UK leaves Europe and Oxford University returns to Europe. The oldest university in the English-speaking world, and one of the most prestigious, is planning to open an office in Paris and, as written in the Daily Telegraph, the agreements with the French government are well advanced. There is an historical suggestion: a stretch of European civilization that remains standing on the initiative of two countries that had battled for centuries, and only for the last hundred years have been on the same side. But it’s not romance to prevail: Oxford needs of EU funding that could lose because of Brexit.

The Horizon 2020 program will distribute a couple of billion Euros in the coming years, but the strategy of Oxford University is not only pure “looking for money”: so far the Europeans studying in Oxford have paid the same tuition fees of the British, they have enjoyed special rates and free health care, all privileges that Brexit will probably cancel, with damage for the Oxford international vocation. It is the usual issue: whatever will be decided by politicians, the boundaries are not strong enough to stop the new cosmopolitan spirit of the world. The weakest, the small universities, will struggle to get by. The stronger universities will instead use their weapons and above all they will set up proper long-term strategies to adjust to the new situation.

Andrea Rosati
EAAP 2017 IN TALLINN: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Abstract submission for the 2017 EAAP Annual Meeting is open!

The abstract submissions is open! Only abstracts submitted using the online application will be considered for publication. Abstracts have to be written in English. The proposed abstract should contain the specific objectives, experimental methods and statistical analyses to be used, together with a synthesis of the results and conclusions. The title, authors and the abstract must not exceed 2250 characters (including spaces).

Please note that each author can present a maximum of 2 submitted abstracts.

You can send your submission by Wednesday 1st March 2017 to Wageningen Academic Publishers (email: eaap2017@WageningenAcademic.com). Authors will be informed by mid April 2017 whether their abstracts have been accepted for the programme. Authors who submit abstracts but fail to register for the Conference by the 31st May 2017 will have their presentations removed from the programme and their abstracts will not be inserted in the Abstract Book/CD.

The publisher of the Abstract Book for EAAP 2017 Annual Meeting is Wageningen Academic Publishers (http://www.wageningenacademic.com/).

EAAP Scholarships to attend EAAP Annual Meeting 2017

On-line applications for EAAP Scholarships are still open! EAAP is happy to provide the same number of scholarships offered last year: this means that 20 applicants will receive financial support to attend the next EAAP Annual Meeting in Tallinn!

Only applicants who have a maximum age of 38 years and are nationals of an EAAP member country - or, if from other countries, are EAAP individual members - can apply for a grant to attend the Annual Meetings.

Applicants who have previously obtained a scholarship cannot reapply within 3 years.

Before 1st March 2017 each applicant should send to eleonora@eaap.org:

a) Name, address, email and phone number, date of birth and short CV.

b) Name and address of the institution where he/she works.

c) The paper that the applicant intends to present, written in English. The paper should not exceed 5 pages including tables, figures and references. The contribution should be in line with the agenda of one of the provisional sessions (joint or single ones).

d) A copy of the original abstract form (in English), completed in accordance with the instructions given by Wageningen Academic publishers.

Abstracts must be submitted by the 1st March 2017 to Wageningen Academic. By the 30th April 2017, the EAAP Secretariat in Rome will inform applicants of the result of the examination by the Board of Examiners.

Successful applicants will receive information on the conditions and uses of the lump sum in line with the Scholarship Fund. The successful applicants will be informed by the relevant Commissions’ Presidents on the presentation method chosen for the paper at stake.

Unsuccessful applicants will also be notified about
the outcome of their submissions. Failure to obtain a scholarship does not mean the automatic removal of the abstract from the conference programme. These applicants will also be informed by the relevant Commissions Presidents on the method of presentation chosen for their contributions, if accepted.

Plenary Session of the 2017 EAAP Annual Meeting

EAAP will dedicate this year Plenary Session to Precision Livestock Farming. The EAAP Plenary Session is the central moment and the most crowded event of the EAAP Annual Meeting, and there will be like always four well estimated invited scientists and at least 600 participants in the audience.

The program was developed selecting the most interesting topics with speakers of well-known reputation in the field of Precision Livestock Farming and related topics, so as to make this Plenary Session attractive for a large audience and “impossible to miss” for those who are working in this area. The program is almost completely confirmed and is available [here](#).

EAAP Young Scientists Award

For the second year, EAAP will grant to early career researchers the “EAAP Young Scientists Award”. All scientists who are born after 1st September 1979 can participate. The candidates should be EAAP individual members and should have demonstrated outstanding research performance within the European dimension and perspective. The awarded participant will receive a plate in Tallinn, during next EAAP Annual Meeting, and will be granted free registration for the 2018 EAAP Annual Meeting (in Dubrovnik), where he/she will be invited to present a paper. Please disseminate this information to your younger colleagues! More information are available [here](#).

EAAP PEOPLE PORTRAIT

Gerry Greally

Gerry Greally is a volunteer Auditor with EAAP and he is involved in activities regarding the verification and certification of the annual accounts of the organisation. Prior to that, he was a Council member. He has been attending the EAAP Annual Meetings over many years and is a keen supporter of all the activities that EAAP is attempting to carry out. Gerry is a Senior Manager with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine in the Republic of Ireland. He is the Head of the Livestock Breeding Division within that organisation. His role is very complex and includes responsibilities in: development of national cattle and sheep breeding systems; approval and certification of cattle and sheep breeding organisations under EU legislation; development of policies in the equine breeding area. He has a close working relationship...
with the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF) and with research bodies carrying out research in this domain. His work entails interfacing with the national body for the development of the sport horse industry on equine breeding matters. He leads a team that has expertise in the animal breeding area, with specialities in zootechnics, rare breed conservation, farmer payment scheme design, carcass classification (grading) systems and equine breeding and registration. From 1998 to 2002 Gerry was seconded to ICBF and was involved in establishing the initial infrastructure for ICBF’s centralised cattle breeding database and some initial work in developing breeding programmes. Prior to that, he gained experience in managing certain dairy and beef breeding schemes and in data analysis.

Gerry has a Master Degree in animal genetics from University College Dublin and further degrees in agricultural science and information technology. He was born in County Mayo in the west of Ireland and later on settled down in the south (County Cork) with his wife and two children. The area where he lives is a rural one and it is located 3 miles outside the city of Cork. This area is predominantly dedicated to farming, as typical of the south of Ireland: particularly, well-bred dairy cattle are farmed in intensive grass production systems. He is never far away from the results of his job.

He has a keen interest in livestock farming and in livestock breeds, particularly those growing up in County Mayo: this explains why he pursued a degree in Agriculture at University College Dublin and specialised in Genetics. A career in the Irish Civil Service was obviously ‘in his genes’, in that his father before him also worked in the Department of Agriculture. Gerry has worked in this Department since graduating from University.

His hobbies include hill walking in the rugged areas of west Cork and west Kerry and supporting his local football and hurling teams. He likes nothing more for relaxation than to listen to music and engage in conversation with family and friends.

FROM SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

The bovine heritage of the yak
Yaks are robust enough to survive at 4000 meters altitude. Genomic analyses by researchers of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitaet (LMU) in Munich have shown that yak domestication began several millennia ago and was promoted by repeated crosses with cattle. According to the analyses conducted by LMU researchers, hybridization between yaks and cattle began more than 1500 years ago. Moreover, the first systematic genome-wide comparison of the genetic heritage of yaks and cattle shows that about 1.5% of the genome of Mongolian yaks is derived from domesticated cattle. You can read more on the results of the LMU’s study here.

**The livestock industry and the fight against antibiotic resistance**

In an article recently published on Statnews, Caroline Plante (a livestock specialist of the World Bank) explains how the livestock sector has played an important role in creating the emerging health threat of “superbugs” and antibiotic-resistant infections, but can also help stop it. Particularly, two-thirds of human infectious diseases originate in animals. And drug resistance that starts in animals may follow into people therefore, if we’re going to effectively contain superbugs and antimicrobial resistance, we must fully address the issue in animals. You can read the full article by Caroline Plante here.

**University College Dublin (UCD) announces a new Bioinformatics Course**

A Bioinformatics Course will be run from the 24th July to the 4th August 2017 at University College Dublin, School of Veterinary Medicine and Conway Institute for Biomolecular and Biomedical Research. The course will take place directly after ISAG 2017 (the 36th International Society for Animal Genetics Conference), which will be running at UCD from 17th to 21st July 2017.

Please find a general overview of the course here. For further information, please email irene.ward@ucd.ie.

**USAID supports the commercial potential of cassava peel for livestock feed in Nigeria**

Despite the volume of cassava processed in Nigeria and the commercial potential of cassava peel for livestock feed, there is virtually no commercially-available livestock feed made from cassava peel. In order to address this market gap, the United States Agency for International Development has launched agribusiness partnerships through which technical advisory services will be provided to Nigerian smallholder farmers and the establishment of Nigerian cassava peel processing centers will be facilitated. You can read the complete news about USAID agribusiness partnerships in Nigeria on Vanguard website.

**New article on genomic selection and potential improvements of milk fat composition**

A new work published on Genetics Selection Evolution aimed at identifying genetic variants that affect milk fatty acid composition in Norwegian Red cattle, to understand more about the genetic factors that influence the biosynthesis of bovine milk and the molecular mechanisms that regulate milk fat synthesis and secretion. You can read and download the full article here.

**FAO’s work on climate change – GHG emissions**

FAO has recently released a presentation on GHG emissions from Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use. The document, which mainly offers statistics on emissions from agriculture by continent, is available here.
JOB OFFERS

Chairperson of the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (East Lansing, MI, USA)

The successful candidate must demonstrate the ability to embody and convey the land-grant mission of teaching, research, and extension/outreach to varying audiences, provide effective leadership and management of multidisciplinary programs, be a strong advocate for all aspects of the Department, and provide leadership for the continuing development of outstanding regional, national, and international programs. The full time, annual appointment position is available beginning July 1st, 2017. For further information and applications, please read the vacancy announcement.

Research Coordinator sought by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) for its West and Central Africa Office (Dakar, Senegal)

IFPRI seeks a qualified Research Coordinator for its West and Central Africa Office for a two-year, fixed-term appointment. This position will be based in Dakar, Senegal. The successful candidate will work on a broad range of topics in international food security policy, reporting to the Program Leader and supporting the work and reach of the Montpellier Malabo Panel. The Research Coordinator will work closely with the Program Leader, other Researchers, as well as with the two co-chairs of the Panel and the Senior Adviser to develop high quality policy reports and technical briefs. For further information and applications, please read the vacancy announcement.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

March 23rd – 24th, 2017 in Antwerp, Belgium

8th European Equine Health & Nutrition Congress (EEHNC)

The 8th EEHNC theme is “From Nutrition to Disease and Back”. The two-day programme will contain 3 main sessions: “Nutrition as Cause”, “Nutrition as (part) treatment or disease modifying tool” and “Nutrition as tool for disease prevention”.

The agenda consists of lectures by internationally acclaimed specialists in the areas of nutrition and veterinary science. Special attention will be paid to the relation of nutrition with conditions like obesity, equine gastric ulcer disease and developmental orthopaedic disease. For more information, please visit EEHNC website.
March 28th, 2017 in Brussels, Belgium

10th Forum for the Future of Agriculture (FFA)

The Forum for the Future of Agriculture has been contributing to the debate on agriculture and the environment in Brussels since 2008. FFA will return to the Square, Brussels, on March 28, 2017 for another stimulating debate on the future of European and world agriculture. Free registrations are now open on FFA website, where you will also find the list of confirmed speakers and further information on the event.

April 10th – 12th, 2017 in Washington, DC, US

Meeting of the Livestock Research Group (LRG)

The LRG is part of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA). LRG is an international group of scientists and policy makers working together to reduce the emissions intensity of livestock production systems and increase soil carbon storage. The next meeting of the LRG will be hosted by the US in Washington DC, on 10-12 April 2017. The event will include a usual two-day meeting plus a field trip to the headquarters of the USDA Agricultural Research Service. If you have any questions, please email: secretariat@globalresearchalliance.org.

May 2017 in Iran
(specific date and location to be announced)

World Goat Day 2017

The International Goat Association (IGA) recently established that the World Goat Day 2017 would be held in Iran. The conference will be titled “A Celebration of the First Domestication of Goats and the Contribution of Goats Today”, and will represent a great opportunity to learn from researchers, producers, processors and other actors active throughout the value chain related to the goat sector. For further information and updates, please visit IGA website.

May 7th – 8th, 2017 in Barcelona, Spain

Advancia Academy Workshop

The Adisseeo company, a global leader in animal nutrition whose mission is to provide products and services for animal feed additives with the best guarantee of safety for people and the environment, co-organizes with EAAP a workshop titled: “Advancia - Nutritionist: a challenging job! Feeding an ecosystem to transform feedstuffs into meat”. The workshop will be held in Barcelona on 7th and 8th May 2017. Further information and registrations will be made available on EAAP website and through the next EAAP Newsletters.

May 21st – 24th, 2017 in Saint-Malo, France

International Symposium on Emissions of Gas and Dust from Livestock

The 3rd International Symposium on Emissions of Gas and Dust from Livestock (EMILI 2017) will be held on May 2017 in Saint-Malo. EMILI 2017 will be an opportunity to share the latest scientific advances in research on gas (ammonia, GHG, odours) and dust emissions from livestock, and will contribute to provide information that industry and governments need to achieve cost-effective gas. For registering to the symposium and consulting the preliminary program, please visit EMILI 2017 webpage.
May 30th – 31st, 2017 in Zaragoza, Spain

Days on Animal Production (17th Edition)

The conference is organized by AIDA (Asociacion Interprofesional Para el Desarrollo Agrario) and will take place at Instituto Agronómico Mediterráneo de Zaragoza (Campus de Aula Dei). For further information, registration and works submission, please visit the event webpage.

June 12th – 14th, 2017 in Assisi, Italy

European Symposium on South American Camelids (SYMPCAM 2017)

The 7th European Symposium on South American Camelids and 3rd European Meeting on Animal Fibers will be held in Assisi, Italy. Following the tradition of previous events, the Symposium will cover a broad range of topics related to the breeding and keeping of South American domestic and wild Camelids, wool sheep, Cashmere and Angora goats, Angora rabbit and all other fibre mammals in Europe and the world. The invitation to participants interested in all fibre-producing animals is expected to stimulate the exchange of knowledge and thus enabling their expertise to be implemented on a more general scale. There will be scientific sessions about: 1. Sustainable development and climate change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Breeding and genetics, 4. Reproduction and pathology, 5. Nutrition, 6. Meat and fibre production and 7. Fibre metrology. For further information on the conference, registration and submission of scientific contributions, please visit SYMPCAM 2017 website.

June 13th – 16th, 2017 in Perugia, Italy

22nd Congress of the Animal Science and Production Association (ASPA 2017)

ASPA 2017 aims at promoting valuable scientific contents and knowledge exchange, combining the latest developments with the traditional aspects of animal production and encouraging dialogue between participants with different backgrounds and experience, operating in the animal science and production field. The call for abstracts is now open and will close on February 15th, 2017. For further information on the programme, registrations and abstract submission, please visit ASPA 2017 website.
Animine, an important company for the production of mineral feed additive, and EAAP are pleased to announce the Second Animine Academy. The National Museum of Natural History in Paris will become once again the venue for this one and a half day workshop held on 22nd and 23rd June 2017. Animal nutrition, diet and its effects on the animal metabolism will be the main themes addressed during this workshop. Six invited experts will give a comprehensive presentation in their fields of expertise followed by 45 minutes of discussion for each given lecture, which will give a great opportunity to speakers and participants to discuss and learn from each other, bringing together scientific and industrial point of views. More info are available at: http://animine.eaap.org

The 2017 American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) Meeting will be held for the first time in many years separately from the ASAS conference. It will be end of June in Pittsburgh. For more information, please visit the conference website. The abstract submission website is now open and it will accept contributions until February 21, 2017.

The American Society of Animal Science and the Canadian Society of Animal Science will hold the 2017 ASAS-CSAS Annual Meeting & Trade Show in Baltimore, MD, USA, from July 8 to July 12, 2017. This is the inaugural year of the meeting, which will be entitled "Animal Science and Technology; Ensuring Food Security" and has 3 goals: 1) to present high quality, relevant science that links animal science and animal agriculture, 2) to offer social events that will enhance networking and add a family feel to the meeting, and 3) to create a successful and sustainable new meeting model. Please find complete information on the event here. General abstracts and competition abstracts can be submitted by the 1st March 2017.

The conference will take place in University College Dublin (UCD). The 2017 ISAG Conference will provide an open and friendly forum for the sharing of knowledge between scientists and practitioners of animal genetics applied to economically important and domesticated species. The conference will comprise a series of plenary sessions, workshops organised by ISAG’s standing committees, poster presentations, and a series of networking events. For further information on the conference, registrations and submission of abstracts, please visit ISAG2017 website.

The Organising and the Scientific Committees are delighted to announce that Estonia has been chosen as the venue for the 68th Annual Meeting of the European Federation of Animal Science. The meeting will take place from August 28th to September 1st, 2017 in Tallinn, Estonia’s capital. The
venue for the meeting will be Solaris Tallinn, located in the heart of Tallinn within walking distance from the city’s best hotels and most iconic sights. EAAP 2017 builds on the success of previous EAAP meetings, and it will provide an excellent opportunity for scientists working with a wide range of animal species and in related disciplines to meet and discuss the latest developments in animal sciences. For further information on the event, please visit EAAP 2017 website.

September 5th – 8th, 2017 in Wageningen, the Netherlands

7th International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level (WAFL 2017)

WAFL is an international scientific conference on the assessment of animal welfare at farm and group level. It is organised once every three years, and following the successful meeting in Clermont-Ferrand in 2014, it will next be held from the 5th to the 8th September 2017 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. The deadline for abstracts submission is the 3rd Feb 2017, while the deadline for early bird registration is the 1st Jun 2017. Please visit the WAFL2017 website for more information.

September 19th – 22nd, 2017 in Johannesburg, South Africa

13th African Dairy Conference & Exhibition (13th AfDa)

For more than a decade, the African Dairy Conference and Exhibition has brought the latest trends and developments in dairy, giving participants a deeper understanding of what is happening in the African dairy industry and the world at large. For more information and registration, please visit the 13th AfDa website.

September 21st – 24th, 2017 in Chania, Greece

8th International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies in Agriculture, Food & Environment (HAICTA 2017)

HAICTA 2017 aims to bring together professionals, experts and researchers working on Information and Communication Technologies in Agriculture, Food and Environment. It additionally aims to emphasize on the applicability of ICT solutions to real industry cases and the respective challenges. The Conference will take place from the 21st to the 24th
of September, 2017, in Chania (Crete, Greece). The event is co-organized by the Hellenic Association for Information and Communication Technologies in Agriculture, Food and Environment (HAICTA) and the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (MAICh), in cooperation with several other Institutions. For further information on the event and paper submission, please visit HAICTA 2017 website.

September 28th – 29th, 2017 in Paris, France

**Amino Acid Academy Workshop**

"Amino Acid Nutrition and Sustainability" is the title of a workshop jointly organized by Ajinomoto Eurolysine and EAAP. Ajinomoto is a Japanese food and chemical corporation which produces seasonings, cooking oils, TV dinners, sweeteners, amino acids, and pharmaceuticals. The amino-acid production for animal use is the division of the company organizing this workshop with EAAP. The mission of such division of Ajinomoto is to provide products and services for animal feed additives with the best guarantee of safety for people and the environment. The workshop “Amino Acid Nutrition and Sustainability” will be held in Paris on 28th and 29th September 2017. Further information and registrations will be available on EAAP website and through the next EAAP Newsletters.

October 3rd – 5th, 2017 in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain

**Joint Seminar of the FAO-CIHEAM Network on Sheep and Goats: “Innovation for Sustainability in Sheep and Goats”**

The seminar, which will be held in Vitoria-Gasteiz (Spain) on 3-5 October 2017, will gather together the Subnetworks on Nutrition and Production Systems and is jointly organized by Neiker-Tecnalia (The Basque Institute of Agricultural Research and Development), the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (IAMZ-CIHEAM), and the H2020 project “ISAGE” (Innovation for Sustainable Sheep and Goat Production in Europe), with the collaboration of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). You can find the complete announcement of the event and all relevant information at the seminar website.

October 16th – 19th, 2017 in Batu, Indonesia

**6th International Conference on Sustainable Animal Agriculture for Developing Countries (SAADC 2017)**

The 6th SAADC Conference will be held with the theme of: “Wisdom of Using Local Resources for Development of Sustainable Animal Production in Developing Countries”. Besides providing a platform for researchers and industry stakeholders to share science and experiences for the development of sustainable animal agriculture in the developing countries, a major focus of SAADC is to provide assistance to young scientists to prepare high quality scientific papers to be presented and discussed in the SAADC conference program and then published in reputed international scientific journals. For further information, please visit the conference website.

October 18th – 20th, 2017 in Budapest, Hungary

**2nd World Conference on Innovative Animal Nutrition and Feeding**

The AK Congress, which is a member of the Wolters Kluwer Group (The Netherlands), organizes the 2nd World Conference on Innovative Animal Nutrition and Feeding (WIANF) on 18th-20th October, 2017 in Budapest, Hungary. EAAP is one of WIANF professional partners. The Conference aims to present how the latest developments of animal nutrition and related disciplines can be applied in animal nutrition to produce high quality and safe animal derived foods and to ensure production in a sustainable manner. For further information on the topics of the conference, registrations and abstracts submissions, please visit WIANF website.
February 11th-16th, 2018 in Auckland, New Zealand

WCGALP meeting

The Organising Committee of the World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production is gearing up to the meeting in Auckland, New Zealand, that will be held in February 2018. Registrations are opened since December 2016. Call for papers will open on May 1st, 2017 and close on September 7th, 2017. For more information, please visit the congress website.

September 3rd– 6th, 2019 in Leipzig, Germany

International Symposium on Ruminant Physiology

The Symposium about Ruminant Physiology will be held in Germany in 2019 at the Kongresshalle am Zoo of Leipzig. The Symposium is the major international conference on ruminant physiology. It provides an overview of current, important scientific findings and areas of research in the physiology of ruminants of all kinds. For more information, please visit the symposium website.

OBITUARIES

We regret to inform the EAAP community that Allan Crawford passed away peacefully on Monday 13th February, following a short illness.

Many of you might know Allan, an Emeritus Scientist from AgResearch - Invermay, who was heavily involved in sheep genomics research. This included the original development of microsatellite assays, early linkage maps and parentage testing. This was initially used for major gene discovery in fecundity and disease traits, but perhaps its major industry impact was widespread use of DNA derived pedigrees in the New Zealand deer and sheep industries.

Allan then led the Animal Genomics Platform between 1998 and 2003 as it transitioned into genomics, leading to sequenced genomes, SNP chips and genomic selection. Allan retired in 2010.

Allan was taken ill on a recent visit to India and was in intensive care since his return. He passed away on the 13th February. Our thoughts are with his family, friends and former colleagues.
Adisseo is a global leader in the production of additives and nutritional solutions for animal feed.

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“Even if we’re in a state of hopelessness, a sense of expectation is an integral part of our relationship to time”

(Jacques Derrida)
The Flash-e-news is the Official EAAP Newsletter. This interesting update about activities of the European animal science community, presents information on leading research institutions in Europe and also informs on developments in the industry sector related to animal science and production. The Newsletter is sent to all EAAP Members and supporters. You are all invited to submit information for the newsletter. Please send information, news, text, photos and logo to: p.andrea@eaap.org.

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