



International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine

IAAAM News

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PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hello and Happy New Year,

I hope that everyone had a great holiday season and that the start of 2022 has been positive so far. We know that COVID 19 has affected each of you in some capacity. Some have experienced illness of varying degrees as well as significant loss of either people or resources while others have managed through the last two years with less profound, yet still impactful, changes in day to day life. Regardless of the degree of impact, there is no question that COVID 19 has had a significant influence on our lives.

Unfortunately, we will not physically come together for our annual IAAAM conference in May again this year. While this makes all of us sad, your IAAAM Board is confident that it is the safest and most financially feasible thing to do. We surveyed you, the membership, prior to making that final decision. Omicron has solidified for all of us that turning to the virtual experience again is the right answer.

I'm excited to say that Dr. Hendrik Nollens, President Elect, is leading the charge with Cindy Sherwood from Delaney Meeting and Event on assembling an exciting and educational virtual experience for May 2022. The 2020 and 2021 meetings turned out to be exceptional conferences offering continuing education credits and engaging interactions, and we are in store for a great lineup of presentations again this year. The Board and the Conference and Site Selection Committee have been working hard on lining up physical meeting locations for 2023-2025 – more information forthcoming.

The Board has also been working on some other important undertakings. We are reviewing the organization's Constitution and By Laws, evaluating our committee activities and structure and examining opportunities for collaboration and involvement with other organizations and the greater animal health and welfare community. Most notably, we began the process of strategic planning for the organization with a 4 hour facilitator led session to identify our strengths, weaknesses and key opportunities. We are in the planning process for a follow up session to identify action items. Our goal is to ensure the longevity of the organization and enhance the benefits that it provides to the membership. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and at the annual Business Meeting.

We are just a few short months away from conference time. I am looking forward to seeing you all, even though it will once again be on a computer screen. The pandemic has separated so many people physically but metaphorically brought many more of us together. I remind myself that the virtual platform has actually increased our conference attendance and broadened the organization's reach. As an aquatic animal health community, we are strong. Please stay safe and continue to do good things.

Sincerely,

Tonya Clauss
IAAAM President

2022 ANNUAL IAAAM CONFERENCE INFORMATION



<p>Week 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, May 16th - Workshops • Wednesday, May 18th - Oral Presentations • Friday, May 20th - Oral Presentations 	<p>Week 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, May 23rd - Workshops • Tuesday, May 24th - Oral Presentations • Thursday, May 26th - Oral Presentations
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Call for Pre-Conference Workshop Proposals

If you would like to plan or offer a pre-conference workshop prior to the 2022 IAAAM Virtual Conference, please return the form linked below via email to Cindy Sherwood (sherwood@delaneymeetingevent.com) no later than Monday, February 7th.

You will be notified of a decision by Friday, February 18th. Workshops will be held on either Monday, May 16th or May 23rd, and can be either half or full day. Workshops will be considered part of the conference agenda, and organizers will be included with virtual presenting communication going out to all presenters. Please contact Cindy Sherwood at the email above with any questions or concerns.

[Click here](#) to download the form.

Calling All Graphic Designers & Artists!

This year, IAAAM Virtual Conference attendees will have the opportunity to order (at no cost) a garment (item to be announced), and the IAAAM Conference Planning Committee is currently seeking a design for it. Anyone interested is welcome to submit an original design or art piece that captures the essence of an IAAAM Conference. This is not meant to be a logo, but should include either "IAAAM" or "International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine".

Please email a high resolution image to Cindy Sherwood at sherwood@delaneymeetingevent.com no later than Monday, February 28th. Submissions will be reviewed by the IAAAM Conference Planning Committee who will then choose ones for IAAAM Members to vote on. The winning image will appear on the garment.

2022 STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE AND STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARD UPDATE

Review of the Student Travel Award applications is currently underway. A group of judges representing the Student Liaison Committee are currently discussing submissions, and we will be notifying successful candidates on or before February 1st.

At the upcoming annual meeting, we are exploring a couple of ideas for the student event, so please stay tuned... We are hoping to divide the session into two parts, with the first being an educational opportunity for students to learn more about “less discussed” aspects of aquatic animal medicine. Through the Zoom platform, we’ll orchestrate concurrent virtual rooms where participants (full members and student members alike) will be able to interact and have an informative dialogue on a suite of topics. In the second part of the session, and based on feedback from the previous conference, we are excited to come together and test out our knowledge at Trivia! As planning evolves, please reach out to ashley.mcgregor@colostate.edu if you have ideas or wish to participate in leading the round table discussions. We’ll provide additional updates and requests as the meeting approaches.

AZAMMTAG RESEARCH PRIORITIES SURVEY

Greetings,

The Association of Zoos and Aquariums Marine Mammal Taxonomic Advisory Group is interested in creating a new resource. The intended result is a list of priority research questions that could be addressed by facilities caring for marine mammals. Research questions can be about anything (e.g., animal welfare, cognition, visitor outcomes, communication, testing bio-logging devices, etc.) that can be addressed by studying animals under human care. Below is a list of the species and a link to a survey where up to three questions can be entered per species. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out and thank you in advance for your time. We hope this new resource will guide the future of marine mammal research not just for AZA but the entire marine mammal community.

Species: Beluga Whale, Bottlenose Dolphin, California Sea Lion, Commerson’s Dolphin, Commerson’s Dolphin, Common Dolphin, Gray Seal, Guadalupe Fur Seal, Harbor Seal, Harp Seal, Hawaiian Monk Seal, Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin, Killer Whale, Manatee (Florida), Northern Fur Seal, Pacific White-Sided Dolphin, Pilot Whale, Ringed Seal, Sea Otter (Northern), Sea Otter (Southern), Spotted Seal, Steller Sea Lion, Walrus

Link to Survey: <https://www.research.net/r/MarineMammalResearchPriorities>

Note. The survey will remain open for approximately one month until February 16, 2022.

Thanks,

Lance Miller, Ph.D.

Vice President of Conservation Science and Animal Welfare Research

Chicago Zoological Society – Brookfield Zoo

3300 Golf Road, Brookfield, IL 60513

Phone: 708-688-8433

Email: Lance.Miller@CZS.org

Website: <https://www.czs.org/Centers-of-Excellence/Center-for-Animal-Welfare>

EDUCATION AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

See IAAAM Website for complete details and updated list of opportunities. Several opportunities have been added to the IAAAM website in December 2021 and January 2022! Below are a few of the most recent.

1. **ASSOCIATE/SR. ASSOCIATE VETERINARIAN - GEORGIA AQUARIUM**

The Georgia Aquarium is seeking applicants for an associate or senior associate veterinarian (level based on experience). This individual will report directly to the Senior Veterinarian & Clinical Residency Coordinator. Compensation for this position includes a competitive salary, staff bonus program and full benefits, including support of continuing education.

2. **VETERINARIAN - SR3**

SR3 has a unique opportunity for an experienced marine mammal veterinarian to join our team as we enter the next phase of growth for our organization. SR3 is a non-profit dedicated to promoting the health and welfare of marine wildlife in the Pacific Northwest. SR3 operates a marine mammal and sea turtle rehabilitation hospital in Des Moines, WA. We also conduct rescues, stabilization, and animal transports in conjunction with stranding partners in the region.

Our veterinarian will be a key leader who is involved with many facets of the organization. This role includes internal opportunities to work with our veterinary support team to further develop and expand our clinical care program. External opportunities include representing SR3 to media outlets and to public and scientific communities, as well as supporting fundraising efforts. This is an exciting time to join and help build the future of SR3!

3. **POST-GRADUATE VETERINARY INTERN - SEAWORLD SAN DIEGO**

This position is intended to provide practical, medical and surgical veterinary experience in the zoological field under the supervision of staff veterinarians. This is a one-year, limited duration position, with approximate dates of July 5, 2022 to July 1, 2023. The intern is expected to enthusiastically represent SeaWorld by displaying a positive attitude, high level of energy, and commitment to quality throughout all aspects of the job.

4. **SENIOR VETERINARY TECHNICIAN - CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM**

The Clearwater Marine Aquarium in Clearwater Florida is seeking a Senior Veterinary Technician to join their team. The primary responsibility is to oversee all aspects of the hospital and assist in the daily medical care of both resident and rehabilitating animals in coordination with the veterinarian

5. **VETERINARY TECHNICIAN – SEAWORLD PARKS**

At SeaWorld, we're passionate about caring for animals. In fact, we've already rescued over 37,000 animals (and counting!). And we can save you from being stuck in just another job. Join us and help bring joy, excitement, and lasting memories to people from around the world. We're seeking enthusiastic, dedicated, and hard-working Registered Veterinary Technicians. Join us and play an important part on our incredible team!

The Newsletter of the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine is published four times a year (usually in January, April, August, and November). An annual conference is held every year in the spring and electronic proceedings from that conference are available online at www.iaaam.org. The International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the art and science of aquatic animal medicine and health.

Newsletter submissions are welcomed, although the newsletter editor and the IAAAM board reserve the right to edit and/or refuse the publication of any submissions. The deadlines for submissions are December 1, March 1, July 1, and October 1. Submissions should be made in WORD, without complex formatting. For submissions contact Julie Cavin, Newsletter Editor, at fishdoc07@gmail.com

For membership information, including address changes, contact Gabby Hernández at gabbytica@gmail.com

For dues information, contact Alexa Delaune at treasurer@iaaam.org

IAAAM EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:

Tonya Clauss (tclauss@georgiaaquarium.org)

President-Elect:

Hendrik Nollens (hnollens@sdzwa.org)

Past-President:

Mike Briggs (mbriggs@ix.netcom.com)

Treasurer:

Alexa Delaune (adelaune@msaquarium.org)

Secretary:

Cara Field (cara.field@gmail.com)

Board – Membership:

Gabby Hernández (gabbytica@gmail.com)

Board – Education:

Allison Tuttle (atuttle@mysticaaquarium.org)

Board – Communications:

Julie Cavin (fishdoc07@gmail.com)

IAAAM COMMITTEE CHAIRS

IAAAM Student Liaison:

Ashley McGrew (Ashley.mcgreg@colostate.edu)

Medway Endowment Committee:

Allison Tuttle (atuttle@mysticaaquarium.org)

Site Selection Committee:

Sam Dover (sdoverdvm@cox.net)

Nominations & Awards Committee:

Mik Briggs (mbriggs@ix.netcom.com)

International Relations Committee:

Sarah Churgin (international_relations@iaaam.org)

Conservation Committee:

Joe Gaydos (conservation@iaaam.org)

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Don Abt	Deke Beusse*	Greg Bossart*	Lanny Cornell
Larry Dunn	Joe Geraci*	Jack Gratzek*	Ted Hammond*
Dave Huff*	Jay Hyman	Jim McBain	William Medway*
Sam Ridgway	Jesse White*	Bob Wright*	

*deceased