
Association News

Providing travel assistance for young WPSA members and students to participate in regional and global WPSA conferences

The Association has funds set aside for a limited number of travel grants. These are to provide international travel assistance for young WPSA members (both scientists and poultry producers) from developing countries and students from developed countries to

attend and participate in regional and global WPSA conferences.

The application conditions and the application form can be downloaded from the website (www.wpsa.com).

WPSA Travel Grant programme for older scientists (>40 yrs) from developing countries

For many years, the WPSA Board has supported a travel grant programme for members 40 years of age and younger, to enable them to attend international WPSA-sponsored meetings in other countries. Application for these grants is open to WPSA members from both developing and developed countries. It is recognised that older scientists from developing countries, even those in relatively senior positions, frequently have considerable difficulty in finding funds to attend international meetings. It is even more difficult for scientists in this age group who have only recently obtained a higher degree. Because of the lack of available training opportunities, many scientists in developing countries are near to 40 by the time they obtain a higher degree and be in a position to present their work at international meetings. The value of interaction with other scientists with similar interests and expertise, is well recognised.

It is for these reasons that WPSA has instituted a new travel grant programme to assist older (>40 years) WPSA members from developing countries to attend and present a paper (oral or poster) at international meetings. The programme is designed to

provide some financial assistance, NOT to cover the entire costs of the travel to and attendance at the meeting in question. As a not-for-profit organisation, WPSA has limited funds to allocate towards the programme, which means that the number of grants and the size of the individual grants, will not be great. Successful applicants are encouraged to use the grant as leverage in application for additional funding from the applicant's institution or other bodies. The programme is competitive and applicants are required to provide information about their research, and current status and about their planned contribution to the meeting in question, as described below and on the application form. Successful applicants will be expected to provide on their return, a brief report on the meeting and on the benefits derived by their attendance.

All applications will be assessed by a travel grants assessment committee set up under the WPSA Board. The committee will make its recommendations to the Secretary, who will advise the applicants in due course. The application conditions and the application form can be downloaded from the website (www.wpsa.com).

WPSA Speakers Bureau Fostering local and regional conferences in the poultry sciences

During the 34th meeting of the Board of WPSA on August 20, 2000 in Montreal, Canada it was recognised that expertise in several areas of poultry science and production in low income countries is often very limited, and WPSA branches in these countries often do not have sufficient financial resources to fund overseas speakers.

To address this problem, the Board created a Speakers' Bureau to assist branches in low income countries to cover the travel costs of expert international speakers. This measure is consistent with the key objective of WPSA to encourage and facilitate liaison among research scientists and educators, and between those in research and education and those working in the many diverse sectors of the poultry industry. Under the Speakers' Bureau scheme, WPSA will pay only the cost of air travel (lowest economy class). All other expenses such as local travel and accommodation are to be paid by the organizing Branch(es). WPSA will not pay any honorarium to speakers.

Given the high cost of international air travel it is important that optimum value be obtained from this expenditure by WPSA. This can be achieved by insisting that the visiting speaker provides more than just one paper at a conference. The visiting speaker could contribute in a variety of ways, e.g., present a second paper on a related topic, conduct a workshop for graduate students, have small group or one-on-one interaction, especially with students, visit industry groups, visit university groups, etc.

Unless the Branch (or group of Branches) can pay all the speakers' costs itself, a speaker should NOT be invited until approval of Speakers' Bureau funds is made by the WPSA Executive Committee. The Branch(es) should not assume that approval will be given until so advised by the WPSA Secretary. Where a Branch or a group of Branches wish to apply for Speakers Bureau assistance, there are certain conditions which must be met:

Application conditions

Application must be made using the WPSA Speakers' Bureau application form.

Application must be submitted at least 2 months prior to the meeting.

The speaker must contribute more to the meeting and/or branch than just presenting one paper.

Following approval, the speaker or the local Branch will be reimbursed by the WPSA Treasurer after the meeting.

A maximum of 2 speakers will be sponsored from the Speakers' Bureau per meeting.

The Branch(es) must be up-to-date with their membership payment.

Full details and application forms can be obtained from the WPSA secretariat (wpsa@xs4all.nl) or you can download the application forms from the WPSA website (www.wpsa.com).

The completed application forms should be sent by e-mail to wpsa@xs4all.nl or by fax to: +31 207 508 941

Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science Stichting Bevordering Pluimveewetenschappen

The XIX World's Poultry Congress, held in September 1992 in Amsterdam, was financially successful. This outcome was, to a large extent, due to the contributions received from the 16 main sponsors and over 2500 participants. The terms of reference of the Congress Organizing Foundation required that any credit balance that

resulted after all liabilities had been met should be made available to the Dutch Branch of WPSA as initiator of the organization of the Congress. As a result, a Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science (Stichting Bevordering Pluimveewetenschappen) was founded. The general objective of this foundation are "to

promote the developments and propagation of poultry science in WPSA-structures, and specifically:

1. the stimulation of international congresses and the promotion of participation in these events, and
2. the support of initiative having the objective of establishing WPSA-branches in countries which do not yet have them”.

Individuals and organizations may apply for financial support for appropriate WPSA activities such as conferences, congresses and symposia. Applications for financial support of conferences, congresses and symposia should be forwarded through the local WPSA Branch.

The Foundation has a particular interest in assisting in the process of establishing new WPSA branches and therefore supports these

branches by covering for three years part of the membership fees. Individuals and organizations may apply for financial support by contacting Ir H. Hupkes, Odijkerweg 37, NL-3972 NE Driebergen, The Netherlands, e-mail: h.hupkes@zonnet.nl. An application form will be send on request.

The Board of directors of the Foundation meets three or four times a year. In case of requests for financial assistance to attend conferences, congresses and symposia, applications should be received by the secretary at least 3 months before the meeting.

Application forms should be filled out completely and can be send through e-mail and fax. An original application form should be send by regular mail.

It is the Boards policy not to fund individual applicants more than 2 times.

WPSA Website: www.wpsa.com

The WPSA website provides much valuable information about the organisation and activities of the Association, its regional federations and country branches. In addition there are regularly updated news reports from branch meetings, conferences and symposia organised by the specialist Working Groups, as well as a calendar of future events.

In order to keep it regularly updated, the Association welcomes information and pictures from Branches, Regional Federations and Working Groups concerning activities of the various WPSA organisations, as well as news about appointment of officers and members.

Please send your information to Mrs D.M. Kleverwal, e-mail wpsa@xs4all.nl.

World's Poultry Science Journal – Digital Archive

Access from the first issue in 1945 until 2003 online – a total of 240 issues!

Volumes 1 – 59 of World's Poultry Science Journal are now available on Cambridge Journals Online. The archive is fully searchable by keyword and author; abstracts can be saved and e-mailed, full text articles printed and bibliographic details exported into reference management software. Perpetual Access is available for a one-off fee of just £500/\$995*.

For further information, or to purchase the WPSJ Digital Archive, please e-mail jnlsales@cambridge.org.

*For those who do not subscribe to the current volume, there is an additional annual maintenance fee of £45/85, payable from the second year of the deal.

www.journals.cambridge.org/WPS

E-mail WPSA Newsletter

WPSA has introduced a new version of the WPSA Newsletter that will be e-mailed to individual members, on request. To receive

this, please subscribe to the e-mail Newsletter on the website (www.wpsa.com).

Branch Development Proposal

In the Board meeting held during WPC2016 in Beijing, China, the Board decided to increase the funds available for Branch Development by making a formal call for Branch Development Proposals.

The maximum budget for a proposal is US \$2,000.

What can you propose?

Some examples:

- Development of a Branch website and start-up expenses
- Organize activities to revitalize your branch
- Support to communicate with members
- Six months budget for secretarial assistance, stationary etc.

A Branch can receive this award once a year, for a maximum of 3 awards.

In cases where numerous branch projects are being evaluated, preference will be given to first time applicants.

If your proposal is awarded, you have to send in a report on how the money was utilized.

Deadlines

Deadlines for submission are January 1st and July 1st.

How to apply?

Please send your proposal and budget with itemized expenses (in US\$) to Dr Roel Mulder (roel.mulder@wpsa.com).

6th International Ratite Symposium

The 6th International Ratite Symposium was successfully presented back-to-back with the annual SASAS congress in South Africa during July 2016. Topics covered included:

welfare and responsible animal production, avian Influenza, application of genome sequencing technologies, nutrition, chick rearing and husbandry, veterinary and health aspects, products, reproduction, assisted reproduction technology, incubation and breeding and crossbreeding

Members of the Ratite Group as well as interested parties present at the symposium held a general meeting to discuss the results presented and to deliberate on the way forward for the Group. The ratite group is affiliated to the Asia-Pacific Federation as their Working Group III. The ratite scientists are currently represented by a small research group, but the group will continue to present their research regularly at scientific symposia. The current situation for the ratite industries looks bleak, with both the emu and rhea industries struggling and the ostrich industry

facing numerous challenges. Compared to other ratite species, research on ostriches seems to attract funding on more sustainable basis. It was consequently decided that the next Ratite symposium will be held in South Africa, while the Group will send a delegate to report on research activities of the Ratite Group at APPC and meetings. Currently the plan is to link with the South African Society for Animal Science (SASAS) for presenting a Ratite Symposium during uneven years (from 2019) together with the annual SASAS congress.

Ratite scientists are urged to register with their local WPSA branch and to use the WPSA website to showcase activities on ratite research. Interested parties and ratite scientists are urged to contact Anel Engelbrecht at anele@elsenburg.com in order to be added to the contact list for the Ratite Group.

Anel A. Engelbrecht, Chairman AP WG3 – Ratites

Branch News

Germany

The WPC2016 in Beijing was a good opportunity for 20+ German Branch members to meet with colleagues and friends from around the world. As agreed in our annual meeting in March, we supported four young scientists with travel grants. With her studies about nesting behaviour in RFID-based single and family nests, Andrea Heinrich (Munich) was selected to attend the Beijing Youth Programme, and to join the Technical Tour after the Congress. Christine Habig (Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, Mariensee) gave an excellent presentation about bone stability of layer lines in two husbandry systems, and thus was one of 20 young scientists and students who were awarded with the Changxin Wu's Fund on Animal Genetics and Breeding. During the Council meeting at WPC2016, Prof Dr Werner Bessei, president of the German Branch, was elected and confirmed as one of the Vice-Presidents of WPSA.

The next annual meeting will be held in March 2017 in Hannover.

Anke Forester, German Branch Secretary

Ghana

After the demise of our Branch President, Dr Francis Kwadwo Boachie, the Ghana Branch of the WPSA, has now selected Professor Dr George Kwame Aning as its new President. He has been Associate Professor of Veterinary Microbiology and Acting Dean at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Ghana from 2009. He obtained his DVM degree from the Ibadan University, Nigeria (1975), and his Ph.D. from the University of Liverpool, UK (1982). Prof. Aning has conducted considerable research in the area of the prevention of infectious diseases of livestock and poultry. These include comparing heat-stable and conventional Newcastle Disease vaccines for their efficacy in protecting commercial and local chickens, and vaccination strategies against Infectious Bursal Disease in Ghana.

He is currently a co-investigator on the University of Ghana team, which, with other research teams at the University of California, Davis (USA), Iowa State University (USA), and Sokoine University of Agriculture (Tanzania), are undertaking a five-year

research project for 'Improving Food Security in Africa by Enhancing Resistance to Disease and Heat in chickens'. This collaborative programme is USAID funded.

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Comfort Acheampong, Branch Secretary

Israel

Members of the WPSA Israel Branch were pleased to attend the WPC in Beijing.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Chinese Branch and WPSA for a well-organised, impressive and stimulating scientific conference. We would like to convey our warm congratulations to Prof Ning Yang, the newly elected WPSA President, and to the re-elected Secretary-General Dr Roel Mulder and Treasurer Dr Francine Bradley.

Our branch played an active role at the congress - four invited speakers and two students in the Youth Programme. We are proud of our three nominees who were elected and honoured during WPC2016: Prof Avigdor Cahaner was inducted to the International Poultry Hall of Fame, Prof Zehava Uni was elected as one of five Vice Presidents, and Prof Israel Rozenboim received the WPSA Research Award. We wish them success and are certain they will contribute substantially to the WPSA vast worldwide activities.

Yitzhak Malka, Secretary Israel Branch

Japan

The 2016 Autumn Meeting of JPSA was held at Mokusei Hall in Shizuoka city, hosted by Shizuoka University during 15-16 September 2016. The meeting contained an open symposium, as well as council and general meetings. The title of the symposium was 'The current state of embryo engineering and DNA recombination technology in fowls, and its new development for the industries'.

Naoki Goto, Secretary of WPSA Japan Branch

Mauritius

The Chairman of the branch, Dr Dewan Sibartie, attended the WPC held in Beijing and presented a paper entitled 'Reduction of economic losses caused by colibacillosis in broiler chickens in Mauritius through vaccination'.

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Mauritius branch, a special half day conference on 'Poultry Science and Industry' was organized on Friday 23 September. The past president of WPSA, Professor Edir da Silva from Brazil, attended the Conference as its Special Guest. The Honourable Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security of Mauritius, Mr Mahen Kumar Seeruttun who is also the Patron of the Association, opened the conference that was also attended by veterinarians, poultry scientists and industry people. This special conference was followed two days later by two public lectures given by Professor Edir da Silva, one on 'Salmonella and its public health aspects,' and the other on 'The Brazilian model of poultry development.' His lectures were well attended by both scientists and industry personnel.

Dr Dewan Sibartie, President

Sri Lanka

The WPSA Sri Lanka branches 15th Annual Convention was held on 15th September 2016, at Taj Samudra Colombo, Sri Lanka, at 3.00 p.m. There was a technical session for which WPSA has invited three speakers, Dr Roel Mulder, Professor M. Nadeem Fairouz, and Dr John C.G Lee. The technical sessions were conducted under the theme 'Sustainable poultry - current and future challenges'. The forum was held to educate Sri Lankan poultry industrialists on latest technologies that are used in poultry production world-wide.

WPSA Sri Lanka branch President Mr. Ajith Gunasekera said it was regrettable to note that the industry is currently facing a difficult phase due to the scarcity of maize, the main energy source of poultry feed. He further stated that it is a known fact that profit margins are dependent on the cost of production, which is directly influenced by feed cost. Supply of nutrition at a balanced composition in a

ration depends on the cost factor and the availability of main ingredients. A large number of poultry producers and industrialists who are engaged in the industry received awards and certificates for the contribution they have made over the years to develop the industry.

As the chief guest, Mr. Wouter Verhey, Agricultural Counsellor at the Embassy of the Netherlands, India commended the steps taken by the Sri Lankan poultry industry to develop business and his country was always ready to help Sri Lankan poultry farmers in this endeavour. He said training centres to educate Sri Lankan poultry farmers on sustainable poultry farming methods would be set up in locally, so producers would no longer need to travel to the Netherlands to study such latest methods.

The Secretary of WPSA Sri Lanka Dr M. Somaratne thanked all the sponsors and the participants for making the Annual Sessions a success.

Dr M. Somaratne Hony, Secretary

USA

The USA Branch spent a lot of time and effort encouraging participation in the Cliff Carpenter Essay Contest for youth, and to get branch members to apply and participate in the WPC held in Beijing, China. Members who provided copies of the abstract of their Congress presentation were eligible for travel grants from the branch. The branch provided travel grants for 16 WPSA-USA members who indicated that they were either making oral or poster presentations at WPC2016. Additionally, WPSA-USA provided travel grants to six graduate and undergraduate students who participated in the Cliff Carpenter Student Essay Contest, addressing the topic 'Can poultry feed the world in 2050?'

At the council meeting held during the Congress, Dr. Bob Buresh was elected to serve on the worldwide Board for the next four years as the Senior Vice President for WPSA worldwide.

Ernie Pierson, President, USA Branch
Bob Buresh, Secretary, USA Branch