



## American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians E-Newsletter

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News & Events April 2015

**DEADLINE APPROACHING !!**  
**Call For Abstracts and Award Applications**

**58th Annual AAVLD Meeting**  
**October 22 - 28, 2015**  
**Providence, RI**

### Abstract Submission

**Deadline is June 1, 2015**

Thank you for considering submitting an abstract for presentation of your work at the 2015 AAVLD Annual Meeting. According to the recent member survey, the quality of presentations in the Scientific Oral and Poster Sessions is the single most important reason for attending the AAVLD Annual Meeting.

**Submit your abstracts EARLY!**

**Thomson Reuters ScholarOne** is the official AAVLD provider of online abstract submission and management services. To submit an abstract, login to the AAVLD 2015 Abstract Submission Site with your User ID and Password e-mailed to you by ScholarOne Abstracts (current AAVLD member, previous submitters). For non-members and if you did not receive an email from ScholarOne containing your User ID and Password, follow the instructions on the website for creating a new account. After login, follow the online instructions to submit your abstract.

**Publication in the Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation (JVDI), the official journal of the AAVLD:** We encourage

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submission of manuscripts to the JVDI based on your oral and poster presentations at the annual meeting. Manuscripts accepted by the JVDI editor after scientific peer-review will be published as refereed journal articles. Guidelines for format and style of manuscripts are published in the journal and on the AAVLD website ([www.aavld.org](http://www.aavld.org)). Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts to the editor for processing prior to the meeting if possible.

### AAVLD Annual Awards

**Note: Laboratory staff is encouraged to apply for AAVLD Foundation STAFF TRAVEL AWARDS and one submission will receive a BEST PRESENTATION award.**

**The AAVLD is soliciting applications for the following AAVLD Awards:**

**AAVLD Trainee Travel Awards:** Trainees in a Master's, PhD or residency program enrolled in all disciplines in veterinary diagnostic medicine are encouraged to apply, including epidemiology, immunology, microbiology (bacteriology, food safety, mycology and virology), molecular diagnostics, parasitology, pathology and toxicology.

The \$1,500 travel awards are intended to help defray the cost of travel and lodging to attend the Annual AAVLD meeting. The Trainee Travel Awards are funded by the AAVLD Foundation and are intended to fulfill the recruitment and education mission of the AAVLD Foundation by encouraging trainee excellence in their diagnostic discipline, developing trainee presentation skills (verbal, written, organizational) and promoting networking of trainees with veterinary laboratory diagnosticians. This year, funds are available for up to 12 travel awards.

**AAVLD Laboratory Staff Travel Awards:** Veterinary diagnostic laboratory staff in any discipline are encouraged to apply, including epidemiology, immunology, microbiology (bacteriology, food safety, mycology and virology), molecular diagnostics, parasitology, pathology and toxicology.

The \$1,500 travel awards are intended to help defray the cost of travel and lodging to attend the AAVLD Annual Meeting. The Laboratory Staff Travel Awards are funded by the AAVLD Foundation. Laboratory staff travel to the AAVLD Annual Meeting is intended to encourage laboratory staff excellence in their diagnostic discipline, promote networking of veterinary laboratorians and encourage participation in AAVLD committees. This year, funds are available for up to 6 laboratory staff travel awards.

**AAVLD Graduate Student Presentations Awards(oral and poster presentations)** : The AAVLD encourages trainees in all disciplines of veterinary diagnostic medicine to apply. 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 2015 AAVLD Annual Meeting in Providence RI, one for best oral presentation and one for best poster presentation. The recipient of 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.

**AAVLD Laboratory Staff Presentations Awards(oral or poster presentations)**: The AAVLD encourages laboratory staff in all disciplines of veterinary diagnostic medicine to apply. 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 laboratory staff excellence in their diagnostic discipline and to develop presentation skills (verbal, written, organizational).

One award will be selected and given for best presentation during the 2015 AAVLD Annual Meeting in Providence RI. The recipient will receive a \$500 cash prize. The AAVLD Awards Committee will select the awardee and awardee will be announced during the joint AAVLD/USAHA President's Reception and Dinner during the annual meeting.

**J. Lindsay Oaks Best Student Molecular Biology Award (oral and/or poster presentations)**: The AAVLD invites interested trainees to submit oral/poster presentations relating to molecular biology in veterinary diagnostics. This \$500 award is given to the student delivering the best oral presentation or poster on a molecular biology topic at the AAVLD annual CE meeting. All molecular biology oral presentations and poster presenters are eligible.

**Richard Walker Best Student Bacteriology Award (oral and/or poster presentations)**: The AAVLD invites interested trainees to submit oral/poster presentations relating to bacteriology in veterinary diagnostics. This \$500 award is given to the student

delivering the best oral presentation or poster on a bacteriology topic at the AAVLD annual CE meeting. All bacteriology oral presentation and poster presenters are eligible.

**[AAVLD/ACVP Diagnostic Pathology Award for Residents/Graduate Students:](#)** The AAVLD and the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) encourage trainees in veterinary pathology to participate in the annual meetings of both organizations. The AAVLD/ACVP Diagnostic Pathology Award for Residents/Graduate Students will be presented to graduate students and/or veterinary pathology residents for the best oral presentation in the field of veterinary pathology at the annual AAVLD meeting in Providence, RI. Part of the award is to support travel of the award winner to the next annual ACVP meeting to present the award-winning presentation at the ACVP meeting. Please visit <http://www.aavld.org/mc/page.do> for AAVLD meeting details.

- The awardee will receive \$1,000 from the AAVLD pathology committee to help defray travel and lodging costs associated with attending the ACVP annual meeting of the following year. The award winner must present the award-winning presentation at the ACVP meeting of the following year in order to receive the award. The award will be given to award winner following submission of the abstract to the ACVP meeting.
- The recipient will be granted a waiver for the ACVP meeting registration fee.

All submission and award information is available on the <https://aavld2015.abstractcentral.com> website. Please click on the link to the site and follow the instructions.

You may also access this information on the AAVLD website at <https://aavld.memberclicks.net/annual-meeting> and click the "Awards Page" tab.

Jim Kistler, IOM, CAE  
Executive Director  
American Association Of  
Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians  
[www.aavld.org](http://www.aavld.org)

WAVLD COMING TO NORTH AMERICA

*World Conference to Be in Saskatoon*



The 17th International Symposium of the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians is returning to a North American venue, being held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on June 15-18, 2015.

Emphasizing an international flavour, the symposium brings together senior level executives, scientists and veterinarians from across a varied range of sectors to converse, present and learn about advancements in science and laboratory techniques related to Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostics.

The 2015 Symposium will cover a broad range of topics organized into 5 themes, including New Technologies; Control & Management of Endemic Disease; Detection, Management & Control of New & Emerging Disease; Wildlife & One Health; and Turning Laboratory Data into Intelligence. Two world renowned experts will deliver plenary lectures in each theme, followed by concurrent sessions with presentations selected from abstract submissions from around the world, to highlight current research and advances.

Included in the program is the 11th Seminar of the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE), with a slate of presentations open to all symposium registrants. On the day prior to the Symposium, the Canadian Association of Veterinary Pathologists will be meeting with a focus on Forensic Pathology and tours of local scientific and cultural interest will take place.

The host city of Saskatoon is a beautiful and friendly city with a population of about 234,000 people, located in Saskatchewan, Canada, an area known as "the land of the living skies" for its broad horizons and ever changing skylines. The South Saskatchewan River runs through Saskatoon with the Meewasin Valley trails providing 60 kilometres of riverside pathways to walk, explore and enjoy. (<http://www.tourismsaskatoon.com>) Saskatoon has an active arts community with many art galleries, boutique shopping, challenging golf courses, and good locally-owned restaurants, serving fresh local cuisine.

Hosted by the Canadian Animal Health Laboratorians Network, the Organizing Committee invites and welcomes you to attend. Please see [www.WAVLD2015.com](http://www.WAVLD2015.com) for details on program and registration.

### **Study Finds Signs of Airborne Avian Influenza**

Signs of airborne H5N2 found; Iowa reports more outbreaks

*Robert Roos, News Editor  
CIDRAP News  
May 8, 2015*

Evidence of the H5N2 avian influenza virus has been found in air samples collected in and near infected Minnesota poultry barns, a researcher said today, supporting the suspicion that the virus may go airborne for short distances, while Iowa reported seven new H5 outbreaks involving 4 million chickens and an unknown number of turkeys.

In addition, Wisconsin authorities today reported finding H5N2 in an owl along Green Bay, while hard-hit Minnesota had its second day this week without any new poultry outbreaks.

#### Air sampling findings

Montse Torremorell, DVM, PhD, of the University of Minnesota said she and three colleagues did a pilot air sampling study at three Minnesota farms with infected poultry.

"Our results indicated that influenza genetic material can be detected in air samples collected inside and immediately outside of infected poultry facilities. We still don't know whether virus was viable or not, and those analyses are in progress," said Torremorell, who holds the Allen D. Leman Chair in swine health and productivity.

"So far we have shown that HPAI [highly pathogenic avian influenza] can be aerosolized from infected facilities," she added. "However, the implications of these findings in terms of understanding the transmission of HPAI between flocks needs further investigation." The study focused on a total of four poultry barns on the three farms.

Torremorell said the study was commissioned by the US Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The agency's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa, are testing the samples to see if they contain any viable virus particles.

Other participants in the study are Peter Davies, BVSc, PhD, Peter Raynor, PhD, and Carmen Alonso, DVM, all with the University of Minnesota in St. Paul, Torremorell said.

The possibility of airborne transmission of H5N2 has been increasingly discussed as the situation has evolved over the past 2 months. In the early going, affected farms were widely scattered, and in most cases only one barn on each farm was infected. The general assumption was that particles of infected feces from wild waterfowl were being carried into barns by workers or equipment.

But more recently, multiple neighboring farms and multiple barns per farm have been hit, suggesting that the virus may be spreading from farm to farm and barn to barn, possibly via airborne dust or feathers. The results noted by Torremorell today mark the first reported effort to test the hypothesis in the current H5N2 crisis.

Full text:

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2015/05/signs-airborne-h5n2-found-iowa-reports-more-outbreaks>

## New Tool Created To Test For AI

### **Researchers create tool to predict avian flu outbreaks [Canada - edited] Feedstuffs**

*April 10, 2015*

A simple and effective portable tool to predict avian influenza outbreaks on farms has been created by University of Guelph researchers.

The researchers devised a real-time way to analyze chickens and other farm birds for the avian flu virus. The tool uses a small blood sample and relies on a simple chemical color change to see not only whether a chicken has avian flu but also what viral strain is involved.

Current tests require samples to be sent to a lab, where it can take eight hours to a couple of days to yield results. That's too long, said Suresh Neethirajan with the University of Guelph School of Engineering.

"This test only needs two to three minutes to incubate, and then you get the results immediately. Not only that, but it is more cost-effective. Conventional techniques are time-consuming and labor-intensive, and require special facilities and expensive laboratory instruments," he said.

The new nanobiosensor can detect the strains of H5N1 and H1N1. The most recent outbreak was from H5N2, which is similar to H5N1, Neethirajan said. With some architecture modifications, the developed biosensing technique has the potential to detect the H5N2 strain as well.

Full text:

<http://feedstuffs.com/story-researchers-create-tool-predict-avian-flu-outbreaks-45-126327>

## AAVLD Members In The News

*Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison News*  
May 12, 2015

Philip Bochsler, chief of pathology at the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (WVDL), has been selected as the lab's next director. Bochsler will assume his new duties Monday, July 6.

UW-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank, in consultation with the WVDL Board of Directors, appointed Bochsler after a national search.

Darrell Bazzell, UW-Madison vice chancellor for finance and administration, says Bochsler has developed a strong record of leadership, service and achievement since he joined the WVDL management team in 2001.

Full text:

<http://www.news.wisc.edu/23767>

### Histopathology Slide Sets and Abstracts Now Available

Slide sets of the 2014 Histopathology Slide Session are available for purchase. The abstracts for this session, in addition to many of the previous Pathology Slide Seminars, can be viewed at <https://aavld.memberclicks.net/histopathology-conference>. It is in the Publications area of the website if you need to navigate that way.

Limited numbers of slides sets from previous years are available at \$50 per set as well (2005, 2011-2013). An order form link is available on the site, as is my contact information.

This year, as in previous years, there were many excellent slides and presentations. Dr. Tim Cushing and I sincerely thank all the participants.

Rob Bildfell  
OSU VDL

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Jim Kistler  
Executive Director