

Aerosols



Membership of the WVPA Hall of Honour is for poultry veterinarians/poultry veterinary scientists whose contribution to WVPA and poultry health management is recognised as exceptional by their peers.

In assessing candidates for the Hall of Honour, due consideration is to be given to their contributions to scientific research, poultry health education and training, professional communication via the scientific and professional/technical media, poultry health systems in developing countries and for outstanding leadership and guidance roles which they may have performed for the WVPA.

They will be someone who has contributed over and above the norm in one or more of these areas and, through their achievements, have been able to actively progress the international standing of poultry veterinary science.

Hall of Honour Commemorative Issue

It is my privilege and pleasure as the current president of WVPA to be able to introduce this issue of Aerosols which is dedicated to the Hall of Honour.

It is intended that admission to WVPA's Hall of Honour will be the highest badge of professional distinction for any avian veterinary scientist past, present or in the future. The WVPA has been in existence for some 54 years now and for this inaugural intake, just 52 individuals worldwide have been chosen by the WVPA Executive.

It was also a great honour for me to be officiating at the formal inauguration of the Hall of Honour at the WVPA Congress. The gala dinner of Nantes Congress of WVPA was a magnificent affair to share in, and the formal presentation of induction certificates to some 20 members of our new Hall of Honour added yet further lustre to an already wonderful congress. At the dinner, it was indeed a thrill to see all these heroes in avian health, surrounded by hundreds of applauding well-wishers and their cameras! I most warmly acknowledge Professor Stewart McNulty (Northern Ireland) and Dr Nick Dren (Hungary) for their great editing work, and Francois-Xavier Le-Gros and Nigel Horrox for their support in launching this Hall of Honour for WVPA.

This Hall of Honour will now be permanently maintained within the Hall of Honour section of the WVPA website (www.wvpa.net). This issue of Aerosols is dedicated to publishing the entries for the inaugural members of this Hall of Honour. These details of the achievements of so many of the key figures in avian health will provide WVPA with a corporate history as well as a permanent corporate memory. Further members will be added at each future WVPA congress.

Trevor J. Bagust – President of WVPA

Recipients in Nantes



Dennis Alexander



Dennis Alexander
Born: 1945
United Kingdom

Dennis Alexander was born in the Clerkenwell district of London, England. He obtained an honours degree in Applied Biology from Brunel University in 1968, and a PhD in 1971 after studying virus virulence using Newcastle disease virus as a model at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London University. In September 1972 he began work in the Poultry Department, Central Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge. In addition to Newcastle disease, his work included: infectious bronchitis virus, influenza viruses, other avian paramyxoviruses, and other poultry viruses. Following a period in 1986-1987 at University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, he returned to Weybridge, becoming Head, Avian Virology Section and then, from 2001-2004, Head of the Virology Department. He was also Director of the EU Community Reference Laboratories for Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza, the OIE reference laboratory for ND and AI, and the FAO World Reference Laboratory for Poultry Diseases. Since September 2005 he has worked as an independent consultant virologist.

Dennis has been sole or joint author of 465 scientific papers or book chapters, 265 in international peer-reviewed journals. He was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science by London University in 1986, and was elected Fellow of the Institute of Biology in 1988, and Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists in 1997.

He was a member of the European Community Expert Group on Contagious Diseases of Poultry from 1984-1992, the European Community Scientific Veterinary Committee from 1994-1997, and EU Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare from 1997-2003.

He was awarded The Robert Fraser Gordon Memorial Medal for distinguished contributions to poultry science in 2000, the OIE meritorious award – Médaille du Mérite in 2006, and elected Honorary Life Member of the British Veterinary Poultry Association in 2006. He received the honour Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) from the Queen in 2006. Dennis has been married to Pam (Professor Pamela Riches, an immunologist) since 1972. He has always participated in sport, especially rugby, and was a London Society rugby referee for 5 years. Since 2007 he has been a lawn bowls enthusiast as both a player and coach.

David Prewitt Anderson



David Prewitt Anderson
Born: 1934
USA

Dave was born in Twin Falls, Idaho (USA). He attended the University of Idaho, then Washington State University where he received his BS in 1959 and DVM in 1961. He did his graduate work at the University of Wisconsin under Professor Robert P. Hanson and received his MS in 1964 and PhD in 1965. Dave is a Founding Diplomat of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians and a Diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists.

He joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin in the Department of Veterinary Science. During this time, Dr. Hitoshi Kawamura, who had joined him as a post-doctoral fellow, isolated a herpesvirus from turkeys which was used as the first successful vaccine for Marek's disease. Dave served in the U. S. Army at the Meat and Dairy Hygiene School in Chicago, Illinois.

Dave joined the faculty of the University of Georgia in 1969 as Director of the Poultry Disease Research Center, which later became the Department of Avian Medicine. His research there and at Wisconsin was devoted to environmental effects on avian respiratory diseases (Mycoplasma, Newcastle disease etc.) The use of turkey herpesvirus as a vaccine became a major effort at Georgia. The Master of Avian Medicine degree program was initiated by the Department of Avian Medicine in 1970; over 100 graduates are now serving the poultry industry worldwide.

He became the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Affairs in 1971 and Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine in 1975. He held that position until his retirement in 1996. He served as Editor of Avian Diseases from 1973 to 1994, also as Editor of the Poultry Disease section of the Merck Veterinary Manual for ten years. He was President of the American Association of Avian Pathologists in 1988 and received their Special Services award in 1991. He was named Georgia Veterinarian of the Year in 1980 by the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association.

Dave has been married to Gale for 50 years and they have two children, Kathryn and Christopher, and three grandchildren. In retirement Dave enjoys hunting, fishing, taking naps, telling jokes and being politically incorrect.

Trevor John Bagust

Born in New Zealand, Trevor is the son of a line of farmers and builders. He graduated from the University of Queensland, Australia with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree in 1966, and completed a PhD in animal virology (bovine and equine herpesviruses) at the University of Queensland in 1970. At the Australian Government's CSIRO Division of Animal Health, Melbourne, he developed Specified Pathogen-Free (SPF) poultry flocks in a purpose-designed national facility (1977), which then supported Australia's avian research, vaccine production and avian exotic diseases diagnosis for 20 years.

His research interests at CSIRO (1975-1996) included avian leucosis and reticuloendotheliosis, avian immunosuppressive viruses and infectious laryngotracheitis (ILT) virus. Trevor demonstrated that the trigeminal ganglion is a major site for latency establishment by ILT viruses, and that modified live ILT virus vaccines established latent infections that later reactivated with spread of infection. He developed the A20 ILT vaccine and remains the co-holder of the international patent for this vaccine. Trevor co-authored the chapter on infectious laryngotracheitis in *Diseases of Poultry* for the 9th, 10th & 11th editions and has authored some 150 scientific publications in avian health. Whilst Assistant Chief of his CSIRO Division, Trevor was also Director of the Australia-China Poultry Projects (1988-1996), where technology transfer laid significant foundations for China's modern intensive poultry industry. In 1997 the Australian Veterinary Association awarded Trevor the Kesteven Medal for "outstanding achievements in international animal health development assistance" in China and Vietnam.

In 1996 Trevor joined the University of Melbourne, and from 2005-present, has been a central figure in establishing Avian Health Online. This is now jointly presented worldwide with the University of Georgia, USA and enables postgraduate education and competencies training of avian veterinarians by interactive distance education. As the President of WVPA from August 2011, he is working to further enhance the prominence of WVPA and its national Branches in avian health sciences matters globally. With wife Jo, 3 grown daughters Fiona, Kathryn and Elizabeth, and 3 grandchildren to 2013, Trevor is enjoying his "semi-retirement" in coastal Victoria, with regular sessions of duplicate bridge, music, gardening, reading and furniture restoration.



Trevor John Bagust
Born: 1944
Australia

Georges Bennejean

Georges Bennejean was born in Gueret, a small town in the centre of France. His father was an officer in the French army, and Georges spent his youth overseas, in Africa and later in Indo-China during the Second World War under the Japanese occupation.

Returning to France, he gained his veterinary qualification in 1956 at the Veterinary School of Lyon, founded in 1762 as the world's first veterinary school. He completed his training at the same University, in microbiology (1962) and immunology (1968).

In 1960, he joined the Poultry Experimental Station in Ploufragan, a new centre of research created to develop the young poultry industry in Brittany in the areas of genetics, nutrition, breeding and pathology. Georges was in charge of poultry diseases, and the parasitic diseases of coccidiosis, ascariasis and capillariasis posed the most urgent problems. He developed facilities and techniques to prevent and treat these conditions. Later, recognition of the importance of microbiological diseases led the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture to build a new laboratory and facilities in Ploufragan: The National Laboratory of Avian Pathology. As Director, Georges was responsible for the creation of this laboratory of 1000 sqm, 34 experimental rooms with filtered air, 25 isolators and a SPF chicken unit. Diseases studied by his team of 50 researchers and technicians included Marek's disease, Newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis, mycoplasmosis, Gumboro disease, turkey rhinotracheitis and egg drop syndrome.

As an expert member of the Scientific Veterinary Committee of the European Economic Community, Georges contributed to EEC guidance concerning important diseases such as Newcastle disease, avian influenza and mycoplasmosis. He was President of the WVPA (1989-1993), and President of the French branch of WVPA (1976-1998), succeeding Prof Brion. Retired since 1995, his contribution to veterinary science has been recognised by awards from the poultry industry. As director of research, he reached the highest grade in the publicly-funded research sector in France. He was elected in 1997 as a member of the Academie Veterinaire de France.

Married to Annick since 1953, he has 3 children and 6 grandchildren. They divide their time between family and Paris and Saint Brieu, where they have lived since 1960.



Georges Bennejean
Born: 1930
France

Peter Martin Biggs



Peter Martin Biggs
Born: 1926
United Kingdom

Born in Petersfield, Hampshire, England, Peter Biggs graduated in 1953 from the Royal Veterinary College, London University. He gained a PhD from the University of Bristol in 1958, and a DSc from London University in 1975. He was Lecturer in Veterinary Clinical Pathology, University of Bristol, from 1955 to 1959. His main scientific interest was viral oncogenesis. In 1959 he moved to the Houghton Poultry Research Station (HPRS) to form and head a Unit to study lymphoid tumour conditions of the domestic fowl. He gave the name Marek's disease to one of the tumour conditions, and he and his group determined that it was caused by a herpesvirus, and later developed a vaccine for the disease. He also described a novel disease in turkeys, lymphoproliferative disease of turkeys, which he and colleagues showed was transmissible and was likely to be caused by an oncovirus unrelated to known avian oncoviruses.

He was Director of HPRS from 1974 to 1986, and founding Director of the Institute for Animal Disease, formed from an amalgamation of four animal disease research institutes, from 1986 to 1988 when he retired from full-time employment. Peter was a Visiting Professor in Veterinary Microbiology at the Royal Veterinary College, London University from 1982 to 2008, and an A.D.White Professor at Large at Cornell University from 1988 to 1994. He served as WVPA Secretary / Treasurer (1971-81), WVPA President (1981-85) and Editor-in-Chief of Avian Pathology (1973-87), and has been a WVPA Honorary Life President since 1989.

He received Honorary Doctorates from the Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich, Germany and the University of Liège, Belgium, and the Jozsef Marek Memorial Medal from the Veterinary University of Budapest, Hungary. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1976. In 1989 Peter was awarded the Wolf Prize for Agriculture. He was created a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1987.

For many years Peter has sung in a choir. He is also interested in natural history and sport. He has been married to Jan for over 60 happy years, and they have had three children (one a veterinary surgeon) and nine grandchildren.

Magne Bisgaard



Magne Bisgaard
Born: 1945
Denmark

Born in Saksild, Denmark, Magne Bisgaard had to move to Copenhagen to gain his veterinary qualification at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (RVAU) in 1972. Subsequently, he completed exams in food microbiology and administration in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology (DVM), RVAU.

In 1973, he joined the staff of the new Institute for Avian Diseases of the Ministry of Agriculture. He headed the institute from 1986 to 1990, when it was merged with the State Veterinary Serum Laboratory. He was appointed Professor of Diseases of Poultry in DVM, RVAU, in 1986. In 1990 he founded a new section of Poultry Diseases in DVM and jointly headed the DVM for a period of nine years. He also founded the Network for Smallholder Poultry Development together with colleagues, aimed at supporting research and education in developing countries.

Research has been the driving force throughout his career, and for this reason he refused to give up laboratory work during his years as head of institute/department. Although areas of research varied, understanding the development of disease in large populations caused by potential bacterial pathogens has always been given priority, to improve prevention strategies.

Although best known for his work on bacterial infections, Magne has also published work on antibiotic resistance, infectious bronchitis, Newcastle disease, infectious bursal disease, chicken anaemia and parasitic infections. As an adviser to the Danish Poultry Council and based upon his research on the epidemiology of Salmonella infections, Magne devised an eradication programme for these infections in poultry in Denmark.

Magne retired in 2012, but is still active in research. So far, he has published 233 papers in peer-reviewed journals and more than 500 papers in total. His contribution to research was recognised by the C.O. Jensen award in 1983, and in 2011 his contribution and dedication to research on Pasteurellaceae was honoured by naming a new genus *Bisgaardia*.

Outside work, Magne and his family have a passion for Burgundy, its wine and gastronomy, and the people behind these delights. In addition, he has a keen interest in classic music and history.

Patrick Joseph Blackall

Born in Brisbane (Queensland), Pat Blackall graduated from the University of Queensland in 1973 with a degree in Microbiology. He joined the then Department of Primary Industries at the Animal Research Institute as a diagnostic bacteriologist, under the tutelage of Geoffrey Simmons.

Pat became a full time research scientist, still at the Animal Research Institute, in 1980. Shortly after, he undertook a part-time PhD degree, at the University of Queensland, that was completed in 1987. Pat remained at the Animal Research Institute till the closure of the Institute in 2010. At that time, his laboratory moved to a new site (the EcoSciences Precinct) and Pat took a secondment to the University of Queensland. His roles continue to include that of a research scientist, but have expanded in recent years to include editorship of journals (Journal of Applied Microbiology, Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation), as well as research management in his role as Research Manager for the Poultry Co-operative Research Centre. Although best known for his work on poultry bacteria, Pat has also worked on bacterial respiratory diseases of cattle and pigs, as well as food safety and the survival and impact of zoonotic bacteria in the environment in and around intensive animal production systems. In the poultry field, he has published work on infectious coryza, fowl cholera, bordetellosis, and *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* in poultry.

His laboratory continues to function as an international reference centre for the members of the family Pasteurellaceae, offering identification, serotyping and genotyping services. Pat remains a keen taxonomist and has been involved in the formal naming and description of three bacterial species – *Avibacterium paragallinarum*, *Bibersteinia trehalosi* and *Bordetella hinzii*.

By 2012, Pat had published approximately 174 papers in peer-reviewed journals. His contribution to science was recognised by awards from industry, academia and the state, including the Frank Fenner Research Award in 1993 and a Public Service Medal in 2011.

Outside work, Pat is an avid bird-watcher, a hobby that can be easily combined with visits to poultry farms in various parts of the world.



Patrick Joseph Blackall
Born: 1953
Australia

Janet M. Bradbury

Janet Bradbury was born in the English Midlands and completed her BSc and MSc at St Andrews University, Scotland, before joining the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Liverpool in 1964. Encouraged by her boss, Frank Jordan, she gained a PhD in avian mycoplasma and pursued this topic for her working career, despite occasional forays into infectious laryngotracheitis. She was appointed Professor in the Veterinary Faculty in 2003 and remains an Emeritus Professor with an honorary fellowship. She taught veterinary microbiology to numerous undergraduate students, and for 10 years was involved in teaching an MVSc in Avian Medicine.

Most of Janet's mycoplasma research focussed on epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis and control, but she was also involved in describing and naming five new avian and one new human *Mycoplasma* species. She has published approximately 100 peer-reviewed articles. Janet served four years as Chair of the International Research Programme for Comparative Mycoplasma, and six years as Leader of its Avian Working Team. From 1996-2006 she was Chair of the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of the Mollicutes, and co-authored the revised Minimal Standards for Description of New Species of the Class Mollicutes. She also served as Secretary-General of the International Organisation for Mycoplasma (IOM).

Janet was co-editor of the 6th edition of the book *Poultry Diseases*. After 16 years as an Associate Editor of the journal *Avian Pathology*, she became Editor-in-Chief in mid-2009, a job that has filled many of her intended hours of peaceful retirement. Janet is also involved in a mycoplasma diagnostic service at Liverpool University.

She is an honorary life member of the WVPA, IOM and British Veterinary Poultry Association and winner of the 1996 IOM Chair's Award for 'outstanding efforts to promote the aims, objectives and activities of the IOM'. She was awarded the Gordon Memorial Medal, 2004, 'in recognition of distinguished contributions to poultry science' and the Keith Gooderham Waterfowl Lecture Award, 2012.

Janet is married, enjoys travelling and tasting good food and wine, and is a beekeeper, although keeping viable bee colonies is proving more difficult than mycoplasma colonies.



Janet M. Bradbury
Born: 1941
United Kingdom

Abel Brion



Abel Brion
1906-1976
France

Born in 1906 at Bazeilles, a village in the east of France, Abel Brion, having excelled in secondary school, was accepted in 1925 after an entrance examination by the veterinary school of Alfort.

During each of the four years of his veterinary studies, he was top of his class. The teaching staff of the school observed his exceptional qualities of application and intellect, and convinced him to become a veterinary teacher.

Brion chose the academic discipline of veterinary medicine and was nominated in 1936 as Professor of Medicine at the Veterinary School of Lyon. Between 1939-1940, he served in the Army in a veterinary hospital. He returned to the veterinary school of Alfort in 1956, where he stayed until his retirement in 1972. The fortunate students who experienced the teaching of Professor Abel Brion will always remember the excellence of his lectures and courses. He spoke with ease, and so clearly and accurately that he made even difficult subjects easily understood.

The veterinary schools in France were mainly concerned with cattle at this time, but in 1959 Professor Brion was the first to foresee the development of the French poultry industry and to begin the teaching of avian pathology in Alfort. In his laboratory the major avian diseases of the 1960s and 1970s were investigated. A new vaccine strain of Newcastle disease virus was isolated. The etiology and the means to prevent and treat chronic respiratory disease were also studied, as were avian encephalomyelitis, avian infectious bronchitis and nutritional encephalomalacia. Professor Brion published 270 scientific papers and 150 popular articles.

He was a member of the Academie Vétérinaire, Académie de Medecine of France, the Royal Academy of Belgium and the World Veterinary Poultry Association. He participated in the creation and development of the WVPA and the journal Avian Pathology, the first issue of which was published in 1972. He organized the III WVPA congress in Paris in 1965.

In summary, he was a very great professor, a great manager of teams of researchers, and was known and respected worldwide.

Ben Roy Burmester



Ben Roy Burmester
1910-2009
USA

Ben Burmester was born, and later died, in Petaluma, California, USA. His parents operated a small poultry farm in Petaluma. He earned BS, MS and PhD degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. He later received the DVM degree from Michigan State University. He joined the research staff of the USDA Regional Poultry Research Laboratory (now Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory) in East Lansing, Michigan in 1940 where he served for 34 years, first as a poultry physiologist and later as a research veterinarian. He was director of the laboratory from 1964-1974.

Ben was considered one of the original pioneers in cancer virology. He was best known for his groundbreaking work on avian leukosis; he demonstrated the causative virus and determined the principal routes of its transmission. His RPL-12 isolate of avian leukosis virus, recovered from a transplantable lymphoid tumor established by Carl Olson, was widely used for many years. In the 1960s he recruited and led a team that contributed critical knowledge on Marek's disease, including demonstration of the causative herpesvirus and development of the HVT vaccine. Even though credit is shared with other laboratories, this accomplishment was a capstone for Ben's illustrious career, and garnered many accolades.

Under his leadership, the RPRL emerged as a major contributor to avian tumor virus research. In his retirement, he worked with Jagdev Sharma on early models for in ovo vaccination of chickens against Marek's disease. He was a past president of the American Association of Avian Pathologists (1961-1962) and of the World Veterinary Poultry Association (1977-1981). He received more than 20 major awards for his research, including election to the Poultry Hall of Fame and the Distinguished Service Award from USDA.

He was an enthusiastic supporter of international relationships. He traveled widely, invited many international scientists to his laboratory and developed many friendships around the world.

Ben and his first wife, Mary Alice, built a cottage on Bass Lake in Michigan which provided many of his happiest hours. He was a dedicated gardener. He later married Zoe Alderman and spent his final years in Idaho and California.

Bruce Wixson Calnek

Bruce Calnek was born in 1932 in upstate New York, USA. He earned DVM (1955) and MS (1956) degrees at Cornell University. In 1957, he took a position as Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts, where he studied avian encephalomyelitis (AE). His work culminated in an understanding of its pathogenesis and epizootiology, and the development of an effective oral AE vaccine that continues to be used worldwide to this day.

In 1961, he returned to Cornell in the newly established Department of Avian Diseases. There, his work centered on viral neoplasms of chickens, initially on lymphoid leukosis (LL), then on Marek's disease (MD). With generous support through National Cancer Institute grants, he led a team of colleagues and graduate students in studies that carefully dissected various features of MD. Important discoveries included his identification of the feather follicle epithelium as the sole source of enveloped MD herpesvirus involved in bird-to-bird transmission, and ultimately, the widely accepted description of the pathogenesis of the disease.

In addition to studies on LL and MD, he worked on a variety of other infectious agents including mycoplasmas, reovirus, adenovirus, infectious laryngotracheitis virus, reticuloendotheliosis virus, Rous sarcoma virus and chicken anemia virus. Dr Calnek has received numerous honors, including a named (Steffen) professorship, and he served as Chairman of the Department of Avian and Aquatic Animal Medicine for nearly 20 years. He retired in 1995, but continued a modest research program after retirement. He was both an author and editor for the definitive text, *Diseases of Poultry*, for 30 years.

He was Editor-in-Chief for two of the five editions prepared during that period.

He published numerous book chapters and over 150 scientific papers, and he has presented invited lectures in a variety of international settings. Following retirement, he expanded his interest and commitment to woodworking and presently is a member of Handwork, a craft cooperative in Ithaca where he sells a large variety of clocks. He and Mary Jeanne, his wife of 59 years, have 2 sons, 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. They live in a continuing-care retirement community in Ithaca, NY.



Bruce Wixson Calnek
Born: 1932
USA

Ilaria Capua

Born in Rome, Ilaria Capua graduated in Veterinary Medicine, with honours, from the University of Perugia in 1989. Following a postgraduate qualification as a specialist in Animal Health and Hygiene in 1991 at Pisa University, she earned her PhD from the University of Padova in 2007.

Ilaria started her career as an avian virologist in 1991. Before concentrating on influenza, she worked with infectious bronchitis virus, avian adenoviruses, and Newcastle disease. She has authored more than 180 peer-reviewed publications. She is currently Director of the OIE/FAO and National Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease at the OIE Collaborating Centre for Diseases at the Human-Animal Interface and of the Research and Development Unit at the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, in Legnaro, Italy.

She has had extensive experience in the direct management of several avian influenza and Newcastle disease epidemics, and in 2000 developed the DIVA (Differentiating Infected from Vaccinated Animals) vaccination strategy. This innovative strategy enabled the continuation of trade while combating avian influenza by vaccination. As a result, avian influenza was eradicated from Italy at that time.

In 2005 she was nominated as Chairman of the executive committee of OFFLU, the OIE/FAO network on animal influenza that offers veterinary expertise and crisis management support to developing countries. In 2006 she ignited an international debate on the sharing of genetic information on panzootic H5N1 strains, across disciplines. Her advocacy of increased openness was endorsed by OIE, FAO and WHO, and resulted in resolutions towards a greater transparency with consequent prospects for improved public and animal health. The sharing of avian influenza virus sequences to allow a better understanding of animal and human influenza infections has now become a core part of the global influenza preparedness strategy.

Awards include the Scientific American 50 award in 2007, the Penn World Leadership in Animal Health Award in 2011, and the R F Gordon Memorial Medal in 2012.

Dr Capua was elected a member of the Italian Parliament in 2013, in Mario Monti's coalition.



Ilaria Capua
Born: 1966
Italy

David Cavanagh



David Cavanagh
Born: 1951
United Kingdom

Born in Leeds, England, Dave Cavanagh's first degree (BSc) was in Microbiology, from the University of Reading, 1972. Three years later he received his PhD for research at the Animal Virus Research Institute, Pirbright. From there he went to the Middlesex Hospital Medical School to study anti-ribosomal autoimmune antibodies, followed by research on influenza virus at the University of Birmingham.

In 1979 he joined the staff of the Houghton Poultry Research Station, which was the start of his three-decade association with poultry viruses. Initially Dave's research was focussed on the coronavirus infectious bronchitis virus (IBV), starting with the identification and molecular characterisation of the virion proteins. He received the Bart Rispen award in 1985 for his early work on molecular/immunogenic aspects of the IBV spike protein. Dave served two terms as Chair of the Coronavirus Study Group of the International Committee on the Taxonomy of Viruses.

He expanded his research to include pioneering molecular characterisation of avian metapneumovirus shortly after its arrival in Europe, followed by the application of this knowledge in the field. Dave also carried out molecular and field studies on pheasant and turkey coronaviruses, astroviruses in turkeys, and sequenced the whole genome of avian encephalomyelitis virus.

On the closure of Houghton in 1992, Dave transferred his research to the Compton Laboratory of the Institute for Animal Health, where he became Head of the Coronavirus Group. In total he has published 97 original research papers in peer-reviewed journals, 17 scientific review articles, 25 book chapters, and was the editor of a book on coronaviruses and other nidoviruses.

In 1997 he became Editor-in-Chief of Avian Pathology, a post that he held for 12 years. He was an active member of the British Veterinary Poultry Association, starting in the days when the acronym 'PCR' still had an exotic ring to it, which led to a long interaction with WVPA and the poultry industry. Outside work Dave is an enthusiastic hill walker and a supporter of Rugby League, a sport on which he can always be relied upon to talk, no matter how inappropriate the occasion!

Louis Coetzee



Louis Coetzee
Born: 1937
South Africa

Louis Coetzee was born in Pretoria, South Africa. He received his BVSc, BVSc (Hons) and MMedVet (virology) degrees from the University of Pretoria, Onderstepoort Campus.

From 1962 to 1977 he worked at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OVI). Up to 1964 he was a researcher in the Virology department, tasked with identifying and characterising respiratory viruses of poultry. In 1965 he was appointed head of the department of Poultry diseases at OVI, and part-time lecturer in poultry diseases at the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria. During this period his research investigated the role that vaccines play in the prevention of poultry diseases. Methods to develop four viral vaccines were established. He also established a comprehensive diagnostic service for the intensive and non-intensive poultry industry.

In 1977 he ventured into the private sector to join the largest table egg producer. During this time he developed a comprehensive health service with laboratory support and vaccine production. Fourteen research projects were completed, many of which were presented at international congresses.

In February 1989 he was appointed Professor and Head of the Department of Poultry Diseases at the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria. In April 1989 the Central Poultry Reference Laboratory was established in this department. In May 1995 he retired from the University to devote his time as co-founder of Avimune, a poultry veterinary specialist practice, until 2009 when he retired.

Louis published many scientific and lay articles during his career. His scientific contribution towards the South African poultry industry was recognised when he received the following awards: Gold medal from the World's Poultry Science Association (South African branch) in 1982; the Southern African Poultry Association's "Man of the Year" award in 1983; the Agricultural writer's association's "Agriculturalist of the Year" in 1983; Honorary President of the Southern African Poultry Association in 1987 and a silver medal for exceptional service from the South African Veterinary Association.

Louis married Ina de Lange in 1961. They have 2 children and 6 grandchildren. Apart from his professional career he has a keen interest in nature, the Afrikaans language, philosophy and religion.

Jane K. A. Cook

Born in Derby, England, Jane Cook was raised in Lincolnshire. She gained a degree in Microbiology from the University of Bristol and subsequently her PhD from the same University.

After working for 3 years on avian mycoplasmas at the May & Baker research laboratory in Essex, she joined Houghton Poultry Research Station (HPRS) in Cambridgeshire in 1963. There she worked on both avian adenoviruses and infectious bronchitis virus (IBV), and it is for her work on IBV that Jane is best known. She was instrumental in developing the use of tracheal organ cultures (TOCs) for both the primary isolation of IBV, and as a medium for performing serum neutralisation tests (then the preferred method of differentiating IBV variants). She was one of the first people to identify avian metapneumoviruses (aMPV) in the UK and used TOCs to isolate and study that virus successfully.

Becoming Acting Head of the Microbiology department in 1986, Jane continued at HPRS until the laboratory was closed in 1992. She then joined the pharmaceutical company, Intervet, at their research facility at The Elms in Houghton, UK, where she remained until retirement in 2000. There she was responsible for developing vaccines for IBV and aMPV, notably the 4/91 vaccine against one of the major IBV variants identified in the 1990s. At the same time, Jane pioneered the concept of using existing IB vaccines to broaden protection against the many IBV variants becoming of significance worldwide.

Jane is a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists. She received the Brian Hanson award for the best paper at a BVPA meeting, and was awarded the Tom Newman International award in 1994. She continues to be invited to give scientific papers at international meetings in many parts of the world. Jane is an Associate Editor of *Avian Pathology*, and a member of the Editorial Boards of *Veterinární Medicína* and *The Brazilian Journal of Poultry Science*. She is also a Trustee and Secretary of the Houghton Trust.

Married to Richard, a retired solicitor, Jane lives near Cambridge. Outside work, she is a keen gardener and an enthusiastic campanologist.



Jane K. A. Cook
Born: 1939
United Kingdom

Levinus de Blicck

Levinus de Blicck, known as Jan, was born in Utrecht, The Netherlands. He gained his veterinary qualification in 1899 at the Utrecht State Veterinary College, and a PhD from the University of Bern, Switzerland in 1906. He was first employed as an abattoir vet. His laboratory career began as a bacteriologist and later deputy director at the National Serum Institute, Rotterdam (1905-1908). Then he became head of the Veterinary Laboratory (later Christiaan Eijkman Institute) at Buitenzorg in the former Netherlands East Indies (today Bogor in Indonesia) (1908-1911). From 1 January 1911, he was director of the Veterinary College at Buitenzorg. The Veterinary College and Veterinary Laboratory merged into the Veterinary Institute.

From 1914-1916, de Blicck was director of this Institute. His research focused largely on diseases of large production animals. In 1916 he returned to The Netherlands as professor of Parasitic and Infectious Diseases at the State Veterinary College. In 1925 this college became the Veterinary Faculty of Utrecht State University.

During his 32-year career at the Utrecht Veterinary Faculty, de Blicck managed to expand his scientific staff and turned his institute into a productive scientific centre. With great enthusiasm he taught bacteriology, immunology, infectious diseases and veterinary policy to generations of Dutch veterinarians. In 1946 his institute was reorganised and his chair changed to Tropical Hygiene.

Although his work on diseases of large production animals continued, his interest shifted to the emerging field of poultry science in the early 1920s. Together with his co-worker T van Heelsbergen he produced the first effective vaccine against fowl pox. The commercial production of this vaccine intensified the contacts between de Blicck and the pharmaceutical industry, which enabled him to set up a private laboratory near his house in Bilthoven with its own personnel and laboratory animals. A few years later he succeeded in isolating the bacterium that caused coryza in poultry. He also worked on mycoplasmosis and coccidiosis. His work was honoured nationally and internationally. He retired officially in 1948, aged 70, but retained his interest in work.

He married Maria Anna Francisca Lips in 1906. They had one son, Jan de Blicck, born in 1907 in Rotterdam. Outside work, he enjoyed music and played the organ.



Levinus de Blicck
1878-1965
The Netherlands

Jacobus Joannes de Wit



Jacobus Joannes de Wit
Born: 1961
The Netherlands

Born on a farm that produced eggs and a variety of plant crops, near Achthuizen on the Dutch island Goeree-Overflakkee, Sjaak de Wit gained his veterinary qualification at the University of Utrecht in 1989, after which he started to work for the poultry department of a regional animal health service.

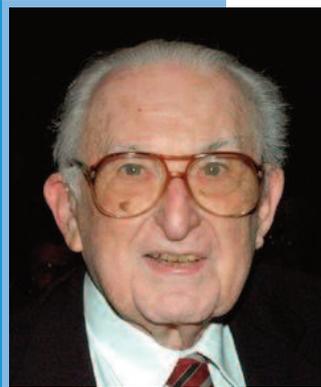
He completed a PhD degree, concerning diagnosis and transmission of infectious bronchitis virus, in 1997 at the University of Utrecht. Since the merger of all Dutch regional health services and the poultry health institute "Doorn" into GD (Dutch Animal Health Service) in 1995, his job as an immunologist and senior researcher has included responsibility for the quality and accreditation of serological tests for poultry pathogens, test development, applied research and on-site consultancy at farms, hatcheries and integrations. He is also involved in the organisation by GD of the global proficiency testing schemes as quality manager. In 2006 he joined the editorial board of Avian Pathology, and was one of the founding diplomates and treasurer of the European College of Poultry Veterinary Science.

Although best known for his work on infectious bronchitis virus and infectious bursal disease virus (he invented the "Deventer formula" for the calculation of the optimal age of vaccination), Sjaak has also worked on other poultry diseases including astrovirus and reovirus infections, avian influenza, avian hepatitis E, coryza and mycoplasmosis.

His publications and contributions to books also include the practical and statistical approach of analysing disease problems. Through knowledge of the diseases under field conditions, applied research, immunology and interpretation of available test systems, he tries to connect the field with science and vice versa. In 2010, he was co-author of the paper that won the Dr Bart Rispens' Research Award.

Sjaak is known for his enthusiasm, energy and passion for his work and for life in general. Outside work, he enjoys doing jobs in his house and the garden, nature in general, dancing (rock and roll and free-style in particular) and sports. He is married to Mariken and is the proud father of three daughters Anouk, Mirthe and Sterre.

Julius Fabricant



Julius Fabricant
1919-2011
USA

Born in Philadelphia, USA, Julius Fabricant received his veterinary degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1942 and his BS degree from Pennsylvania State University in 1945. From 1942 to 1943 Julius worked as a meat inspector for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in New York City.

After the war he enrolled in a PhD program at Cornell University, where he met Catherine Greci who he married shortly afterwards. Julius received his MS degree in 1947 under the direction of Professor Olafson and his PhD degree in 1949 under the guidance of Professor Levine. Immediately afterwards he joined the faculty at the College of Veterinary Medicine of Cornell University. He retired in 1985 as a Professor in Avian Diseases.

During his long career Julius worked on avian diseases including Newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis, laryngotracheitis, chronic respiratory disease (CRD) and duck viral hepatitis. When Julius and Dr. Levine learned that *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* was the major culprit in CRD, Julius started a long-time research career studying *Mycoplasma*.

In close cooperation with Dr. Levine, solutions for the control of *Mycoplasma* infections were developed, such as the prevention of egg transmission by dipping eggs in an antibiotic solution and the use of the F strain vaccine in multi-age flocks. Toward the end of his career he worked together with his wife Catherine on the seminal studies on Marek's disease virus-induced atherosclerosis.

Julius was a founding member of the American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP), became a life member in 1987, and received the AAAP Special Service Award in 1988. He has published over 65 papers in peer-reviewed journals. He served for many years on the international study group on *Mycoplasma* taxonomy. Julius earned a well-deserved reputation at meetings as a "gadfly" (his word). Sitting in the front row he would ask pointed questions concerning proper controls and interpretation of the data.

In his free time Julius enjoyed listening to classical music, reading and discussing science or politics. He also enjoyed collecting antiques and stamps. Julius was survived by his children, Daniel and Barbara, Daniel's spouse Michele and two grandchildren.

Robert Fraser Gordon

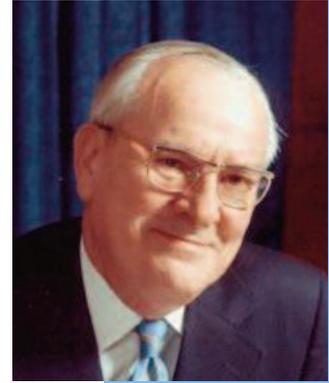
Bob Gordon was born and educated in Aberdeen, Scotland. After graduating from Aberdeen University in Zoology and Geology he gained a scholarship to the Royal Veterinary College, London, and qualified as a Veterinary Surgeon in 1933. He joined the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's Central Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge, becoming Head of the Poultry Diagnostic Department where he stayed for the next 14 years. He became an expert on salmonellosis and developed the rapid whole blood stained antigen test for pullorum disease, enabling its eradication from the United Kingdom.

In 1947 he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science from Aberdeen University for this work. His major contribution was as the founding Director of a research station devoted to research on poultry in 1948. Starting with three scientists in war-time huts, he developed the Houghton Poultry Research Station which became the largest centre for poultry disease research in the world.

This would not have been possible without Bob's drive, knowledge and leadership. Bob was held in high esteem by the British poultry industry for his wide knowledge of the industry and its disease problems, and for his promotion of the need for disease research. He retired in 1973 after 25 years as Director. He continued his interest in the poultry industry and poultry diseases and initiated and edited a widely popular book entitled "Poultry Diseases", now (2013) in its 6th edition.

Bob Gordon initiated the founding of the British Veterinary Poultry Association and became its first President in 1956. At the same time he was instrumental in the founding of the World Veterinary Poultry Association, being the Provisional Secretary during the negotiations between 1955 and its founding in 1959, after which he was its first Secretary/Treasurer. He was elected President in 1967 and an Honorary Life President in 1969. Bob's many awards included an Honorary Doctorate of Veterinary Science from the University of Liverpool and an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1970. He was created Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1972.

Bob was married to Hilda and they had two boys, Ian and Alastair.



Robert Fraser Gordon
1908-1981
United Kingdom

Irmgard Gylstorff

Born in Munich, Germany, Irmgard Gylstorff gained her veterinary qualification at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (LMU) in 1935. In 1939 she became the first woman to pass the examination for the State Veterinary Service. She completed her Dr medicinae veterinariae at the Department of Pathology, LMU in 1936, and in 1952 successfully submitted a Dr habilitatus thesis at the same Department and University.

During the difficult years of the Second World War she was appointed as provisional head of the Institute of Veterinary Pathology at LMU. In 1958 she was appointed 'Extraordinary Professor'. She was entrusted with setting up a poultry health service in Bavaria and headed this organization from 1945 to 1960. She then moved to the School of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, as head of the Institute of Avian Diseases and Animal Hygiene until 1965. This was the first faculty dealing with poultry diseases to be created at a European university. In 1965 she returned to Munich and headed, until her retirement in 1981, a new institute of poultry diseases, ornamental and zoo birds, now known as Klinik für Vögel, Reptilien, Amphibien und Zierfische - LMU München.

She was Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, LMU, in 1969-1970 and Vice-Dean in 1970-1971. She served as chair of the European Society for Veterinary Pathology, and Secretary of the German Branch of the WVPA. From 1973-1977 she was the first woman to serve as WVPA President, and in 1981 was appointed an Honorary WVPA Life President. Her contributions to veterinary science were recognized by many awards, and include the Theodor Kitt Medal of the Munich Veterinary Association (1980). A street in Munich is named after her.

Professor Gylstorff's career centred on diagnosis and control of avian diseases. She published over 120 scientific papers, and also books and contributions to books on diseases of poultry, pet birds and mammals. She supervised many post-graduate students.

Irmgard Gylstorff had a broad, educated mind, and enjoyed life. She was devoted to her profession, and the well-being of her family and her colleagues was a priority for her. She was survived by her husband, Viggo, one son, one stepson, and 4 grandchildren.



Irmgard Gylstorff
1912-1990
Germany

Hafez Mohamed Hafez



Hafez Mohamed Hafez
Born: 1947
Germany

Born in Alexandria, Egypt, Hafez gained his veterinary qualification at Cairo University in 1971. He completed a MVSc degree in 1975 at the Department of Poultry Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University and was a research fellow there from 1971-75. In 1981 he completed his Dr medicinae veterinariae at the Department of Poultry Diseases, Giessen University, Germany, and in 1994 he successfully submitted a Dr habilitatus thesis at the Department of Poultry Diseases, University of Munich.

In 1981 he joined the staff of the Poultry Health Service and State Veterinary Laboratory Stuttgart, where he headed the poultry and virology department from 1985 to 1997. He then moved to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Free University Berlin as head of the Institute of Poultry Diseases.

He was appointed an honorary Professor at the University of Hohenheim in 1996, and at the University of Alexandria, Egypt in 2009. He served as President of the World Veterinary Poultry Association from 2005-2011, and since 2011 has been President of the European College of Poultry Veterinary Science. His contributions to veterinary science were recognized by awards from industry, academia and the state such as the Karl-Fritzsche-Research Prize for research on poultry diseases by the German Veterinary Medicine Society in 1993; Medal of Distinction in 1996 and Nieberle-Plakette in 2003 from the State Veterinary Medicine Chamber, Stuttgart, Medals of Distinction from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Wroclaw University in 2000 and from the Academy of Agriculture Wroclaw, Poland in 2002.

Hafez's career has focused on diagnosis and control of poultry diseases, with particular emphasis on respiratory and food-borne diseases, management, and hygiene. He has published over 200 papers in peer-reviewed journals and supervised over 55 post-graduate students. He is best known for his work on turkey diseases, but has also worked on viral, bacterial, and parasitic diseases of chickens and pet birds. For example he has published work on *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale*, *Mycoplasma*, *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, MRSA, VRE, avian metapneumovirus, and histomoniasis. Outside work, he has a keen interest in politics and in sport. He survives through his family and friends

Ursula Heffels-Redmann



Ursula Heffels-Redmann
Born: 1953
Germany

Born in Straelen, Germany, Ursula Heffels-Redmann studied veterinary medicine at the University of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, Germany from 1973-1978. In 1980 she received her doctor of veterinary medicine degree, and after four further years as postdoctoral research fellow and scientific assistant at the Clinic for Poultry of the University of Hannover, she completed her formal veterinary education by becoming a specialist in poultry veterinary medicine in 1985.

In 1986 she followed her doctoral adviser, Prof Erhard F Kaleta, to the Justus Liebig University of Giessen, where she has worked since then as researcher and lecturer at the Clinic for Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians and Fish. Her research work has concentrated on virus infections of birds and on the host immune response. She is presently a member of the group working at this clinic on avian bornavirus, which was first detected in 2008.

Since 1988, she has served on the Organising Committee of the well-known international symposia on infectious bronchitis and pneumovirus infections, as well as those on infectious bursal disease and chicken infectious anaemia, which take place at two yearly intervals in the Castle of Rauischholzhausen, the conference centre of the University of Giessen.

Following her election at the AGM during the XIIth WVPA Congress in Cairo, Egypt in 2002, Ursula was Secretary/Treasurer of the WVPA until 2011. In recognition of her long and valued service in this position, she was appointed as Honorary Life President of the WVPA in 2011.

From 2003-2008, she was responsible for the German translation of the abstracts of the papers published in *Avian Pathology*. Since 2011, she has also been a member of the Advisory Board of this journal.

Besides her work, Ursula is interested in music, dance and theatre as well as painting. She loves travelling around the world, but also inviting friends and cooking for them at home; her desserts are especially highly appreciated.

Since 1984, Ursula has been married to Thomas Redmann, also a poultry veterinarian. Their daughter Anne was born in 1988.

Stephen Ballinger Hitchner

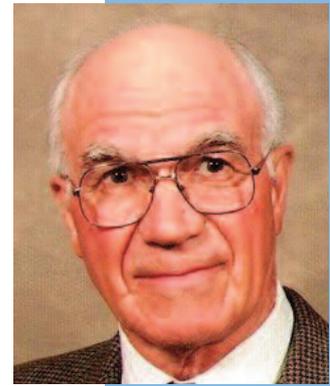
Stephen Hitchner was born and raised in New Jersey, USA. While studying at Rutgers University, he worked part-time for Dr. Fred Beaudette who steered him toward a career in research on infectious diseases of poultry. He later went to the University of Pennsylvania and earned the VMD degree in 1943.

After three years in the Army Veterinary Corps, he took an appointment at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. There, he made the seminal discovery of the B-1 strain of Newcastle disease virus which was destined to be used worldwide as a vaccine, and opened many doors during his career. He was soon offered a Full Professorship at the University of Massachusetts where he conducted research on avian diseases and vaccine development. After three years, he joined American Scientific Laboratories in Wisconsin where he did research and developed vaccines for the next seven years. In 1960, with two colleagues, he established a poultry vaccine company in Maryland. It was very successful and was later purchased by Abbott Laboratories.

Dr Hitchner moved to Cornell University in 1966 as Chair of the Department of Avian Medicine where, in addition to administrative duties, he carried out research on infectious bursal disease, Marek's disease, infectious laryngotracheitis, parrot herpesvirus, canary pox, and other infections. He supervised graduate students (Cowen, Lucio, Toth) and taught veterinary students. Also, he orchestrated the establishment of a federally licensed biologics production facility at Cornell's Duck Research Laboratory. Consultancies with the Pan American Health Bureau and the USDA, and editorship of the AAAP manual on avian pathogens were other activities. After relinquishing the department chairmanship in 1976, he continued teaching and research programs for five years, establishing a program in pet and exotic bird medicine. He developed vaccines for Pachecho's disease and canary pox.

He was an author or co-author of 55 scientific publications.

He enjoyed sports, particularly lacrosse (he was an All-American at Rutgers). After retirement in 1981, Dr. Hitchner and his wife, Mariana, (who died in 2012) moved to Maryland where he enjoyed work in ornithology among other pursuits. Mariana died in 2012; they are survived by 4 of their 5 children.



Stephen Ballinger Hitchner
1916-2011
USA

Charles (Chuck) L. Hofacre

Born in Millersburg, Ohio, Chuck completed his veterinary degree at the Ohio State University (1984), decided to specialize in poultry health and attended the University of Georgia (UGA), earning a Master of Avian Medicine (MAM) (1985) and PhD (1992) in Medical Microbiology.

Chuck was Cuddy Farms Director of Veterinary Medicine (1987-1989), Ross Breeders Inc. Head of Veterinary Medicine (1989-1990) and their first Vice President of Poultry Health and Quality Assurance and a Board of Directors Member (1990-1995). He was Bayer Animal Health Poultry Business Unit Manager of Professional Services from 1995-1998. Since 1998, Chuck, currently professor, Director of Clinical Services and also Graduate Coordinator, has been a faculty member in UGA's Department of Population Health (formerly Avian Medicine). From 2003-present Chuck has served as only the third Secretary-Treasurer in the American Association of Avian Pathologists' (AAAP) 55-year history.

Chuck's primary responsibilities include oversight of and instruction in the MAM program, as well as providing service and research to the poultry industry. His career-long focus has been to seek out lasting worldwide food security solutions by reducing the presence of Salmonella and Campylobacter. To that end, he conducts research and works with poultry producers, but believes making avian disease education available to veterinarians worldwide best solves the problem. This resulted in his participation with the UGA/University of Melbourne online Master of Avian Health and Medicine degree program collaboration.

Chuck's veterinary medicine service also includes participation in national/international expert panels/committees, long-term leadership roles in major professional organizations, and editorial boards of major professional journals. Awards from industry, academia, and professional organizations include: Poultry Science Association Frank Perdue Live Poultry Food Safety Award (2010), AAAP Special Service Award (2008), UGA Charles N. Dobbins Award for Excellence in Service (2008), UGA Inventors Award (1999), and AAAP Reed Rumsey Award (1987).

Chuck has published approximately 85 peer-reviewed journal papers, 12 book chapters, 25 lay publications, and 116 scientific meeting presentations.



Charles (Chuck) L. Hofacre
Born: 1956
USA

Hsiang-pih Hu



Hsiang-pih Hu
1913-2001
China

Hsiang-pih Hu was born in Shanghai, China. He received his DVM in 1934 from the Central University, Nanjing, China. He studied for his MRCVS at the Royal Dick Veterinary College, Edinburgh, UK from 1937-1941. He then returned to China and worked in several universities. At the end of the Chinese civil war in 1949, he went to Harbin and worked in the Northeast Agricultural College, and later was appointed deputy-director of Harbin Veterinary Institute, Chinese Academy of Agriculture, until 1979. During this period, he led research on horse and pig infectious diseases and had about 80 publications in Chinese. In 1979, he moved from Harbin to the Centre for Literature and Information, Chinese Academy of Agriculture, in Beijing.

In the mid 1970s, an intensive chicken industry started to develop in China. However, knowledge of chicken diseases was very limited, and when Marek's disease (MD) spread and caused major losses, many chicken farmers did not know what it was, or how to control it. Prof Hu made the first diagnosis of MD in China, and launched and led a national program against MD. He trained many young scientists to help chicken farmers control MD. Also, he helped several Chinese vaccine factories to develop production technologies for lyophilized HVT vaccine. His efforts played a vital role in the successful control of MD in China. He later encouraged international vaccine manufacturers and breeders to set up in China, thereby assisting the rapid expansion of the Chinese poultry industry.

He worked on avian diseases for the rest of his life, and translated the textbook "Diseases of Poultry" into Chinese in the early 1980s.

In 1982, Prof Hu founded the Chinese Association of Avian Pathologists (CAAP). He was elected as lifetime honorary president. He helped the CAAP become affiliated with the WVPA and was the corresponding secretary of the Chinese branch of the WVPA until 1999.

Prof. Hu was an optimist with a good sense of humour. He loved dancing and was a good dancer. He was a genuinely honest friend and respected teacher of the younger generation of scientists. He was survived by his son Qihui Hu and daughters Qilan Hu and Qibing Hu.

Aini Ideris



Aini Ideris
Born: 1953
Malaysia

Born in Kelantan, Malaysia, Aini Ideris graduated with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree (1979) from Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM), currently known as Universiti Putra Malaysia, a MVSc in Avian Medicine (1981) from the University of Liverpool, England, and a PhD in Avian Medicine (1989) from UPM. She continued with post-doctoral training at the University of California, Davis, (1990-1992), and at Cornell University, USA (1993), under an Asian Development Bank Fellowship. Aini's research interest is in avian respiratory and immunosuppressive diseases. Her research has led to the development and commercialisation of Newcastle disease, fowl pox and infectious bursal disease vaccines. These vaccines are being sold in more than 8 countries. Aini plays an important role in poultry health education, training and research, aiding the advancement of the poultry industry in Malaysia, improving the health of village chickens, and mentoring many Malaysian avian veterinarians.

In recognition of her scientific contributions, Aini was elected Fellow of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences, Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, Founding Fellow of the Malaysian College of Veterinary Specialists, and Fellow of the Malaysian Scientific Association. She is also a Council Member of the Malaysian College of Veterinary Specialists and a Board Member of the Malaysian Cancer Research Institute. Among the awards received by Aini are: Research Innovation Award 2008 as co-researcher, and the National Academia Award (AAN) 2010, (category Innovation and Commercialisation of Products). AAN is the highest achievement award conferred to Malaysian academics.

Aini started her career as a tutor in UPM (1979), becoming lecturer (1981), Associate Professor (1991) and Professor (1996). She was the Acting Head, Department of Veterinary Clinical Studies, in 1989 and 1990, Chairman of Veterinary Teaching Hospital (1992-1998), Deputy Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (1992-2001), Dean, School of Graduate Studies (May 2001 to November 2008), and Chairman of the Malaysian Postgraduate Deans Council (2005-2008).

Currently, she is the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International), UPM (since December 2008), and Chairman of the Malaysian Deputy Vice-Chancellors' Council (Academic and International).

Aini is married to Dr Md Ishak Ismail and they have 4 boys and a girl.

Richard Charles Jones

Born in Birmingham, England, Dick Jones gained a BSc in bacteriology from the University of Birmingham in 1963. Following three years in industrial veterinary research in Essex, he joined Frank Jordan at the Poultry Research Section of the University of Liverpool Veterinary School. He completed a PhD (Liverpool) in 1972, became a Member (later Fellow) of the Royal College of Pathologists in 1987, and was awarded a DSc degree (University of Birmingham) in 1994. He was awarded a Personal Chair in 1994, became Emeritus Professor on retirement in 2009, and is now an Honorary Research Fellow.

In his teaching role, he contributed to the Liverpool veterinary microbiology course, from 1983 to 1994 to the Master in Avian Medicine course and avian virology at the Bologna Veterinary School, and to the Poultry Health Course at the Institute for Animal Health. He was Associate Dean for Teaching in the Liverpool Veterinary Faculty (2000-2002). From 1985 until 2009 he was head of the Microbiology Research Laboratory at the Leahurst Campus. Dick's research principally covered reovirus infections and endemic viral respiratory diseases of poultry. Highlights include: fundamentals of pathology and pathogenesis of reovirus arthritis; characterization of the latency of infectious laryngotracheitis virus; pathogenesis of infectious bronchitis and virus genotype variation in Western Europe; and pathogenesis of avian metapneumoviruses in chickens and turkeys and live commercial vaccine development.

Being sole or co-supervisor of 25 PhD and masters students and other collaborations resulted in an output of approximately 150 peer-reviewed papers, as well as a similar number of book chapters, meeting abstracts and other articles. Dick has received invitations to speak on his research in more than 30 countries, including Keynote Lectures at WVPA and WPSA world congresses.

Dick was twice a member of the UK Government's Review Panels into animal endemic diseases (viral). In 2009, he was awarded the R F Gordon Memorial Medal and was elected an Honorary Life member of the WVPA. He is currently Chairman of the Houghton Trust. Dick's hobbies include photography, cycling, guitar and piano playing, and following Aston Villa. He is married with a son, daughter and two grandchildren.



Richard Charles Jones
Born: 1941
United Kingdom

Frank Tudor Whitney Jordan

Born in Cowbridge, South Wales, Frank Jordan qualified in London with Membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) in 1941. He was subsequently awarded a PhD (1954), Fellowship of the RCVS (1955) and a DSc (1970).

During World War II he was a captain in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps. He then spent time in private practice followed by a lectureship at the Royal Veterinary College, until he joined the Welsh Ministry of Agriculture in 1949. There, he became interested in poultry diseases, engendering a strong desire to undertake his own research. In 1952 he was appointed lecturer in Veterinary Preventive Medicine at the University of Liverpool Veterinary School where he remained until his official retirement as professor in 1985, becoming Honorary Research Fellow and Visiting Professor of poultry diseases.

At Liverpool Frank taught poultry diseases to veterinary students and initiated and directed a postgraduate MVSc Avian Medicine course from 1972 until 1984. He also taught at the Bristol, Glasgow and Edinburgh veterinary schools and at the Institute for Animal Health. Frank published approximately 100 papers, principally on avian mycoplasmas and respiratory viral infections, especially infectious laryngotracheitis. He supervised numerous PhD students. In 1996, with funds from the Agricultural Research Council and British Egg Marketing Board, he established a poultry diseases research laboratory (later named the Jordan Building) at the Leahurst Campus. This became a leading UK focus for poultry disease research. He edited several editions of the classic text Poultry Diseases.

Frank was very active in University and national Veterinary Committees and held offices in the International Organisation of Mycoplasma. He chaired the RCVS board which initiated the Diploma in Poultry Medicine and Production, and in 1987 was an inaugural diplomate.

Frank is a life member of the WVPA and BVPA. He was awarded the Gordon Memorial Medal in 1985, the Poultry Industry Award in 1995, and in 1993 was appointed Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

He is known universally for his excellent company and humour, wide interests and love of rugby. He has a son and daughter, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Frank Tudor Whitney Jordan
Born: 1917
United Kingdom

Erhard Franz Kaleta



Erhard Franz Kaleta
Born: 1939
Germany

Born in Haldensleben, Germany, Erhard Kaleta gained his veterinary education at the School of Veterinary Medicine at Hannover, Germany. His doctoral thesis was completed in 1966 on a histological topic in the Institute of Food Hygiene.

Erhard started his research career in 1965 in the Institute of Poultry Diseases at the School of Veterinary Medicine Hannover. Main duties were initially post-mortem examinations of poultry, wild and pet birds, virus diagnosis and histopathology, and undergraduate teaching. He became head of the diagnostic unit within the poultry institute in 1978. During 1970 to 1971 he was a visiting research scientist working with Dr. R. A. Bankowski at the University of California at Davis. In 1982 Erhard became full professor and director of the Institute for Poultry Diseases (renamed in 2002 to "Klinik für Vögel, Reptilien, Amphibien und Fische") at the Veterinary Faculty of the Justus Liebig University in Giessen. He retired formally in 2004, but continued as proxy director of the Institute until 2009.

Under his guidance, more than 200 doctoral theses were completed and more than 300 papers were published in peer-reviewed and other veterinary journals. He edited and contributed to several textbooks on poultry diseases, pet birds and European wild birds. He worked predominantly on virus diseases, particularly herpesviruses of poultry, pet and wild birds. A large number of hitherto unknown viruses, including herpesviruses from black and white storks, owls, passerine and psittacine birds, were isolated and characterized. Another main body of work was focused on Newcastle disease virus and on avian paramyxovirus type 1 in pigeons.

He has provided advice on avian diseases nationally and internationally, and was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Societas Veterinariae Serbiae Academiae Medicinae Veterinariae in 1997. Erhard has been a member of the World Veterinary Poultry Association since 1965 and has served as its Secretary/Treasurer, subsequently as its President from 2001 to 2005, and is currently WVPA Honorary Life President. Erhard has been married since 1968, and has one son. He and his wife enjoy gardening, skiing, hiking in the nearby mountains, and going to concerts and theatres. He still reads the scientific literature and reads/corrects doctoral theses.

Stanley Herbert Kleven



Stanley Herbert Kleven
Born: 1940
USA

Born in Dawson, Minnesota, Stan Kleven was raised on a farm near Milan, Minnesota. He attended St. Olaf College and the University of Minnesota, receiving his DVM in 1965, and his PhD in 1970.

From 1965-66 he was a large animal veterinary practitioner in Hettinger, North Dakota. He subsequently returned to the University of Minnesota where he did his doctoral research on *Mycoplasma meleagridis* in turkeys under Dr. B. S. Pomeroy. In 1970 he moved to the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia where he remained until partial retirement in 2006 and full retirement in 2008. He served as director of PDRC and head of the Department of Avian Medicine from 1972-1982 and again from 1990-2003.

Dr. Kleven is best known for his research and service in the area of avian mycoplasmosis, especially *M. gallisepticum* and *M. synoviae*.

His research centered on improved detection methods and methods of control, including work on vaccines against *M. gallisepticum*. He also collaborated with colleagues on research on Marek's disease, Newcastle disease, infectious coryza as well as others. He is the author or co-author of over 200 papers in peer-reviewed journals.

He has served as major professor for 17 PhD graduates, as well as numerous masters students.

He is an active member of numerous organizations, including the American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Association of Avian Pathologists, the World Veterinary Poultry Association, the International Organization of Mycoplasmaology, the National Poultry Improvement Association, and the U.S. Animal Health Association. Among his numerous honors and awards were his appointment as Distinguished Research Professor and later, Regents Professor at the University of Georgia, and the Special Services Award of the American Association of Avian Pathologists.

Dr. Kleven is married to the former Kathleen Burns, and has 3 grown children, Laurel, Timothy, and Daniel and one grandchild. He enjoys his retirement with reading, gardening, travel, and relaxation.

Bernard Kouwenhoven

Bernard (Ben) Kouwenhoven, born in Woudsend, Friesland, The Netherlands, qualified as DVM at the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands (1962). After a short time in large animal practice, he returned to the above University for research into and teaching of tropical and protozoan diseases. His PhD degree, obtained in 1970 under Prof Dr D Zwart and Dr C J G van der Horst, dealt with the pathophysiology and immunology of *Eimeria acervulina* infection in chickens.

In 1970 he became head of the laboratory of the Poultry Health Institute in Doorn. Along with his management tasks, he worked on the pathology and immunology of avian virus infections. In collaboration with his colleagues this resulted in, among other things, day-old vaccination against Infectious Bronchitis (IB), isolation of and vaccination against newly emerged (haemagglutinating) IB variant viruses like D-274 and D-1466, and development of a formula using ELISA data to calculate the optimal vaccination age against (very virulent) Gumboro virus. Optimizing vaccination against reovirus tenosynovitis and infectious laryngotracheitis, and newly emerged diseases such as EDS'76 and Malabsorption (Runting and Stunting) Syndrome were other research subjects. A variant Newcastle disease virus affecting racing pigeons was isolated and vaccination against it initiated.

Dr Kouwenhoven retired after the Doorn laboratory closed and moved to the Animal Health Service in Deventer in 1996. There, up to 2003, he taught virus infections in the bi-annual international course on poultry diseases for young veterinarians. Until 2009 he also was active as a voluntary expert in poultry diseases in developing countries for the Netherlands Management Cooperation Programme, a non-profit organisation of the Netherlands Ministry of Economical Affairs. He is an active member of the Royal Netherlands Veterinary Society and frequently attends scientific meetings of the Dutch WVPA branch. He is married to Trudie van Dijk, has two grown children, daughter Anne Louise and son Bernard Axel, and a granddaughter Noa Barbara.

He practices Jiu Jitsu in which he has a black belt, enjoys sailing, canoeing, cycling, skiing, ice-skating, gardening and keeps honey bees. He is an active Rotarian and a member of a society for meteorology and astronomy.



Bernard Kouwenhoven
Born: 1938
The Netherlands

Hiram Nelson Lasher

Born in Catskill, New York, Hiram Lasher received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Cornell University in 1942. After five years of private practice in New York, Hiram was hired as a poultry pathologist for the state of Delaware. In 1950, he resigned his state job to become a founder of Delaware Poultry Laboratories (DPL), later to become Sterwin Laboratories. Hiram resigned from Sterwin in 1979 to found Intercontinental Biologics (ICB). In 1980, ICB was purchased by Intervet, with Hiram remaining on its staff for two more years. Finally, in 1982, he formed Lasher Associates, Inc, an international consulting firm, in which he stayed active until 2009.

Hiram's career impacted the poultry industry in many ways. During his days in practice, he tested over one million chickens for *Salmonella pullorum*, thus significantly contributing to its eradication in his home state. Then, early in his tenure at DPL/Sterwin, he helped establish the first windowless house for production of SPF eggs. He later obtained a federal license for the first infectious bursal disease vaccine. He also pioneered the use of bivalent infectious bronchitis vaccines. Later, as a consultant, Hiram assisted many fledgling vaccine companies around the world in bringing products to market.

Hiram was a charter member of the American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP). The numerous awards bestowed upon him include the Delmarva Poultry Industry Medal of Achievement, Order of the First State, Service to Agriculture Award by the University of Delaware, the AAAP Special Service Award, and Honorary Life Membership of the WVPA.

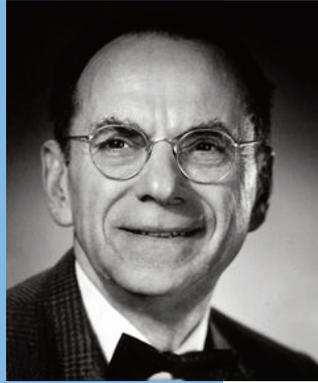
In addition to his professional activities, Hiram was a passionate philanthropist and civic activist. His generosity funded scholarships, helped endow a major academic chair, built a Boy Scout dining hall, and supported renovation of the facility housing the University of Delaware's poultry diagnostic laboratory. He served his community by proactive membership on boards of the state department of education and of the directors of Beebe Hospital. These were his major "leisure activities".

Hiram was predeceased by a son, Steven. He was survived by his wife, Bertha, and by children, Sandra, Denise, Douglas, Dennis, Michele and Michael.



Hiram Nelson Lasher
1920-2012
Country

Pincus Philip Levine



Pincus Philip Levine
1907-1979
USA

Dr P P Levine was a giant in the field of avian medicine. He distinguished himself in scientific achievement, in the training of avian pathologists (e.g., Fabricant, Sevoian, Calnek, Witter), in leadership at national and international levels, and in service to his profession.

Born in New York City, USA, he was educated at the City College of New York (BS, 1927) and Cornell University (MS, DVM, 1932; PhD, 1937). His career was at Cornell where he ultimately became the founding Chairman of the Department of Avian Diseases in 1961. Upon retirement in 1973, he was appointed Emeritus Professor.

Dr Levine's scientific career was strictly with avian diseases. His coccidiosis research is exemplified by his initiation of the use of sulfonamides for the control of the disease. The control of this disease was important in facilitating the mass production of poultry. He developed the "egg-dipping" technique with antibiotics for the eradication of mycoplasmas to control chronic respiratory disease. He first described duck virus hepatitis and developed control methods which saved the duck industry on Long Island. Altogether, he authored or co-authored more than 70 scientific papers. He was truly selfless and promoted his students, young staff, and colleagues while standing in the background. Internationally, he was known for teaching and organizing teaching facilities in Mexico and South America and he was a consultant for USAID and for FAO in Israel, Peru and Mexico.

He was a teacher with few peers, and his speaking ability was to be admired. Perhaps his crowning achievement was his almost single-handed initiation and nurturing of the journal *Avian Diseases* in 1957. He was later named Honorary Lifetime Editor. Dr. Levine received many honors and awards including an honorary degree at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. He helped organize the American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP) and he served as President of both the AAAP (1961-1962) and the WVPA (1969-1973).

In all he did, Dr Levine held to high standards. His imprint was left on the Cornell University campus, on New York State, on the nation and on the world.

Benjamin Lucio-Martinez



Benjamin Lucio-Martinez
1942-2013
USA

Born in Mexico City, Benjamín Lucio-Martínez completed his professional studies in 1964 at the Escuela Nacional de Medicina Veterinaria y Zootecnia (ENMVZ), Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. He obtained his MS and PhD degrees from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University in 1968 and 1979. During his tenure at ENMVZ in Mexico from 1969 to 1976 and 1980 to 1986, he was professor of Avian Diseases and chair of the Avian Diagnostic Laboratory. In 1970 the laboratory converted into the Department of Animal Production: Poultry, and the ENMVZ started post graduate studies in avian medicine, attracting students from Mexico, Central and South America. Together with several colleagues he founded the Asociación Nacional de Especialistas en Ciencias Avícolas (ANECA) and was its founding president (1970-1972).

In 1986 he joined the Department of Avian and Aquatic Animal Medicine at Cornell University. He retired in 2011 as Director of Avian Diagnostic and Extension Services at Cornell University. Throughout his career he worked on different projects, many of them with his students, on the diagnosis, control and pathogenesis of poultry diseases. He worked on infectious bronchitis, avian encephalomyelitis, Newcastle disease (ND), egg drop syndrome '76 (EDS'76), infectious bursal disease (IBD), chicken infectious anemia, Marek's disease, and *Salmonella* Enteritidis in chickens. He also worked on canary pox, parrot pox and tragopan herpesvirus.

He confirmed the presence of IBD, highly pathogenic NDV, inclusion body hepatitis and EDS in Mexico. He published more than 30 papers in peer-reviewed journals. Before retiring, he served the New York State poultry industry through extension service and diagnosis. He had the fortune to work with some of the best poultry pathologists in Mexico and the United States (Drs. Antillón, Calnek, Cuadra, Estudillo, Hitchner, Levine, Mosqueda and Rosenwald, among others). He was proud that many of his students occupy important positions in the avian industry in Mexico and abroad.

In his retirement in Ithaca, NY, USA he spent his time reading, gardening, house remodelling, photographing and entertaining his three grandkids.

He was survived by his beloved wife Eglantina, daughters Eglantina and Araceli, and their families.

John Brian McFerran

Born in Belfast, Brian McFerran gained his veterinary qualification at the University of Edinburgh in 1956. He completed a PhD degree in 1960 at the Department of Medical Microbiology, Queen's University Belfast, and was a research fellow there from 1960-62. In 1962 he joined the staff of the Veterinary Research Laboratories (VRL) of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, and remained there until his retirement in 1992. He founded and headed the virology department at VRL Stormont from 1962 to 1987. He was appointed Deputy Director of VRL in 1968, and from 1987 until his retirement was jointly Director of VRL and Professor of Veterinary Science in Queen's University Belfast.

He was Vice-Chairman of the Animal Health Section of the Scientific Veterinary Committee of the European Economic Community from 1981-1992.

Although best known for his work on poultry viruses, Brian also worked on virus diseases of cattle, sheep and pigs. He has published work on avian adenoviruses and paramyxoviruses, infectious bursal disease virus, chicken anaemia virus and a number of viruses that cause enteric problems in poultry. He led work that identified an impressive number of previously unknown viruses, including Egg Drop Syndrome (EDS) virus. Based on his epidemiological observations, Brian devised an eradication scheme for EDS in Northern Ireland, and the disease was eradicated within 19 months from its initial recognition; this was a remarkable achievement.

When he retired in 1992, Brian had published approximately 120 papers in peer-reviewed journals. His contribution to veterinary science was recognised by awards from industry, academia and the state, including the Dr Bart Rispens' Research Award in 1977 and a CBE (Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) in 1992.

A larger than life character, both literally and metaphorically, who enjoyed life to the full, Brian will be remembered as an inspirational figure, and with great affection, by those fortunate enough to have known him. Outside work, he was an enthusiastic gardener and woodworker. He had a keen interest in sport, particularly cricket and rugby. He was survived by his widow Nancy, and children Donald, Zoe and Bruce.



John Brian McFerran
1931-2012
United Kingdom

Michael Stewart McNulty

Stewart McNulty was born in Dublin, Ireland, and graduated from the University of Dublin, Trinity College with a veterinary degree in 1967 and a PhD in biochemistry in 1971. His PhD work involved purifying a bacterial DNA polymerase and investigating its polymerase and nuclease activities. A move into virology appeared to offer a means to combine his veterinary and biochemistry training. He successfully applied for a lectureship in veterinary virology at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, and worked there from 1971 until 1975. He then moved to Belfast to the virology department at the Veterinary Research Laboratories (VRL) at Stormont.

He succeeded Brian McFerran as head of the virology department in 1986, and to the joint appointment of Chief Veterinary Research Officer in the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (with responsibility for all aspects of the work of VRL) and Professor of Veterinary Science in Queen's University Belfast in 1992. He took early retirement in 2001 due to clinical depression.

Stewart has published approximately 150 papers in peer-reviewed journals, covering both mammalian and avian viruses, and largely prompted by diagnostic submissions to the laboratory. He was a member of the Stormont team that first isolated and characterised egg drop syndrome virus in the late 1970s. Subsequently he worked on viruses that he had detected in avian faeces using direct electron microscopy. These included turkey and chicken rotaviruses and chicken enterovirus-like viruses; many of the latter are now known to be astroviruses.

He has also worked extensively on chicken anaemia virus. He was awarded the R F Gordon medal in 1995 and the Tom Newman Memorial Award in 1996 for his contributions to poultry science. He became a member of the Houghton Trust in 2012.

A keen sportsman, Stewart has 63 international hockey caps for Ireland. He captained the Irish team and has coached men's and women's hockey teams at club and international level. He still averages five gym sessions per week. He also enjoys walking, and reading novels and political comment. Married to Margaret since 1970, he has two daughters, Anna and Katrina.



Michael Stewart McNulty
Born: 1944
United Kingdom

Venugopal K. Nair



Venugopal K. Nair
Born:1955
United Kingdom

Born in Kerala, South India, Venugopal (Venu) Nair obtained his veterinary qualification (1976) and MVM (1978) from the Kerala Agricultural University. He joined the Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences as an Assistant Professor in Veterinary Medicine in 1978, and qualified with a post-graduate Diploma in Virology from the University of Poona in 1981. After obtaining a PhD in Veterinary Medicine from the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (1987), Chennai, India, he was a post-doctoral scientist at the prestigious Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. In 1989, Prof Nair moved to the United Kingdom to the Institute of Virology, Oxford as a post-doctoral research fellow. During his 6-year tenure at Oxford, he investigated the molecular biology of flaviviruses important to human and veterinary medicine.

In 1994, he moved to Jim Payne's group at the Pirbright Institute (previously Institute for Animal Health), Compton to work on avian oncogenic viruses. Following Dr Payne's retirement, he became the Head of the Avian Oncogenic Virus group and carried out extensive studies on Marek's disease and avian leukosis virus subgroup J. Currently he is the Head of the Avian Viral Diseases Programme at the Pirbright Institute, overseeing the research on avian virology and immunology. His research is focused mainly on unraveling the molecular mechanisms of oncogenesis and has made major contributions to our understanding of how avian oncogenic viruses induce tumours. He has published more than 120 scientific publications and several book chapters in this area.

He has also served as an Editor of Avian Pathology, and is currently one of the Associate Editors of the 13th Edition of the Diseases of Poultry. Prof Nair is the designated expert of the Office International des Epizooties Reference Centre on Marek's disease.

Prof Nair holds Visiting Professorships at Imperial College London and at the University of Liverpool, and is also Investigator at the Jenner Institute, Oxford. His contribution to avian diseases was recognised through the Tom Newman Award by the British Poultry Council.

Outside work, Venu enjoys all forms of sports, particularly cricket and football. He lives in Oxford with his wife Geetha and daughter Sangeetha.

Laurence Noel Payne



Laurence Noel Payne
Born:1933
United Kingdom

Laurence Payne (known to his acquaintances as Jim) was born in Oxford, England, and gained an Open Scholarship at Bristol University to study veterinary science. He graduated with the BVSc degree and MRCVS in 1956, and a PhD in avian immunology in 1961. He left Bristol to join the Leukosis Experimental Unit at the Houghton Poultry Research Station. Early work established that the leukosis complex included various forms of leukosis caused by retroviruses and Marek's disease (MD) lymphoma caused by a herpesvirus. In 1966 Jim was awarded an Eleanor Roosevelt International Cancer Fellowship to work for a year at the USDA Regional Poultry Research Laboratory, East Lansing. Up to his retirement in 1997 he studied many aspects of these diseases.

Achievements included: experimental transmission of MD; recognition of the genetic basis of cellular susceptibility to avian leukosis/sarcoma viruses of subgroups B, C and E; recognition of genetic transmission of endogenous avian leukosis virus (ALV); recognition of early transformed bursal lymphoid follicles in lymphoid leukosis; use of live attenuated MD virus as a vaccine against MD; recognition of MD lymphoma as a T-cell neoplasm; studies on the epidemiology and eradication of ALV in commercial chickens; and discovery of subgroup J ALV as a cause of myeloid leukosis in meat-type chickens.

Jim has published 244 scientific publications. In 1976 he was awarded a DSc by Bristol University for his submitted works. He has held various scientific, veterinary and poultry industry committee positions, including Secretary/Treasurer, President (1993-97), and Honorary Life President of the World Veterinary Poultry Association, and Editor-in-Chief of Avian Pathology journal.

Awards have included the Tom Newman International Research Award for Poultry Research (Conjointly); Distinguished Service Award (Poultry Industry); Karla Sobry Memorial Medal, Brno; Gordon Memorial Lecture; Jozsef Marek Memorial Medal, Budapest; and the appointment of Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to science.

Jim is married to Dinah (a vet), and they have three children, Julian, Joanna (a vet), and Nick. His recreations have included Pony Club activities, dinghy sailing, membership of Round Table and Rotary, countryside rambling, dog agility, indoor bowls and stamp collecting.

Benjamin Pomeroy

Benjamin Pomeroy received his veterinary degree from Iowa State University (1933), MS from Cornell (1934) and PhD from the University of Minnesota (1944). He started his professional career at the University of Minnesota, St Paul in 1934 and remained there until his retirement in 1981. During these 47 years, he served as Diagnostician, Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Head of the Department, Associate Dean and finally Acting Dean. Ben became Professor Emeritus in 1981.

He distinguished himself as a teacher, researcher and administrator and made numerous meritorious contributions to poultry health. In addition to mentoring over 65 graduate students, many of whom served avian medicine with distinction, Ben's research laid the foundation for the eradication or control of a number of common poultry diseases. These included those caused by *Salmonella typhimurium*, *S. arizonae*, *S. synoviae*, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, *M. meleagridis*, avian influenza and coronavirus.

Ben has been honoured in many ways for his scientific contributions and for his leadership in creating partnerships between the poultry industry and the state and federal regulators. He received the Siehl Prize for Excellence in Agriculture in 1999 and amassed over 30 distinguished awards and recognitions over the years. He was one of the founding members of the American Association of Avian Pathologists and became, in 1958-59, its first elected president. His life-long support of this association and of the World Veterinary Poultry Association made him a widely respected avian scientist, who was sought after as a speaker nationally and internationally and as a member of important committees. Ben, through his life's work, elevated the stature of avian medicine in the world.

Ben loved his rose garden and was always ready to share the joke of the day with colleagues. He regularly attended the home games of the Minnesota Twins and Gopher football and hockey games. Following his retirement, he was seen almost every day at the State Government building in St Paul rubbing shoulders with politicians and tirelessly lobbying for funds to promote agriculture and poultry research.

Predeceased by his wife, Margaret, Ben left behind 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.



Benjamin Pomeroy
1911-2004
USA

Bart Helmich Rispens

Born in Deventer, The Netherlands, Bart Rispens received his veterinary degree from the University of Utrecht in 1956. After graduation he joined the scientific staff of the Central Veterinary Institute (CVI) in Rotterdam. While working at the CVI Bart completed a PhD degree in 1966 at the University of Utrecht. After receiving his degree, he and his family moved to East Lansing, Michigan where Bart spent a sabbatical year at the Regional Poultry Research Laboratory (now Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory). Afterwards he returned to the CVI in Rotterdam. In 1972 he and his team moved to new facilities in Lelystad.

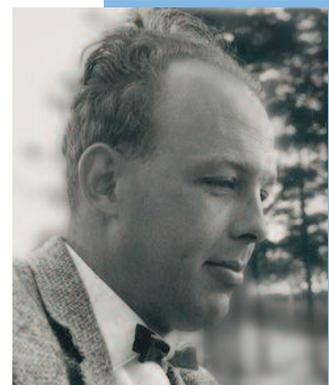
The main focus of Bart's research career was directed toward the development of practical approaches to prevent diseases in poultry and the development of techniques to eradicate avian leukosis virus (ALV). He is known worldwide for the development of the Marek's disease vaccine strain CVI-988 (or "Rispen(s) vaccine"), which was isolated from hen 988 at the CVI. CVI-988 is still the "gold standard" for Marek's disease vaccines. Much of this work was done in close collaboration with the veterinary pathologist Henk Maas.

Earlier, his research on duck viral hepatitis had led to a practical method to protect ducklings against this devastating disease. During his sabbatical year in Michigan, Bart improved methods for the detection of ALV, which were successfully applied toward its eradication in Dutch breeding stock.

Bart published approximately 20 papers during his research career. In 1971, the College of Veterinary Medicine in Utrecht awarded Bart the prestigious Schimmel-Viruly Award, which is presented every five years to a Dutch researcher who has contributed most to the enhancement of veterinary science. In 1974 Henk Maas, with support of the Dutch poultry industry, initiated the Dr Bart Rispens Fund to memorialize the legacy of Bart.

The Dr Bart Rispens Award is awarded every two years by the WVPA to the first author of the best paper published in Avian Pathology during the preceding two years.

He was survived by his widow Will, two children, Jan Albert and Babs, and 4 grandchildren.



Bart Helmich Rispens
1929-1973
The Netherlands

Arnold S. 'Rosy' Rosenwald



Arnold S. 'Rosy' Rosenwald
1909-2008
USA

Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA, Arnold Rosenwald earned his BS degree at the University of California, Berkeley (1930), his veterinary degree (DVM) at Kansas State University (1936), and post-graduate degrees at Oregon State University (MS) in 1942 and the University of Wisconsin (PhD) in 1956.

Following a period working primarily in meat inspection for the USDA, he became Assistant Professor and Assistant Veterinarian in the Agriculture Experiment Station at Oregon State University in 1937. He learned quickly about the poultry industry, the major disease challenges, the essentials of disease investigations, and approaches to problem solving at the flock level. His progress was interrupted by service from 1942-1946 in the US Army. He achieved the rank of Captain in the Veterinary Corps working as a bacteriologist for the War Department's Special Project Division. In 1946 Rosy was invited to develop the Extension Veterinary Program for poultry at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1951 this position moved to the University of California, Davis, where he remained until retiring in 1977. His Extension career was marked by collaboration with his faculty colleagues, close cooperation with Extension Specialists and county level Farm Advisors, and networking with fellow researchers nationally and internationally. His unique talent was in ferreting out information related to disease control and communicating/extending this knowledge from the laboratory to the field.

Among his contributions to avian medicine were: 1) Organization, promotion and maintenance of the Western Poultry Disease Conference 2) Development of the American Association of Avian Pathologists as a charter member, and through service in numerous committees and elective offices (including President 1968-1969 and Editor of Avian Diseases 1961-1965); he received the AAAP Special Service Award in 1980; and 3) Participation in the American Association of Extension Veterinarians and recipient of their Extension Veterinarian of the Year Award in 1975.

Rosy was first and foremost a "people person". He enjoyed travel and interacting with colleagues and friends locally and worldwide. He was survived by his wife Joan, daughter Joyce Rosenwald, and grandson Todd Nelson. He was predeceased by his brother Stanley, his first wife, Genevieve, and daughter Joan.

Y.M. (Mo) Saif



Y.M. (Mo) Saif
Born: 1936
USA

Born in Egypt, Mo Saif graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University in 1958. He completed a PhD degree in 1967 at the College of Veterinary Medicine, The Ohio State University (OSU). In 1973, he qualified as a Diplomate in the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists (ACVM), and in 1991 he became a Charter Diplomate of the newly formed American College of Poultry Veterinarians (ACPV).

Upon receiving his PhD he was offered a position at the Department of Veterinary Science, the predecessor of the current Food Animal Health Research Program, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, and the Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine, OSU. He was promoted from assistant to associate to full professor, and in 1993, became the head of the Department and assistant dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

His research career encompassed diverse studies on bacterial, fungal and viral diseases and the immune response of turkeys. Subjects studied included mycoplasmosis, colibacillosis, pasteurellosis, erysipelas, aspergillosis, paramyxovirus, infectious bursal disease (IBD), enteric viruses and influenza viruses. His studies contributed to the understanding of the epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis and control of disease, and the identification of several novel viruses. He established and maintained a specific-pathogen-free turkey flock in 1964 to support experimental disease research. Mo worked closely with the poultry industry and has received several state and national industry awards. In addition, his research was recognized by OSU and by national and international professional organizations. He served as president of the American Association of Avian Pathologists, the ACVM and the ACPV.

Prior to his retirement in 2013, he had published 164 peer-reviewed papers. He mentored 21 PhD and 10 MSc candidates. His laboratory is designated the OIE Expert laboratory for IBD virus. He was associate editor then editor-in-chief of the 11 & 12th editions of Diseases of Poultry. After retirement, he became editor of Avian Diseases.

In 1970, Mo married Linda and they have lived since then on their farm, where they enjoyed raising beef cattle while their son, Justin, was growing up. Linda is also a veterinary researcher and holds the title of Distinguished University Professor at OSU.

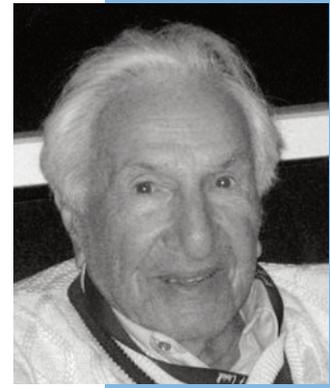
Yehuda Samberg

A native of Poland, Dr Samberg completed his veterinary studies in 1950 in Munich, Germany, before emigrating to Israel. He began his veterinary career in the Tel Aviv Poultry Disease Laboratory. In 1960 he was appointed Head of the Clinical Poultry Veterinary Service and concurrently Director of the Poultry Department at the Veterinary Institute at Beit Dagan. In 1969, he was appointed Chief Veterinarian for Poultry Diseases in Israel, a position which he held until retiring in 1990.

The poultry sector saw many changes during these years, and developed from small-scale family farming into an advanced and complex industry. Dr Samberg responded to these far-reaching changes by gradually adapting the regulatory environment and the professional services to fit the industry's changing needs, always preparing the necessary groundwork to support the advances made. He raised awareness of hygiene and sanitation in the hatcheries, and persuaded the poultry farmers' organizations to work together to promote the necessary changes. Dr Samberg developed the service offered to the farmers, setting up the eight regional laboratories, with the aim of improving the veterinary service for the benefit of the farmers and the industry as a whole. He nurtured a long line of poultry veterinarians trained in clinical work, ensuring they also received research training and specialist qualifications.

He published tens of research papers in scientific journals, and actively participated at international conferences nationally and internationally. Even after his retirement he continued to attend conferences at home and abroad. Dr Samberg won many prizes and awards in recognition of his work, including the Yonas "veterinarian of the year" prize (1982), the Plesser prize in 1992, and 3 Kimron prizes, one for the development of the laryngotracheitis vaccine (1968), one for his research and contribution to the control of Newcastle disease (1975), and one for his life's work (1990). He served as President of the Israel Poultry Science Association, WVPA Vice-President (1981-1984), and WVPA President (1985-1989). In 1995 he was appointed a WVPA Honorary Life President. Following his retirement, Dr Samberg joined the vaccine company Shafit, as a veterinary consultant.

He was married to Ida for 60 years and had two sons.



Yehuda Samberg
1924-2012
Israel

Ahmed Ali Sami Ahmed

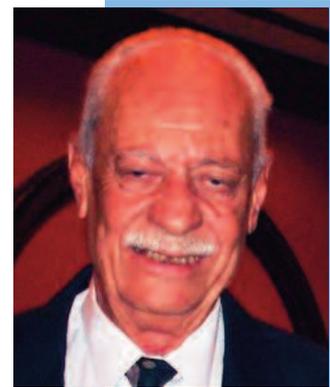
Born in El Minia, Egypt, Ahmed Sami gained his veterinary qualification at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University in 1958. He completed his Dr medicinae veterinariae at the Department of Poultry Diseases, Giessen University, Germany, and in 1971 he successfully submitted a Dr habilitatus thesis at the Department of Poultry Diseases, University of Munich.

In 1958 he joined the staff of the Department of Poultry Diseases at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University, and became professor in 1976. In 1976 he moved to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Alexandria University, as dean of the newly established Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. From 1979 to 1982 he was professor of poultry diseases at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia. He returned to Alexandria University as Head of the Department of Poultry Diseases, until his formal retirement in 1993 and appointment as Emeritus Professor.

Ahmed Sami established the Egyptian branch of the World Veterinary Poultry Association in 1986 and served as its president until 2006. He organized the XII World WVPA Congress in 2002 in Cairo. He served as Vice-President of the WVPA from 1997-2005, and was appointed Honorary Life President of the WVPA in 2005. His contributions to poultry science have been recognized through awards from industry, academia and the state. He acts as a scientific advisor for several poultry companies in Egypt and other Arabic countries. He has headed most of the governmental committees related to poultry diseases and production in Egypt over the past 40 years. His knowledge and expertise were fundamental to enhancing and growing the poultry industry in Egypt and the Middle East.

Ahmed Sami's work focussed on diagnosis and control of poultry diseases, with particular emphasis on respiratory and food-borne diseases. He has published many papers in peer-reviewed journals and supervised over 50 post-graduate students. He is best known for his work on Newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis and adenovirus infections, but has also worked on bacterial and parasitic diseases of chickens, ducks and geese.

Outside work, he has a keen interest in politics. He lives for his wife Hildegard, his daughter Susanne and his son Hani, as well as his friends.



Ahmed Ali Sami Ahmed
Born: 1933
Egypt

Karel Antoni (Ton) Schat



Karel Antoni (Ton) Schat
Born: 1944
USA

Born in The Hague, The Netherlands, Ton Schat received his veterinary degree from the University of Utrecht in 1970. Before graduation he spent 5 months at the Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria. After graduation he joined the International Technical Assistance Program of the Dutch State Department to work on Marek's disease at the Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Pecuarias in Mexico, where he worked until 1975.

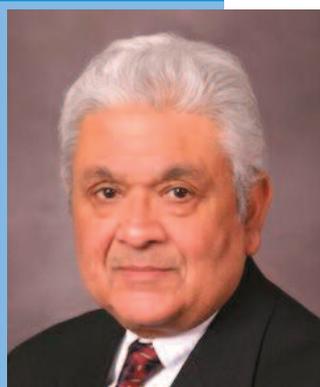
To prepare for this position he received training in the basics of Marek's disease research from Dr. Rispens at the Dutch Central Veterinary Institute. In 1975 Ton joined the research group of Dr. Calnek at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. After receiving his PhD degree in 1978 he joined the faculty at the College of Veterinary Medicine of Cornell University. He retired in 2011 as a Professor in Avian Virology and Immunology.

He is well known for isolating the SB-1 vaccine strain of Marek's disease and his research on the pathogenesis and immunology of Marek's disease. In addition he has published important contributions on chicken anemia virus, rotaviruses and more recently on *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* infections in house finches. His achievements would not have been possible without excellent PhD students and post-doctoral associates. Ton has published over 165 papers in peer-reviewed journals and more than 30 book chapters. He also served as co-editor of the first and second editions of *Avian Immunology*.

His contributions to avian disease research were recognized with the Upjohn Achievement Award of the AAAP in 1986, the Dr. Bart Rispens Research Award of the WVPA in 1987, the Pfizer Award for Excellence in Poultry Research of the AVMA in 1999, and the Merck Award for Achievement in Poultry Science of the PSA in 2005. In 2010 he was recognized by his peers with a special award for outstanding research in the field of Marek's disease.

Ton enjoys international travel, which he often combines with bird watching and bird photography. In addition he loves to cross-country ski and bicycle. He lives with his wife Laura Stenzler in Ithaca and has two daughters, Marianne and Marjolein, and two granddaughters.

Jagdev M. Sharma



Jagdev M. Sharma
Born: 1941
USA

Born in Punjab, India, Jagdev Sharma received his BVSc degree from Punjab University in 1961, and MS and PhD degrees from the University of California, Davis in 1964 and 1967.

After 4 years of postdoctoral training at Washington State University, his career began in 1971 at the Avian Diseases and Oncology Laboratory of USDA. In 1988, he was appointed Professor and Pomeroy Endowed Chair in Avian Health at University of Minnesota, a position he held for 20 years. In 2009, he became Professor Emeritus.

The same year, he moved to Arizona State University where he is Research Professor at the Biodesign Institute and Visiting Professor of Life Sciences in the School of Life Sciences.

Jagdev pioneered the in ovo vaccination system in poultry. He devised the scientific concept, supported the concept with research data, and transferred the technology from his laboratory to the market place. This innovative technology, one of the latest mass vaccine delivery systems adopted in veterinary medicine, is being used in almost all major chicken hatcheries in the world. Since 2009, he has focused on improving the performance of backyard chickens in rural Africa. The aim is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life for rural households.

Jagdev is a world-renowned avian immunologist and has contributed to the understanding and control of common viral diseases of poultry. His publications include a book and 197 peer-reviewed articles. He holds one Canadian and five US patents. He has received numerous awards, is sought after as a keynote speaker and has presented 136 invited lectures in 36 countries.

In 2009, he was elected president of the American Association of Avian Pathologists. From 2003-2013, he served as Editor of *Avian Diseases*.

When Jagdev is not working, he can be found on the golf course, where his efforts to reduce his score continue unabated despite minimal evidence of success. Jagdev and Sylvia have a son, Dave, who along with his wife Lucina lives about 30 miles from them, and a daughter, Susan, who lives in Colorado Springs. The first grandson, Dylan, was born in 2012.

J. Lloyd Spencer

Lloyd Spencer was born in Magrath, Alberta, Canada, and over the years was blessed with the influence of family and associates who helped him to achieve. After one year at the University of Alberta, he enrolled at the Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph. After the first year, he took leave for two years to serve as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in central United States. Upon graduation with a DVM in 1964 he commenced graduate studies at Cornell University where he earned MS (1966) and PhD (1969) degrees.

Dr Bruce W Calnek, his major professor, prepared him for a rewarding research career, focused primarily on control of diseases caused by avian tumor viruses, with Agriculture Canada, Ottawa, Ontario. To further his research, he was granted one year work transfers to the Regional Poultry Research Laboratory (USDA), East Lansing, Michigan and to the University of Saskatchewan.

For contributions to the control of Marek's disease and avian leukosis, he received the Upjohn Achievement award, the Tom Newman Memorial award from the British Poultry Hatcheries Association and a Merit award from Agriculture Canada. For another approach to disease control, he developed composting strategies to kill pathogens in animal wastes. He was awarded support from the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture to conduct composting studies in Argentina. These methods were successfully applied to help control an outbreak of avian influenza in Canada in 2004. For composting research, he received two awards from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). He has published approximately 75 peer-reviewed papers.

He served the World Veterinary Poultry Association (WVPA) as a corresponding secretary, Vice-President, President (1997-2001) and Honorary Life President. Also, in 1988, he started the WVPA Aerosols Newsletter. He served 29 years on the editorial board of Avian Diseases. Upon retirement in 2004 he was awarded emeritus status by the CFIA. Diversions have included: increasing proficiency in French and Spanish, gardening, bee-keeping and cross-country skiing. Lloyd and his wife Marilyn are parents of 5 children and have 18 grandchildren. Church and other activities that support families have always been priorities.



J. Lloyd Spencer
Born: 1938
Canada

Laszlo Stipkovits

Born in Horvatkimle, Hungary, Laszlo Stipkovits gained his veterinary qualification at the Moscow Veterinary Academy (1961) and his PhD from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (1968). In 1961 he joined the Veterinary Medical Research Institute of Hungarian Academy of Sciences, was Deputy Director of the Institute from 1985-1990, and headed the Mycoplasma Research Group. In 1988 he was appointed professor of epidemiology at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, Szent Istvan University, Budapest. Since 2008, he has been Director of the Veterinary Translational Research Group at the RT-Europe Research Center, Hungary.

Laszlo has worked mainly on mycoplasma infections of poultry, and also on mycoplasma infections of domestic mammals, with a particular interest in their pathogenesis. He was the first to isolate *Acholeplasma axanthum* from geese, and *Ureaplasma* causing respiratory diseases and mass infertility from chickens and turkeys. He has performed successful eradication programmes for *M. gallisepticum* and *M. synoviae* infections in large poultry flocks. He has described pathological conditions associated with mycoplasma infections, including co-infections with viruses, such as influenza, and discovered two new species, *M. anseris* and "*M. anserisalpinitis*". He has developed a vaccine against these mycoplasmas, which has been used successfully for several years. He has published 321 scientific papers, book chapters etc and given numerous lectures.

Laszlo has always been very active in translating his research to the practicalities of dealing with mycoplasma infections, including diagnostics, vaccines, and medication for *M. gallisepticum* and *M. synoviae* infections. He has developed and tested numerous products, including blocking ELISAs for *M. gallisepticum* and *M. synoviae*, and vaccines for duck and goose mycoplasmas.

From 1980-2005 he was Secretary of the Hungarian Branch of WVPA, and was Corresponding Secretary of WVPA for Hungary and Secretary of the Xth WVPA Congress in Budapest in 1997. Since 1972 he has been a member of the International Organization of Mycoplasmologists (IOM) Avian Mycoplasma Team, and he served on the Board of IOM from 1980-1984.

Outside of work, he enjoys fine food, viticulture and wine making. He is active in sports, mainly soccer and yoga. He enjoys travelling with his family.



Laszlo Stipkovits
Born: 1938
Hungary

Pedro Villegas-Narvaez



Pedro Villegas-Narvaez
Born: 1943
USA

Born in Líbano, Tolima, Colombia, Pedro Villegas gained his veterinary degree from the Universidad del Tolima in Colombia in 1967. He completed his Master's degree at Texas A&M University in 1971 and his PhD at the University of Georgia in 1975. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiology (ACVM) and charter member of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians (ACPV). He holds honorary degrees from the University of Tolima, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain) and Universidad Mayor de San Marcos in Lima (Perú). From the American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP), he has received three awards: Special Service Award in 2003, Poultry Research Award in 2007, and the Lasher-Bottorf award (technical diagnostic services) in 2010. In 1999 he received the Inventor Award from the University of Georgia for the discovery of the VG/GA (Villegas-Glisson/Georgia) vaccine strain of Newcastle disease.

He started working in his native country at the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA) and in 1977 he moved to the University of Georgia. During his tenure at Georgia he mentored numerous graduate students at the Master and PhD levels. His main work has been in the area of avian virology and control of poultry diseases.

He has published close to 100 peer-reviewed articles covering Newcastle disease, infectious bursal disease, avian adenoviruses, infectious bronchitis, Marek's disease, avian reovirus, infectious laryngotracheitis and avian leukosis viruses. He has given approximately 300 presentations in 50 different countries, including all of Latin America. He founded and was editor for 14 years of *Avicultura Profesional* (Professional Poultry) a quarterly trade publication edited in Spanish with circulation in Latin America. He translated all the summaries for *Avian Diseases* for nearly 20 years. At the University of Georgia, he has organized eight times the International Seminar in Poultry Pathology and Production, held every 4 years, and attended by more than 300 veterinarians from all Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries.

With his wife Angela, he has two sons (Pedro and Andrés) and one daughter (Patricia), and is currently Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia and consultant for major poultry companies in Latin America and Spain.

Kevin George Whithear



Kevin George Whithear
Born: 1943
Australia

Born in Sydney Australia, Kevin Whithear gained a Diploma in Agriculture from Hawkesbury Agricultural College in 1962, followed by a Bachelor of Veterinary Science from the University of Sydney in 1967. Early employment was with the state Department of Agriculture and then with Inghams, a large integrated poultry company.

It was at Inghams that he developed an interest in mycoplasmas and the disease problems they cause in intensively reared poultry. This interest led to a PhD on investigations of avian mycoplasmas from Monash University in 1977. Kevin was appointed a microbiology lecturer in the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Melbourne where he remained until retirement as Professor in 2008.

Kevin was an enthusiastic teacher of veterinary students and acquired an international reputation as one of the early adopters of computer-assisted learning in veterinary education. However, his major contribution to poultry science was as the lead investigator in the development of live attenuated vaccines to control *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* and *M. synoviae*. Both vaccines are widely used internationally. The research encompassed the initial discovery of the vaccine strains to the work required to register them for commercial use.

Professor Whithear played a leading role in the early development of the Australian Poultry Cooperative Research Centre, serving multiple roles including Education Co-ordinator. He was awarded the Australian Poultry Award in 2011 by the WPSA, the Clunies Ross Award in 1998 by the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, and the Gilruth Prize, the highest award of the Australian Veterinary Association, in 2007. In 2010 he was honoured by the University of Melbourne with the degree of DVSc (honoris causa), and in 2007 received an Order of Australia Medal "For service to veterinary science and education, particularly through research, development and production of vaccines to control major diseases in poultry".

Professor Whithear is currently a 'boutique' olive grower with his wife Deborah. They have three children, Simon, Ben and Anna. He remains in touch with science as the Chair of the Advisory Board of the Asia Pacific Centre for Animal Health that he founded in 1999.

Richard Lawrence Witter

Dick Witter was born in Bangor, Maine, USA, and completed BS and DVM degrees at Michigan State University, and MS and PhD degrees at Cornell University. He worked at the USDA-ARS-Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory, East Lansing, Michigan from 1964-2002. He served as the Director of ADOL from 1975-1998, balancing administrative responsibilities with an active personal research program. Following retirement in 2002, he served as a Collaborator with his former laboratory.

He was Scientific Advisor for the ARS-Former Soviet Union Scientific Cooperation Program as well as on several national committees to advance research cooperation with Russia. He was a past president of the American Association of Avian Pathologists, serving in many roles including organizer of the 2003 AVMA-WVPA meeting in Denver and initiator of the AAAP biography project. He is known especially for his research on Marek's disease (MD) vaccine development, elucidation of viral pathotypes, and documentation of the evolution of this virus to greater virulence. He also contributed to knowledge on reticuloendotheliosis virus and on avian leukosis virus.

Some specific accomplishments include: isolation and characterization of turkey herpesvirus (HVT), which became the first MD vaccine used in the United States and is still in use; development of several additional MD vaccine strains and validation of strain CVI988 for use in the United States; elucidation of synergism among certain MD vaccine viruses; and development of standardized techniques to classify MD virus strains by pathotype. He also prepared a guide for the diagnosis of avian viral tumors and wrote a 50-year history of the AAAP. His many awards and recognitions include the ARS Hall of Fame, Poultry Hall of Fame, and honorary doctorates from the Tierärztlichen Hochschule, Hannover, Germany and the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (USA) in 1998.

Outside work, Dick spends his time with his piano and tending his extensive garden. He embraces the outdoors and enjoys hunting, fishing, canoeing, camping and photography. The family cottage in Maine is a special retreat which he enjoys with his wife Joan, and his children Jane and Steven and their families.



Richard Lawrence Witter
Born: 1936
USA

Noboru Yuasa

Born in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan, Noboru Yuasa graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Hokkaido University in 1966. He earned a PhD degree in 1983 from Hokkaido University. From 1966 to 2001 he was engaged in diagnostic, research, and educational work, mainly on poultry viral diseases in the Poultry Disease Laboratory (Seki, Gifu-ken) and Central Laboratory (Tsukuba, Ibaraki-ken) of the National Institute of Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. He participated as a technical expert in "The Project for the Improvement of Regional Veterinary Diagnostic Services in Mexico States" implemented by the Japan International Corporation Agency from 2001 to 2003.

From 2004 he worked as a technical adviser to Kyoritsu Seiyaku Corporation, a maker of veterinary pharmaceuticals. He retired in 2011.

He has served as chairman of the editorial board of the Journal and Vice-President of the Japanese Society on Poultry Diseases (JSPD). JSPD propagates knowledge of poultry diseases and has around 2,500 members.

In 1974, some young layer chicken flocks in Japan vaccinated with Marek's disease (MD) vaccine (HVT) were observed to have a disease with symptoms of leg paralysis and retarded growth. The disease pathologically resembled MD. Dr Yuasa isolated reticuloendotheliosis (RE) virus from both the diseased chickens and the vaccines used. He also succeeded in reproducing the disease with isolated RE virus. From these results, he identified these cases as a vaccine accident caused by HVT being contaminated by RE virus. Similar cases were also observed in some other countries.

During his investigation of the MD vaccine accident, he discovered an unusual viral agent (chicken anemia agent (CAA)) that produced aplastic anemia in chicks. He established a unique in vitro assay system for CAA using MDCC-MSB1 cells. CAA has since been fully characterized by others who followed up Dr Yuasa's pioneering work, and has been renamed chicken anemia virus (CAV). CAV is now classified as a novel, small, single-stranded DNA virus belonging to the Family Circoviridae, Genus Gyrovirus.

He lives with his wife, Sakae, and two dogs, and lately enjoys playing tennis a couple of times a week.



Noboru Yuasa
Born: 1942
Japan

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