**ICLAS News May, 2021**

ICLAS is an international scientific organization dedicated to advancing human and animal health by promoting the ethical care and use of laboratory animals in research worldwide.

**Now is the time to request funding! Financial support from ICLAS** is available for educational initiatives. Deadline for applications is September 1, 2021. Funding requests are prioritized by each of ICLAS’ Regional Committees: Africa, Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania. The amount of funding awarded is generally up to €2000 for initiatives with local impact. Requests for larger awards are considered for initiatives with regional or global impact. Each ICLAS Regional Committee will review the applications submitted by members in its region. The committees then refer the most compelling of these requests to the Governing Board for funding decisions. The Governing Board funding decisions are ratified by the ICLAS General Assembly.

For information and an application form, click [here](https://media-01.imu.nl/storage/iclas.org/7405/application-for-iclas-financial-support-may2021.pdf).

**Now is the time to obtain specialty veterinary training!** Three additional **ICLAS Veterinary Scholarship Awards are available.** Deadline for applications is June 15, 2021. The scholarship award assists veterinarians in areas where training Laboratory Animal Science and Medicine is not available. Selected educational programs are available entirely or primarily on-line, so the time and financial and personal cost of leaving employment and family to attend an established training program in a distant area is not an obstacle. Approved, accredited programs provide official certificates of training or an academic degree upon completion. The scholarship award is for 2/3 the total costs, up to a maximum of €6,000. ICLAS thanks the generous sponsors for these awards: AAALAC, International, Charles River CHARTER Program, the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science (CALAS), the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) and the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM). ICLAS additionally provides a portion of the funding.
For information on candidate requirements, training programs, and an application form, click [here](https://iclas.org/iclas-scholarship-program-for-veterinarians/).

Mark your calendar: **The ICLAS General Assembly for 2021** will be Saturday, October 16 at 10:00 a.m. UCT and will be a virtual event on Zoom.

The ICLAS Governing Board will meet virtually September 30 and October 1, 2021 to consider funding requests for the coming year.

A new **certification program in Spanish** for laboratory animal caregivers and research personnel is now available through the Federation of Hispanic Societies and Associations for Laboratory Animals of North and Central America and the Caribbean (**FeSANAHCCCAL**). The new program consists of on-line courses and certification examinations. One may view the on-line coursework free of charge. For information click [here](https://www.bioterios.com/_archivos/Programa%20de%20certificaci%C3%B3n%20FESAHANCCCAL.pdf) and to register click [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScx7N1B3vl422_3DerSH2_nB-O445RKGkuYBHUNJ1sZe-5ALA/viewform).

In April, 2021, the nation of **Cuba** enacted national legislation on animal welfare, with a section specifically focused on protections and ethical considerations for research animals. Dr. Lázara Martinez Muñoz and her colleagues are congratulated for their efforts to bring about these federal protections for laboratory animals, including creation of the infrastructure and training necessary to support the implementation.

The **University of San Carlos in Guatemala** has inaugurated a new research animal facility named in honor of Dr. Amarillis Saravia, former President of the **Guatemalan Association for Laboratory Animal Science** (AGCAL). A virtual tour of the facility can be seen [here](https://youtu.be/S8lCRNOGhMc).

The **European Animal Research Association (EARA)** announces asocial media campaign to celebrate the growing proactive approach to communicating animal research across the world. July 1, 2021 is **“Be Open about Animal Research Day” – Global Get on #BOARD**. Associate your organization or institution as a partner by adding your logo in the list of those supporting the initiative.  Spread the word across your networks, and encourage other institutions to get involved. For additional information about the initiative contact info@eara.eu.   To enroll in the campaign, please fill in this [form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0K54dr1H8V_hpMWibyLesZ2nr74zyTpwXMD1t2PB7ygnFWg/viewform?usp=sf_link) by Thursday, **May 13, 2021.**