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Dear fellow WAAVP members,

Well, we are now on the final run to our 2015 Conference scheduled for Liverpool this August. All plans are underway and progressing as expected. The number of abstracts submitted reflects on the exceptional strong interest in veterinary parasitology research and additionally our WAAVP conferences as a forum to communicate new research outcomes.

In this newsletter you will find a reminder of our 2015 conference with a website link highlighted especially for those of you how may have not registered at this time but still wish to. Also included is a summary of the key streams and sessions planned for our Conference and highlights of the social activities available. In Liverpool we will also be given an update on developments with our 2017 Conference planned for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Members will find in this newsletter an invitation to go to our website and vote for up to 2 of the 3 candidates who are standing for the upcoming 2 vacancies on the WAAVP Executive Committee (EC). I acknowledge the 3 candidates and wish them well in the upcoming vote. With this upcoming vote I highlight Bill Pomroy and Chandra Panchadcharam who will at the conclusion of our Liverpool Conference finish each of their 10 year terms on the EC. I recognise both of them for their commitment to the EC and WAAVP more broadly. Both have organised WAAVP conferences either in the past (Bill in New Zealand) and Chandra (Malaysia 2017) in the future. Additionally at the 2015 EC meeting we will farewell Tom Kennedy who steps down after 4 years as past President and preceding that 4 years as President. They have been jobs well done, Tom – with little fanfare but as always quiet efficiency. I also stand down as your President in Liverpool after 4 years in the role. I then take up the mantle of past President. A new President, 2 new vice Presidents plus a Secretary/Treasurer will be decided on by the EC in Liverpool. Details of these will be communicated to members at the General Business meeting scheduled for the Wednesday of the Conference.

Sad news in this newsletter relates to death of one of our members – Dr Grisi. We offer our condolences to his family and work colleagues.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Liverpool in just over 2 and a half month’s time.

Regards

[Signature]

Peter Holdsworth
WAAVP President
Our WAAVP2015 conference in Liverpool, UK has a comprehensive scientific and social program installed for delegates and their partners. Visit the web site - www.waavp2015.com - to view the complete program of events.

The scientific program will include the Plenary 1 session presented by Lord Robert May.

There are Sponsor sessions hosted by Bayer Animal Health, Merial Animal Health and Elanco Animal Health.

Throughout the conference there will be scientific papers presented under the following stream themes:
Drug and drug resistance;
Climate change, epidemiology and modelling;
Novel approaches to chemical and non chemical control (endo and ecto-parasites);
Vaccines and immunology;
One Health;
Co-infection;
Companion animals;
New technologies;
Generics of host resistance;
Genes and genomics; and
Lifelong Education.

Poster sessions for selected scientific papers will occurred on afternoon/evenings of key days within the conference.

Highlights from the non science program include a:
Welcome reception on the Sunday evening (16th August);
Gala Dinner held at the Liverpool Cathedral with classical artistic performance;
Wide selection of discounts with local restaurants and retailers, as well as Dine Around in the Albert Dock, with fixed price menus exclusive to delegates and themed cocktails;
Happy hour each day and after-hour cocktails in a local bar;
5km fun run available for all delegates in the ACCL area;
Program for accompanying persons including a guided Liverpool Tour; an art galleries tour and an all day trip to Chester with a tour guide.

It is time to vote for two new members of the Executive Committee. There are 10 members of the executive committee with a normal term being 10 years or for five biannual conferences. Two members are replaced at each biennial conference. This year we have three candidates. Voting is now open and will close on **30th June 2015**. Each WAAVP member is entitled to place up to two votes (you cannot vote for the same candidate twice). Each candidate’s career profile appears on the WAAVP website (www.waavp.org). To vote please visit the WAAVP website and click ‘read more’ to proceed to the voting area. Please note that you will need your username and password for the website in order to vote. If you have any problems accessing the members’ area of the site then please contact Laura Stokes (laura@shernacre.co.uk).

**Candidates:**

**Otranto Domenico, BVetMed, PhD, DipEVPC, FRES**

Otranto Domenico is full professor in Veterinary Parasitology at the University of Bari (Italy). He was the recipient of the “Peter Nansen” International award of the WAAVP (August 2007), of the International award of the “Lincei Academy” for the “Evolutionary aspects of Zoology” (June 2006), and of the Award as Young Parasitologist of the Italian Society of Parasitology (June 1998). He is a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society (FRES; October 2005). Since 2010 he has been Editor in Chief of Medical and Veterinary Entomology (2010-) and advisor editor of Parasites and Vectors (2012-). He is or has been also a member of the editorial board of several international peer reviewed journals (Parassitologia, Scientia Parasitologica, Journal of Parasitology Research, Medical and Veterinary Entomology, Molecular and Cellular Probes, Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigations, Parasites and Vectors, Veterinary Parasitology, Entomologia, International Journal for Parasitology - Wildlife). He has been member of the board of the European Veterinary Parasitology College (2009-12) and he is currently Vice President of this college (2012-2015). He is executive board member of the Italian Society of Parasitology (2012-2016).

His research and teaching experience is in veterinary Parasitology mostly focussed on vector borne diseases of zoonotic concern. His scientific interests include parasites (identification, biology and ecology) and parasitic diseases (diagnosis, treatment, control and prevention). In particular, he has run several research projects on ticks, phlebotomine sand flies, leishmaniasis, dirofilariosis, canine onchocercosis, canine tick borne diseases, thelaziosis and feline lungworms. In particular, he contributed original information on the biology of *Thelazia callipaeda* and its vector, of *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* tick, of *Hepatozoon canis*, and of feline lungworms *Auelurostrongylus abstrusus* and *Troglostrongylus brevior*. He was principal investigator of field studies to test drugs for controlling canine leishmaniosis and tick borne diseases.

Since Oct 2001, he has been Director of the Mycology and Parasitology Unit of the University of Bari as Associate Professor (up to February 2006) and later as Full Professor. His scientific output in Veterinary Parasitology to date consists of >350 peer-reviewed scientific articles in international journals and over 300 abstract presentations (national and international congresses), 15 book chapters 2 documentaries of parasitology to implement learning and teaching. He was scientific Responsible for and Director of a PhD course in “Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases of Animals”. He is Editor of the Italian version of the Veterinary Parasitology textbook (Blackwell, 2009; EMSI 2010) and one of the three authors of the Medical and Veterinary Entomology Textbook published by CABI. Russel R., Otranto D. Wall R. 2013 pp.1-440.

Every year he organizes a one-week residency parasitological course known as ParSCo.

**Lachman Das Singla, Professor-cum-Head, Department of Veterinary Parasitology**

**College of Veterinary Science, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University**

Dr. Lachman Das Singla graduated from Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana, India with a degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry. After completing Master of Veterinary Science in Veterinary Parasitology, he joined as Assistant Professor of Veterinary Parasitology in December 1992 at PAU, Ludhiana. He completed Ph.D. Veterinary Parasitology in 2001, promoted as Associate Professor and later as Professor on January 01, 2009. He was appointed as Professor-cum-Head, Department of Veterinary Par-
asitology, College of Veterinary Parasitology, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Ludhiana, Punjab, India on 20th June 2011. He has 22 years of experience in teaching, research, extension & administration under Punjab State Govt., PAU and GADVASU, Ludhiana.

His major research interests include parasitic epidemiology, pharmacokinetics, chemotherapeutics, diagnostics, immunomodulatory and immunoprophylactic approaches for the management of parasitic infections. Priority areas include trypanosomosis and other tick borne haematozoan diseases, poultry coccidiosis and wild life parasitic infections. He is recipient of Dr. M.S. Randhawa medal in 2001, Dr. B.V. Rao gold medal in 2002 and Siksha Rattan Puruskar in 2009 for meritorious services, outstanding performance and remarkable role in Veterinary education and research in the field of Veterinary Parasitology. He received Dr. D. P. Banerjee Memorial Oration Award 2013 of Indian Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (IAAVP) in recognition of valuable contributions and achievements in the field of Veterinary Protozoology.

Besides participating in various national scientific events, Dr. Singla also attended and presented his research work in several international parasitological conferences and scientific meetings throughout the globe viz; Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Italy, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland and Vietnam. He also worked as visiting scientist at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA in the year 2010. He has published more than 100 research papers in journals of national and International repute. Based on his research findings presented in various conferences, he is recipient of a number of oral and poster presentation awards. Apart from on the editorial board of a number of journals, he is also working as editor Indian Journal of Animal Research, Journal of Veterinary Medicine & Animal Health and Journal of Parasitology & Vector Biology. He has guided 30 M.V.Sc. and Ph.D. students in the capacity of Major Advisor, Co-major advisor and member of advisory committee in Veterinary Parasitology. He is an executive council member of IAAVP and was actively involved in organization of IX (1997) and XIX (2007) National Congresses of Veterinary Parasitology. He is willing to work tirelessly for the promotion of the discipline of Veterinary Parasitology through encouraging research and promoting exchange of information and material between students, scholars, scientists and organizations by actively participating in various activities.

Reuben Sunil Sharma, DVM, MVSc, PhD.

Reuben Sharma graduated with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree from Universiti Putra Malaysia and subsequently pursued a Master in Veterinary Science (MVSc) in wildlife diseases at the same university. He was later awarded a PhD in molecular parasitology from the University of Cambridge, UK. Reuben is also a Chartered Biologist (CBiol) and a Member (MSB) of the Society of Biology London.

His main research focus is on the molecular biology, antigenic variation and genetics of parasitic haemoprotozoa. His research findings has led to the revision of the life cycle and ontogeny of the infective cell stages of Trypanosoma brucei, a representative member of the kinetoplastida that cause debilitating disease in man and animals. His work has also shed light on chromosome dynamics, mitotic cell division and gene expression during meiotic recombination in these haemoprotozoa. Reuben has published over 150 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings and technical reports. He is also keenly interested in taxonomy and systematic of Malaysian parasitofauna, wildlife diseases and conservation. Together with co-authors, has described four new species of parasitic helminths and redescribed an additional two from turtles.

Reuben has received three international awards for his efforts in the conservation and medicine of Malaysian wildlife, and over the last four years, has secured 20 additional research grants from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), and the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) for the study of parasites and wildlife diseases in Malaysia.

Over the years Reuben has supervised/is currently supervising 30 undergraduate projects and 38 postgraduate candidates (25 Master and 13 PhD). He has been appointed as consultant/expert resource person to various NGOs and governmental organizations including World Wide Fund for Nature (WWFM), the Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Malaysia, and the Veterinary Laboratory Services Unit, UPM. He has also been invited as a reviewer for Tropical Biomedicine and Journal Veterinar Malaysia, and is currently on the editorial board of the latter.

Reuben has served as a council member of the Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical medicine for seven terms, including the Hon. Secretary, Vice President and President (two terms). He is currently a senior lecturer and coordinator of the parasitology laboratory at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, UPM.
It is with great sadness that I’m informing you and the WAAVP community the passing of Dr. Laerte Grisi last Monday, 10th of November after a heart failure.

He graduated as a DVM from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRRJ) in 71’, got his MSc from the Federal University of Minas Gerais in 74’ and his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison/USA in 1978. He took a Sabbatical year at Lousiana State University in 1988/1989.

He has acted as a Vice-President of the WAAVP and as Dean of Research of UFRRJ, as well as Department Director. He published more than 70 scientific articles and was currently Full Professor at the Animal Parasitology Department from the UFRRJ/Rural. His main focus of research was Epidemiology and Parasite Control of Production Animals, Experimental Chemotherapy.

I met Dr. Grisi in 1997 at the South Africa WAAVP Conference and have been his colleague since then, participating in a Working Group for the Ministry of Agriculture. The Brazilian College of Veterinary Parasitology will always remember Dr. Grisi as a great researcher and a person with an easy smile and a great sense of humor.

Marcelo Molento
Africa’s Talent Travels to Liverpool:

World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology African Foundation Update

The World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) African Foundation Travel Scholarships are currently being awarded to next generation veterinary parasitology scientists to attend the 2015 WAAVP Conference in Liverpool, UK. This is the 9th WAAVP Conference awarding full travel scholarships to young scientists from Africa to participate in and present their research data in veterinary parasitology. This year there were an increased number of inquiries and applications from African countries as compared to previous years. Previous awardees travelled from 13 Francophone and Anglophone countries to WAAVP Conferences to Denmark, Italy, Belgium, Canada, USA, Argentina, New Zealand and Australia.

The WAAVP African Foundation Committee members included: Dr. Banie Penzhorn (South Africa), Dr. Annemarie Oldewage (South Africa), Dr. Mark Soll (USA), Dr. Roger Prichard (Canada), Dr. Isaac Phiri (Zambia) and Dr. Rosina “Tammi” Krecek (USA, South Africa). Dr. Krecek serves as the Chairperson of the WAAVP African Committee. To date 70 travel scholarships have been awarded to WAAVP conferences.

We look forward to meeting the awardees in Liverpool!
The MSPTM 51st Annual Scientific Conference in Kuala Lumpur, 2015
The Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine
51st Annual Scientific Conference

The Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine 51st Annual Scientific Conference was held from 3-4th March 2015 at the Grand Seasons Hotel, Kuala Lumpur with the theme entitled “Tropical Diseases In Malaysia: Innovative Approaches For Emerging Issues”. The president, Prof Dr Yvonne Lim Ai Lian highlighted the importance of research and sharing of findings in order to better manage emerging diseases in the region especially with Plasmodium knowlesi, Coccidiosis and Sarcocystis. Research has to move beyond laboratories and conference rooms. She urges members and participants to bridge the divide between research, policy and implementation, and recognise the need for strong partnerships between researchers and policy makers.

Invited plenary speakers were Prof Alan Cowman, Prof Jenefer Blackwell and Dr Ronald Fayer. A forum on the scourge of Dengue and parasitic diseases was also conducted to update and bring about awareness to participants. A symposia on Sarcocystis infection in Malaysia was brought together with world renowned parasitologist and Sarcocystis expert, Dr Ron Fayer from USA as well as local experts from the Ministry of Health, the Wildlife Department and the Department of Veterinary Services. There were more than 160 registered delegates coming from 10 countries. The response for papers in this conference was overwhelming. A total of 9 invited, 57 oral papers and 52 poster papers were presented during the 2-day conference. This year, a new format for the oral competition (3 minutes based on one slide) was introduced. It was fun to see how the 10 competitors use only 3 minutes to impress the judges and audience.

There was also a special session on "Meet the Experts" for young budding scientists to interact with a foreign and a local experts at the end of the day’s session. Information on the upcoming WAAVP Liverpool conference was also highlighted paving the way for the 2017 WAAVP conference which will be held in Kuala Lumpur.

Images from the meeting pictured overleaf

Contributed by Prof Yvonne Lim, Prof Wan KL and Dr Chandrawathani, Malaysia
MSPTM Council members with the guest of honour and invited speakers

The president - delivering her opening speech and visiting the booths with guest of honour, Dr Shanaz,

A good turnout - Participants at the conference
6th Pan-Commonwealth Veterinary Conference of CVA & 27th Veterinary Association Malaysia Congress 2015

This is the first time the Pan-Commonwealth Veterinary Conference of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association was held in Malaysia! This was held together with the 27th Veterinary Association Malaysia Congress 2015 in Kuala Lumpur. Thirteen (13) plenary speakers and 69 invited speakers for 10 parallel scientific sessions; all esteemed specialists in their fields, as well as 120 poster presenters participated in this event. They shared their passion and knowledge during the 3 day Scientific Conference, providing a platform for the theme of the conference entitled “Providing Holistic Solutions to Changing Global Challenges – Threats and Opportunities for Veterinarians”.

Five hundred and fifteen (515) registered participants attended the conference; including 125 international participants from 44 countries; to name a few from Commonwealth countries by region (i) Africa – Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa and Tanzania, (ii) Asia – Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, India Malaysia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, (iii) Caribbean - Trinidad, (iv) Europe – United Kingdom and (iv) Pacific – Australia, Fiji and New Zealand. Non-Commonwealth countries included Indonesia, Thailand, Belgium, United States, Italy and Japan.

It was an excellent opportunity for veterinarians to network to provide holistic solutions to the changing global challenges in animal health and production.

Contributed by Dr Paul Chelliah & AOS Conference organizers
Conference and Diary Dates

**EAVPT 2015**
19—22 July 2015
Nantes, France
Pharmacology and therapeutics including antiparasitics and resistance
http://www.alphavisa.com/eavpt/2015

**WAAVP Conference**
16—20 August 2015
Liverpool, UK
Visit the Beatles home city—See page 3 for more information
www.waavp2015.com

**Parasitology 2015**
24—26 August 2015
Philadelphia, USA
Addressing New Challenges and Emerging Issues in Parasitology
parasitology@omicsgroup.com

**7th ASEAN CONGRESS OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND PARASITOLOGY (ACTMP)**
May 17-19, 2016
SAVANA HOTEL & CONVENTION, MALANG - INDONESIA
‘Combating the Big Three of Infectious Diseases and Increasing Awareness of The Neglected Tropical Diseases’
actmp2016@gmail.com

**WAAVP 2017**
2017
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
More details to follow
The World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology is published twice a year with issues in April and October. Contributions to the Newsletter are welcome and should be submitted by the first day of the month prior to issue.

**WAAVP Newsletter**

**Submission deadlines:**

**Newsletter Dates** | **Deadline Dates**
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October 2015 | 1st September 2015
April 2016 | 1st March 2016

Please contact the editor with any queries regarding these dates.