

# American Association of Veterinary Immunologists

Newsletter

Summer 2021



## 2021 Board

### President

Randy Sacco

### President Elect

Jodi McGill

### Vice President

Laura Miller

### Past President

Renukaradhya  
Gourapura

### Secretary

Heather Wilson

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Yongming Sang

### Nominations Chair

Tobias Kaeser

## A Brief Message from AAVI President: Randy Sacco

Dear members:

I hope this year will continue to be better for us all as we return to some level of normalcy and that you have gotten a COVID-19 vaccine.

As current president of AAVI, I wanted to briefly update you on some of the AAVI activities this year to date. The Board was pleased to select Dr. Gary Entrican as the AAVI Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist. Gary is an internationally renowned immunologist who has worked to develop vaccines, immunological tools, and diagnostic assays for ruminants. We look forward to recognizing Gary at this year's AAVI Symposium to be held Monday December 6, 2021, from 2:00-5:45 pm. I thank the nominating committee and chair Jodi McGill for their efforts in presenting an outstanding group of DVI nominees to the Board for consideration. In addition, I want to thank Toby Kaeser for agreeing to serve as chair of the committee this year. Further, note that Heather Wilson has agreed to serve as AAVI Secretary, taking over for Carol Chitko-Mckown. I would like to thank Carol for her years of service to AAVI and thank Heather for agreeing to take on this position. While CRWAD will be a hybrid meeting in 2021, we hope you will be able to attend. Our Annual Business Meeting will be held at the Grand Lux Café on Monday December 6 from 12-1:30PM. It is an opportunity for us to get together and renew old acquaintances. Please encourage your graduate students to attend, as well.

The AAVI Board has decided to hire a newsletter and webpage editor, at least on a short-term trial basis. Our selection is Addie Boettcher, who received her PhD in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology from Iowa State University and has a new business in scientific writing. I would like to thank Addie for her work on this newsletter. I hope this agreement will turn out to be mutually beneficial to both parties. We would like to thank Crystal Loving for serving as WebPage Manager and Laura Miller for serving as Newsletter Editor.

## Send in your photos!



Our website will be undergoing an update later this summer and we are looking for photos to include on our site! If you have any photos from the last year from meetings (screenshots are welcome!), award ceremonies, lab silliness, animals, and others, please send them to Jodi McGill at [jlmcgill@iastate.edu](mailto:jlmcgill@iastate.edu).

The annual AAI meeting was held in May of this year and was virtual. The AAI Veterinary Immunology symposium was chaired by two AAVI members, Crystal Loving and Jodi McGill. Thanks to both for their time in organizing this symposium which helps to ensure a veterinary immunology presence at the AAI meeting.

Of course, I would like to thank all those who serve on the Executive Board of the AAVI. You will find the list of those members elsewhere in this newsletter and on the website once it is updated. These volunteers spend a great deal of their time to keep this organization going. I think the reality of how much time it takes only sets in once you have taken on one of these positions.

*Randy Sacco*  
USDA ARS

## Secretary's Note

*Heather Wilson, Secretary*

Thank you very much to Carol Chitko-Mckown for her outstanding service in this capacity over the previous years. I look forward to serving as AAVI Secretary over the next few years. My role will be to ensure our members receive ballots for elections posted by the board members, I will be the contact person for membership fees (<http://www.theaavi.org/membership--newsletter.html>) and I will help arrange the AAVI Luncheon at the Grand Lux Café in Chicago on Dec 6th from noon until 1:30 pm. Membership is only \$50 USD per year for scientists and postdoctoral fellows and \$20 USD for graduate students. I encourage you to get your trainees to join. On Sunday evening Dec 5th at CRWAD, we will be planning a mixer for AAVI members, and we hope you and your trainees will plan to attend.

## CRWAD 2021 Business Luncheon



The CRWAD business luncheon will take place on Monday, December 6th from 12-1:30 PM at the Grand Lux Café.

*Buffet style is \$30 a person. If you plan to pay on-site, please use a reservation. If you would like to pay ahead of time, purchase online at [theaavi.org](http://theaavi.org).*

## From the Nominations Committee

*Tobias Kaeser, Chair of the AAVI*  
*Nominations Committee*

Dear AAVI Members,

We are seeking nominations for the **2022 AAVI Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist Award**.

The 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 Tobias Kaeser, Chair of the AAVI Nominations Committee, by **August 2, 2021** at [tekaeser@ncsu.edu](mailto:tekaeser@ncsu.edu).

AAVI has presented a **Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist** award 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	Lorne 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	Bettina Wagner
2003	Chris Howard	2020	Scott McVey
2004	Chuck Czuprynski	2021	Gary Entrican

Please consider submitting a nomination for the 2022 DVI award. Your participation is critical and highly appreciated. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Tobias Kaeser, PhD  
Assistant Professor in Swine Immunology  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Population Health and Pathobiology  
North Carolina State University (NCSSU)*

## 2021 AAVI Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist: Dr. Gary Entrican

*"Applying Knowledge of Immunological Correlates to Vaccine Design for Prevention of Chlamydial Abortion"*

The AAVI is pleased to honor Dr. Gary Entrican with the 2021 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist Award. Dr. Entrican has had a career in Veterinary Immunology for over 30 years. He is currently an Honorary Professor in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh, UK. Dr. Entrican received his PhD in Immunology from the University of Glasgow, UK in 1985. He spent most of his career at Moredun Research Institute in Edinburgh, UK, serving first as a postdoctoral researcher, then as a Scientific Researcher and Group Leader from 1989-2019. Dr. Entrican was appointed an Honorary Clinical Associate Professor in the College of Medical Veterinary Sciences, University of Glasgow from 2013-2018, and has served as an Honorary Professor at the University of Edinburgh since 2009.

Gary is a well-recognized leader in ruminant immunology research with over 85 publications and has generated over \$3,000,000 of research income. Gary has contributed enormously to our understanding of ruminant immunology and vaccinology with a career focused on understanding the host-pathogen interactions in Chlamydial diseases. He has delivered over 50 invited presentations at national and international conferences, including the European and International Veterinary Immunology symposia. Gary has participated in the editorial board of leading veterinary journals including Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology and

has served on funding panels including the UK Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council committees, Department of Health and Veterinary Vaccinology Vaccine Networks, and the European Union ANIHWA panel. These roles require in depth knowledge of science, policy, and strategic relevance across a wide range of subjects and are regarded as prestigious appointments.

Further evidence of Gary's stature as an internationally recognized leader in veterinary immunology comes from his position as the Chair of the Veterinary Immunology Committee of the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS-VIC). Gary has worked tirelessly through this role, alongside roles in other international networks including STAR-IDAZ to promote the importance of veterinary vaccinology and immunology for the development of disease control strategies that impact both animal and human health. He has been a continual advocate promoting the importance and value of veterinary immunology to a range of audiences and advocated for inclusion in plenary sessions at major immunology meetings including those which are not veterinary focused. This has been vital to draw attention to the value of veterinary immunology.

Among his major scientific achievements are the production of monoclonal antibodies and recombinant proteins enabling the study of cell populations and their secreted products; many of which are now commercially available. He characterized the role of interferon gamma in restriction of the intracellular growth of *Chlamydia abortus*, identified the mechanism of action and demonstrated this to be an immunological correlate of protection in vaccine development trials.

Gary is a passionate mentor and supervisor who strives to enthuse and develop the next generation of veterinary immunologists. He teaches undergraduate courses at the University of Edinburgh and has recently obtained Edinburgh Teaching Award and Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA): this award recognizes excellence in teaching that is gained through training, reflection and thoughtful, inspiring approaches that enthuse, encourage, and support undergraduate students. Gary has also contributed significantly to postgraduate education through supervision of 9 PhD students, all of whom have successfully obtained their postgraduate degrees. As part of his ongoing commitment to mentoring Gary recently acted as an Early Career Researcher Mentor for British Society for Immunology.

As well as positive interactions with students, Gary has acted as a great inspiration for a large number of colleagues in the veterinary immunology research field. His enthusiasm, and passion for the field and his significant contributions make Dr. Entrican truly deserving of the 2021 Distinguished Veterinary Immunology Award. It is our great pleasure to welcome Dr. Entrican on December 6th in Chicago at the 2021 AAVI Symposium, held in conjunction with the Annual CRWAD meeting!

## Upcoming Symposia

### AAVI 2021 Mini Symposium

Monday, December 6, 2021, 2:00-5:45 PM

#### **Bridging the Gap: Vaccines from Concept to Usage**

2:00-3:00 PM

Dr. Gary Entrican, 2021 AAVI DVI Awardee, College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, University of Edinburgh, UK, "Applying knowledge of immunological correlates to vaccine design for prevention of chlamydial abortion"

3:00-3:30 PM

Dr. Hanah Georges, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, "A molecular perspective on the development of fetal immunotolerance to BVDV"

4:15-4:45 PM

Dr. John Harding, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada, " Host responses following third trimester maternal PRRSV2 infection"

4:45-5:15 PM

Dr. Heather Wilson, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO)-Home of the International Vaccine Centre (InterVac), University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada "Intrauterine immunization during breeding"

5:15-5:45 PM

Dr. Angela Arenas-Gamboa, Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX "Brucellosis and Reproductive Disease: A Current Update"

## AAVI Officers and Board - 2021

### Executive Board

**President:** Randy Sacco, USDA NADC, [randy.sacco@usda.gov](mailto:randy.sacco@usda.gov)

**President Elect:** Jodi McGill, Iowa State University, [jlmcgill@iastate.edu](mailto:jlmcgill@iastate.edu)

**Vice President:** Laura Miller, USDA NADC, [laura.miller@usda.gov](mailto:laura.miller@usda.gov)

**Past President:** Renukaradhya Gourapura, Ohio State University, [gourapura.1@osu.edu](mailto:gourapura.1@osu.edu)

**Secretary:** Heather Wilson, VIDO-University of Saskatchewan, [heather.wilson@usask.ca](mailto:heather.wilson@usask.ca)

**Treasurer:** Yongming Sang, Tennessee State University, [ysang@tnstate.edu](mailto:ysang@tnstate.edu)

**Nominations chair:** Tobias Kaeser, North Carolina State University, [tekaeser@ncsu.edu](mailto:tekaeser@ncsu.edu)

### Members at Large

Lucas Huntimer, Elanco, [lucas.huntimer@elancoah.com](mailto:lucas.huntimer@elancoah.com)

Brina Lopez, Midwestern, [blopez@midwestern.edu](mailto:blopez@midwestern.edu)

Lindsay Fry, USDA Pullman, [lindsay.fry@usda.gov](mailto:lindsay.fry@usda.gov)

Diego Diel, Cornell, [dgdiel@cornell.edu](mailto:dgdiel@cornell.edu)

### Nomination Committee (Elected by membership)

Teresia Maina, Iowa State University, [twm896@iastate.edu](mailto:twm896@iastate.edu)

Paola Boggianto, USDA NADC, [paola.boggianto@usda.gov](mailto:paola.boggianto@usda.gov)

Leela Noronha, USDA ABADRU, [leela.noronha@usda.gov](mailto:leela.noronha@usda.gov)

Radhey Kaushik, South Dakota State University, [radhey.kaushik@sdstate.edu](mailto:radhey.kaushik@sdstate.edu)

Ángel Abuelo, Michigan State University, [buelo@msu.edu](mailto:buelo@msu.edu)

### Constitution/By-Laws Committee

**Past President:** Renukaradhya Gourapura, Ohio State University, [gourapura.1@osu.edu](mailto:gourapura.1@osu.edu)

### Website Information

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

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