	<b>87000</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
executive committee	4904	5280	30000
FASS	11163	9985	10000
audit costs		4410	5000
insurance		659	650
accounting costs	5932	3649	5000
banking, exchange costs, trading, stock administration	8093	24586	8000
other general expenses	2840	2123	3000
<b>SUM expenses</b>	<b>32932</b>	<b>50692</b>	<b>61650</b>
TOTAL Profit	30922	81110	25350

Remarks from the Treasurer concerning financial situation of ISAG:

- the financial situation of the ISAG remains very good,
- 75% of our capital invested in fixed-rate bonds and 25% in stocks - a conservative investment strategy,
- income from membership fees is likely to increase again before the conference in 2023,
- we need to attract new (young) members,
- expenditure to promote contributions to the ISAG conference: travel bursaries, poster prizes, Suzuki Award (continued), Animal Genetics bursaries (travel bursary at a conference and subsequent publishing in Animal Genetics),
- financial support for the ISAG conference: speakers,
- conversion of Animal Genetics to an open access journal planned; will reduce income at least temporarily.

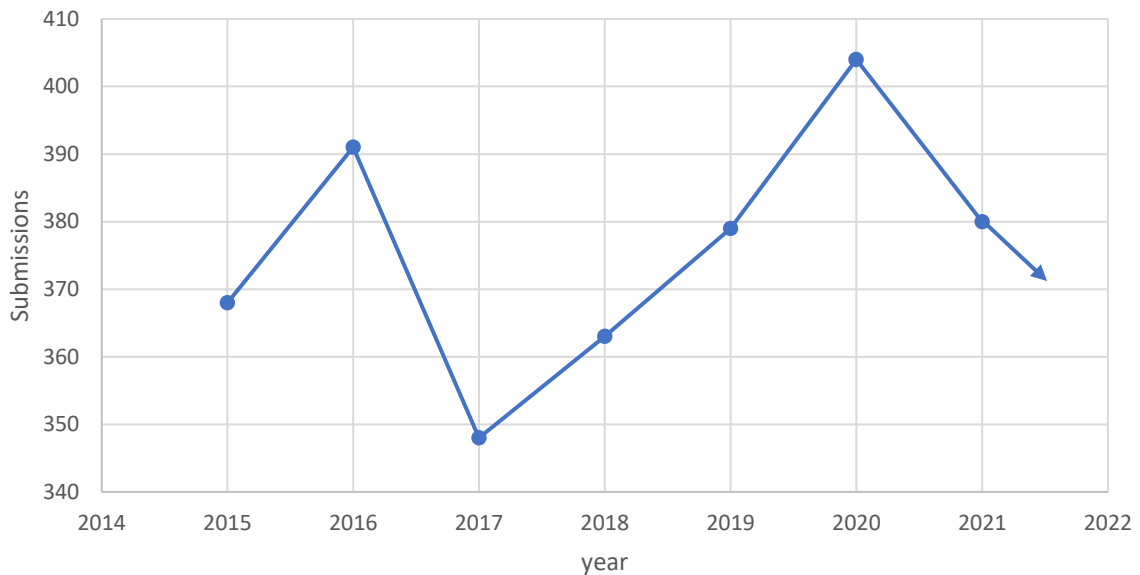
In response to a question, the Treasurer announced that in addition to the above measures to financially support the ISAG conferences and the participation of young scientists in these conferences, the Executive Board will submit a proposal on how the financial resources of the ISAG can be used to support scientific exchange between members and to promote young scientists, especially in the years without a conference. An evaluation of the membership survey will be considered.

Motion by Chris Tuggle that the Society is granting discharge to the Treasurer and Financial Administrator. Motion seconded by Martien Groenen. Motion passed.

## Editor's report – Hans Lenstra

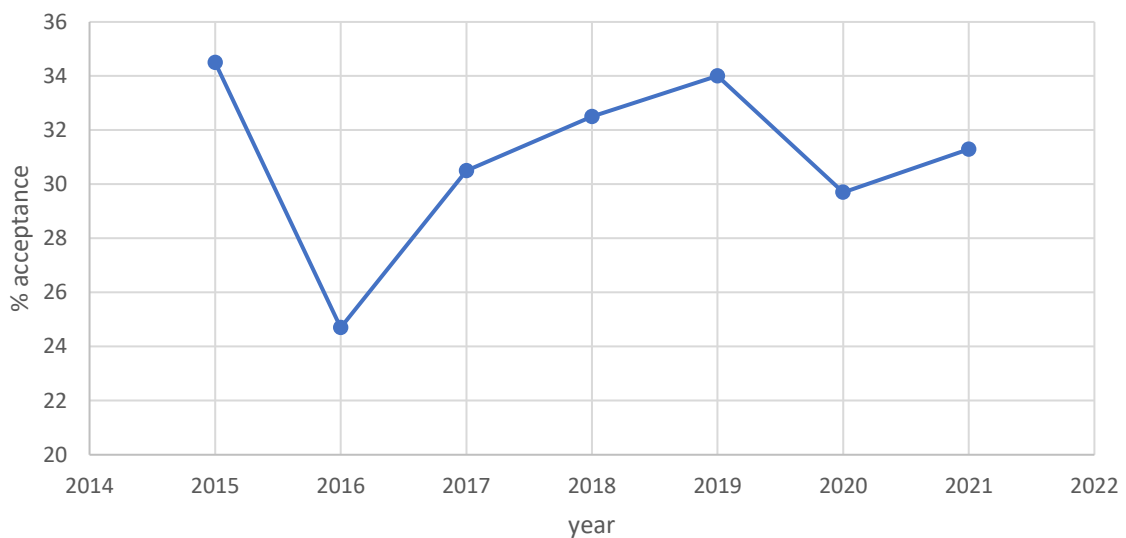
### Journal Statistics

After a peak in 2020 we see a decrease of 10% per year.



### Acceptance ratio

We have maintained our criteria for assigning manuscripts which resulted in a rejection rate close to the recommended 70%.



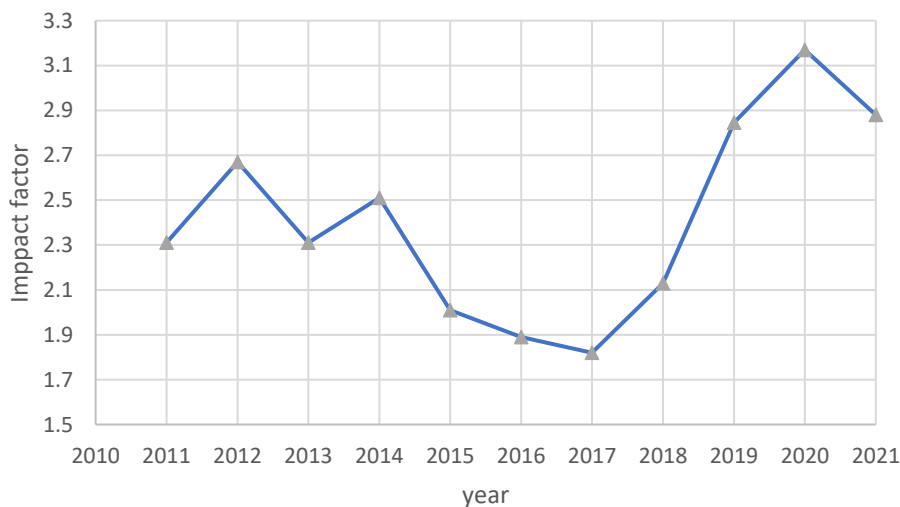


### Submissions and acceptance by country (2021)

There is no major change in our country profile. Asian countries are less successful than Western countries. China, Korea and Japan are more successful than India and Iran.

Country	Submissions (N)	% of all	Accepted (N)	% of submitted
All	380		114	31.3
China	178	46.8	46	25.8
Korea	7	1.8	2	28.6
Japan	6	1.6	2	33.3
Iran	19	5.0	1	10.5
India	24	6.3	2	8.3
Australia	10	2.6	5	50.0
USA	12	3.2	7	58.3
Germany	6	1.6	3	50.0
Switzerland	3	0.8	3	100.0
Spain	8	2.1	4	50.0
Italy	7	1.8	2	42.9
Poland	14	3.7	5	35.7
Brazil	21	5.5	9	52.4

### Impact factor



There was a slight decrease of impact factor. Minireviews are among top-cited papers. This could possibly explain the trends of the impact factor.

### Editorial work

Per March 1 2022, Ross Houston resigned as Associated Editor. The handling of manuscripts for aquatic species has been taken over by James Kijas, who handled the sheep and goat manuscripts. We appointed Paw Wiener (Roslin Institute), who now handles the sheep and goat manuscripts.

Editor	Main responsibility
Göran Andersson	horse, dogs, cats
Zhi-Qiang Du	pigs, chicken
Until March 1, 2022: Ross Houston	aquaculture, other species
James Kijas	sheep, goats → aquaculture, other species
Yuri Utsunomiya	cattle
Klaus Wimmers	functional genomics, pigs, chicken
NEW: Pam Wiener	sheep, goats

### Editorial policy

Scope, criteria for Research Articles / Short Communications / Brief Reports: See Authors' Guidelines. There were no major changes in Editorial Policy and we maintained a **stringent selection** of manuscripts to be sent out for peer review.

Adjusting stringency because of technological advance, e.g.

- long-read sequencing
- pangenomes
- clearly better definition of CNVs
- assessing SNPs and SVs in candidate genes

Should we broaden the scope to wild vertebrates, integrated -omics?

If outside scope: Rejection with referral to other Wiley journals

- To other journals: frequent for manuscript outside scope,
- From other journals: sporadically; rarely accepted.

### Manuscript processing

Data availability: general compliance 😊

- many other journals accept 'Available on request',
- recent news item: honored in <10% of requests,
- postdocs have left/emails not answered/plain refusal 😞,
- we always request public repositories 📄 except for:
  - (1) commercially owned data,
  - (2) consortium data

### 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.

### Minireviews

Since 2014: 35 minireviews/48 issues; 18 on invitation

- 13 species accounts
  - Mammals: Bovine species/zebu/water buffalo/American sheep/goat/camel/horse/dog/rabbit
  - Birds: chicken
  - Aquatic: salmon/sea bass/tilapia
  - Coming: New-world camelids/cat/African sheep

### Special issues

Open for submission thanks to Xinli Zhang (Wiley) and associate editor Zhi-Qiang Du.

#### (1) Functional genomics and annotation

Guest editors: Xiaolei Liu, Huazhong Agric. Univ; and Zhiyan Zhang, Jiangxi Agric. Univ.

#### (2) Artificial intelligence

Guest editors: Shuhong Zhao, Huazhong Agric. Univ.; and Lingzhao Fang, Copenhagen

Other possible:

- Genomic selection and causative variation?
- Pan-Genomes?
- Ancient DNA?
- Crisp-Cas genome editing

### “Flip” to Open Access (OA) being considered

We are now a ‘hybrid’ journal with a relatively high APC for OA (€ 2,500, GSE: € 1,690, IF 4.0). ~12% of authors choose for this option.

- ☺ Clear preference within and outside ISAG (Plan S)
- ☺ Requirement of funding agencies
- ☺ OA → downloaded → read → cited → higher impact
- ☺ Less affluent countries: waiving of APC
- ☺ Several countries have a Read-and-Publish ‘transformative’ agreement: OA without APC

- ☹️ Agreements may not cover OA journals or hybrid journals
- ☹️ Many countries (China) do not yet have an agreement
- ☹️ Our income would be ~60-70% of our present income

## 2025 Conference

The LOC for the ISAG conference 2025 in Korea gave a presentation.



### 01 Why Korea & Daejeon?

#### Why Daejeon?

- 1 **A Mecca for research centers (Animal breeding and genetics)**
  - Hanwoo (Korean cattle) Improvement Center, Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology (KRIBB), ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (in Sejong city)
- 2 **Perfect destination for successful conferences**
  - Fully equipped convention infrastructure
- 3 **Historical and cultural city**
  - UNESCO world heritage site (Baekje Dynasty)
- 4 **Strong financial and administrative supports**
  - Daejeon Metropolitan City, Korea Tourism Organization and others

### 01 Why Korea & Daejeon?

#### KSABG decided to host ISAG 2025

##### The Korean Society of Animal Breeding & Genetics (KSABG)

- Communication of issues in animal breeding and genetics in Korea
- More than 300 members were registered
- Annual symposium & conference in June
- Submitted application for hosting ISAG2023: decided South Africa

##### Key Personnel in the Local Organizing Committee



### 01 Why Korea & Daejeon?

**Daejeon : a mecca for research centers, especially Animal Breeding and Genetics in Korea**



### 01 Why Korea & Daejeon?

#### Strong financial & administrative supports



### 02 Conference Venue

#### Korea is now closer than ever

Incheon international airport: Awarded best airport for 10 consecutive years



### 02 Conference Venue

#### Easy access to Daejeon

**Incheon Int'l Airport**  
KTX Train: 2hr  
Limousine Bus: 2.5hr

**Seoul Int'l Airport**  
Seoul Str: KTX 50 min  
Seoul Str: SRT 40 min

**Cheongju Int'l Airport**  
Limousine Bus: 30 min

**Busan Int'l Airport**  
Busan Str: KTX Train 2 hr  
Limousine Bus: 2.5hr

### 02 Conference Venue

#### Abundant & affordable accommodations

**30**  
Hotels

**~11,000**  
Rooms

**~\$100**  
Price  
(3-4 star hotel)

Shuttle buses can be operated between conference center and major hotels

### 02 Conference Venue

#### World-Class Convention Center, DCC

**3,000**  
Persons convention hall

**20**  
Conference halls

**4**  
Exhibition halls

\* New Daejeon Convention Center II will be constructed in 2022 (accommodate 4,000 people)

#### Clean & Safe ISAG conference

\* Follow strong quarantine guidelines during ISAG conference  
\* Stand-by of medical staffs during the event

### 02 Conference Venue

#### Tour programs for ISAG 2025 Conference

Theme 1.	Theme 2.	Theme 3.	Theme 4.
<b>Cultural tour</b> (UNESCO world heritage)	<b>Nature tour</b> (Daecheong lake)	<b>Night tour</b> (Shopping)	<b>Traditional tour</b> (Pottery making)

### 02 Conference Venue

#### Science Complex

**Science Complex**  
Hotel, Shopping Mall,  
Restaurants Completed in 2021

**Daejeon Convention Center II**  
Extra capacity, 80,729 sq  
Completed in 2022

**Expo Science Park Hanbit Tower**  
Science & culture complex  
(Fountain park, Media facade)

**Daejeon Convention Center I**  
State-of-the-art Convention Center

### 03 Budget & Incentives

#### Strong financial & administrative supports for ISAG

**Secured Financial Support**

**Korean Government**

- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Science and ICT

**Korean Societies**

- KO-ET
- KSABG
- KASST
- KAGS

**Korean Research Institutes**

- KRII
- FACIT
- KREI

**Private Sector**

- NHN
- Toshiba ESR
- Hyundai

Daejeon Metropolitan City guarantees USD~100,000 financial support

### Budget & Incentives

#### Reasonable registration fee



### Budget & Incentives

#### Special programs for developing countries and young leaders

##### The Future of animal breeding & genetics community

- Special programs for young generations (Travel bursaries)
- Industrial sessions, a networking party
- Special programs for developing countries



### Budget & Incentives

#### My first ISAG Conference in Auckland, 1998



- An ISAG member since then (A bursary awardee in 2000)
- Working as SLA nomenclature committee at ISAG since 2002

#### 27 year later (in 2025)

- I would like to contribute to the ISAG community
- Together with KSABG members, I will do my best for the successful ISAG Conference in 2025.

#### Promotion of ISAG Conference in Korea (37<sup>th</sup> ISAG 2019)



### Other business

Olivia Mapholi represented the ISAG2023 LOC and gave an update of the conditions for the ISAG2023 conference in Cape Town, South Africa.

### Closing