



**International Embryo Transfer Society**  
Parent Committee on Companion Animals,  
Non-Domestic & Endangered Species  
**(CANDES)**

Report to the IETS Board of Governors  
1 January 2007

## **CANDES Symposium**

On 29 July 2006, a preconference symposium was held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) in Omaha, Nebraska. The one day symposium was entitled: Assisted Reproductive Technology for the Conservation and Genetic Management of Companion Animals, Non-Domestic and Endangered Species (CANDES) and the speakers were the Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Secretary and Chairman of the IETS CANDES Committee. In addition, four abstracts were selected from the poster presentations for short communications. It was very well received with approximately 150 participants who enjoyed a joint reception with the SSR at the Henry Doorly Zoo that evening. The proceedings from this symposium are now posted on the CANDES website.

## **Changes to the CANDES Executive Committee**

Owing to a change in employment, Dr. Rebecca Spindler has resigned as Secretary of the CANDES Committee. Although this came as very disappointing news, we all wish her the very best in her new position and all her endeavors. We plan to discuss possible candidates to replace Rebecca and hope to have a new Secretary by the middle of 2007.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Philip Damiani has been replaced by Dr. Gabriela Mastromonaco (Canada) as the Co-Chair to the CANDES Technology Subcommittee. We welcome Gaby and look forward to working with her on a variety of activities planned by this subcommittee.

## **Report from the Mid-Year Meeting (28 July 2006)**

Joint Research (Co-Chairs: Rebecca Krisher & Monique Paris) & Technology (Co-Chairs: Damien Paris & Gabriela Mastromonaco) Subcommittee Meeting

The Resource Manual on the IETS CANDES website now contains 29 protocols and 134 pages. The special issue on "A Perspective on the Role of Emerging Technologies for the Propagation of CANDES" is progressing well and will be ready for submission sometime in the Spring of 2007. Since the issue will not be large enough to stand alone with significant cost, RFD has agreed to publish it as a special section in an existing issue. The topics and authors for this section are as follows:

Introduction: Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Sperm Sorting (Quality and Sex) and CASA: Bill Holt

Novel Gamete Storage: Andras Dinnyes

Stem Cells (Oogonial, Embryonic and Somatic): Alan Trounson, Tayfur Tecirlioglu,  
Jitung Guo

Spermatogonial Stem Cell Transplantation: Ina Dobrinski and Alex Travis

Cloning: Gabriela Mastromonaco  
Transgenics: Heiner Neimann  
Xenografting: Monique Paris and Stefan Schlatt  
Conclusions/Remarks: Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Joint Regulatory (Co-Chairs: Justine O'Brien & Linda Penfold) & Health & Safety (Co-Chairs: Bill Holt & Naida Loskutoff) Subcommittee Meeting

As a result of a recent report from Bill Swanson's laboratory illustrating damaging effects of radiation from airport security procedures, Justine suggested that a cautionary note be placed on the CANDES website with possible recommendations of safe transport methods.

Linda provided an update on USDA regulatory requirements. Apparently, the regulations are no longer broadly based on species or countries of origin, but have been changed to a case by case basis and will include information on the efficacy of the tests used to detect the disease.

A third workshop is now planned to further develop the tools for conducting biomaterial disease risk analysis. It will be held and hosted by the White Oak Conservation Center in Yulee, Florida and will be sponsored in part by the Henry Doorly Zoo. For this workshop, we will be inviting regulatory officials from the US and Kenya, as well as epidemiologists and Phil Miller who is a modeling expert from the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group in Minnesota. The goal is to further develop the tools and, ultimately, software for conducting comparative disease risk analyses of animal versus biomaterial transport.

## **Other Business**

### CANDES Exhibit Booth at the Annual Conferences

Due to the fact that only three members of the CANDES committee (including the Chairman) will be able to attend the 2007 conference in Kyoto, it was decided to postpone the launching of the exhibit booth (describing the goals and activities of the committee) to the 2008 conference in Denver.

### 2008 Pre-Conference Workshop

We are submitting a proposal to the Board requesting that we hold a one day pre-conference workshop on the Saturday before the annual IETS conference in Denver in 2008. This will be one of a series of workshops to be held in the future, entitled: Implementation of Established Assisted Reproductive Technologies in CANDES. The first workshop is entitled: Implementation of Artificial Insemination in CANDES, and the details have been submitted as a separate report to be discussed by the Board under the future programs agenda.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Naida M. Loskutoff**, Chairman of the IETS CANDES Parent Committee