

2018 Recipient of the IETS Distinguished Service Award



Henrik Callesen

Dr. Henrik Callesen is the IETS Distinguished Service Award recipient for 2018. Callesen received his DVM and PhD from the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL, now part of the University of Copenhagen). He later earned a Doctor of Veterinary Science degree from the same university for his studies on superovulation, oocyte maturation, embryo quality assessment, and donor evaluation in cattle. He held research positions at KVL and the Danish Institute for Agricultural Science (Aarhus University), where he now serves as a professor in the Department of Animal Science. His research in cattle and pigs has centered around ovum development, superovulation, in vitro embryo production and cloning, embryo cryopreservation, and embryo transfer. He served on the board of the Association for Embryo Technologies in Europe, receiving that organization's Pioneer Award in 2016. He has been a long-standing active member of IETS, where he served on the Affiliate Society and Audit Committees and on the board as a governor and then treasurer for five years, followed by a term as vice president and then president in 2012.

This award was established by the Board of Governors in 1991. The primary purpose of this award is to provide recognition for those individuals who have provided outstanding leadership or service to the International Embryo Technology Society or who have contributed in a significant manner to the achievement of the stated purposes of the society as expressed in Article II of the IETS by-laws.

Article II—Purposes

Section 1. The society shall further the science of embryo production, development, and transfer by (1) promoting more effective research; (2) disseminating scientific and educational information; (3) fostering high standards of education; (4) maintaining high standards of ethics; (5) enhancing the international movement of animal genetics with embryos; (6) coordinating standardization of embryo handling and record procedures internationally; and (7) cooperating with other organizations having similar objectives.