

**Morula Board of Governor's Nomination: Morgan Orsolini
University of California, Davis**

My name is Morgan Orsolini and I am running to be a part of the Morula Board of Governors 2021-2023. I earned my BS from California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo, USA, in Animal Science, with minors in Biology and Biotechnology. At Cal Poly, I developed a strong interest in animal reproduction and subsequently became involved in an embryology research lab. In this lab we were looking at the effect of cytokines on *in vitro* produced bovine embryo cryopreservation and maturation. Furthermore, I attended IETS for the first time as an undergraduate. I also served as a research fellow with the San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research where I investigated the activation of estrogen receptors by dietary phytoestrogens and endogenous estrogens in three species of rhinoceros.

Currently, I am a first year Animal Biology M.S. student at the University of California, Davis, researching equine sperm selection for ICSI under the supervision of Dr. Pouya Dini and Dr. Stuart Meyers. I plan to finish my M.S. at Davis and then go on to complete my doctorate in embryology and artificial reproductive technologies, with an ultimate goal of enhancing species conservation.

As a member of the IETS Morula Board of Governors, I will continue building on the Morula's goals of networking, community, collaboration, and fundraising. I believe in IETS's mission to foster a diverse and supportive network of student scientists while focusing on expanding student involvement. As a board member, I would develop more opportunities for Morulas to interact with senior scientists and help strengthen the core values of the Morula trainee association.

As someone who attended IETS as an undergraduate, I can wholeheartedly attest to the benefits of the Morula program. My participation in Morulas was a highlight of the annual conference. I was provided networking opportunities and built a strong sense of community with other student members. The Morula program has positively impacted my experience at the conference and has influenced my career decisions. As a board member, I hope to build upon the student program and streamline our reach to the next generation of scientists.

