
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).

Nutritional Modelling for Pigs and Poultry

Edited by N.K. Sakmoura, R. Gous, I. Kyriazakis and L. Hauschild

December 2014 / Hardback / 320 Pages / 9781780644110

£95.00 / €125.00 / \$180.00

With 10% online discount: £85.50 / €112.50 / \$162.00



Main Description

Modelling is a useful tool for decision making in complex agro-industrial scenarios. Containing a selection of the papers presented at the International Symposium of Modelling in Pig and Poultry Production 2013, this book brings together the best and most recent academic work on modelling in the pig and poultry industry, with a particular emphasis on nutrition. It reviews basic modelling concepts, descriptions and applications of production models and new methods and approaches in modelling.

Readership

Suitable for researchers and students of animal nutrition and veterinary scientists.

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IFRG 2013 meeting report – De Werelt Conference Centre, Lunteren, the Netherlands, 29-30 September 2014

The 2014 meeting of the Incubation and Fertility Research Group was held at the De Werelt Conference Centre, Lunteren in the central Netherlands, located in forest north of Wageningen. Forty-two participants registered for the two days of the meeting, which consisted of oral sessions on immunity of embryos and chicken, sperm quality and fertility, general aspects of incubation and fertility, Thermal stimulation and epigenetics, Sex determination and *in ovo* sexing as well as a poster session. Participants were drawn from within Europe: Eire (1) France (1),

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Germany (5), the Netherlands (9), Belgium (5), UK (7), Poland (2), Italy (1) and from outside: Israel (1), Turkey (3) and the USA (6). The immunity of embryos and chicken session featured invited presentations by Prof. Silke Rautenschlein on development of immunity in the chicken and from Drs. Merlijn Kense on antibiotic usage, as well as a presentation from Pieter de Gouw from the Adaptation Physiology Group at Wageningen University reporting the effects of hatching environment on immunological development. The session on sperm quality and fertility consisted of two invited presentations, the first from Dr Margherita Marzoni from University of Pisa, Italy who reviewed sperm structure and the second from Dr Murray Bakst from USDA, Maryland, USA, who was sponsored by Aviagen, on the role of sperm storage tubule microvilli in sperm storage. The session on general aspects of incubation and fertility included two presentations from Turkey, from Dr Okan Elibol (Ankara University) on the effects of heating during egg storage, and from Dr Umut Yamak (O M University) on eggshell thickness and hatchability. The session continued with a presentation by Mark Foote (Cobb Europe) about the effects of incubation temperature on broiler performance and from Carla van der Pol (Hatchtech and Wageningen University, the

Netherlands) on the effects of light during incubation. The thermal stimulation and epigenetics session opened with an invited review of the phenotypic effects of temperature training by Dr Barbara Tzschentke (Humboldt University, Germany) and was continued with two presentations from Dr Anne Collin, an invited speaker from INRA, Nouzilly, France. Dr Collin reported on the durable effects of temperature cycling on anti-oxidant pathways of the embryo, and reviewed our current knowledge of epigenetics and phenotypic variability in birds. This session concluded with a paper on modelling of embryo thermoregulatory responses by Dr. Ir. Ali Youssef from KU, Leuven, Belgium. The final session on sex determination and in ovo sexing opened with a review of sex determination in birds by Dr Marleen Boerjan (PAS Reform). This was followed by a wide-ranging talk by the last invited speaker, Dr Henri Woelders (Wageningen), about the manipulation of sex ratios in poultry, which illustrated nicely the important role of science in addressing practical problems of the industry. The poster session also reflected the international flavour of the meeting with a contribution from Turkey (Bozok University) on natural and artificial incubation in geese.

Branch News

Algeria

The Algerian branch of WPSA recently held its Third National Symposium on poultry science in collaboration with the University of Batna (20 to 21 October 2014). The dean's representative of the University of Batna, Dr Tahar Benabid, supervised the opening ceremony with a special welcome in his opening speech to the international guests from Egypt, Morocco, France and Belgium. He praised the role of the Algerian branch of WPSA in providing the opportunity for scientists, researchers, adepts and practitioners in the field of poultry science to meet and discuss specific scientific themes. In his speech, Dr Mohamed Melizi, Director of Institute of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences expressed his happiness and joy to embrace this symposium and wish a pleasant

stay for all delegates and participants. While, Dr Alloui Nadir, president of the Algerian branch of WPSA, gave the main challenges of the poultry industry in Algeria and the burden on the researchers to find appropriate solutions for these challenges, the symposium was held under the slogan: 'Biosecurity: the key to successful poultry industry'. More than 40 oral and around 20 posters were presented and discussed on various topics during the symposium. Special plenary lectures were also presented during the symposium and pursued with special attention. At the end of the meeting, which was an extremely successful, the President of the branch, Dr Alloui Nadir gave special thanks to all those who participated in the success of this third national symposium, and to all of the sponsors and international guests. He indicated that the Fourth National Symposium

will be held in 2016 under the slogan: 'Antibiotic resistance and bio-security'.

Dr Alloui Nadir, branch President

Bangladesh

Department of Poultry Science of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) and the Bangladesh branch of WPSA jointly celebrated the 'World Egg Day 2014' on 18 October 2014 at the BAU campus amid much enthusiasm and festivity. Marking the day, organizers Professor Dr. M.A. Ali and Professor Dr. F. Sultana prepared a day-long programme that included a colourful rally, food and the distribution of boiled eggs among school children of KB Government Primary School as part of creating awareness among the new generation about the nutritional value of eggs. The State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock, Mr. Narayan Chandra Chanda attended the programme as chief guest. He led a colourful procession where over 600 students, teachers, officials and employees from the animal husbandry faculty of BAU, entrepreneurs, representatives from different renowned poultry industries of the country and some small and medium scale poultry farmers took part. Following the rally, a seminar with a theme of 'Eggs for me, eggs for you, eggs for all' was held at the Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin auditorium to inform people about the food value of egg and healthier egg production, marketing and encourage consumers about the inclusion of eggs in their diets. Mr. Chanda addressed the seminar chaired by the Dean of the animal husbandry faculty Prof. Dr. S.D. Chowdhury while BAU Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Md Rafiqul Haque was the chief patron. Prof Dr S.C. Das of the Poultry Science Department, BAU presented the key note paper for the seminar. Speakers highlighted the need to the delegates for safe eggs and other poultry products for ensuring nutritional security of the people of Bangladesh.

Among others, Director General (DG) of the Department of Livestock Services (DLS), Mr. Ajay Kumar Roy, President of CP Bangladesh Ltd., Mr. Suchat Santipada, Prof. Dr. M.A. Ali, Chairman, organising committee spoke in the seminar while Prof. Dr. F. Sultana, the local secretary, extended a vote of thanks to the participants.

Moshiur Rahman, Secretary, Bangladesh branch

Japan

The 2014 Autumn Meeting of the Japan Poultry Science Association (JPSA) was held at Kagoshima University during 27–28 September, 2014. The meeting consisted of a total of 54 paper presentations, an opening symposium as well as council and general meetings.

The opening symposium was entitled: 'Development of the poultry industry for meat-type chickens by collaboration with industry, government, and institutes –instances at Kagoshima' contained four keynote addresses and panel discussions. More than 150 people attended the symposium, and the discussions were lively.

During the Autumn Meeting, the JPSA Awards were presented to Dr. Yoshiyuki Ohta, Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University; and to Dr. Hideaki Takahashi, National Institute of Livestock and Grassland Science, for their brilliant research achievements. The research topics of Dr. Ohta and Dr. Takahashi were as follows: 'Improvement of the performance in chickens by development of methods for improving embryonic- and post-embryonic nutrition', and 'Studies on genes affecting economic traits and their application in chicken breeding', respectively.

In addition, Masahiro Hisaeda (Shizuoka Univ.); Takuya Omotehara (Kobe Univ.); Ken R. Ito (Iwate Univ.); and, Yukiko Mikami (Tohoku Univ.) received excellent presentation awards in the category of 'students' or 'members aged 30 and below' for the following presentations: 'Behaviour of γ -tubulin during fertilization in Japanese quail (*Coturnix japonica*)'; 'Mechanisms of testicular formation and its left-right asymmetry in the chicken embryo'; 'Varying serum concentrations in the culture medium affect the maintenance of chicken intestinal crypts'; and, 'Suppressive effect of coenzyme Q10 on hepatic lipid peroxidation in broiler chickens exposed to acute heat stress: its interactions on alpha-tocopherol and ascorbate'; respectively.

The 2015 Spring Meeting of JPSA will be held at Utsunomiya University on March 30th.

Naoki Goto, Secretary of WPSA Japan branch

Poland

The XXVI International Poultry Science Symposium of the Polish branch of World's Poultry Science Association was held on 8-10 September 2014 in Kazimierz Dolny upon Vistula. The organizer of the symposium was the Department of Biological Basis of Animal Production, Faculty of Biology and Animal Breeding, University of Life Sciences in Lublin. The honorary patronage of the Symposium was taken by Mr. Marek Sawicki, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and professor Marian Wesokowski, Rector of the University of Life Sciences in Lublin. In total 168 participants attended the 2014 Symposium, including 56% scientists and 44% representatives of companies connected with poultry production or trade press. Over 90% of the participants were from Poland, however, there were guests from 11 other countries.

Traditionally there were five plenary lectures, three of them were presented by foreign speakers: Professors: Giuseppe Maiorano - Università degli Studi del Molise, Campobasso, Italy; Sergey Cherepanov - Russian Institute of Farm Animal Genetics and Breeding, Sankt Petersburg, Russia; Judit Barna - Centre for Farm Animal Gene Conservation, Gödöllo, Hungary.

In the Jerzy Budkowski Competition for young scientists, 13 students presented the results of experiments, in which the majority had been carried out in relation to their PhD studies.

In total 79 scientific announcements were presented in the following four sessions:

- Biological bases of poultry production (23),
- Poultry nutrition (10),
- Utilisation, environment and veterinary prevention (18),
- Quality of poultry products (28).

Prof. Ewa Lukaszewicz, PhD, DSc, President, Poland branch

Sri Lanka

The Sri Lanka branch has organised many programmes to promote the consumption of chicken and eggs to help the poultry industry as well as to reduce protein malnutrition that is prevalent in the country, especially among children. In this endeavour the association is working with the National Nutrition

Secretariat. *Programme to promote chicken and egg consumption:* On 19th July 2014 a stand was manned at the Exhibition at the Industrial Technical Institute (ITI) displaying a DVD on chicken and eggs and a cookery demonstration with chicken and eggs. Branch members took part in the Nutrition Walk organized by the ITI, with chief guest His Excellency President Mahinda Rajapakse.

ITI Nutrition Walk, 24 July 2014 Nutrition programme-Anuradhapura: In the North Western Province of Sri Lanka in a rural area at the Thirappane MahaVidyalaya school – Anuradhapura, an exhibition was held on nutrition, where about 2000 school children participated. We had a stall and distributed more than 3000 boiled eggs. An egg was provided for the school children with their lunch and the others were given at the stall. In addition, 4000 exercise books were given out with 'Nutrition Facts of Eggs and Chicken' printed on the inside covers and a message from Dr. Renuka Jayatissa, a UNICEF consultant on nutrition, on the back cover. His Excellency the President, the chief guest visited all the stalls and he gave away some boiled eggs and exercise books to all the students who participated.

World Egg Day Celebration: The World Egg Day was celebrated on 13th October 2014, at Hatton where a nutrition programme was organized for school children from the tea estate sector. This was organized jointly with the chairman of Hatton Dickoya Urban Council, Dr A Nandakumar. Around 300 school children and teachers from St. Gabriel's Girls' College, St. John Bosco's College, Highlands College, Sri Pade Central College and various members of the public attended the programme on the nutritional value of eggs. The speakers were Dr. A. Nandakumar, Dr. A Mahagama (past president of WPSA SL and Medical Officer of Health of the Bogawantalawa area.

Dr. Mrs. A L Godwin, Asst. Secretary, Sri Lanka branch

Tanzania

Report on the Annual General Meeting and on the 4th WPSA Tanzania branch Conference on 'Biosecurity and Poultry Development in Tanzania.'

A one day Annual General Meeting and conference was hosted by the WPSA

Tanzania branch on 10th September 2014 at the Central Veterinary Laboratory Agency, Dar-es Salaam. The AGM, in addition to receiving and discussing reports of routine branch activities, conducted elections for branch officers. The same officers were unanimously returned to the office for the next four years (2014-2018):

President: Prof U. M. Minga

Vice President: Dr. F. Akarro

Secretary: Prof A.P. Muhairwa

Treasurer: Dr. H. Mrema

The meeting approved eight sub-committees; namely, rural chickens and other poultry; collaboration networking; poultry health; quality control; continuing education; commercial poultry; marketing issues; and, fund and raising and consultancy.

The Tanzania branch had the honour of hosting Dr Robert Pym, former WPSA President, in Tanzania between 8th and 11th September 2014. In addition to attending the Annual Tanzania General Meeting, Dr Pym also gave a talk about the Australian Poultry Industry to the Sokoine University of Agriculture academia in the Morogoro region of Tanzania, as well as to members of WPSA in Dare es Salaam.

Prof. Amandus P. Muhairwa, Secretary, Tanzania branch

Turkey

The WPSA Turkish branch had a busy agenda recently. The National Poultry Congress was held in Elazığ between 9-11 October 2014, and was organised jointly by the local WPSA branch and Fırat University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, the Turkish Poultry Research Institute and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK). It was a very successful meeting which included the participation of WPSA Secretary Dr. Roel Mulder, WPSA Vice President Prof. Dr. Sacit (Sarge) Bilgili, Past President of WVPA Prof. Dr. H. Mohammed Hafez, Prof. Dr. Michael P. Lacy, Head of the Department of Poultry Science in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia, Prof. Dr. Michael O. Smith from the Department of Animal Science in the Institute of Agriculture, University of Tennessee, Dr. Nan-Dirk Mulder, Director Commodities Feed and Animal Protein at Rabobank and other renowned scientists from Turkey and all over

the world. The WPSA Iran branch President, Prof. Dr. Farid Shariatmadari, and branch Secretary Dr. Mostafa Mostafavi, were invited to attend. The Congress coincided with World Egg Day, which was celebrated on 10th October with the enthusiastic participation of local students. The profile of the congress was enhanced with the presence of the Governor of Elazığ, the Mayor of Elazığ, the Rector of Fırat University and the President of the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA), all of whom gave opening speeches.

Branch President Prof. Dr. Rüyeyde Akbay received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the FHABESAS Symposium held in Antalya from 16-19 October 2014. The FHABESAS Animal Nutrition and Health Symposium is organised every two years by Farmvet, an international animal health products company. The organisers felt very privileged that this symposium was held in honour of Prof. Dr. Akbay, and the event attracted widespread participation and received extensive coverage in the trade press.

Our association with the poultry sector and our active role in resolving problems relating to the sector remains strong. Prof. Dr. Rüyeyde Akbay and other branch members serve on the Advisory Board of the Healthy Chicken Meat Platform of the Poultry Meat Producers and Breeders Association (Besd-Bir). An Advisory Board Meeting was held in Izmir from 7-9 October 2014 and many issues regarding poultry were included on the agenda.

Gülbenk Yalçın, WPSA Turkish branch Secretary

United Kingdom

This year's Spring Annual meeting took place at the Jubilee campus of Nottingham University in conjunction with the BSAS and AVTRW. There were four sessions of original communications, two of which were themed around nutrition, one on disease control and one on animal welfare. In total there were 39 presentations including invited speakers and over 90 delegates attended the meeting. The invited session focused on a timely topic for the laying hen industry of 'injurious pecking' due to the impending ban on beak trimming in England. The session was introduced by Stephen Lister of Crowshall Veterinary Services and member of the Beak Trimming

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Action Group and was followed by two presentations that set out some of the strategies that might help manage the injurious pecking. Esther Ellen from Wageningen University demonstrated the possibilities of genetics and group selection to reduce injurious pecking whilst Sarah Lambton from the University of Bristol outlined management strategies that may reduce injurious pecking. The BSAS/WPSA joint session focussed on large scale production from the perspective of David Speller, a large broiler producer, the experience of Danish pig producers and how perceptions and socio-economic aspects of large scale intensive production influences planning, politics and PR focussing on examples from the dairy sector around the world. Prior to the WPSA annual dinner at the National College, the Gordon Memorial Lecture was given by Peter Kaiser on avian immunology. His lecture demonstrated how fundamental knowledge on avian immunology is being applied to practical solutions in the poultry industry. In all an excellent programme and our thanks go to all who contributed.

At the AGM there were some changes in the makeup of your council. The current president, Patrick Garland stood down and the newly elected president, Vicky Sandilands of SRUC took his place. At the AGM Patrick thanked the branch secretary, Mr Stephen Lister for all his support over the past year and over the entire term of his office; his diligence on conveying information to members and council. Dr Garland has been an essential link between the branch and the European Federation on a number of issues. It had been a pleasure working with him.

A significant amount of work had been conducted by the branch's treasurer and membership secretary, Mr Andrew Ball, in establishing active members on the data base and removing those who had decided to withdraw membership for various reasons. We now have an accurate number for active members who pay on time and this has allowed the branch to avoid excessive payments for World Association and European Federation dues. We shall pay these dues on or about the 1st June each year to allow those who use the spring meeting as their payment opportunity to do so. The branch will in future operate a no payment no membership policy.

The accounts presented show the branch to be in good health financially, with membership fees approximately covering running cost and the income from investments allowing the branch to fulfil its charitable status obligations. The President thank Mr Ball for his contribution and hard work in both sorting the membership records and the running of the branch finances.

The UK branch continues to support students and, during the past year, two summer scholarships were awarded and new research awards were made to two applicants. Organizers of the meeting were asked to promote the awards that the branch is now able to make to ensure that we benefit the poultry academic and commercial communities.

The new web site was launched at the previous meeting and over the course of the last year Dr Oluyinka Olukosi had worked hard to successfully further enhance this valuable resource. It will make communication within the branch more effective and importantly it will help spread the word about branch activities to a wider audience.

Yet again the programme committee led by Dr's Emily Burton and Ian Dunn, excelled itself with a superb programme. The quality of the papers and their presentations had been even better than last year. The meeting continues to gradually increase in numbers with over 90 delegates this year compared to a number of years ago, where delegate numbers had been in the 60's. Thanks for the work of the entire programme committee were extended. Finally, the president expressed his pleasure at having worked with the entire branch council during his term of office and thanked them for their support and co-operation. He wished the branch every success for the future, confident in the leadership of the incoming President, Dr Vicky Sandilands, and looked forward to attending future meetings as a delegate.

31st Poultry Science Symposium 2014, 8-10 September 2014, Sustainable Poultry Production, Chester University

More than one hundred delegates representing all areas of the poultry sector met in Chester, UK to examine the factors influencing sustainable poultry production in Europe. Organising committee member Dr Emily Burton has prepared the following report on

the meeting; held 8-10th September, which marked the 50th anniversary of the WPSA UK branch Poultry Science Symposium Series.

In the first session, Anne-Marie Neeteson-van Niewenhoven highlighted the broad scope represented by the term sustainability in Europe before Dr Mike Appleby offered a more global view. The next session addressed a topic that became a major thread of the symposium: public perception of the poultry sector. Dr Patricia Parrott explained that the public tends to hold strong – but not always correct – views, before Philip Clarke urged poultry meat and egg companies to help bridge the gap between public perceptions and reality by increasing their transparency towards both the public and the media. Global market pressures on economic sustainability were then explained by Nan-Dirk Mulder before Richard Kempsey, representing the egg company Stonegate, and Steve Ellis, Director of the 2 Sisters Food Group, provided a practical view on how the sustainability agenda impacts on their respective businesses.

The second day of the meeting began by examining people as a sustainable resource, with routes forward that had been suggested by Prof Colin Whittemore, and a German example provided by Dr Falko Kaufmann. Dr Piet van der Aar and Brett Roosendaal, subsequently gave eloquent accounts of the role of nutrition in sustainability before the challenge to reduce antibiotic use was addressed by Andrew Walker in a session entitled 'avian and human health: interactions, opportunities and threats'. The importance of public communication came to the fore once again when Steve Pritchard outlined the opportunities for promoting health benefits of poultry products. In the final session of day two, Dr Bill Hill spoke about breeding for sustainability, explaining that not only performance parameters but also those that relate to bird welfare were being driven forward. Dr Mike McGrew went on to show huge strides have been made through genetic selection in both the meat chicken and egg industries over the last five decades, highlighting that improvements are set to continue through application of new tools and resources for genetic management.

The final day of the meeting started with an extremely accessible and comprehensive commentary on the unfolding field of life cycle analysis and environmental impact assessment from Adrian Williams, before

David Speller used the story of his own, highly successful entry into broiler production to demonstrate that balancing social, environmental and economic factors within a business is not only achievable but beneficial to the business. Finally, Colin Fisher drew delegates' attention forwards to the horizon of 2050 – and consideration of how to ensure the poultry sector still thrives at that time. In exploring the input resources available to support action, Colin reminded delegates that the WPSA is a huge, global organisation capable of leading fundamental change - if we choose to react to John Hodges' call to arms laid down at the World Poultry Congress in Brisbane, 2008.

WPSA summer vacation scholarships

Conditions of Award

1. Scholarships will be awarded to selected *bona fide* students for the furtherance of a period of study or research into an aspect of poultry science, or a poultry related subject. BSc, (taught) MSc or other 'qualifying' degrees will be considered. Only students who are undertaking, but have not yet completed, a UK based recognised first degree or (taught) MSc course may apply.
2. This period of study is normally expected to take place during the summer vacation in the year of application, and to be of approximately eight weeks duration.
3. The application must be supported by the supervisor/ or head of department/director or equivalent, who should also provide guidance and supervision during the project.
4. Preference will be given to applicants who are, or whose Supervisors are, members of WPSA.
5. Applicants may be in receipt of other concurrent awards, but any applied for or already agreed must be declared in the initial application.
6. Applicants should not normally be more than 35 years of age and scholarships will not normally be awarded to the employees of commercial enterprises. This is at the discretion of the branch Council who will consider applications on merit.
7. Successful applicants will be expected to produce a short report in a standard format (full details will be provided to successful applicants) on the completion of their

New Publication

period of study/research. These must be completed and submitted by 1 October 2015 and may be chosen for presentation as either short papers or posters at the WPSA UK branch Annual Conference in the following spring.

8. Applications will be considered on their merit, irrespective of the level of degree course being undertaken by the applicant. The decision of the Council of the UK branch of WPSA is final. The branch reserves the right to make awards in full or in part, to withhold awards in exceptional circumstances and holds no responsibility for any claims which may arise as a result of these awards.
9. Any research or other work undertaken must comply with all existing legislation and any necessary licences must be obtained.
10. Applications, which must be made on the appropriate form (photocopies are permitted), must be received prior to the branch Annual Meeting, April 2015.

WPSA UK Research Award

An award to encourage participation and fund creative, interesting and important pieces of research across the whole spectrum of poultry production !

The WPSA (UK branch) is pleased to offer a new annual award in addition to their existing Summer Vacation Scholarship. The award is of £1000 to support a piece of research of broad benefit to the UK poultry sector. The intention of the award is to catalyse small research projects not generating commercial gain for individual organisations. Projects involving matched funding will be considered on an equal basis, but a condition of funding is the publication of findings within 12 months of project completion, ideally via the branch's Spring Meeting. Proposals covering any aspect of poultry science are welcomed, including laboratory analysis of samples, collection of field data, expansion of an existing poultry trial or compilation and analysis of existing field data. For details on how to apply for the award, please contact WPSA Secretary. Further details will appear on the WPSA website.

WPSA UK branch Spring Meeting Scholarship

A key priority for WPSA is to improve opportunities for students in poultry science. As a result, the UK branch is offering sponsorship for students to attend the annual Spring Meeting, in order to gain insight into poultry research and to meet established poultry scientists.

There are ten £150 scholarships available each year which can be used towards the meeting's registration and accommodation costs.

Scholarships are assessed and awarded at the discretion of the Council. All students (UK based or otherwise) studying poultry, animal and allied sciences are invited to apply but the following will be considered as supportive of your application:

- Submission of an abstract
- Being an undergraduate registered at a UK university or institute
- Not having attended this meeting before

Further details on all these matters are available from the branch Secretary

Stephen Lister, branch Secretary, WPSA UK
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