



American
Registry of
Professional
Animal
Scientists

April Newsletter

APRIL 17, 2008

DECEMBER 2007

2007-2008 ARPAS Governing Council

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A Message from the ARPAS President

[Darrell Johnson](#), PhD, PAS, Dipl. ACAN

Many of our members have been involved with ARPAS since its inception, but even more have joined in the last few years. If you have not done so, I would encourage you to review the ARPAS history on our Web site. This can be accessed through the following link: www.arpas.org/govdocs.asp Click on "Current Handbook" and scroll to the end of the document. We have grown from an organization in the mid-70's named American Registry of Certified Animal Scientists (ARCAS) consisting of 444 members to today's membership of over 1,500. Those who have been involved with the organization since the early days know that it has not always been smooth sailing, but our organization is now on sound financial ground and still growing.

ARPAS has gone from having no paid employees to now having an executive vice president, editor-in-chief, and examining board chairman on the payroll. These are all key positions that have contributed to our growth. My point of this history lesson is that we have come a long way but can still go a lot further. It took a lot of dedicated people to bring us to this point and will continue to take dedicated people to move us forward. Please be willing to serve ARPAS if asked. We will need several people to serve on the editorial and examining boards. Be sure and vote in the upcoming election. Attend ARPAS functions at the annual meeting. We will have an excellent symposium plus business meetings for ARPAS and ACAS. I know business meetings are not exciting, but they are important to shaping our future. The more people that attend, the more opportunities for fresh ideas.

Obtaining the required continuing education credits to retain ARPAS certification is a problem I have heard from some. There are more and more ARPAS-approved meetings each year. Please check the Web site for upcoming meetings with CEU approval. There are probably meetings many of you attend that you didn't realize qualified. If you don't see a meeting listed, don't hesitate to ask if it is eligible. If you are involved with setting up an educational meeting, please communicate with our executive vice president to get approval for CEU credits and publicize this when promoting your meeting.

ARPAS has been busy since the last newsletter, and there will be several reports on activities in this newsletter. There are a couple of items I want to single out. The Governing Council voted at our Mid-Year Conference call to establish an ARPAS Foundation similar to those of ASAS and ADSA. Interested persons would make donations to the core foundation fund. Money in the fund will be invested, and only the earnings from this fund will be spent at the discretion of the board, probably for educational

purposes. This is an excellent way for us to expand our role in providing educational opportunities.

Another service we are investigating is providing evaluation examinations. Several universities have expressed interest in ARPAS providing an across-discipline examination they could give to graduating seniors as a sort of exit exam. I think this could also be of interest to several companies as a way to evaluate current or potential employees. Our current examination process is not set up to do this, so we are investigating a way to provide such a service that would be separate from the ARPAS certification exams. This test would provide the test scores back to the examiner. This can provide a valuable service and also serve as a way to introduce people to ARPAS.

Thanks to each of you for being an ARPAS member and please do what you can to help move us forward. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions at djohnson@burkmann.com.

Treasurer's Report

Keith Lusby, PhD, PAS, Dipl. ACAN

For the fiscal year that ended December 31, 2007, ARPAS continues to maintain a strong financial position. Total revenue and support totaled \$254,125, compared to \$218,700 budgeted. Membership income was \$166,969 compared to \$152,400 budgeted. The ARPAS Journal had income of \$82,711 compared to \$58,800 budgeted because of a substantial increase in the size of the journal. Interest and dividend totaled \$10,309, whereas unrealized investment gain was \$5,864, reflecting the large drop in the stock market.

Total expenses were \$232,618 compared to \$210,955 budgeted. Expenses for the ARPAS Journal were \$86,338 compared to \$61,900 budgeted, as explained above by the increase in size of the journal and also improvements in services provided by the journal. Increased income for the journal was very similar to the increase in expenses. Expenses for administration and governance were \$141,531 compared to \$137,450 budgeted.

The net change in assets for 2007 was \$21,507 compared to \$7,745 budgeted.

Report from the Examination Board Chair

Steve Schmidt, PhD, PAS

The examination board currently is working on updating the examinations for 10 of the 13 areas of specialization. I would like to thank the following individuals for graciously agreeing to serve as subcommittee chairpersons for the following areas of specialization:

Aquaculture - Matt Powell
Beef Cattle - John Paterson
Companion Animals - Colleen Brady
Dairy Cattle - Stephen Emanuele
Horses - Marit Arana

Poultry - John Brake
Sheep - Ken Coffey
Goats - Sandra Solaiman
Swine - David Meisinger
Meat - Liz Boyle

ARPAS Sheep and Goat Specialty Area Changed. Notice in the above list that sheep and goats are listed separately. At its mid-year meeting in January, the ARPAS Governing Council voted to separate the sheep and goats specialty area into two separate specialty areas. The Council felt this was a good time to make the change. Many of those working with goats are good in that species but have little connection or knowledge of sheep. The opposite also is true. The goat population in the South has continued to increase, whereas the sheep population has decreased. In making this change, the Council feels that both specialty areas will have an opportunity to grow. Committees have been appointed to develop separate exams for each species.

At this time, we do not have committees working on exams for laboratory animals, dairy product science, or poultry products. There are very few ARPAS members in these three specialties, but we should maintain updated exams for prospective members. Anyone interested in helping with these three specialty areas, please contact me at sschmidt@auburn.edu or 334-844-1515.

Study Guides...an Opportunity for Membership Input. Each of the subcommittees listed above also has been asked to help identify materials that could be used as study guides for the exams. Potential members often are afraid to take the exam because they have been away from their college studies for some time and are afraid that they would not pass. This has been a block to building membership. Having refresher study guides available would help alleviate some of the anxiety. Some states want their Extension faculty to become PAS certified and also would like to have study guides available. At this time, we are viewing the study guides as being Web-based with links to material on different topics, so potential members can choose to review those topics they feel they need to brush up on. If you are aware of or have access to materials that you think would be appropriate and helpful to include in the study guides, please contact the chairperson above with your suggestion. I am sure they would welcome your input.

ARPAS Election of Officers

L. Wayne Greene, PhD, PAS

One of the most important roles you have as an ARPAS member is to elect officers that represent you on the Executive Committee and the Governing Council. Officer positions up for election in 2008 are the president-elect and secretary positions. A slate of nominees was identified by the nomination committee and presented to the Governing Council for approval at the January Governing Council meeting.

Both candidates for the president-elect position have prior Governing Council experience. They are Dr. Carl Hunt from the University of Idaho and Dr. Randy Shaver from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Andy Cole from USDA-ARS in Bushland, Texas, and Dr. Benjy Mikel from Mississippi State University will be the candidates for secretary. The secretary position is a three-year term.

You will find the candidates' biographical information below and on the ARPAS Web page. I encourage you to select your candidate of choice by voting using the electronic mechanism that will be available on the ARPAS Web site on May 1.

Candidates for president-elect:

- Carl Hunt ([click here for bio](#))
- Randy Shaver ([click here for bio](#))

Candidates for secretary:

- Andy Cole ([click here for bio](#))
- Benjy Mikel ([click here for bio](#))

YOUR ARPAS MEMBERSHIP SPECIALIZATIONS, CERTIFICATION, AND CEUS

A message from [Kenneth R. Cummings](#), PAS, Dipl ACAN,
Executive Vice President

Specialization. An applicant for associate and full membership as a professional animal scientist (PAS), registered animal specialist (RAS), or registered animal product specialist (RAPS) must qualify via examination in at least one animal, product, or management specialization. Members may elect to qualify in more than one specialization upon successfully passing the examination for that specialization.

The areas of specializations available are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Aquaculture | 9. Sheep |
| 2. Beef Cattle | 10. Goats |
| 3. Companion Animals | 11. Swine |
| 4. Dairy Cattle | 12. Meats |
| 5. Dairy Nutrition | 13. Dairy Product Science |
| 6. Equine | 14. Poultry Products |
| 7. Laboratory Animals | 15. Feed Management |
| 8. Poultry | |

Areas of specialization may be added by the Governing Council.

Recent additions and changes have been made to this list. Sheep and goat specializations have been separated into individual areas. Dairy nutrition and feed management areas have been created to meet membership needs. Dairy nutrition is a new level of certification that is between PAS/RAS and American College of Animal Nutrition (ACAN) Board certification. It is considered a species-specific nutrition certification. Plans are for beef cattle, horse, and other species nutrition exams to be available within the near future.

Certification. Board certification, through the American College of Animal Sciences (ACAS) is available via examination(s) or by demonstrated expertise in each of the following disciplines:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Behavioral Science | 4. Nutrition |
| 2. Food Science | 5. Physiology |
| 3. Genetics | |

Continuing Education. Continuing education units (CEU), along with payment of annual dues, are a requirement for maintenance of registration. Continual training and education is required of ARPAS

professionals to keep abreast of rapidly changing technology in their field. Therefore, to ensure validity and integrity of registration, each member must submit evidence of continuing education to maintain registration status. Annual registration will be granted on the basis of the registrant's continuing education activities to maintain professional competency in the specialty area(s). Board-certified members are not required to earn additional CEUs beyond that required for PAS registration maintenance.

ARPAS members will be expected to participate in conferences, meetings, schools, or programs that contribute to their professional competency. Educational events that may contribute toward registration must be approved by the Examining Board. The Examining Board will establish a list of approved educational events and/or types of events that are held regularly and clearly meet criteria for an appropriate educational experience. A listing of such events will be published in the ARPAS newsletter or ARPAS Web site, or circulated among the membership. Other events may be approved by the Examining Board upon request, by submitting a description and agenda to the Business Office.

Verification of continuing education credit normally shall be satisfied by submission of a CEU reporting form or reported on the ARPAS Web site. The Examining Board reserves the right to request additional documentation. The continuing education requirements are 16 CEUs per year. One CEU equals one hour of participation in an approved activity. A surplus of CEUs (over 16) in a given year may be carried over to the subsequent year up to a maximum of 16.

Upon review, if the minimum credits have been completed for the specialty or specialties for which the member is registered, registration will be granted by the Examining Board. If the minimum CEUs have not been completed, registration of the individual will be revoked until such time as the CEU requirements are satisfied.

Emeritus members of ARPAS are not required to complete or report CEUs but still pay dues set by the Governing Council.

IMPORTANT REMINDER CONCERNING YOUR CEUs:

ARPAS members are required to earn 16 CEUs per calendar year, and you can bank up to 16 CEUs in advance. You may attend conferences in which CEUs could have been earned but were not requested by the conference organizers. If you feel the content is worthy of ARPAS credit, please send in the program for our review. Also remember, you can record your CEUs on the ARPAS Web site or download the form and send it to Susie Rahn at ARPAS Headquarters.

Several excellent conferences in which CEUs may be earned are listed below.

A NOTICE TO CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS:

We would like to also encourage all conference organizers to submit conference programs for evaluation well ahead of the event. In awarding ARPAS CEUs, contact hours for ARPAS credit may differ from total hours for the conference. Subject matter is considered in awarding ARPAS credits, and some parts of the program may not qualify for full or any CEUs. This has been a point of confusion in the past and has caused some concern by ARPAS members when they reported their CEUs.

REPORTS ON RECENT AND UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Barbara Barton, PhD, PAS, Dipl. ACAN

2008 California Animal Nutrition Conference

The 2008 California Animal Nutrition Conference (CANC) is scheduled for May 21-22, 2008 at Cal State University (CSU), Fresno, California. The Pre-Conference Technical Symposium is sponsored by Lallemand Animal Nutrition for Wednesday May 21st, with the main conference sessions starting Wednesday afternoon and continuing on through Thursday afternoon. The traditional industry social hour and barbecue at the Animal Science Pavilion at CSU-Fresno will also occur Wednesday evening. The program for the conference can be accessed at <http://www.cgfa.org/> at the events link on the California Feed and Grain Association page. The conference is approved for 10 continuing education credits for ARPAS members.

2008 Mid-South Ruminant Nutrition Conference

The 2008 Mid-South Ruminant Nutrition Conference is scheduled for April 7-8, 2008 in Arlington, Texas. It is sponsored by the Texas Animal Nutrition Council with support from the Texas AgriLife Extension Service and Texas A&M University. The conference starts Monday evening with a hospitality hour and mixer. Tuesday morning, Erik Swensson, president of the Texas Animal Nutrition Conference, will welcome the attendees and start off the conference. Scheduled speakers include the following: Dr. Ronald Kincaid, Dr. James Drackley, Dr. David Casper, Dr Michel Etchebarne, Dr. Mary Beth Hall, Dr Todd Bilby, and Dr. Jud Heinrichs. More details on the conference can be found at <http://www.txanc.org/conference.html>. Proceedings from previous conferences can also be found at this Web site. The conference is approved for seven continuing education credits by ARPAS.

2008 Southwest Nutrition and Management Conference

The 23rd Annual Southwest Nutrition and Management Conference, coordinated by the Department of Animal Sciences, University of Arizona, was held February 21-22, 2008 in Tempe, Arizona. Attendance reached closed to 400 registered participants. The conference information can be accessed by going to <http://animal.cals.arizona.edu/swnmc/2008/> and following the links. Additional copies of the proceedings can be obtained by contacting Dr. Lance Baumgard at SWNMC@ag.arizona.edu. The preconference symposium was sponsored by Balchem Corporation and was focused on the topic of micronutrients. It featured presentations by Dr. Ric Grummer, Dr Matt Lucy, Dr. Jerry Spears, and Dr. David Galligan. The main conference was a day and a half long with talks related to Glycerol (use in dairy and feedlot rations), Supplemental Bicarb and Ruminant Acidosis, Impact of Ethanol Expansion on US Crop and Livestock Markets, Resistance to Thermal Stress Using Protected Niacin, Corn Processing and the Feeding Value of Processed Corn, Transition Period Management, Fertility of Dairy Cows as Impacted by Heat Stress, and Fertility of Dairy Cows as Related to Nutrient Metabolism and Excess Protein Catabolism. The conference was approved for seven hours of continuing education credits by ARPAS.

2008 High Plains Dairy Conference

The 2008 High Plains Dairy Conference was held March 6-7, 2008 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Information about this year's conference and

the proceedings can be found at: <http://www.highplainsdairy.org/> The presentations at the conference included the following: Accelerated Growth Programs for Milk Fed Calves, Effects of Heat Stress on Metabolism and Nutrition Decisions, Corn Processing Co-Products and Their Use in Dairy Rations, The Impact of Fatty Acids on Reproduction and Health in the Post-Partum Cow, Turnover - Symptom or Disease, Variation in Feed Programs, Ventilating Low Profile Crossover Barns, Maximizing Dairy Production by Maximizing Immunity, Improving Fertility in Dairy Cattle, Economics of Making Nutritional Decisions with Volatile Feed Prices, Cow ID Systems for Dairies, Management of the Transition Period, Project Planning 101, Behavior of Free Stall-Housed Dairy Cows, Current Knowledge in Converting Starch and Fiber in Corn Silage to Milk, Immigration Reform, and Economic Impact of Dairies in the High Plains. ARPAS continuing education credits for this conference were 11 hours.

2008 Intermountain Nutrition Conference

The 10th Annual Intermountain Nutrition Conference was held January 29-30, 2008 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The conference theme was Dairy Nutritional Strategies to Meet Economic and Environmental Challenges. It was coordinated by the Animal and Veterinary Sciences Department of Utah State University. The preconference seminar was sponsored by Novus and included presentations on Managing the Freestall from the Cow's Perspective, Organic Trace Minerals, Milk Fat Depression, and Improving the Antioxidant Status of the Dairy Cow Through Nutrition. The main conference had presentations on the following: Feeding High Corn Silage Rations, Reproduction in Dairy Cows, Ruminal Acidosis, DDG, Mineral Balances on Dairy Farms Including Drinking Water for Animals, Protein and Amino Acid Nutrition, Methane Mitigation, Endocrine Disruptors from Dairies and Feedlots and their Environmental Implications, and Hoof Health. The proceedings can be accessed at: <http://www.advs.usu.edu/UpcomingEvents/conference/INC/INC%20Proceedings%202008.pdf>. ARPAS continuing education credits for this conference were 14 hours.

2008 ARPAS Symposium Update

Marit Arana, PhD, PAS
ARPAS President-Elect

The 2008 ARPAS Symposium, Livestock Pharmaceuticals: The Past, The Present, The..., to be held during the Annual Joint Meeting of ASAS and ADSA has been approved by the Meeting organizing committee. The Symposium is scheduled for Wednesday 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm, July 9th, and will be preceded by the ARPAS business meeting. The Symposium will include the following presentations:

ARCAS-ARPAS: Then and Now – Dr. Bill Price, Dipl. ACAN, ARPAS Historian, DAF/OSC/CVM/FDA, Maryland

50 Years of Pharmaceutical Technology and Its Impact on the Livestock We Produce – Dr. Rodney Preston, Washington

How are We Making Bacteria More Resistant to Antibiotics? – Dr. Todd Callaway, USDA-ARS, SPARC, Food & Feed Safety Research, Texas A&M University

Revenge of the Microbes: Are Antibiotics an Endangered Species? – Dr. Abigail Salyers, University of Illinois

Does Ionophore Resistance Risk Human Health? – Dr. James Russell, USDA-ARS, Plant Soil, Nutrition Laboratory, Cornell University

Please include the ARPAS Symposium in your plans for the 2008 Joint Meeting in Indianapolis.

From the Membership Committee

Warren Gill, PhD, PAS
ARPAS Membership Committee Chair

The membership report is good. We currently have 1,425 individual members, which is ahead of where we were at the same time last year, and members are still joining. It would be good if people would respond earlier in the year, but we will take them.

Remember:

1. In the first year after expiration, you can be reinstated by simply paying your membership dues (\$85) and/or catching up on your continuing education units (CEUs).
2. If you have been expired for more than a year, you will have to pay an additional \$20 reinstatement fee and provide CEU information.
3. If you are retired, the story is even better. If you were a member for at least 3 years prior to retirement, you are eligible for emeritus status. You can be reinstated by simply paying the dues (CEUs are no longer required if you are retired).
4. The best idea for retired ARPAS members may be to pay life emeritus dues. By simply paying 2.5 times the yearly dues, you can be paid up for life. This would be \$255 for 2007.

Expired members, please come back. Others, please pay your dues when they come due!

Update on the *Professional Animal Scientist Journal*

D. Wayne Kellogg, PhD, PAS, Dipl. ACAN

The approval and funding by the ARPAS Board of a proposal to accept the bid of HighWire for the Professional Animal Scientist means that, beginning in August, articles in our journal will be widely disseminated to scientists throughout the world. This is a major step forward for authors who are keenly interested in reaching a larger audience than ARPAS members and gives us equal footing with other scientific journals that are published by our associations—Journal of Dairy Science, Journal of Animal Science, and Poultry Science. This will make the journal more attractive to many members of these associations and resolve the issues of accessing articles that have been published. Readers will be able to search by author, by key words, or by issue. That has been a common and persistent request by ARPAS members and potential authors.

It has been a full year since service by Manuscript Central was initiated, and it has been very helpful...at least from your editor's perspective. It has permitted much faster handling of manuscripts—from the author to the editor's office, from the editor to reviewers, from reviewers back to the

editor, and eventually to the technical editor's office. The average for the first year of experience is 79 days from submission to acceptance of a manuscript. It has also allowed the editor to complete some functions from a remote location. Manuscripts have been handled more professionally, communication has been more reliable, and the projected savings in mailing and handling costs have indeed offset the charge by Manuscript Central.

Again, I express appreciation to members of the FASS Headquarters for their excellent assistance in making these upgrades for the journal.

American College of Animal Sciences (ACAS) Update

**Mich Etchebarne, PhD, PAS, Dipl ACAN
President, ACAS**

The American College of Animal Sciences is open for business and accepting applications for board certification from current ARPAS members and others qualified by education and experience. Board certification is the highest professional status that can be achieved within ARPAS. If you are qualified to seek this level, you owe it to yourself and your profession to become board certified.

The board has had two conference calls and numerous emails regarding organization of our committees. We are actively seeking volunteers to serve on the examination board for each of our discipline colleges. The following have agreed to help us organize these examination boards:

Animal Behavioral Science	Janice Swanson
Animal Food Science	Benji Michel
Animal Genetics	Ron Bates
Animal Nutrition	Jack Garrett
Animal Physiology	open

If you are a diplomate and interested in serving on an examination board, please contact me, Ken Cummings, or one of these individuals.

The ACAS board has also discussed the need to communicate that ACAS has designed a certification method for highly qualified individuals, such as tenured faculty, that meet the following qualifications:

"The examination process may be waived for faculty members of approved institutions who have been recognized by having gained tenure appointments, have been teaching undergraduate and/or graduate course in their species and discipline annually, and are the principal researcher on at least 5 refereed journal publications in the last five years, not including their thesis or dissertation-related publications."

If you know of individuals that meet these criteria, please have them contact us to review their credentials for board certification.

We will soon be conducting the election process for ACAS president-elect and secretary. If you would be willing to have your name placed in nomination or want to nominate an ACAS member for one of these offices, please contact me, [Susie Rahn](#), or [Ken Cummings](#).

Our first annual meeting of ACAS will be held during the joint ADSA/ASAS meetings in Indianapolis. It is scheduled for 12:30 pm, Tuesday, July 8 in the convention center. Please plan to attend and invite a colleague that needs to learn more about ACAS and board certification. We certainly need input from all board-certified members of ARPAS.

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