



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

Report to the IETS Board of Governors
January 2013

CANDES Session at the 2012 IETS Annual Conference

Thanks to the Program Chairs, Dr. Pascale Chavatte-Palmer and Dr. Rebecca Krisher, the CANDES Committee was invited to hold a session at the 2012 IETS conference concurrently with the Practitioners' Forum. A committee of ten CANDES members decided to have one main speaker, Dr. Nucharin Songsasen from the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Front Royal, VA, who is preparing an article for the 2013 March issue of the Embryo Transfer Newsletter. This presentation was followed by short communications selected from the authors of poster abstracts pertaining to CANDES who indicated their consent on the abstract submission form (24 total).

Member Activities

Members of the CANDES Committee have been exploring ways to increase membership and attendance at the IETS conferences. One suggestion that has been discussed is to hold working meetings in conjunction with other relevant scientific societies. In 2012, CANDES Committee members have attended and participated in: a symposium on assisted reproductive technology in Amphibians that was held in Vancouver, Canada as well as the International Society of Wildlife Endocrinology that was held in Vienna, Austria. Dr. Bill Holt (Health & Safety Subcommittee Co-Chair) organized a symposium called "Genetic selection and preservation of genetic diversity" at the ICAR 2012 conference in Vancouver. This addressed a variety of issues relevant to CANDES, especially the conservation of rare equidae (Ann van Soom, Belgium), threatened avian species (Henri Woelders, Netherlands), preservation of domestic livestock (Harvey Blackburn, USA) and aquaculture species (Curtis Lind, Worldfish, Manila). Dr. Linda Penfold (Regulatory Subcommittee Co-Chair) updated our Committee that she has finally managed to convince the USDA to allow exotic ruminant imports from Canada after several years of having the border closed following the BSE scare in cattle. Continued lobbying and gathering information on acquisition and disposition of hoofstock in zoos for USDA information finally paid off. She and Dr. Justine O'Brien (Regulatory Subcommittee Co-Chair) are currently standardizing the methods for processing and transporting African elephant semen for artificial insemination within the US.

CANDES Session at the 2014 IETS Annual Conference

Chairman Loskutoff was notified by the Program Co-Chair, Dr. Pablo Ross, for the 2014 IETS Annual Conference that will be held in Reno, Nevada, that he and Dr. James Murray are considering including a CANDES session to be held concurrently with the Practitioners' Forum. We will be most delighted and grateful for this opportunity and hope that the Board of Governors approve the suggestion. If so, we will begin to discuss among our membership a similar plan for the program we held at the 2012 with one main speaker followed by short communications selected from the relevant poster abstracts.

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