



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

Report to the IETS Board of Governors
January 2011

2011 Annual Meeting and Future Meetings

We will hold a working meeting along with our open meeting at the 2011 IETS conference in Orlando. I asked Debi Seymour to extend our meeting room so we will be meeting from 6pm to 9pm on Monday, January 10th. This should provide an update of information that I will plan to present to the IETS membership during my regular report that is typically held on the Tuesday of the IETS conference, along with the HASAC and DABE reports. One agenda item will be when and where we can hold a two to three day working meeting sometime in 2011.

2011 Workshop

In June of 2010, we were given the opportunity to hold a post-conference symposium on Wednesday, January 12th. We decided that we would propose to hold a workshop entitled: International Regulations and Requirements for the Import/Export of Reproductive Biomaterials: Embryos, Semen and Tissues as part of our Committee's continued interest in understanding the current guidelines set forth by regulatory agencies such as the OIE, CITES, etc. Our goal is to try to standardize some of the regulatory requirements for all countries and possibly lessen some of the rules that have hampered research efforts in conservation sciences and biomaterial banking. A copy of the final program is attached. Because of the limited time we had to put together this program, we selected most of the speakers from IETS members who regularly attend the annual conferences. Also because of time constraints, the speakers were told that they would not be required to submit a proceedings article for their participation in the workshop. At present, we have approximately 60 registrants and 13 speakers and session chairs scheduled to attend. The registration fees (\$100 per person) should be adequate to cover most of the costs, including one or two nights' hotel for the speakers and chairs, their waived registration fees and travel for three of the speakers (regulatory officials) and all the hotel costs (room rental, AV and two catered breaks). Any additional funds will be provided by the Omaha Zoo so the IETS will not be asked for any funding for the workshop. Our Committee thanks the IETS Board of Governors for giving us the opportunity to be able to have this program which we plan to summarize as an article for publication in the Embryo Transfer Newsletter sometime in 2011.

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

International Regulations and Requirements for the Import/Export of Reproductive Biomaterials: Embryos, Semen and Tissues

*Sponsored by
The IETS Committee on Companion Animals, Non-Domestic
and Endangered Species (CANDES)*

Wednesday, 12 January 2011, Wyndham Orlando Resort, Orlando, Florida

The goal of this workshop will be to present and discuss the current status regarding biosafety issues when transporting biomaterials from CANDES as well as humans and livestock for use in biomedical research, and embryo production in vivo, in vitro and artificial insemination. IETS members and experts working at regulatory agencies and in relevant research will provide presentations that will cover a variety of topics that will include tissues used for cloning and, eventually, stem cell research. The workshop will cover issues such as the potential for disease transmission via reproductive biomaterials and methods to reduce those risks, the current status of international regulatory agencies in their biosafety guidelines for the import/export of these biomaterials and suggestions for research or actions to overcome some of the hurdles that currently hampers use of reproductive biomaterials in biomedical and conservation science research. No proceedings articles will be provided; however, the IETS Committee on CANDES will prepare a publication summarizing the results of the workshop in a 2011 issue of the Embryo Transfer Newsletter. The proposed topics and suggested speakers for the program are listed as follows:

Introduction: *Dr. Nucharin Songsasen, Smithsonian's National Zoological Park; IETS CANDES Secretary*

Moderators: *Dr. Gabriela Mastromonaco, Metro Toronto Zoo; IETS CANDES Subcommittee Chair & Dr. Jason Herrick, University of Illinois; IETS CANDES Research Subcommittee Co-Chair*

Session I: International regulations for the transport of embryos, semen and tissues from domestic and non-domestic livestock

08:00 – 08:45: USDA-APHIS guidelines and regulations regarding the transport of reproductive tissues versus live animals
Dr. Linda Penfold, White Oak Conservation Center; IETS CANDES Subcommittee Co-Chair & Dr. William White, USDA-APHIS, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory

08:45 – 09:00 Discussion

09:00 – 09:45: OIE and international guidelines and regulations regarding the transport of reproductive tissues versus live animals
Dr. Larry Delver, VM Agriculture Consulting Ltd., Canada; IETS Health & Safety Committee (HASAC) Regulatory Subcommittee Chair & Dr.

Pascale Chavatte-Palmer, INRA, France; IETS HASAC Chair, OIE Representative

- 09:45 – 10:00: Discussion
- 10:00 – 10:30: Break
- 10:30 – 11:15: Biosafety issues and mitigations regarding the use of tissues for cloning
Dr. Irinia Polejaeva, Viagen, Inc., IETS HASAC member; Dr. Keqin Gregg, Viagen Inc. & Dr. Duane C. Kraemer, Texas A and M University, IETS CANDES member
- 11:15 – 11:30 Discussion
- 11:30 – 12:15 Risks and methods for reducing risks of transmitting infectious pathogens when transporting reproductive biomaterials
Dr. Ann Van Soom, Ghent University; IETS HASAC Research Subcommittee Chair & Dr. Naida Loskutoff, Omaha's Center for Conservation and Research; IETS CANDES Chair
- 12:15 – 12:30: Discussion
- 12:30 – 14:00 Lunch
- Session II: International guidelines and regulations for the import/export of reproductive tissues from rare or endangered livestock breeds and non-domestic species**
- 14:00 – 14:45 Current trends and disease risk assessments for the development of biobanks for tissues from a diverse array of taxa, including rare domestic and non-domestic livestock
Dr. Bill Holt, Zoological Society of London; IETS CANDES Health & Safety Co-Chair
- 14:45 – 15:00 Discussion
- 15:00 – 15:30: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and US Endangered Species Act (ESA) regulations regarding the transport of tissues from listed species
Dr. Mike Carpenter, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority (CITES), Branch of Permits
- 15:30 – 16:00: Break
- 16:00 – 17:00: Panel discussion with representatives from USDA-APHIS, IETS HASAC, US Fish and Wildlife Service and CITES

Panel:

- *Dr. William White, USDA-APHIS, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory;*
- *Dr. Larry Delver, VM Agriculture Consulting Ltd., Canada; IETS Health & Safety Committee (HASAC) Regulatory Subcommittee Chair;*
- *Dr. Pascale Chavatte-Palmer, INRA, France; IETS HASAC Chair, OIE Representative;*
- *Dr. Ann Van Soom, Ghent University; IETS HASAC Research Subcommittee Chair;*
- *Dr. Mike Carpenter, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority (CITES), Branch of Permits*

Focusing on suggestions as to how to approach regulatory agencies for guidance to standardize regulatory requirements for reproductive biomaterial transport and for possible methods needed for relaxing certain regulations that currently effect biomedical and conservation research programs -- similar to the OIE's acceptance of the Embryo Appendices in the Animal