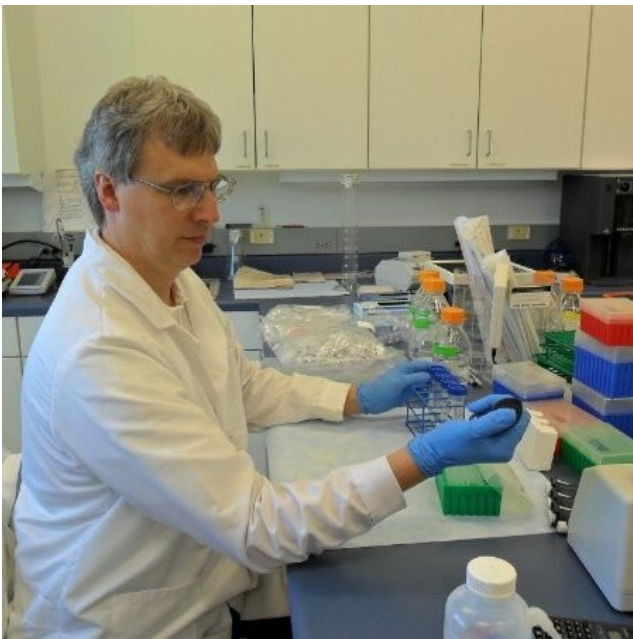




# American Association of Veterinary Immunologists

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<b><u>Newsletter Editor</u></b>	Laura Miller

## Message from the AAVI President: Alan Young



2019 – A view looking back.

2019 may well be remembered as the year of African Swine Fever, however the AAVI has a lot to be proud of for this year. It is my pleasure to give you an update on our activity this year, pass out some thank-you's, and look forward to the coming year.

As many of you are aware, CRWAD was reorganized this year, moving the effective date of our primary business meeting

forward by one month. In addition, CRWAD has also been effectively revamping their meeting strategy over the past couple of years, resulting in the AAVI having to move many of our yearly target dates back. We therefore begin our "Thanks" to Jodi McGill, Chair of the nominating committee for moving rapidly after last year's meeting to present the Board with many strong nominations for the AAVI Distinguished Immunologist award for this year's CRWAD by early January. In the face of a strong group of nominees, the Board was pleased to select Bettina Wagner of Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine as this year's awardee. As I'm sure you're aware, Bettina has been a power in the field of equine Immunology, as well as an overall leader in the Veterinary Immunology community. We are looking forward to recognition of her accomplishments and her presentation "Host Immunity against Equine Herpesvirus Type 1" at this year's CRWAD. This year's AAVI Symposium, including Bettina's keynote address, will be held Monday November 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-3:30pm. This award represents AAVI's highest honor, and I encourage everybody to keep those strong nominees coming in future years.

Our second "Thank-you" goes to Crystal Loving for her work on behalf of AAVI this year. As AAVI's representative with the AAVI Veterinary Immunology Committee, it was

my pleasure to help with the session “Towards One Health: Understanding Disease with Animal Models”. Veterinary Immunology remains a strong component of the AAI, and we had 4 excellent research talks encompassing research models ranging from swine to trout. Our thanks go out to Crystal for taking lead on organizing this session each year, and I encourage those of you attending next year’s AAI meeting in Hawaii to put it on your “to-do” list.

Continuing with Crystal’s input over the year, I would like to thank her and the entire organizing committee for their tremendous work overseeing organization and implementation of the International Veterinary Immunology Symposium that took place in Seattle this past August. As you may imagine, despite the strong support we received from IUIS, organization of a meeting of this stature and complexity took a great deal of time and effort. AAVI was pleased to support the meeting with both effort and funding, and contributing to the overall success of the effort. The scientific sessions were excellent, although I think that the evening harbor cruise may have sparked the most memories! Many thanks must also go out to our incoming President, Aradhya Gourapura, who submitted the proposal to NIFA that provided additional to support IVIS.

Our final thanks goes out to Chuck Czuprynski, who will be representing AAVI at the Centennial Celebration Talks on Sunday at 4:00pm. For those of you unaware, this year is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CRWAD as an organization. As a part of that, Sunday will be dedicated to Centennial Celebrations, and as our 2004 DVI recipient, Chuck stepped forward to represent AAVI with a retrospective view of AAVI’s participation at CRWAD over the years. As we move towards the CRWAD meeting, I would remind everyone of our Annual Business meeting to be held at the Grand Lux Café on Monday November 4, from 12:00-1:30pm. This is not only our chance

to get together in a relaxed atmosphere and share a meal, but also our primary business meeting for the year. Please encourage your graduate students to attend this important gathering, as an opportunity to expand their scientific interactions in a less formal atmosphere. Tickets may be purchased from the AAVI website ([theAAVI.org](http://theAAVI.org)) in conjunction with yearly membership.

As a last thank-you, I would mention the entire Executive Board of the AAVI. These people take their own time to keep the organization strong, which requires (frequently) more work than you would think! I can’t mention them all here, but you can find the current Board at <http://www.theaavi.org>. Thank you all for your continued support of the AAVI, and I look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

Alan Young.

## Secretary’s Note

*By Carol Chitko-McKown*

**Membership:** At this point in time, we have 54 members in good standing, and student membership has increased. Many members pay their dues at the annual business meeting so we will continue to collect payments there. However, please keep in mind **that for students to participate in the AAVI sponsored oral and poster presentation at CRWAD, either the student or the mentor need to be members in good standing at the time the abstract is submitted.**

AAVI will also send out a “membership reminder and request for payment of dues” a few times a year because some members have indicated that this is required for them to pay out of their research funds. If there are any other special requests that will make your dues payments easier, please let me know! AAVI dues will remain \$50 for regular members, and \$20 for students. You can pay online

here <https://www.theaavi.org/membership-newsletter.html> or you can pay by cash or check at the Business Luncheon.

If you are not receiving AAVI notifications via email, please get in touch with me and we will try to sort this out. Additionally, if you included your personal email address when paying via PayPal, please contact me at [carol.chitkomckown@ars.usda.gov](mailto:carol.chitkomckown@ars.usda.gov) or [AAVIorg@gmail.com](mailto:AAVIorg@gmail.com) and include both your professional and email addresses so that I can have both on file.

**AAVI Business Meeting:** The AAVI luncheon will be held Monday, November 4, 2019 starting at 11:30 at The Grand Lux Cafe, 600 N Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60611. Cost of the meal is \$30 and will include Eggs Benedict with ham and hollandaise, Mendocino Salad, Pasta Fresca, and Applewood Smoked Bacon. You can help us by paying in advance, or RSVPing here <https://www.theaavi.org/upcoming-meetings.html> A headcount for the luncheon is due by October 30th, so please respond by then.

All are welcome to attend. If you know of anyone who is considering joining AAVI, this is an excellent chance for them to see our group in action and to meet many of our friendly and helpful members!

***Please attend our business luncheon Monday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 11:30am at the Grand Lux Café on Michigan Avenue, Chicago.***

## AAVI Honors at CRWAD

2019 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist (DVI)

Dr. Bettina Wagner, *Host immunity to equine herpesvirus type 1*  
Monday, November 4, 2019

CRWAD Centennial Celebration  
Dr. Chuck Czuprynski, *Veterinary immunology then and now: 40th Anniversary of the American Association of Veterinary Immunologists*  
Sunday, November 3, 2019

## 2019 AAVI Student Presentation Competition

*By Aradhya Gourapura, Chair,  
AAVI Awards Committee*

A total of 6 awards will be given, three each for poster and oral presentations comprising of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places and the winners received \$250, \$150 and \$100, respectively. *\*\*either the student or the mentor need to be AAVI members in good standing at the time the abstract is submitted.*

As we are making final arrangements for judges of student Poster and Oral presentations, please contact Isis Kanevsky ([isiskanevsky@gmail.com](mailto:isiskanevsky@gmail.com)) if you are interested. Judges of all expertise are welcome to volunteer, especially if they would like to serve as moderators as well!!

## Mini-symposium Report:

*By Randy Sacco, Chair*

**AAVI 2019 Mini Symposium**  
Monday November 4, 2019

### **Novel therapeutic strategies using non-traditional animal models**

3:00-3:30PM  
Benjamin Beck, USDA-ARS Aquatic Animal Health Research Unit, Auburn, Alabama, "Bacterial infections of catfish: mechanisms of pathogen virulence, host susceptibility, and novel control measures"

4:15-4:45PM  
Leela Noronha, USDA-ARS Arthropod-Borne Animal Diseases Research Unit,

Manhattan, KS, “Preliminary evaluation of a recombinant subunit vaccine for the protection of white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) from epizootic hemorrhagic disease”

4:45-5:15PM

Kevin Harvey, National Research Council, Canada, “Genetics and immunological functions of camelid heavy chain antibodies”

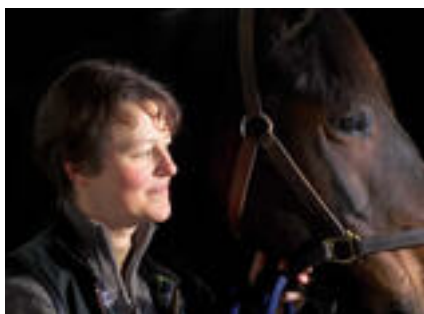
5:15-5:45PM

Nicola Mason, University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine, “Testing next-generation genetically engineered T cells in dogs with cancer and autoimmunity”

2019 AAVI Distinguished  
Veterinary Immunologist:

Dr. Bettina Wagner

*By Jodi McGill, Nominations Chair*



**“Host immunity against equine herpesvirus type 1”**

The AAVI is pleased to honor Dr. Bettina Wagner with the 2019 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist Award. Dr. Wagner completed her veterinary education at the School of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, Germany, where she also earned her DVM and Habilitation (equivalent to Ph.D.) degrees. After holding positions as a post-DVM, post-doctoral fellow, research associate and lecturer in Germany, Dr. Wagner served as a Visiting Scientist and then a Senior Research Associate at the

Baker Institute for Animal Health prior to her appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences at Cornell University. She assumed duties as the Director of Serology/Immunology at the Animal Health Diagnostic Center (AHDC) at the College of Veterinary Medicine in 2006. Dr. Wagner was promoted to Associate Professor in 2010 and in 2014 she was appointed as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education at the College of Veterinary Medicine. In 2016 Dr. Wagner was promoted to full professor and transitioned to Department Chair of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences.

Dr. Wagner is at the peak of a career in Veterinary Immunology that began in the early 1990s.

Directly after completing her veterinary degree in Hannover, Germany, she commenced advanced training in immunology with a focus on molecular aspects of equine immunoglobulin genes and the development of new monoclonal antibodies to equine immunoglobulins. Dr. Wagner is widely acknowledged as the world’s leading expert on immunoglobulins and antibody-mediated immunity in the horse. Dr. Wagner’s research in veterinary immunology has included substantial contributions in the areas of allergic and infectious diseases. As a key member of the Veterinary Immune Reagent Network, Dr. Wagner has contributed to the development of countless reagents for studying the equine immune system, and her work has led to the development of several important diagnostic tests for use in both dogs and horses. Dr. Wagner has authored over 130 peer-reviewed publications. She has been awarded several patents for her inventions relevant to veterinary immunology; has been invited to speak at many regional, national, and 3 international meetings; and has an excellent record of securing competitive grant support from USDA, Morris Animal Foundation, and other agencies. Finally, Dr. Wagner was honored early in her career as

the Harry M. Zweig Assistant Professor in Equine Health at Cornell.

As a faculty member of the Cornell Veterinary College Dr. Wagner teaches veterinary and graduate students, and has a good record of service on several major veterinary college committees. Given her excellence in research, teaching and service, Dr. Wagner is highly deserving of the 2019 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist award. It is our great pleasure to host Dr. Wagner on November 4th in Chicago at the 2019 AAVI Symposium, held in conjunction with the 100<sup>th</sup> Annual CRWAD meeting!

## Nominations Committee Report

*By Jodi McGill, Chair,  
AAVI Nominations Committee*

We are currently soliciting for nominations for the 2020 AAVI Board. The deadline for nominations is November 1, 2019.

We are seeking nominees for the following board positions:

**Vice President** (1 position available, 1 year term)

**Member at Large** (1 position available, 3 year term)

**Nominations Committee** (2 positions available, 3 year term)

Self-nominations are encouraged! To be considered for a position on the board, please submit a name and brief (1 paragraph) biography to **Jodi McGill** ([jlmcgill@iastate.edu](mailto:jlmcgill@iastate.edu)) by November 1, 2019. Nominees will be elected by the membership.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the AAVI.

## IVIS 2019 Report:



### International Veterinary Immunology Symposium 2019 (IVIS 2019)

August 13-16, 2019, Seattle, WA

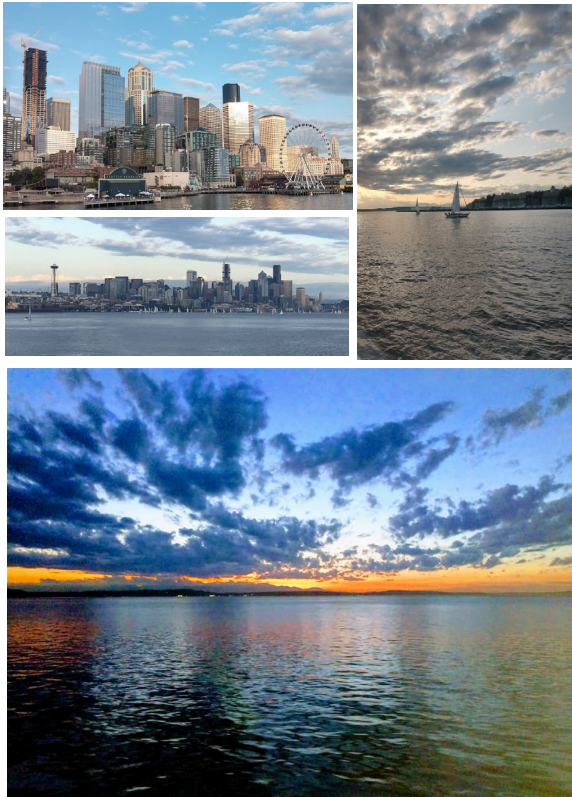
*Meeting supported by IUIS and organized by AAVI*

Scientific Committee Chair: Philip Griebel, University of Saskatchewan

Organizing Committee Chair: Crystal Loving, USDA-ARS-NADC



Professor Paul Wood, Inventor of the boIFN TB test, IVIS2019 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist Award winner, and Professor Gary Entrican, IUIIC Recognition Award winner.



Highlights from the IVIS2019 Gala dinner cruise.

## Obituaries:

### Dr. Margo Holland

SEPTEMBER 30, 1959 ~ AUGUST 18, 2019

It is with great sadness that we share the announcement of Dr. Margo Holland's death on Aug. 18. Dr. Holland was a faculty member in the Department of Veterinary Pathology, Michigan State University and then the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine, Iowa State University, in the early 2000s. Her husband, Bob Holland, was in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, Michigan State University and chair of the Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine, Iowa State University during that

time, as well. Please keep Dr. Holland and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Below is Dr. Holland's obituary:

"A rare and priceless diamond; her beauty was reflected in her many facets... wife, mother, daughter, sister, researcher, friend, mentor, servant leader, and child of God.

Margo L. Steele Holland was born on September 30, 1959 in Chicago, Illinois to the union of John T. and Gwendolyn Gordon Steele. Surrounded by the love of parents, grandparents, Almon and Georgia Gordon and great-aunt Laura Adams, and under the watchful eye of her big brother, John Roy, she blossomed. As a child, she attended and was baptized at Chicago's historic Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, and was actively involved in the Baptist Training Union and Girl Scouts through her teen years.

A product of the Chicago Public School system, Margo followed in her big brother's footsteps, graduating from Lindblom Technical High School, and matriculating at Tuskegee University. She earned a Baccalaureate Degree in Biology from Tuskegee University in 1981, her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Tuskegee in 1985, and furthered her studies, earning a PhD in Veterinary Pathology from Michigan State University in 1994.

Margo's natural inquisitiveness and analytical skills drove a career in veterinary medical research that led her to hold faculty positions at Michigan State University, Iowa State University, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and most recently at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Washington D.C.

As a student in Tuskegee University's College of Veterinary Medicine, she met another veterinary student, and in 1984 she married her soulmate and best friend, Dr. Robert Holland. To that union, two daughters were born – Ashley Noelle and Morgan Simone Holland.

Margo's enthusiasm for life and learning manifested itself in her community service and her love for travel. Even with her responsibilities at work and home, she found time to give back through involvement with several organizations. She was a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, initiated at Tuskegee University, Gamma Kappa Chapter; The Links, Incorporated, Arlington Chapter; Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated, Alexandria-Mt. Vernon Chapter; The Roanoke Dinner Dance Club and the Tuskegee Alumni Association. Margo loved the sisterhood she developed with these organizations; and she delighted in expanding her network of friends, particularly as she traveled around the world.

The one facet of her life that out shown all the others was that of being Mom to Ashley and Simone. Her pride in her daughters was immeasurable, and her designation, by them, as the "Best Mom in the World" was unchallenged.

On Sunday, August 18, 2019, after valiantly battling cancer, Margo L. Steele Holland made her transition from life to eternity. She leaves behind to celebrate her life and legacy a devoted husband and partner, Robert; two daughters, Ashley Noelle Holland and Morgan Simone Holland; mother-in-law, Lois Holland; two brothers-in-law, Colonel (Retired) Roger A. Holland, and Reverend Wayne Robinson; and four sisters-in-law, Renee Robinson, Rhonda Holland, Crystal Holland and Sharon Steele; her beloved nieces and nephews; treasured extended family; friends and colleagues.

A rare and priceless diamond indeed; her beauty will forever live on in our hearts."

## Upcoming Meeting Announcements

**IMMUNOLOGY 2020**  
**American Association of  
Immunologists (AAI) Annual Meeting**  
Submit your abstract to Comparative and  
Veterinary Immunology Section starting  
November 2019  
May 8-12, 2020 Honolulu, Hawai'i



## 17th International Congress of Immunology (ICI 2019)



**October 18-23, 2019**  
**Beijing, China**

## **AAVI Officers and Board - 2019**

**President:** Alan Young, South Dakota State University, [alan.young@sdstate.edu](mailto:alan.young@sdstate.edu)  
**President Elect:** Aradhya Gourapura, The Ohio State University, [gourapura.1@osu.edu](mailto:gourapura.1@osu.edu)  
**Vice President:** Randy Sacco, USDA-ARS, [randy.sacco@ars.usda.gov](mailto:randy.sacco@ars.usda.gov)  
**Past President:** George Mutwiri, U. of Saskatchewan, Canada, [george.mutwiri@usask.ca](mailto:george.mutwiri@usask.ca)  
**Secretary:** Carol Chitko-McKown, USDA-ARS, [carol.chitkomckown@ars.usda.gov](mailto:carol.chitkomckown@ars.usda.gov)  
**Treasurer:** Yongming Sang, Tennessee State University, [ysang@tnstate.edu](mailto:ysang@tnstate.edu)

### **Members-at-Large:**

Chuck Czuprynski (2019) University of Wisconsin, [charles.czuprynski@wisc.edu](mailto:charles.czuprynski@wisc.edu)  
Crystal Loving (2020), USDA-ARS-MARC, [crystal.loving@usda.gov](mailto:crystal.loving@usda.gov)  
Diego Diel (2021), South Dakota State University, [diego.diel@sdstate.edu](mailto:diego.diel@sdstate.edu)  
Laura Miller (2022), USDA-ARS, [laura.miller@ars.usda.gov](mailto:laura.miller@ars.usda.gov)

### **Nomination Committee (Elected by membership)**

Jodi McGill (Chair, 2020) Kansas State University, [jlmcgill@vet.k-state.edu](mailto:jlmcgill@vet.k-state.edu)  
Isis Kanevsky (2019) [isiskanevsky@gmail.com](mailto:isiskanevsky@gmail.com)  
Matthew Sylte (2019) [matthew.sylte@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.sylte@usda.gov)  
Robert Schaut (2020) Elanco  
Tobias Käser (2021) North Carolina State University  
Radhey Kaushik (2021) [Radhey.Kaushik@SDSTATE.EDU](mailto:Radhey.Kaushik@SDSTATE.EDU)

### **Membership Committee**

Aradhya Gourapura, The Ohio State University, [gourapura.1@osu.edu](mailto:gourapura.1@osu.edu)  
Alan Young, South Dakota State University, [alan.young@sdstate.edu](mailto:alan.young@sdstate.edu)  
Carol Chitko-McKown, USDA-ARS, [carol.chitkomckown@ars.usda.gov](mailto:carol.chitkomckown@ars.usda.gov)  
Sheela Ramamoorthy, North Dakota State University, [sheela.ramamoorthy@ndsu.edu](mailto:sheela.ramamoorthy@ndsu.edu)  
George Mutwiri, U. of Saskatchewan, Canada, [george.mutwiri@usask.ca](mailto:george.mutwiri@usask.ca)  
Kristen Byrne, USDA-ARS, [kristen.byrne@ars.usda.gov](mailto:kristen.byrne@ars.usda.gov)

### **Constitution/By-Laws Committee**

George Mutwiri, U. of Saskatchewan, Canada, [george.mutwiri@usask.ca](mailto:george.mutwiri@usask.ca)

### **Student Awards Committee**

Aradhya Gourapura, The Ohio State University, [gourapura.1@osu.edu](mailto:gourapura.1@osu.edu)

### **Newsletter Editor**

Laura Miller, USDA-ARS, [laura.miller@ars.usda.gov](mailto:laura.miller@ars.usda.gov)

### **Webmaster**

Crystal Loving, USDA-ARS, [crystal.loving@ars.usda.gov](mailto:crystal.loving@ars.usda.gov)

Website: [theaavi.org](http://theaavi.org)

Email address: [AAVIorg@gmail.com](mailto:AAVIorg@gmail.com)