



First CCSAW Travel Grants Awarded

The Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare is pleased to announce the recipients of our 2016 CCSAW Travel Grants.

One of the key objectives in CCSAW's strategic plan is to support the development of academics and professionals in fields related to animal welfare, and one of the important ways we do this is by providing opportunities that enrich the learning experiences and enhance training of our graduate and DVM students. With a generous bequest from Joyce Olive Mallard, CCSAW was able to establish these grants to support the attendance of students at conferences, workshops or short courses.

Grant winners receive up to \$1500, to be used to offset or cover the costs for travel to the event. Students may be attending to present their research findings or to enhance their educational program or professional development related to animal welfare.

This year, grants were awarded to eight students. Five of the students (Aitor Arrazola, Teresa Casey-Trott, Lauren Dawson, Jacquelyn Jacobs, Elyse Mosco) will be presenting their research at the International Society for Applied Ethology Congress. The ISAE is the leading international society for scientists focused on the behavior and welfare of all types of animals under human care. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the society and our students are sure to inspire and be inspired by many of the pioneers of animal welfare science who will be at this meeting.

One student (Catalina Medrano-Galarza) will be presenting her research at the 7th International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level (WAFL). This conference focuses specifically on sharing the best ways to assess animal welfare, such as welfare indicators and methods to analyse them, welfare assessment protocols, precision farming techniques for welfare measurements, statistical methods to deal with large amounts of data, genetics and welfare, and consumers and welfare labelling.

One student (Jessica Walsh) will be presenting her research at the 11th World Rabbit Congress in China, which is has the highest level of rabbit production in the world. The Congress brings in scientists, experts and entrepreneurs from all over the world to help progress rabbit science, including ethology and welfare.

One student (Emily Zakrajsek) will be presenting her work at the 12th Annual International Society of Equitation Science Conference which is focusing on the theme of incorporating ethological methods to optimize horse-rider communication.

This round of awards marked the first year that the Travel Grants will be available to at least six University of Guelph students annually over a course of five years. Campbell Centre Director

Widowski says “We are so pleased to be able to provide these exciting opportunities for our students and I know that this bright and talented group will be fantastic ambassadors for CCSAW, the UoG and Canada.”

To find out ways that YOU can support the best and brightest young minds dedicated to applied animal behavior and welfare, contact Kimberly Sheppard at the Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare: ksheppar@uoguelph.ca, 519-824-4120 x53648.

Congratulations to this year’s grant recipients!

Aitor Arrazola, a PhD student who is studying the effect of alternative feeding systems on the welfare of broiler breeder chickens, will be travelling to the 50th ISAE Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland

Teresa Casey-Trott, a PhD student who is studying the effects of housing that enhances exercise on the welfare of laying hens, will be travelling to the 50th ISAE Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland

Lauren Dawson, a PhD student who has developed a companion animal welfare assessment scheme to be used in veterinary clinic visits, is travelling to the 50th ISAE Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland

Jacquelyn Jacobs, recent PhD graduate who focused on resource guarding behavior in pet dogs will be travelling to the 50th ISAE Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland

Catalina Medrano-Galarza, PhD student who is identifying best management practices for the rearing of milk-fed calves that will help develop recommendations to improve calves’ welfare, will be travelling to the 7th International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level (WAFL), Wageningen, the Netherlands

Elyse Mosco, DVM Student and recent MSc graduate who investigated the implications of feed restriction on broiler breeder welfare, will be travelling to the 50th ISAE Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland

Jessica Walsh, MSc candidate researching best methods for euthanasia of meat rabbits will be travelling to the 11th World Rabbit Congress, Qingdao, China

Emily Zakrajsek, DVM student who studied on the human-horse bond and welfare of horses used in equine-assisted therapy programs, will be travelling to the 12th Annual International Society of Equitation Science (ISES) Conference in Saumur, France as well as the University of Guelph’s Equine Study Tour to France