AAVP Newsletter

American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists

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From the President

Ray Kaplan
AAVP President

Dear AAVP members and colleagues,

I am honored to be President of AAVP, an organization that has served our veterinary parasitology community extremely well for many years. I am also pleased to report that the AAVP continues to be a scientifically vibrant and engaged organization, and appears to be only getting better. The 2015 Boston meeting was a great success, with both numbers of registrants and abstracts submitted reaching record levels. Based on my conversations with attendees, the meeting left many with a feeling of optimism and enthusiasm for the future of veterinary parasitology and the AAVP.

The success of the 2015 annual meeting was great on the one hand, but also caused logistical complications on the other. Part of the success was partnering our meeting with the Livestock Insect Workers' Conference (LIWC) and the International Symposium on Ectoparasites of Pets (ISEP). The planning committee went into the preparation for Boston knowing that we would have more attendees and poster submissions as a result of the joint meeting. Given this expectation, we decided to add a poster session component to the AAVP annual meeting for the first time. However, we never expected the numbers of abstracts that were submitted. 167 abstracts were submitted; almost double the average of the previous 3 years. This created administrative and logistical complications that the conference organizing committee worked diligently to sort out. One problem was an insufficient number of contracted rooms at the Revere Hotel. However, the Revere worked with us, supplying many extra rooms at the discounted rate. Even so, we had a shortage of rooms and some who waited to register could not get a room or had to pay a higher rate. Another issue was that many people accustomed to giving oral presentations were assigned a poster. We do apologize to those people who were unhappy about these or other things, but I can assure you the conference organizing committee worked extremely hard to deal with and solve the logistical problems. There are things we would do differently in hindsight, but despite a few hiccups along the way, I am really proud of the end result of a really great annual meeting. I would like to thank everyone whose hard work contributed to the success of the Boston meeting.

In total, 285 people from more than 15 countries attended the Boston meeting. Most noteworthy were the 67 student papers, more than twice the number we had in 2014. I am pleased to say that AAVP continues to provide strong support for our students; 36 students were awarded AAVP Young Investigator Travel Grants, an increase of 10 from 2014. Our student representatives to the Executive Committee, Javier Garza and Meriam Saleh, did a great job organizing student activities throughout the meeting, including student lunches each day kindly provided by Virbac, the Meet and Greet and Parasite Jeopardy, a Careers in Parasitology session, and student elections. Jesica Jacobs was elected as the new student representative, replacing Javier; we thank Javier for his contributions and welcome Jesica.

Once again the meeting benefitted from strong partner support of three evening socials (Bayer, Merial and Elanco), coffee breaks (Scynexis), lunches (Zoetis, Boehringer Ingelheim), and poster wine socials (Ceva). Sponsorship was also kindly provided by 15 additional companies that are listed in the conference proceedings, including Merck at the Partner level. Lastly, the National Center for Veterinary Parasitology, headquartered at Oklahoma State University, generously organized and sponsored lunch for the lively and fun Parasitology Clicker Cases that closed out the meeting.

I do need to mention the two major changes we made for the Boston meeting: inclusion of poster sessions and integration of the student papers into the regular sessions, rather than having student-only sessions. Feedback on these changes was very positive overall, and we plan to continue with these at the 2016 annual meeting in San Antonio. Start planning your trip to Texas now, as it is shaping up to be another great AAVP annual meeting in another great host city. President-elect and chair of the conference organizing committee,

Tim Geary, is already working hard to prepare a great program for the 2016 meeting at the Westin Riverwalk in San Antonio, August 6-9, 2016. Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to join us.

So – what else is going on in the coming year? As I mentioned in my address at the business meeting, I am placing a strong emphasis on increasing student involvement in AAVP business. The enthusiasm and creativity of our young members provide important energy and insight to AAVP, and of course they are our future. As an example, our student representative Jesica Jacobs joined the Executive Board site visit team in Indianapolis and aided in selecting the meeting hotel for our 2017 meeting. This is the first time we have included a student in this process. Additionally, thanks to the work of our past President, Andrew Peregrine, I am happy to report that we now have students serving on many of our committees.

As discussed at our business meeting, beginning in 2016 there will be a realignment of two of our important committees. The Outreach/Research and Publications/Internet committees will become the Outreach, Publications and Research Committee and the Electronic Media Committee, respectively. In light of the substantive changes that have occurred over the last few years in the importance of social media, the AAVP's Executive Committee felt we needed to have a committee focused solely in this area. It also made sense to include publications with research/outreach. The membership approved this proposal and it will be instituted as of the 2016 meeting. The first task of the Electronic Media Committee will be to investigate if and when AAVP should begin producing electronic proceedings with an accompanying app for our annual meetings.

I would be remiss if I did not remind you all that AAVP functions as an organization as a result of the work that many of its members do through service on committees. Current committee membership is listed in this newsletter, and I personally thank everyone serving on committees for your time and efforts. But– we still need more people to become involved – both student and regular members. If you did not sign up for a committee at the Boston meeting, it is not too late; all you need to do is contact either me or the chair of that committee. Several Committees need more members (Archives, Awards, Constitution and Bylaws), but I especially would like to see several more people on the awards committee. So -- please consider volunteering to serve one or more committees; AAVP needs you. Also – a reminder to committee chairs that they should arrange meetings by teleconference at least quarterly. We will also continue to schedule Committee meetings during the annual conference, prior to the business meeting.

The Education committee under the leadership of Chair Tom Nolan, worked diligently to organize and prepare for the 2015 AAVP Educators' Symposium held in Chicago, IL on December 10-11. I am pleased to report that there were 34 people registered representing 28 different veterinary schools. A symposium dedicated to teaching the discipline is fairly unique among veterinary specialties, and represents another strength of our association. The Executive Committee has started its monthly teleconferences and will be having our mid-year meeting in Indianapolis in February.

You have all received the emails about the FDA-CVM survey on drug use and resistance in ruminants and equines (I apologize for the repeated reminder emails, but the FDA-CVM truly needs our expertise and input). I would like to thank all AAVP members who filled out surveys, as the FDA-CVM views AAVP as a partner on this important issue and our input is highly valued by them. I hope that this relationship continues and strengthens in the future. I am also excited to report that the AAVP Executive Committee has agreed to join the WAAVP in a joint meeting in 2019, to be held in Madison, Wisconsin. Tom Kennedy is chairing the conference organizing committee and has already started planning for this conference. This will be a great opportunity for our members who usually do not attend WAAVP to share their work and interact with our international colleagues.

Lastly, if you have any suggestions for other items that should be on the Executive Committee's agenda, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I welcome any and all suggestions of matters that AAVP should address as an organization, and any ideas that will make AAVP a stronger organization. Along with the other members of the Executive Committee, I look forward to being of service to the membership in the coming months and seeing you in Texas!

Submitted by Ray M. Kaplan, AAVP President
Email: rkaplan@uga.edu
Tel: (706) 542-5670

From the Secretary/Treasurer

2016 AAVP Membership Dues

Doug Carithers
Secretary/Treasurer

Thank you to those who have already paid their 2016 membership dues, and especially to those who have actually pre-paid AAVP dues for the coming years, or set up auto-pay on the AAVP PayPal account.

Remember, we now operate on a calendar- year basis. Any dues paid after October 1, 2015 will go towards AAVP membership for the 2016 calendar year.

Dues Reminder
January 31, 2016

Pay your 2016 dues online

http://www.aavp.org/

You can pay your membership via your PayPal account, or via PayPal using your credit card. For credit card users, you don't have to have a PayPal account, we just use PayPal's secure pay option to allow you to safely enter in your credit card information for payment of your dues. You can also pay membership dues by sending a check payable to AAVP to my address below. Regular membership dues are $40.00/year and student dues are $10.00/year. Members in good standing may also purchase an online subscription to *Veterinary Parasitology* for an additional $40.00 per year. Members who are behind in their dues are in jeopardy of being deleted from the membership directory and are ineligible for membership benefits.

For those who prefer to pay by mail, updated Membership Renewal and the New Membership Application forms are available on the AAVP website. Please pass along a copy of the New Member Application form to colleagues or students who are interested in joining AAVP.

Please contact me if you have questions about your dues status.

Dr. Doug Carithers
Secretary/Treasurer, AAVP
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Duluth, GA 30096, USA
Phone: (678) 638-3837
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Submitted by Dr. Doug Carithers, Secretary/Treasurer, AAVP.

2015 Annual Meeting Report

Doug Carithers
Secretary/Treasurer

The 60th annual meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists was held at the Revere Hotel in Boston, MA, Saturday July 11th through Tuesday morning July 14th, 2015. A total of 290 individuals registered for the joint Scientific meetings of the AAVP, LWIC and ISEP: 216 regular attendees, 69 students, and 5 speakers (39 guests and spouses were registered for a total attendance of 329). The theme of the meeting was "Parasitic Evolution-Scientific Revolution". A total of 32 Young Investigator Travel Grants (YITG) were awarded to students (each applying for a maximum of $500). A total of 166 abstracts were included in the meeting proceedings (86 oral and 80 posters) assembled by Dr. Ray Kaplan, the Scientific Program Chair.

The AAVP Board meeting was held Saturday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. A plenary session was held Saturday afternoon with presentations by John Gilleard, Andrew Park and Jesus Valenzuela pertaining to anthelmintic resistance, computer modeling and immunity. The AAVP/Merial Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award was presented to Dr. Michael W. Dryden, Kansas State University following the plenary session. Anne Barrett received the 2015 AAVP/Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award. She provided her presentation entitled "Estimating spotted fever group *Rickettsia* spp. infection risk in ticks and dogs." Alice Lee, Cornell University, was awarded the 2015 AAVP/CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease.

AAVP received strong financial support ($49,000) for the meeting from 22 sponsors including 7 at the Partner level (Bayer, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Elanco, Merck, Merial, Scynexis, and Zoetis), 2 at Platinum level (Ceva and Virbac), 6 at Gold (Central Life Sciences, MPI Research, Triveritas, Central Garden and Pet, IDEXX and Vetoquinol) and 7 at Silver level sponsorship (Klifovet AG, Stillmeadow, Inc., Johnson Research, Research Management Group, ClinVet and Syngenta Lawn and Garden). The Saturday opening social event was hosted by Bayer Animal Health, a Sunday evening social was sponsored by Merial and the Monday evening social was sponsored by Elanco Animal Health. Virbac sponsored the student lunches, Ceva sponsored the Poster Session wine-socials, Zoetis and Boehringer-Ingelheim sponsored special luncheon presentations, and Scynexis sponsored all of the refreshment breaks during the meeting.

The AAVP business session and student presentation awards were held Monday morning, presided by President Andrew Peregrine. Reports were presented for each of the AAVP committee chairs. Dan Zarlenga was elected as the new AAVP Vice President. Tim Geary is the President Elect and the Program Chair for 2015-2016. Michael Dryden and Alexa Rosypal were elected to the Nominations Committee. Jesica Jacobs, West Virginia University was elected as the 2015-2017 AAVP Student Representative on the AAVP Executive committee, to co-serve with Meriam Saleh, Virginia Tech (2014-2016). Additionally, The AAVP membership were reviewed and includes 232 regular members (current with dues), 82 students, and 22 emeritus members for a total of 336 members in good standing.

Chanel Schwartzentruber, University of Guelph, was awarded 1st place in the Best Student Oral Presentation competition sponsored by Bayer Animal Health. Melissa Miller, University of Georgia, received 2nd place in this competition. Honorable mention certificates for the student oral competition were presented to Jessica Scare (UK), Emily McDermott (UCR), Amy Murillo (UCR) and Alice Houk-Miles (VMRCVM).

Elizabeth Shepherd, West Virginia University was awarded 1st place in the Best Student Poster Presentation competition sponsored by Elanco. Yoko Nagamori, Oklahoma State University, placed second in the poster competition. Mary Maclean (UGA), Carly Barone (URI), Lindsay Porter (TAMU) and Victoria Demello (UGA) received honorable mentions in the poster competition.

During the business meeting a remembrance was offered for Dr. Jay Robert Georgi, DVM, Ph.D., age 86, Cornell University, who passed away April 3, 2015. Dr. Peregrine reviewed the goals and achievements of

the past year. President-elect Dr. Ray Kaplan provided an outline of the AAVP goals and objectives looking forward for the next 12 months with the theme “Optimistic Legacy”. Important goals include how AAVP can provide education regarding prevention of anthelmintic resistance, and continue to support students as they are the future of veterinary parasitology.

Dr. Peregrine was recognized for his efforts and contributions as AAVP President for the past year. He was presented a plaque by Dr. Ray Kaplan on Monday at the end of the business meeting.

The AAVP President’s Symposium was held on Tuesday morning. Drs. Max Scott, North Carolina State University, and Raffi Aroian, University of Massachusetts, provided presentations pertaining to genetic control and probiotics. This session was followed by an audience participation clicker session supported by the NCVP, Oklahoma State University, and was presented by the NCVP Residents. Box lunches at the conclusion were provided by the NCVP.

Respectfully submitted by Dr. Doug Carithers, Secretary/Treasurer AAVP

AAVP Leadership, Committee Chairs / Members

AAVP Officers

President:
Ray Kaplan

President-Elect
& Program Chair:
Tim Geary

Vice President:
Dan Zarlenga

Secretary/Treasurer:
Doug Carithers

Immediate Past-President:
Andrew S. Peregrine

2015 – 2016 Committees

NOTICES

Attention AAVP Members: If you are listed as a committee member with a (2015) date then you are technically not on that committee anymore. However, I kept your name on the list here, as many of you may want to continue serving. If you are due to rotate off in 2015, please contact the chair of that committee to confirm that you either are no longer on the committee, or that you want to continue serving for another 3-year period.

Attention Committee Chairs: Please contact all of your members to confirm that they know they are on your respective committees and that they wish to continue serving in that role. Please then send me an updated list of active members of your committee with ending dates of their terms.

Thanks,
Ray Kaplan, President, AAVP

Elected Committees

Nominations

Ann Donohue, Chair ardonoghue@gmail.com (2017), Kevin Kazacos (2016), Tim Geary (2016), Mason Reichard (2017), Michael Dryden (2018), Alexa Rosypal (2018).

Appointed Committees

Archives

Tom Nolan, Chair parasit@vet.upenn.edu (2015), Raf Roncalli (2015), Miguel Suderman (2016).

Awards Committee

Tom McTier, Chair tom.mctier@zoetis.com (2016), William Ryan (2015), David Lindsay (2015), Susan E. Little (2016), Dante Zarlenga (2017), Alice Lee (2018), Raj Gaji (2018), Gui Verocai (2018).

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Tom Kennedy, Chair tjameskennedy@gmail.com (2016), Adrian Wolstenholme (2017), Alexa Rosypal (2018).

Education Committee

Tom Nolan, Chair parasit@vet.upenn.edu (2017), Andrea Varela-Stokes (2015), Karen Snowden (2015), Roberto Cortinas (2016), Anne Zajac (2017), Antoinette Marsh (2017), Andy Moorhead (2017), Araceli Lucio-Forster (2018), Javier Garza (2018), Michael Kent (2018), Lora Ballweber (2018), Ashley McGrew (2018), Joyce Login (2018), Heather Walden (2018), Brian Herrin (2018).

Finance Committee

Andrew Moorhead, Chair amoorhed@uga.edu (2017), Jim Miller (2015), Bob Storey (2016), Ashley McGrew (2018), Pete Hann (2018).

Historian

Alan Marchiondo amkj46@aol.com (2015), Raf Roncalli (2015), Tom Nolan (2016), Sue Howell (2018), Ashley McGrew (2018).

Newsletter/Editorial Board

Frank Hurtig, Chair frank.hurtig@virbacus.com (2018), Tom Kennedy (2017), Michael Dryden (2017), Lindsay Porter (2018), Brian Herrin (2018), Pablo Jimenez (2018), Miguel Suderman (2018), Kate Purple (2018).

Program Committee

Tim Geary, Chair timothy.g.geary@mcgill.ca (2017), Ray Kaplan (2016), Doug Carithers (2018), Dante Zarlenga (2018), Meriam Saleh (2016), Jesica Jacobs (2017), Al Marchiondo (2018).

Publications/Internet Committee

Tariq Qureshi, Chair tariq.qureshi@bayer.com (2015), Miguel Suderman (2015), Meriam Saleh (2017), Alice Houk-Miles (2018), Ann Donoghue (2018), Lauren Lewis (2018).

Outreach/Research Committee

Andy DeRosa, Chair andrew.derosa@zoetis.com (2017), Sheila Mitchell (2015), Frederic Beugnet (2016), Lora Ballweber (2015), Miguel Suderman (2018), Carly Barone (2018), Chanel Schwartzentruber (2018), Cassan Pulaski (2018).

Student Representatives

Meriam Saleh
Msaleh1@vt.edu (2016)

Jesica Jacobs
Jjacobs2@mix.wvu.edu (2017)

Welcome to Jesica Jacobs who joins Meriam Saleh as Student Representative to AAVP. Our thanks to Javier Garza who completed his term this year.

Past Presidents

Andrew Peregrine, Chair aperegri@ovc.uoguelph.ca (2018)**,** Dwight Bowman, (2017), Alan Marchiondo (2016)

Thanks to Andrew Peregrine, our outgoing AAVP President! Andrew was presented with a plaque by Ray Kaplan in recognition of his service as Association President.

Ad Hoc List Serve Manager

Bert Stromberg b-stro@umn.edu (2016)

Awards

2015 AAVP-Merial Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award

Doug Carithers (left) presenting the AAVP-Merial Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award to Mike Dryden.

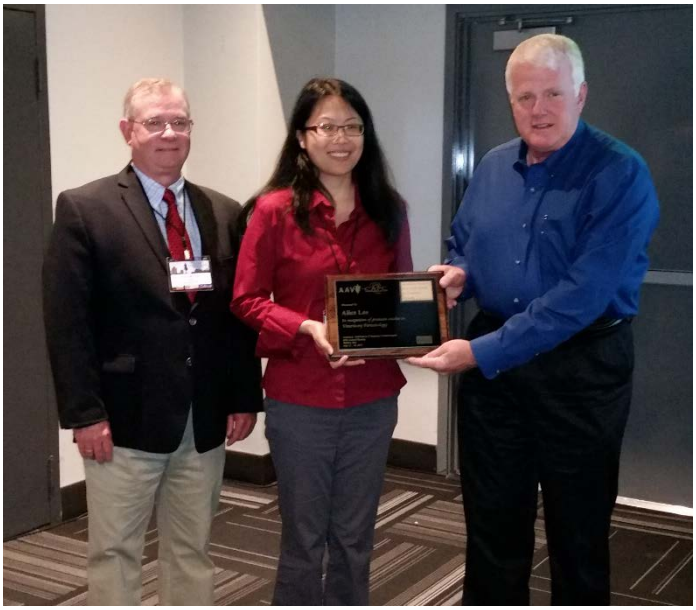
Dr. Michael (Mike) Dryden, University Distinguished Professor, Veterinary Parasitology, Kansas State University, was the 2015 recipient of the AAVP-Merial Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award. This is the society's most prestigious award and honors the outstanding contributions of an AAVP member to the advancement of veterinary parasitology. Dr. Dryden presented highlights from his accomplished career during the AAVP annual meeting in Boston. Mike received his veterinary degree from Kansas State University in 1984 and his doctorate in veterinary parasitology from Purdue University in 1990. He is a professor of veterinary parasitology in the Department of Diagnostic Medicine and Pathobiology at the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Dryden's research focuses on flea and tick biology and control, investigating urban wildlife as vectors of parasitic diseases, and diagnosis and control of gastrointestinal parasites. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiology.

AAVP-Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Anne Barrett, Oklahoma State University, is the recipient of the AAVP-Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Presenting the award are Harold Newcomb (center) and Tom McTier.

Dr. Anne Barrett, of Oklahoma State University, was selected as the recipient of the 2015 AAVP-Merck Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Anne provided an enlightening talk regarding her work on novel spotted fever group *Rickettsia* species in ticks, dogs, and people at the AAVP meeting in Boston.

AAVP-CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease



Alice Lee, Cornell University was awarded the AAVP-CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic disease. Presenting the award is Joe Hostetler (right) along with Tom McTier.

Alice Lee, of Cornell University, was the recipient of the 2015 AAVP-CAPC Graduate Student Award in Zoonotic Disease. Alice presented on her work regarding larval trapping in mice infected with *Toxocara canis* and the results of concomitant infections with pre-existing infections of *Toxoplasma gondii* during the conference. Alice received an engraved plaque and a monetary award of $1000 provided by CAPC.

AAVP Young Investigator Travel Grants

AAVP selected the following 36 students listed below to receive Young Investigator Travel Grants. Recipients received up to $500 to help offset expenses associated with attending the AAVP meeting in Boston. Congratulations to all of these recipients! Each student presented their abstract as part of the scientific program and could also choose to enter the Bayer Best Student Paper Competition as well the Elanco Best Student Poster Competition.

Jessica Conroy	Cornell University
Alexandra Kravitz	Cornell University
Matthew McCullouch	Cornell University
Ryan Avery	Louisiana State University
Vicky Kelly	Louisiana State University
Cassan Pulaski	Louisiana State University
Thangadurai Mani	McGill University
Karine Sonzogni-Desautels	McGill University
Amanda Blom	Oklahoma State University
Jeff Gruntmeir	Oklahoma State University
Brian Herrin	Oklahoma State University
Livvy Jones	Oklahoma State University
Yoko Nagamori	Oklahoma State University
Lindsay Starkey	Oklahoma State University
Lobna Dagher	Ross University
Shakirat Adetunji	Texas A&M University
Miranda Bertram	Texas A&M University
Jessica Rodriguez	Texas A&M University
Russell Avramenko	University of Calgary
Guilherme G. Verocai	University of Calgary
Mary Maclean	University of Georgia
Melissa Miller	University of Georgia
Molly Savadelis	University of Georgia
Chanel Schwartzentruber	University of Guelph
Jennifer Bellaw	University of Kentucky
Eileen Donoghue	University of Kentucky
Marie Noel	University of Kentucky
Jessica Scare	University of Kentucky
Melissa Beck	University of Lethbridge
Bradley van Paridon	University of Lethbridge
Kathryn Purple	University of Tennessee
Alice Houk	Virginia Tech
Meriam Saleh	Virginia Tech
Javier Garza	West Virginia University
Jesica Jacobs	West Virginia University
Elizabeth Shepherd	West Virginia University

Recipients of AAVP Young Investigator Travel Grants for the 2015 Conference.

2014 AAVP Travel Grant recipients

Bayer Best Student Paper Competition

Chanel Schwartzentruber (far left), first place ($500), University of Guelph. Second place ($300) Melissa Miller (far right), University of Georgia. Honorable mention Amy Murillo (2nd left), University of California-Riverside; Emily McDermott (3rd left), University of California-Riverside; Alice Houk (3rd right), Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine; and Jessica Scare (2nd right), University of Kentucky. Pictured (back row) with the award winners are Roland Schaper (left), Tom McTier (center) and Ray Kaplan (right). Fifty-five students entered the Best Student Paper/Poster Competition with 26 papers selected to be presented.

Elanco Best Student Poster Competition

Elizabeth Shepherd (right), West Virginia University, first place ($500). Second place ($300) Dr. Yoko Nagamori (left), Oklahoma State University. Honorable mention Carly Barone (center), University of Rhode Island. Additional Honorable Mention that are not pictured are Mary Maclean, University of Georgia; Lindsay Porter, Texas A&M University; and Victoria Demello, University of Georgia. Fifty-five students entered the Best Student Paper /Poster Competition and 29 were presented in the poster competition. Dan Snyder (far left) and Ray Kaplan (far right) are pictured with the award winners.

Our sincere thanks go to the members of the Awards Committee of 2015 for their work with this significant part of our conference: Tom McTier (Chair), Bill Ryan, David Lindsay, Susan Little, Dan Zarlenga. Thanks also to the additional judges for the Student Competitions: Andy DeRosa, Joyce Login, Al Marchiondo, Doug Rugg, Sonja Swiger, Scott Timmins, Marie Varloud and Debra Woods.

AAVP 2015 Annual Meeting, Boston – What did you say?

Tim Geary, AAVP President-elect

Attendees were asked to provide feedback on surveys that requested a numerical ranking (1 = poor; 2 = below average; 3 = average; 4 = above average; 5 = outstanding) for 5 aspects related to the quality of the annual meeting: Ease of submission of abstracts; Quality of information provided about conference; Quality of conference program; Overall quality of meeting in relation to registration fee; and Quality of conference/rooms facilities.

In addition, attendees were invited to provide written comments in 4 categories: What about this year's meeting worked well? What about this year's meeting could be improved? One recommendation for next year's meeting and any other comments?

We received 35 surveys, which provided 144 written comments. The numerical ratings indicated that the meeting was highly appreciated by the attendees (see summary table below). Of the 163 responses, 0 were "poor", 3 were "below average", 26 were "average", 64 were "above average" and 70 were "outstanding".

In addition, 144 written comments were received. These varied considerably, but fell into several major areas. In general, the feedback was extremely positive on all accounts. In particular, the A/V set-up was a huge success, as the program was kept on time and concurrent sessions flowed smoothly. We will do our best to replicate the system in San Antonio. The poster sessions were also well-received, with a 90% approval rating (although problems with grading, attendance policy, lighting, etc., were also noted). Student participation in the general sessions was strongly supported. The joint meeting format was viewed positively, although several attendees noted that the program was very crowded and little free time was available.

The major criticisms revolved around the hotel. Although the physical location of the meeting rooms was favorable, poor temperature control (too cold), price (too high) and the lack of sufficient numbers of rooms were common complaints. At least some of these concerns (price and temperature) should not be revisited in San Antonio.

Overall, the 2015 Annual Meeting in Boston was an enormous success. Dr. Ray Kaplan deserves a long round of applause for organizing a great meeting. We are looking forward to meeting this high bar in San Antonio at the 65th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists.

Question (Please rate from 1-5)	**Number of Responses**	**Avg Score**
Ease of submission of abstracts	28	4.04
Quality of information provided about conference	34	3.97
Quality of conference program	34	4.47
Overall quality of meeting in relation to registration fee	43	4.24
Quality of conference rooms/facilities	30	4.24

Note: not all respondents provided a rating for all variables.

Based on these results it seems that we have made improvements in the pre-conference areas. The cost and quality of rooms are certainly noted. We think next year's meeting will address those concerns. We thank all of those participants who provided this feedback. Additionally, individual comments will be reviewed as we prepare for the next AAVP meeting in San Antonio, August 6-9, 2016.

If you have any additional comments or questions, please feel free to send them to me.

Tim Geary, AAVP President Elect
Email: timothy.g.geary@mcgill.ca

AAVP Annual Meeting 2016 – San Antonio: Get it on your calendar now

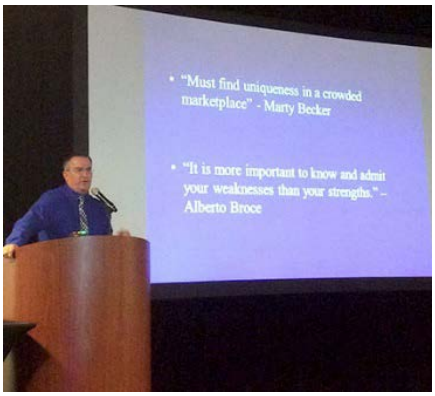
The American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists 61st Annual Meeting will be held August 6-9, 2016 at the Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio, TX, USA. This is a great hotel in a great location in a great city.

Tim Geary, AAVP President Elect and Conference Program Chair
Email: timothy.g.geary@mcgill.ca

Mike Dryden – AAVP Distinguished Parasitologist Award Recipient

Michael (Mike) Dryden was born May 12, 1959 in Osborne KS to Dixie and Victor Dryden. His father was a career Meteorologist in the US Navy and the family moved from coast to coast as his father was transferred frequently from naval base to naval base including teaching at the U.S. Naval Academy. His parents divorced when he was in the 2nd grade, his mother remarried and he was then raised on a small Kansas farm northwest of Cawker City KS. It was during these formative years that Mike developed his interest in biology and veterinary medicine. Mike excelled in academics and athletics during high school. He was honored to receive 1st team all-state recognition in football and had several scholarship offers to play football at small colleges. But his goal was to attend Kansas State University and be accepted into the College of Veterinary Medicine, so he turned down these offers and focused on academics. During his senior year in high school he met and started dating his future wife Joan (Winkel). Following graduation from high school in 1977, Mike attended Kansas State University majoring in Wildlife Biology. It was during his 2nd year at K-State that Mike developed his interest in parasitology. He enrolled in a parasitology course taught by Dr. Meryl Hansen. Dr. Hansen was a passionate educator and Mike caught his enthusiasm that has remained with him the rest of his life. He was accepted into the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University in the fall of 1980. During his years in the professional curriculum he maintained an interest in parasitology and wrote his senior thesis on canine heartworm disease.

After graduating in 1984 Mike, Joan and their son Shawn moved to Beloit KS, where in May of 1984 he worked as a mixed animal practitioner. In August of 1985, they moved to Wichita where he was employed as a small animal practitioner. It was during the spring and summer of 1986 that Mike experienced what could only be described as a flea explosion. No matter what premises or topical insecticides were dispensed nothing seemed to work. The veterinary hospital where he worked actually had more success treating dogs with parvovirus than they did in eliminating fleas from pets and homes.



In August of 1986 Mike was accepted as a Graduate Research Assistant in Veterinary Parasitology at Purdue's College of Veterinary Medicine in West Lafayette IN. Mike and Joan's daughter Sarah was born while they were at Purdue. Mike's major professor was Dr. Sayed Gaafar and he also worked closely with Dr. Kevin Kazacos. Training under both of these renowned veterinary parasitologists was a remarkable opportunity. During his graduate program at Purdue his studies included both Veterinary Parasitology and Medical/Veterinary Entomology. His research focus was the biology of *Ctenocephalides felis*. He earned a MS in 1988 and his PhD in May of 1990. It was while he was a graduate student at Purdue that the veterinary students started calling him "Dr. Flea". Upon completion of the graduate program Mike accepted an offer from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University as an Assistant Professor of Veterinary Parasitology.

At Kansas State University Mike developed a research program along with Dr. Patricia Payne that has been involved in two primary areas: The biology and control of fleas and ticks infesting dogs and cats and the diagnosis and control of gastrointestinal parasites of dogs and cats. While he has published more than 130 manuscripts on numerous different internal and external parasites, it has been his research with *Ctenocephalides felis* that has become the most widely known. The K-State flea team has generated publications and dissertations on flea host association, longevity, egg production, blood consumption, carpet microclimate, on-animal and premises flea control assessment techniques, flea trapping systems (intermittent-light flea trap), insecticide resistance, flea allergy dermatitis, flea gender structure, reproductive break point analysis, residual speed of kill models, in-home field trials, and numerous articles on flea control. Conducting such a comprehensive research program has necessitated working with numerous other faculty and students at K-State and at other universities. Mike was promoted to Full Professor in 1999 and in 2011 received the designation of "University Distinguished Professor" at Kansas State University. In 2011 he also became a charter member of the American College of Veterinary Microbiology-Parasitology along with a number of other parasitologists.

Mike is recognized as a passionate educator. He co-taught the Veterinary Parasitology course with Dr. Robert Ridley in the College of Veterinary Medicine from 1990 to 2001 and became course coordinator in 2002 and has co-taught the course with Dr. Patricia Payne for the past 12 years. In 2010 along with Dr. Patricia Payne he developed the "Evidenced Based Small Animal Clinical Parasitology Training Course" (often called Wildcat Parasitology). More than 140 veterinarians from the U.S., Canada, Australia and Europe have attended this week long course designed to provide an in-depth update in small animal clinical parasitology.

Mike has been invited to lecture in over 21 countries, presenting over 1,000 invited seminars at scientific conferences and at dozens of veterinary continuing education meetings. He has also been recognized with numerous awards and honors for his teaching, research and service to the veterinary profession.

Mike is also an avid hiker and nature photographer. Mike and Joan have made numerous hiking and photography trips to numerous national parks in North America. Invitations to lecture in exotic locations and various countries have afforded him the opportunity to practice his photography around the world.

As much as he has enjoyed his career in veterinary parasitology his real passion has always been his family. Mike is grateful to have spent his life with his high school sweetheart Joan who has provided him a stable and loving family life to counter balance his hectic professional career. He is very proud of his son and daughter. Their son Shawn lives in Manhattan KS with his wife Mindy (Bates) Dryden and granddaughters Harper and Carson. Mike and Joan's daughter Sarah Dryden also lives in Manhattan.

Doug Carithers presenting Award to Mike Dryden accompanied by Joan

Future Parasitology Meetings

Future meetings of the AAVP

61st Meeting: 5-9 August 2016 – San Antonio, TX
62nd Meeting: 21-25 July 2017 – Indianapolis, IN

American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) 2016

The 65th annual meeting of ASTMH will be held November 13 – 17, 2016 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis and Hilton Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. http://www.astmh.org.

Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases (CRWAD) 2016

The 2016 CRWAD meeting will be December 4 – 6, 2016 at the Chicago Marriott, Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, Illinois, USA. AAVP continues to support the best student competition in the parasitology section of the CRWAD meeting. http://crwad.org/

World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology 2017

The 26th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 4 – 8 September, 2017. The conference is being hosted by The Malaysian Society of Parasitology & Tropical Medicine and the Department of Veterinary Services. http://www.waavp2017kl.org/

Announcements

New Diplomates (ACVM – Parasitology)

Christopher Adolph
Che Yu (Alice) Lee
Ashley McGrew
Andrew Moorhead
Lindsay Starkey

Congratulations to these AAVP members for passing the ACVM (Parasitology) Board Exams!

The American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists

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The American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists Newsletter is published three times each year with issues in February, June and October. Contributions to the Newsletter are highly encouraged and should be submitted by the dates listed below.

AAVP Newsletter Deadlines for Submissions

Newsletter	Deadline
February 2016	February 18, 2016
June 2016	June 20, 2016
October 2016	October 20, 2016

Please contact the editor with questions regarding these dates.