**2016** ***AAVLD Graduate Students Oral Presentation and Poster Presentation Awards***

***Purpose***

The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) encourages trainees in all disciplines of veterinary diagnostic medicine to apply for Graduate Student Presentations Awards (oral and poster presentations). Veterinary diagnostic disciplines include epidemiology, immunology, microbiology (bacteriology, food safety, mycology and virology), molecular diagnostics, parasitology, pathology, and toxicology. The purpose of the awards is to encourage trainee excellence in their diagnostic discipline and to develop trainee presentation skills (verbal, written, organizational).

Two awards will be selected and given during the 2016 AAVLD Annual Meeting in Greensboro, NC, one for best oral presentation and one for best poster presentation. The recipient or each award will receive a $500 cash prize. The AAVLD Awards Committee will select the awardees and awardees will be announced during the joint AAVLD/USAHA President’s Reception and Dinner during the annual meeting.

***Eligibility***

Candidates for the AAVLD Graduate Student Oral Presentation and Poster Presentation Awards must be currently enrolled in a full-time veterinary diagnostic training program and/or graduate program in veterinary diagnostic science / medicine or a related discipline. Candidates who will complete a graduate and/or residency program after June 30, 2016 are still eligible to compete. The presentation must represent original work of the applicants completed during their residency or graduate program.

***Application and Selection Procedure***

The applicant should follow the guidelines for abstract submissions to the AAVLD Annual Meeting to be eligible for the award. Submit abstracts via the AAVLD Abstract Central website at the following link-- <https://aavld2016.abstractcentral.com>. During the on-line submission of your abstract, on the appropriate page choose your presentation type preference (oral, poster or both), and choose under award type “Graduate Student Poster Presentation” or “Graduate Student Oral Presentation” or both as appropriate for your specific submission.

***Timelines***

**The deadline for receipt of all application materials is June 1, 2016 (the deadline for on-line submission of Annual Meeting abstracts).**

Trainees will be notified by July 15, 2016 if their abstract has been selected for an oral or poster presentation at the 2016 AAVLD meeting. For questions regarding the AAVLD Graduate Student Awards contact Dr. Francois Elvinger by e-mail at fe65@cornell.edu .