Governor Nominee

Joanna M. G. de Souza-Fabjan, PhD (Brazil)

Joanna Souza-Fabjan graduated in veterinary medicine and earned a MS degree in animal science at Federal University of Viçosa, Brazil. Subsequently, she received a DSc degree from the Ceará State University, Brazil, and INRA, France (cotutelle) in the field of reproductive physiology and biotechnologies. In 2014, Souza-Fabjan was a recipient of the national award for outstanding DSc thesis in veterinary sciences. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Veterinary School of Fluminense Federal University, in Niterói, Brazil, where she ultimately got a faculty position in 2017. In Niterói, she supervises undergraduate and graduate students in the programs spanning veterinary medicine, sciences, and biotechnology (currently 20 undergraduate and graduate students). For her research achievements to date, she has been awarded a prestigious Young Scientist of Rio de Janeiro State prize (2018), a CNPq fellowship (2019), and the Early Career Achievement–Scientist award from IETS (2020).

Souza-Fabjan's research interests have revolved around reproductive biotechnologies in farm animals, mainly small ruminant species, and recently also the domestic cat as a model for endangered felids. Her primary research goals are to advance our understanding of ovarian function using ultrasonography as well as to develop and refine methods of estrus synchronization, artificial insemination, in vitro and in vivo embryo production, and gamete/embryo cryopreservation. Her studies have been supported by major Brazilian funding agencies, and she published more than 90 original articles and invited reviews in top- ranked scientific journals.

Souza-Fabjan attended her first IETS meeting in 2010 and has been an active member of the society ever since. Starting in 2017, she has been the national collector of the small ruminant embryo data in Brazil, preparing the data banks for IETS. Her ambition and purpose to work with the board is mainly to promote the activities of the society, and to boost the involvement of researchers and technicians working on various aspects of embryo technologies in small ruminants and companion animals.