



American Association of Veterinary Immunologists

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Message from the AAVI President: Aradhya Gourapura



We did not start the 2020 with a good note due to COVID-19. Now the COVID-19 pandemic has spread globally in over 213 countries, with over 10 million tested positive, and responsible for about 0.5 million deaths. Unfortunately, the virus responsible for COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2, was also found transmitted from humans to cats, tigers, and dogs.

As a current president of AAVI, I am glad to share with you an update on AAVI activity of

this year and thank the people who are involved in various activities of the organization. We thank Jodi McGill, Chair of the nominating committee for working diligently this year on soliciting the Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist (DVI) nomination at the same time as the Board nominations. Like earlier, we decided to keep solicitation process targeting AAVI members only, and planned to increase the publicity through the website and social media. We had many strong nominations for the AAVI DVI award for this year's CRWAD. Our Board was pleased to select Dr. Scott McVey, Director, Center for Grain and Animal Health Research, USDA Agricultural Research Service as 2020 DVI. Dr. McVey has vast experience in veterinary immunology and worked extensively in North America at various leadership roles in Veterinary Vaccines and Diagnostic Microbiology. In 2020 CRWAD, we are looking forward to recognizing him for his accomplishments and immense contributions to our immunology research and diagnostic community. We are all waiting for his interesting presentation on "A Journey Through Vaccine Valley." This year's AAVI Symposium, including Scott's keynote address will be held on Monday December 7th from 2:00-3:30pm. The DVI is a unique recognition to veterinary immunologists in North America, represents AAVI's highest honor, and I encourage

everybody to keep those strong nominees coming in future years. Though 2020 AAI's 2020 Immunology meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, was cancelled due to COVID-19, still I would like to thank Crystal Loving, AAI-Veterinary Immunology Committee Chair, for her leadership in organizing AAVI committee-sponsored symposium, titled "Immunomodulation and Immunotherapy: Lessons to improve health". She planned the activity and invited four excellent speakers for the symposium encompassing research presentations on immune modulators used in large animal systems that provide information relevant to both human and animal health.

This year's CRWAD meeting is focused mainly on 'Vaccines' related topics with many invited talks by eminent featured speakers in that area. 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 December 7th from 11:45am-1:30pm. This is a great opportunity for all of us to get together in a relaxed atmosphere and share a meal, and our primary business meeting for the year. Please encourage all your graduate students and trainees to attend this important gathering, and it is as an excellent opportunity to expand their scientific interactions in a less formal atmosphere. Tickets may be purchased from the AAVI website ([theAAVI.org](http://www.theaavi.org)) in conjunction with yearly membership.

It is my honor and privilege to serve the AAVI committee in 2020. I would like to thank you for this opportunity and support. Dr. Randy Sacco will take over as the AAVI president effective January 1, 2020. I will continue to serve in the AAVI board as a past president. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the entire Executive Board of the AAVI, who take their time to keep the organization strong, which demands more planning and work than one could imagine. Finally, I and AAVI board thank Dr. Laura Miller for working on this Newsletter for all of us. You can find them in current Board at

<http://www.theaavi.org>. Thank you all for your continued support to the AAVI. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Chicago in December!

Aradhya Gourapura
Professor, The Ohio State University

Secretary's Note

By Carol Chitko-McKown

Membership: At this point in time, we have 86 members in good standing. I have been recording membership on a rolling basis, so you have a year from when you last paid your dues until they are due again. Although many members pay their dues at the annual business meeting, paying on a recurring basis with PayPal is becoming very popular and makes it easier to get your money directly into the AAVI account. If possible, I request that you email me your professional email and snail-mail addresses so that I can keep an actual record of where our members work. Remember to 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. I will try to flag you during your quarter of the year based on the rolling membership mentioned above. 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.

Each time I send out emails to the membership, several bounce back to me as undeliverable. In many instances, I know I am using the correct email address, so it no doubt has to do with security settings on

email accounts. If you are not receiving AAVI notifications via email, please get in touch with me and we will try to sort this out.



AAVI Business Meeting: The 2019 AAVI Business Meeting was held at the Grand Lux Café on Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL. The cost remained \$30 and we had a fantastic turnout. Due to the high number of participants which we would love to see grow, we offered a buffet style lunch again in 2019 and this worked out well with plenty of food including vegetarian selections. Stay tuned for a vote on the lunch selection for 2020 assuming we have a physical meeting along with CRWAD! 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!

Follow us on Twitter!
@theaavi

Check fraud incident and how to avoid it in the future

We had an unfortunate circumstance in which two payments were made from our AAVI account on March 12, 2020 following a request from an individual purported to be Alan Young. The total amount of the two checks was \$6192, including FedEx charges. The language in the emails was quite similar

to earlier legitimate email conversations regarding payments to attorneys to establish AAVI as a 501c with filing of appropriate paperwork with the IRS, which we had committed to in our November board meeting. In addition, this occurred at the same time that Alan was working from home following recovery from surgery. The hackers created a fake email account for Alan Young (through a legitimate provider) and requested two check payments of \$2685 and \$3450 towards additional fees to be sent by FedEx. Since we had previously committed to payment for fees and did not realize this was a fraudulent request, Aradhya and Simon approved the payments. Simon then sent the checks via FedEx. Aradhya noticed this fraud two weeks later when another two similar requests were received from the same individual, and at that time requested further information about the payments from Alan’s SDSU email address, at which time police involvement was requested. Since the legal address for the AAVI is Brookings, SD, the real Alan Young filed an incident report with the police in Brookings and that investigation is currently ongoing. Similar situations occurred with CRWAD and AVMA, however, those organizations were able to stop payment on the checks. To avoid any such confusion and future fraudulent charges to our AAVI account, the board will develop and implement new procedures for approval of any significant future financial transactions and payments.

2019 AAVI Student Presentation Competition Results

*By Randy Sacco, Chair,
AAVI Awards Committee*

A total of 22 graduate students were entered in oral and poster competitions in the immunology sections of CRWAD November 2-5, 2019. Six graduate students presenting their research received AAI Young Investigator Awards. Investigators who are

AAVI members selected the oral and poster presentation awardees which were: Alexadria Gillespie (University of Mass-Amherst); Carsten Walker (Michigan State University); Amanda Amaral (North Carolina State University); Jayne Wiarda (Iowa State University); Elisabeth Larson (Cornell University); and Shaurav Bhattarai (South Dakota State University).

AAVI 2019 Mini-Symposium at CRWAD

"Novel therapeutic strategies using non-traditional animal models"
Monday, November 4, 2019
Chair: Randy Sacco

Speakers:

- 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*
- 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*



- Kevin Harvey, National Research Council, Canada, *Genetics and immunological functions of camelid heavy chain antibodies*
- Nicola Mason, University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine, *Testing next-generation genetically engineered T cells in dogs with cancer and autoimmunity*

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

From the Nominations Committee:

Jodi McGill, Chair of the AAVI Nominations Committee

Dear AAVI Members,

We are currently soliciting for nominations for the 2021 AAVI Board. The deadline for nominations is October 2, 2020.

We are currently 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)
- Secretary (1 position 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) by October 2, 2020. Nominees will be elected by the membership.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the AAVI.

Best regards,
Jodi McGill
Chair of the AAVI Nominations Committee
Assistant Professor
Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine
Iowa State University
Dear Colleagues,

We are seeking nominations for the 2021 AAVI Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist Award.

The American Association of Veterinary Immunologists (AAVI) solicits nominations for the AAVI Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist (DVI) award, which is intended to honor an immunologist for outstanding contribution to veterinary immunology. Recipients are individuals whose contribution to veterinary immunology is widely acknowledged as significant and important to the understanding of the immunology of domestic and/or wild animals. The award recognizes all specialties of veterinary immunology and is open to members and

non-members of AAVI. Any individual other than a current member of the Nominations Committee of AAVI, who is nominated by an AAVI member in good standing, is eligible to be considered for the DVI award. Nominations are good for 3 years from the date of submission.

Please submit a letter of nomination and the nominee's C.V. to Jodi McGill, Chair of the AAVI Nominations Committee, by **August 3, 2020**, at: jlmcgill@iastate.edu.

AAVI has presented a **Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist** award each year since 1988. The following are past recipients:

1988 Ron Schultz	2005 Gary Splitter
1989 Alex Winter	2006 Mark Jutila
1990 Bennie Osburn	2007 John Butler
1991 Travis McGuire	2008 Lorraine Sordillo
1992 Loren Babiuk	2009 Mark Estes
1993 William Davis	2010 Frank Blecha
1994 Ivan Morrison	2011 Patricia Shewen
1995 Linda Saif	2012 Mike Murtaugh
1996 Joan Lunney	2013 Ian Tizard
1997 James Roth	2014 Hyun Lillehoj
1998 Lance Perryman	2015 Philip Griebel
1999 Wendy Brown	2016 Subramanian Srikumaran
2000 Doug Antczak	2017 W. Ray Waters
2001 Lynette Corbeil	2018 Laurel Gershwin
2002 Cynthia Baldwin	2019 Betina Wagner
2003 Chris Howard	2020 Scott McVey
2004 Chuck Czuprynski	

Please consider submitting a nomination for the 2021 DVI award. Your participation is critical and highly appreciated. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely

Jodi McGill
Assistant Professor of Immunology
Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine
Iowa State University

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**2020 AAVI Distinguished
Veterinary Immunologist:
Dr. D. Scott McVey**

**“A Journey Through Vaccine Valley”
2020 Distinguished Veterinary
Immunologist: Dr. D. Scott McVey**

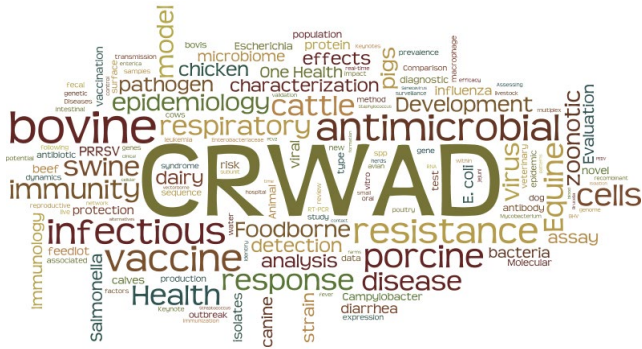
The AAVI is pleased to honor Dr. D. Scott McVey with the 2020 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist Award. Dr. McVey received his DVM degree from the University of Tennessee in 1980. He spent three years in a dairy practice in East Tennessee and then earned his PhD degree in Veterinary Microbiology from Texas A&M University in 1986. Dr. McVey joined the faculty at Kansas State University in 1986 as an Assistant Professor of Immunology. He was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 1992. Dr. McVey was awarded the SmithKline Beecham Award for Research Excellence in 1992. In late 1995, Dr. McVey joined Rhone Merieux as a Production Animal Scientist working in developmental research in veterinary biological products and diagnostics. In January of 1998, he joined Pfizer Bioprocess Research as a Senior Research Investigator and his most recent position there was Director of Laboratory Sciences, Biologicals Development of Pfizer Animal Health in Lincoln, NE. Dr. McVey moved to the University of Nebraska in 2006, where he was Professor of Clinical Microbiology and Director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Center and supervised diagnostic bacteriology and taught microbiology in the University of Nebraska-Iowa State University Program for Veterinary Medicine. Dr. McVey was recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in 2007. He served as the President of the American

College of Veterinary Microbiologists from 2002-2004 and has also served on the Blue Ribbon Panel for Counter measures for Terrorist Threats to Agriculture for the President of the United States from 2003 to 2004. Dr. McVey joined the Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture in 2011 and is currently the Director of the Center for Grain and Animal Health Research which is the location of the Arthropod Borne Animal Disease Research Unit where he had previously investigated vaccines and diagnostic control measures for arboviruses.

Dr. McVey's research has covered the depth and breadth of immunology and bacteriology in animals, and he has done so while in academic, industrial and government appointments – all of which take a different approach to the performance of science and result in different end products. His research has resulted in over 80 peer-reviewed manuscripts, 8 book chapters, patents, numerous abstracts/proceedings, and invitations to give national and international presentations and continuing education programs, and he has received over \$1.5 million in grant funding. Furthermore, Dr. McVey has mentored one Ph.D, three M.S., and two D.V.M./M.S. students as well as participating as Committee Advisory Committee Member for 49 additional students.

Given his dedication to the Immunology community and record of excellence in research teaching and service over the past 33 years (and counting), Dr. McVey is highly deserving of the 2020 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist award. It is our great pleasure to host Dr. McVey on December 7th in Chicago at the 2020 AAVI Symposium, held in conjunction with the 101st Annual CRWAD meeting!

Upcoming Meeting Announcements



Conference for Research Workers in Animal Diseases (CRWAD) Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile.

AAVI sponsored graduate student oral and poster presentation competition at CRWAD.
***either the student or the mentor need to be AAVI members in good standing at the time the abstract is submitted.*

2020 AAVI CRWAD Mini-symposium:

AAVI 2020 Mini Symposium
Monday, December 7, 2020

Bridging the Gap: Vaccines from Concept to Usage

3:00-3:30 PM
Dr. Jay Calvert, Global Biologics Research,
Zoetis, Kalamazoo, MI, “From Scientific
Discovery to Commercial Product in 10 Easy
Steps: The case of CD163 and PRRS
Vaccines.”

4:15-4:45 PM
Dr. Roy Curtiss III, Department of
Infectious Diseases and Pathology, College

of Veterinary Medicine, University of
Florida, Gainesville, FL, "Vaccine Discovery
and Development – from Lab to Market
Place"

4:45-5:15 PM
Dr. Douglas Gladue, USDA-ARS, Foreign
Animal Disease Research Unit, Orient Point,
NY, “Advances in African swine fever live-
attenuated vaccines”

5:15-5:45 PM
Dr. Shawn Bearson, USDA-ARS, Food Safety
and Enteric Pathogens Research Unit, Ames,
IA, “DIVA vaccine cross-protects
against *Salmonella* serovars in food
animals”

AAVI Officers and Board - 2020

President: Aradhya Gourapura, The Ohio State University, gourapura.1@osu.edu
President Elect: Randy Sacco, USDA-ARS, randy.sacco@usda.gov
Vice President: Jodi McGill, Iowa State University, jlmcgill@iastate.edu
Past President: Alan Young, South Dakota State University, alan.young@sdstate.edu
Secretary: Carol Chitko-McKown, USDA-ARS, carol.chitkomckown@usda.gov
Treasurer: Yongming Sang, Tennessee State University, ysang@tnstate.edu

Members-at-Large:

Crystal Loving (2020), USDA-ARS, crystal.loving@usda.gov
Diego Diel (2021), Cornell University, dgdiel@cornell.edu
Laura Miller (2022), USDA-ARS, laura.miller@usda.gov
Heather Wilson (2023), University of Saskatoon, heather.wilson@usask.ca

Nomination Committee (Elected by membership)

Jodi McGill (Chair, 2020) Iowa State University, jlmcgill@iastate.edu
Robert Schaut (2020) Elanco
Tobias Käser (2021) North Carolina State University, tekaiser@ncsu.edu
Radhey Kaushik (2021) Radhey.Kaushik@SDSTATE.EDU

Membership Committee

Aradhya Gourapura, The Ohio State University, gourapura.1@osu.edu
Alan Young, South Dakota State University, alan.young@sdstate.edu
Carol Chitko-McKown, USDA-ARS, carol.chitkomckown@usda.gov
Sheela Ramamoorthy, North Dakota State University, sheela.ramamoorthy@ndsu.edu
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Kristen Byrne, USDA-ARS, kristen.byrne@usda.gov

Constitution/By-Laws Committee

Alan Young, South Dakota State University, alan.young@sdstate.edu

Student Awards Committee

Isis Kanevsky, isiskanevsky@gmail.com

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