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# Association News

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## **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](http://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](http://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, 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.

In 2011 the Speakers' Bureau has been extended to include speakers for Working Group meetings in both the European and Asian Pacific Federation.

A Branch (or group of Branches) may either identify a speaker to invite or seek the advice of WPSA in the selection of an appropriate speaker.

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.

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.
- Where the Branch (or group of Branches) has identified a speaker that they would like to invite, the *Curriculum Vitae* of that speaker must be submitted on the WPSA Speakers Bureau Speakers CV 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.
- The speaker must be given an assignment dealing with the students at the Conference.
- 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.
- 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.
- Incomplete or late submissions will NOT be considered.

Full details and application forms can be obtained from the WPSA secretariat ([wpsa@xs4all.nl](mailto:wpsa@xs4all.nl)) or can be downloaded from the WPSA website ([www.wpsa.com](http://www.wpsa.com)).

The completed application forms should be sent by e-mail to [wpsa@xs4all.nl](mailto:wpsa@xs4all.nl)

## 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 the WPSA as initiator of the organization of the Congress.

As a result, the Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science (FPPS) / Stichting Bevordering Pluimveewetenschappen (SBP) was founded. The general objectives of the FPPS are to promote the developments and propagation of poultry science in WPSA-structures, specifically by promoting:

### **1) International meetings / symposia of working groups**

Organizing committees may apply for financial support by contacting the Secretary of the FPPS through the local WPSA Branch. The secretary will send an application form upon request.

This application form should be filled in completely and should be returned by email at least 3 months before the meeting / symposium; the original form should also be returned by regular mail.

### **2) The participation in international meetings / symposia / conferences / congresses by young PhD students from developing countries presenting their work in an accepted oral presentation**

Individuals may apply for financial support by contacting the Secretary of the FPPS through

the local WPSA Branch. The secretary will send an application form upon request.

This application form should be filled in completely and should be returned by email at least 3 months before the congress / conference / symposium; the original form should be returned by regular mail.

### **3) Establishing new WPSA branches**

The FPPS has a particular interest in assisting in the process of establishing new WPSA branches by covering for three years part of the WPSA membership fees.

A newly established branch may apply for financial assistance by contacting the Secretary of the FPPS. The secretary will send an application form upon request. This application form should be filled in completely and should be returned by email; the original form should be returned by regular mail.

The Board of the FPPS decides on each application; the Board meets three to four times a year.

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

### **Secretariat**

Stichting Bevordering Pluimveewetenschappen/  
Foundation for Promoting Poultry Science

Ir W.J.C. Heemskerck  
Hannie Schaftstraat 16  
1443 LD PURMEREND  
THE NETHERLANDS  
E-mail: [wheemskerck@meyn.com](mailto:wheemskerck@meyn.com)

## **WPSA Website: [www.wpsa.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.wpsa.com)).

## Branch Development Proposal

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

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

### What can you propose?

Some examples:

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

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

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

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

### Deadlines

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

### How to apply?

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

## Reports Branch Development Programme

### Algeria

The Algerian Association of Poultry Science (WPSA Branch-Algeria) organised a meeting in parallel with the 5th Symposium of Poultry Science on Poultry Production (JMA) (3rd and 4th November 2018) at Constantine in Algeria. In total, 150 people took part in the event. The event was aimed at bringing

scientific communities closer to the Maghreb countries (Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria) with the aim of strengthening friendly bonds and allowed the exchange of scientific information in the field poultry sector. Various issues concerning the poultry production were raised and discussed during these two events, including the current state of the poultry

sector in the Maghreb countries. Topics included welfare, feed additives, quality of poultry products (eggs and meat), use of antibiotics and, especially, viral diseases. A total of 31 oral presentations and 12 posters were presented during this event. The guest of honour at this meeting was Dr Roel Mulder, Secretary General World's Poultry Association. With the help of the development programme of the WPSA branch, the organising committee invited four lecturers and generously offered four scholarships for PhD students.

#### *Turkey*

The Branch website has recently been updated both in the Turkish and English versions. In order to increase interest in our branch Prof. Dr Erol Şengör held a conference at Ankara University on the importance of poultry meat and eggs, and enlightened the audience about the activities of our branch and the relevance it holds in the poultry sector.

Members from the Ankara University Alumni Association visited the Beypi

integrated poultry plant. Among the 40 visitors to the plant were influential alumni from many different professions who have importance in their respective areas. This was a vital opportunity to inform attendees about the misconceptions regarding the poultry sector and poultry products.

A master's student from Ege University Agricultural Faculty Serdar Yıldırım Aydın gave a talk about 'Incubation Temperature and Leg Problems in Broilers'. This was held with the expectation that it would increase further interest in the subject and improve the student's public speaking skills.

During the National Poultry Congress held in Niğde, three officials from the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock were invited and to allow government insight into the workings of our branch and WPSA in general.

Certain key presentations of the EPC 2018 conference held in Dubrovnik this September were translated into Turkish and presented to the Ankara Poultry Research Institute, and have been disseminated to interested parties.

## Asia Pacific Federation Meeting

A note from Dr Sakchai Sriboonsue, from the Thailand branch, who is the new President of the Asia Pacific Federation:

I would like to thank the members of the Federation for placing their trust in me for carrying out this position. I would also like to send my appreciation to our former President, Alan Gibbins, for his great work and dedication in putting together and leading the new Asia Pacific Federation. He will continue to consult with me in my new position.

First of all, I would like to share my visions for the Federation. My main objectives are to unite the Asia Pacific region and to strengthen, share and combine our regions' knowledge. Asia Pacific is one of the main regions for poultry production in the world. However, currently we have limited communication among our branches, which I believe can be improved and could be useful in providing poultry research and information both inside and outside of this region. To be successful, I will need to seek for support from all APF branches. Please feel free to send me any and all good ideas that you might have on improving our information flow.

I also would like to announce that Mr Chung Ma from the China branch is our new Senior Vice President; Dr Nasir Mukhtar from the Pakistan branch is our new Junior Vice President; Dr Marisa Chamruspollert and Dr Mongkol Kaewsutas from the Thailand branch will serve as our Secretaries; and, Dr Natchanok Amornthwaphat and Dr Supunnee Jiarakhun from the Thailand branch will serve as APF Treasurers. A Management Committee for the APF will be formed once we have a representative named by each of the AP branches.

I would like to use this opportunity to invite all branch members to attend our next APF meeting which will be held during VIV Asia 2019 in Bangkok. The meeting dates and the venue will be announced in the near future.

Thank you again and please contact me for any further required information. You can reach me at [president@wpsathai.org](mailto:president@wpsathai.org) and [sakchai.s@dpo.go.th](mailto:sakchai.s@dpo.go.th). Please also cc my secretary at [secretary@wpsathai.org](mailto:secretary@wpsathai.org).

*Dr Sakchai Sriboonsue  
President, Asian Pacific Federation*

## Working Group 4 (Eggs and Egg Quality)

European Working Group 4 (Egg Quality) has two new chairpersons: Cristina Alamprese (University of Milan, Italy) and Joël Gautron (INRA, France). They took over the leadership of WG4 from Maureen Bain just after the European Poultry Conference that was held in Dubrovnik (Croatia) in September 2018. We would like to thank Maureen for her work on behalf of WG4 and for her attention to research topics on egg quality.

It is our intention to continue the work of WG4 while increasing the networking activities among all the Group's members, in order to create a strong team that is able to answer new challenges in the egg sector at both a scientific and industrial levels, without forgetting the importance of good communication with the society. The network will continue to provide support to the organisers of WPSA events in order to develop scientific programmes about eggs and egg quality, and to identify possible speakers. Moreover, we believe in the importance of identifying research funding possibilities in order to boost research in the egg and egg product fields.

As usual, there is much work to do but we trust in the cooperation of all the members! WG4 currently has representatives from 21 countries and meets every two years at a key WPSA event. Every other year the group holds its own joint 'EGGMEAT' symposia with WG5 (Poultry Meat Quality). The aim of these symposia is to bring like-minded people together to discuss hot topics in the field of egg and meat quality.

Cristina Alamprese

Associate Professor in Food Science and



Technology at the Department of Food, Environmental and Nutritional Sciences of the University of Milan (Italy).

Research interests: Quality of fresh eggs; Technological treatment of egg products; Functional properties (gelling, whipping, and emulsifying capacity; rheological behaviour) of eggs and egg products; Influence of egg ingredients on food product quality; and Technological properties of poultry meat.

E-mail: [cristina.alamprese@unimi.it](mailto:cristina.alamprese@unimi.it)



Joël Gautron

Research Director, Biology of birds and Poultry research Unit UR0083, head of the team «Egg Defences, valorisation, evolution», Institut National de la

Recherche Agronomique, Nouzilly, France.

Research interests: Biochemistry and molecular biology related to egg formation and its quality; High-throughput methodology to identify and characterize biological activities related to natural egg defences; Physiology of chicken egg formation; and, Mechanisms of eggshell biomineralisation.

E-mail: [joel.gautron@inra.fr](mailto:joel.gautron@inra.fr)

*Cristina Alamprese and Joël Gautron, Co-Chairs WG4*

## 2018 IFRG Meeting – Edinburgh, Scotland

October 4th – October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

For 2018, the IFRG meeting was held at the 5th floor of the Holiday Inn hotel in Edinburgh. The scenic view over Pink Hill Park and Edinburgh Zoo offered all 57 participants a sunny atmosphere during the two days of the meeting. We all experienced a friendly and informative meeting, not least because of the opportunity to meet colleagues with similar

interests, as became clear during coffee breaks, lunches and the conference dinner.

This 43rd IFRG meeting offered an interesting programme, including a workshop and presentations related to the biology of avian reproduction and incubation technology. The programme was the result of the combined efforts of Glenn Baggott (IFRG board, ed. British Poultry Science, London, UK) and

Marleen Boerjan (President IFRG, WPSA WG 6, Pas Reform). This year we were able to organise the lectures offered by participants into sessions opened by three invited speakers.

Thanks to the talent for improvisation of the complete Aviagen incubation team, we were able to organise a workshop 'embryo-staging' led by invited speaker Murray Bakst, a recognised consultant in fertility and early embryonic development of poultry. With the practical help of Ampai Nangsuay and Serdar Özlü, embryos were collected from fresh eggs. Thereafter Murray Bakst and Guo Jun discussed the embryonic stage, according to the Eyal-Gyladi staging system.

A second invited speaker Professor Maureen Bain (Glasgow University) presented an overview and new insights into the ultrastructure of the eggshell. In addition, she focused on the importance of the cuticle to protect the egg content from vertical contamination by *E. coli* or *Salmonella spp.* Finally, she recommended routine staining of the cuticle in egg quality control practices.

Hatchery managers encounter increasingly more influences of incubation conditions on the quality and performance of day-old chicks and poults. The positive as well as negative effects of high and low incubation temperatures are known and are discussed often. Professor Warren Burggren from the University of North Texas, USA, was invited to speak about the epigenetic implications of incubation on the embryonic and foetal development. In his thought-provoking presentation, he showed how the developing embryo responds, in a critical phase, to environmental conditions by (1) complete phenotypic adaptations (developmental plasticity), (2) programming/training of the foetus and (3) epigenetic alterations of gene expression. In commercial incubation practice, these different but related phenomena are often unknown or ignored. From the presentation, delegates learned how the level of RH during certain critical phases influences the development of glomeruli in the primordial kidney.

In Session 1: Embryo quality, egg handling and egg storage four speakers showed how the genetic background, age of the parents and treatment of fresh eggs affects the stage of the embryo and, consequently, early mortality during incubation. Ewa Łukaszewicz (University of Wrocław, Poland), who

researches the stage of development in different goose breeds and flock ages, reported the interesting observations that the stage of embryonic development at oviposition was dependent on laying season and breed. The need for a correct and routine staging of the embryos in fresh or stored eggs after short period of incubation (SPIDES, heat-treatments) was clear from the three presentations related to egg handling in the farm and hatchery. Ampai Nangsuay (Aviagen, Asia Pacific) presented data on embryo stage in eggs collected under field conditions in a tropical climate. It was observed and concluded that the local environmental conditions (transport and temperature) influenced the rate of embryo development during storage. The eggs from prime flocks had to be transported over a long period and distance at temperatures above 22°C. As a consequence, embryos developed from an average stage 10.3 to stage 11.7 during prolonged transport at high temperatures. The eggs from an old flock were cooled below 22°C within 5.5 h and did not show any development after transport. Okan Elibol from Ankara University, Turkey, concluded that the hatchability differences between eggs from young and old flocks induced by rapid cooling might depend on the differences in embryonic development at oviposition. He presented data on the effect of the profile of egg cooling after oviposition on stage of embryo and finally hatchability. The stage of embryonic development was advanced by controlled cooling compared to rapid cooling and in the eggs from the older flock. The rapid cooling resulted in a lower hatchability because early mortality and the number of second-class chicks were increased especially for eggs derived from younger flocks (28 weeks). Tolga Erkus (Aviagen, UK) presented results of 3 or 5.5 hours exposure above 32°C at day five of a total storage period of 14 days for eggs from two grandparent flocks (34 and 54 weeks of age). After the treatment, the stage of the embryos (n=15) was evaluated and the longer period of treatment resulted in, as expected, an advanced stage of development and resulted in a better hatchability compared to the 3.5-hr treatment. Joanna Rosenberger, a PhD student from Wrocław University, is studying the behavioural aspects of Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) during incubation. In her first presentation, she discussed whether improper

turning might explain the high levels of early mortality during artificial incubation. In her second lecture, she discussed how knowledge of female behaviour and egg storage in the nests might help to improve artificial incubation results.

In Session 2: Egg quality, more basic aspects of egg quality were discussed before the presentation of Professor Maureen Bain. Utilising new research on embryonic development during egg formation in the hen (South-Korean University), Marleen Boerjan (Pas Reform, the Netherlands) discussed pre-gastrulation embryonic development in the hen as it has been shown that gastrulation gene expression might be initiated in the oocyte during yolk development. In short, without the pre-gastrulation development in the uterus of the hen, the gastrulation-related cell movements cannot occur, with increased rates of early mortality as a consequence. Roger Banwell (Petersime, Belgium) presented new hatchability data in experiments related to specific gravity of eggs, egg weight loss and RH levels and concluded that hatchability of eggs in the medium (1.070- 1.085 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>) specific gravity class is highest compared to 'low' and 'high' specific gravity eggs. Specific gravity was found to be a better predictor for hatchability than percentage egg weight loss.

Session 3: Epigenetics, incubation and chick vitality started with a lecture from Prof. Warren Burggren and followed by five presentations addressing several aspects of incubation technology and chick quality. Juan Lopez (Hendrix Genetics, Canada) and Roos Molenaar presented new data on incubation temperatures measured and controlled as eggshell temperature (EST). Lopez showed that incubation of turkey eggs at low (99.2-99.6°F) eggshell temperatures compared to high (99.8-101°F) resulted in higher hatchability, higher body weights at hatch and higher yolk free body mass. Roos Molenaar (Adaptation Physiology Group, Wageningen University, the Netherlands) studied the effects of a combination of high EST (38.9°C) during second week of incubation and low EST (36.7°C) in the third week on body weight and selected bone characteristics; hatch results were not addressed. In these experiments, no effect on body weight and length of the tibia at slaughter age was found. The high temperature

during the second week resulted in a slightly thicker bone and higher bone strength. A lower temperature in the third week resulted in a 5 h longer incubation duration and lower bone strength.

Keith Bramwell (Jamesway Incubators, Canada) presented the results of experiments related to feed and water in hatcher baskets. The hatch window was divided in four periods and chicks received water and feed immediately when all chicks of the specific period had hatched. From this research it is concluded that access to feed and water prior to chick placement at the farm had no influence on final body weight, feed conversion and mortality overall. Serdar Özlü (Ankara University, Turkey) studied the influence of hatching time and post-hatch holding time on yolk sac weight and live performance. The whole hatch window was divided in (1) early hatch (471-474 h), (2) mid-hatch (483-486 h) and late hatch (493-496 h) and from all hatch periods, half of the chicks were held for 18 h and 30 h before they received feed. The chicks stored post hatch for 30 h consumed more feed the first 7 days and had a higher 7 days body weight but at day 35 all chicks had a similar body weight.

Jean de Oliveira summarised the research conducted at R&D Cargill, Belgium, on the origin of the intestinal microbiome in day-old broiler chicks held under commercial conditions. The results showed that in five out of the six flocks studied there was a strong link between microbiota of the parent breeder and offspring in an integrated poultry operation. As a result of vertical transmission from breeder to offspring, *Salmonella spp.* was found in one out of the six flocks.

Two posters from a research consortium of the University of Pisa (Italy) and INRA- Centre Val de Loire (France) were presented on genetic selection on meat traits of broilers and consequences induced on reproductive performances. From the research presented in both posters it can be concluded that genetic selection for high ultimate pH of the meat measured 24 hr after slaughter results in lower reproductive performance as shown by poorer quality hatching eggs, higher embryo mortality and lower hatchability.

The INRA research group presented a poster on multigenerational effects of heat manipulation on body temperature and growth in broiler chicks. The study addressed the effects of heat treatments during incubation

on body temperature and growth in the two following generations. The thermal manipulation used during embryonic development consisted of increasing the incubation temperature of eggs up to 39.5 °C and relative humidity to 65% for 12 h/d between days 7 and 16 of incubation. The results showed evidence for the first time of a multigenerational effect of heat stimulation during embryogenesis on growth and thermoregulation in fast-growing chickens. It seems that the responses to thermal manipulations are sex-dependant.

Julia George and David Clayton (Queen Mary University, London, UK) presented a poster about the DNA methylation pattern in zebra finch embryos exposed briefly to vocal signals. It was confirmed that the zebra finch embryos react to environmental signals by epigenetic changes, which can be detected by altered

DNA-methylation pattern. Ewa Łukaszewicz and colleagues (University of Wrocław, Poland) presented a poster addressing the enrichment of broiler sperm extender, diluent, for broiler sperm by organic additives. They concluded that the implementation of organic additives had a positive effect on broiler sperm quality. However, the positive effects lasted for only six hours, thereafter the number of live sperm decreased. Sylvian Briere and colleagues (Hendrix Genetics Turkeys and INRA Nouzilly) presented a poster related to the collection of data for genetic selection strategies. It is concluded that the application of CT-scans technology generates data not only on adipose tissue and bone composition but also about egg, yolk and albumen weights and composition.

*Marleen Boerjan (President IFRG, WPSA WG 6 (10/2018)*

## Branch News

### Austria

Successful conference in Vienna, Austria

On the 24th of November 2018, the World Poultry Science Association (WPSA Branch Austria) held its first session titled 'Reduction of antibiotics in laying hens - challenges and perspectives' at the BOKU University in Vienna, Austria. To the delight of the organisers, the event was fully booked.

More than 80 participants had interdisciplinary discussions about the many factors that lead to the use of antibiotics in laying hens. The speakers highlighted various perspectives, including aspects of health status, prophylaxis, feeding and stable climate were discussed intensively by participants from the poultry industry, feed industry, research and the role of veterinarians and practitioners.

Univ. Prof. Dr. Martin Gierus, Chairman of the WPSA Branch Austria, was pleased with this successful conference, which was attended by guests from Switzerland, Germany and Austria: "The great response to this event reinforces our resolve to continue with activities and follow our goals as part of the WPSA, which has sadly been inactive in Austria for a long time. The joint exchange within the entire poultry industry was intensively pursued".

### Israel

The 53rd annual Poultry Science Conference

of the Israeli Branch was held at the Dan Panorama Hotel in Tel Aviv on November 26-27th, 2018. The conference attracted 550 participants including: students and scientists from academia and research institutes, poultry producers, veterinarians, extension specialists and commercial companies serving the poultry industry. During the two-day conference, 48 lectures were presented in 10 sessions covering the leading poultry science disciplines: health; nutrition and feed additives; immunology; reproduction, incubation and physiology; breast meat quality; welfare; broilers and layers industry. The closing session focused on technological innovations in the poultry industry. In addition, three students were awarded prizes for their research presentations.

The conference was honoured to host Prof. S. Bilgili from Auburn University (Alabama - USA) who shared his extensive knowledge and vast experience in the field of broiler meat quality. An award of appreciation was given to Dr Amnon Michael for his contribution in the field of Veterinary Medicine, and for his active participation in the WPSA Israeli Branch activities over the years.

During the conference, 25 Israeli companies exhibited their unique products for the poultry

industry: pharmaceuticals, feed additives, housing equipment, climate control, etc.

Evening social activities included lectures on Israel's current issues by a popular journalist and a breath-taking account by a professional mountaineer, who shared with us his personal experiences as a nature photographer and rescuer in extreme conditions.

*Yitzhak Malka, Israel Branch Secretary*

### **Malaysia**

#### *Annual General Meeting 2018 and Poultry Seminar 2018*

The Annual General Meeting for the executive members (2017 – 2022) for the year 2018 was held on 31st October 2018. The event included a poultry seminar in the morning followed with the AGM in the afternoon. Total no. of current members is 77 (73 individual, 1 Life member, 3 students). The total number of members which attended the AGM were 43, and there were 78 participants in the seminar. Speakers were Dr Wan Mohd Kamil Wan Nik, DVS who discussed the Feed Act 2009: The Role and Implementation of the Act on Local Poultry Industry. Dr James G. Nickerson from Aviagen Inc., Canada presented a paper entitled 'Recent Research on beta carotene-oxc towards poultry disease'. Mrs Siti Nur Ahmad, MAQIS: MAQIS presented findings on the 'Roles and interventions on the impact of international trade war and local poultry industry'. A further paper was given by Dr Marcelo Paniago (CEVA Asia Veterinary Services: Vector Vaccine Technology) on 'Better control of devastating poultry diseases'

*Assoc Prof Dr Jalila Abu  
Honorary Secretary WPSA (Malaysia)*

### **Mauritius**

The Mauritius Branch of the WPSA organised a talk on 'Perspectives on Salmonella Infection' which was delivered by Emeritus Professor Simon Shane from North Carolina State University on 17 October 2018. The talk was attended by around 100 persons from the poultry industry, research institutions, academia and veterinarians, both private and public.

Further to an initiative taken by the association for running a post graduate diploma course on Poultry Production and Health by the University of Mauritius (UoM), a memorandum of understanding has been signed between the UoM and the WPSA (Mauritius Branch). The

course is expected to start in March 2019 after approval by the senate.

*Micheline Seenevassen Pillay  
Branch Secretary*

### **Pakistan**

For the first time in the history of the Pakistan branch, Dr Fareeha Talha, Vice President of the Women's Wing Central and Vice President of the Southern Zone has taken up an initiative for introducing WPSA, its goals and objectives, contributions and future perspectives for running a campaign to attract female poultry researchers, educationists, and other women involved with the industry into the branch membership. Dr Muhammad Sadiq, President of the Pakistan branch, has provided support for this initiative. Female researchers, educationists, and other women involved with poultry need to play their part both nationally and internationally. First Dr Fareeha Talha, a female veterinarian and an entrepreneur in the poultry sector, was elected from the Centre and South Zones of the WPSA Pakistan branch.

In order to introduce WPSA and its Pakistan branch to women, a campaign was designed by Dr Fareeha Talha, whose first activity was organising a seminar held at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences (FVS), BZ University, Multan. The Poultry Science Club FVS, BZ University, assisted, and the Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences kindly agreed to be the chief guest. Female veterinarians working in poultry related sectors, and faculty and post graduate students of university departments related to poultry participated. Great interest was shown by undergraduates. Dr Fareeha Talha focused on education, organisation and research. She talked about how women can be involved in basic and applied research, and indicated that they can rise to become known internationally. She also spoke about how WPSA can assist them in this regard. At the end of the seminar, Dr Masood Akhter, Dean FVS, BZ University, gave a very motivational and inspirational speech thanking WPSA for organising the meeting.

*Nasir Mukhtar, Vice-President of the Pakistan Branch*

### **Poland** **Report on the 30th International Poultry Science Symposium**

From 10-12 September 2018, the 30th Jubilee

International Poultry Science Symposium 'Science for Practice – Practice for Science' was held in Zegrze near Warsaw. The Symposium was jointly organised by the Polish Branch of WPSA and the Poultry Breeding Section of Warsaw's Main School of Rural Management. Attendees participated in five scientific sessions: Biological bases of poultry breeding and production; Poultry nutrition; Prophylaxis in poultry production; Poultry product quality. In an historical session, a discussion panel was held on 'Where is Polish Poultry Science Heading'. A total of 227 individuals representing universities, science-research centres, domestic and foreign (Italy, Belgium, Great Britain, Russia, China, Afghanistan, the Netherlands, Ukraine) specialists, as well as 103 persons from commercial practice participated in the conference.

On the first day of the Symposium, following the formal opening and welcoming of the guests, Prof. Dr hab. Elżbieta Smalec and Prof. Dr hab. Jerzy Niedziółka were bestowed Honorary WPSA Polish Branch Memberships. The formal presentation of the new Honorary Members of the Association was followed by the discussion panel. Issues associated with perspectives and potential threats facing the poultry sector sparked interesting discussions among the panellists and conference participants. Other subjects concerned GMO and poultry feeding connected with deficit of domestic protein sources. Next, Dr hab. Monika Michalczyk announced results of the 4th edition of the all-country competition for the best diploma paper in the field of poultry science. All winners were congratulated for their excellent supervisors and brilliant master's dissertations wishing them interesting scientific publications. Next, the annual Jerzy Będkowski competition for young scientific workers took place in which 10 researchers from four Polish scientific centres (Olsztyn, Warsaw, Poznań, Lublin) and one Italy (Padua University) took part. Presentations were delivered in English. The ranking (1-3) was determined by voting of participants taking part in this session. The following aspects of presentations were assessed: merit value, way of presentation, their responses to questions, as well as their fluency in the English language. The competition was won by Ms. Sara Dzik from Warmia-Mazury University in Olsztyn for her presentation entitled: 'The impact of the use of biocidal

paint on the production results of broiler chickens'.

The following areas had the most entries this year: nutrition (21 presentations) and poultry product quality (18 presentations). They were dominated by information on feed additives for improving intestinal integrity and exerting a positive effect on performance results and product quality. The delivered presentations concerned utilisation of domestic protein sources in poultry diets, comparison of poultry meat assortments as well as consumer preferences and supply networks.

During the session on biological basis of poultry breeding and production (14 presentations), the following subjects were discussed: semen characteristics of geese and grouse; egg shell quality depending on the age of the layer; effect of egg weight on the course of embryogenesis and genetic parameters of selected duck traits.

Some of the problems discussed during the session on prophylaxis in poultry production (16 presentations) included, among others, issues concerning protection of poultry flocks and current dilemmas in poultry pathology in Poland; impact of additives of different products of plant origin; manganese, copper and silver nanomolecules on broiler and turkey performance; histological parameters of intestines, muscle and liver oxidative status.

The historic session covered poultry science development in Poland since the 1970s. Individual presenters discussed issues associated with breeding and rearing of broilers and laying hens. They talked about maintenance conditions, health problems, veterinary care as well as feeding of geese flocks

It turned out that the discussion panel 'Where is Polish poultry science heading' attracted both the highest number of participants and the greatest interest during the 30th International Poultry Science Symposium. On the basis of discussions, it was concluded that this year's jubilee meeting was one of the most important events of the poultry science branch and will go down on history pages of our organisation positively.

The Board of the Polish Branch of the WPSA would like to thank most sincerely all participants of the Symposium for their engagement and merit activity, as well as for their creation of a pleasant atmosphere throughout the conference. In particular, the organisers would like to thank all

representatives of widely-understood poultry practice for their kind patronage over the Symposium as well as over young researchers participating in two very important competitions which have now become permanent elements of the development of poultry science knowledge. We would also like to thank Honorary Members of the Association for accepting our invitation for active participation in this year's Symposium. All are welcome to next year's 31st International Poultry Science Symposium.

*Dr hab. Monika Michalczuk*

### **Sri Lanka**

On September 14th 2018 Annual Technical Sessions and industrial Evening was held at the Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo. The theme was 'Future marketing trends of Sri Lankan poultry products'. On this occasion the Chief Guest was Dr Indrajit Coomaraswamy, the Governor of Central Bank of Sri Lanka. He gave a presentation on 'Micro and macro-economic policies related to the Sri Lankan livestock industry'. He said that the government, by maintaining the discipline in economic policies and its executions, will lead to improve the current economic situation which will definitely impact the local poultry industry as well.

The keynote address was given by Mr Albert Jan Hulzebosch Chief Executive Officer, Dutch Poultry Management Support the Netherlands on 'Future Marketing Trends of Poultry Products World Scenario'. Invited speaker Dr H.P. Premasiri, Past President of WPSA – SL, gave a very informative presentation on 'An overview of the Sri Lankan poultry industry and its social economic impact.' At the 20thAGM held on the same day the re-elected President, Dr Prabath Samaratinga, and Secretary, Dr Kaundika Wanigasundara, took office.

### *WPSA-SL membership ID cards*

The WPSA–SL branch introduced a membership card for their individual members, and a certificate for their corporate

members, at the Annual Industrial Evening ceremony. The first membership card was awarded to Dr Mrs A.L Godwin, General Secretary WPSA-SL, by Mr Albert Jan Hulzebosch CEO, Dutch Poultry Management Support the Netherlands.

### *World Egg Day Celebration*

On Friday the 12th of October a celebration was held at Gothami Vidyalaya Gampaha where an awareness programme for school teachers was organized at the college hall by WPSA – SL in parallel with the World Egg Day celebrations 2018. This served as a part of the continuous demand building programmes for eggs and chicken, island wide. Ninety-six school teachers participated in the programme. Dr (Mrs) S.T Thoradeniya, Senior Lecturer Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Faculty of Medicine, Colombo, gave a lecture on 'Nutrition for children'. At the end of the main lecture, Dr Prabath Samaratinge, President WPSA-SL addressed the audience on 'Myths and misconceptions related to chicken and egg consumption'. All participants were given leaflets on protein malnutrition, a free pack of eggs and refreshments.

### **Turkey**

In order to raise interest in the Turkish branch and increase number of members, the local branch regularly hold meetings with the coordination of some NGOs. We continue to work with senior ministry officials regarding this issue. Misconceptions about poultry products appear in the media from time to time that adverse effect the consumption of poultry meat, and the branch aims to dispel these inaccurate and often intentional fabrications by issuing statements through various media channels.

The most important presentations of the EPC 2018 conference held in Dubrovnik this September have been translated into Turkish and presented to the Ankara Poultry Research Institute and disseminated to interested parties.

*Assoc. Prof. Dr Cengizhan Mızrak  
Secretary of the WPSA Turkish Branch*