

# WAAVP

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY

## NEW CHALLENGES A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Domenico Otranto*

*President of the World Association for the Advancement of  
Veterinary Parasitology*

Dear All,

I wish you are doing well, as we are almost through with the COVID pandemic. However, new challenges as the war in Ukraine caused by the invasion of a neighbor country are threatening our times, making our existence as researchers and as humans extremely difficult. These are visible much more than the many conflicts around the world and make us conscious of the responsibilities of the scientific communities have in supporting people in need.

Nonetheless, as WAAVP, we are fully committed in many actions conducted by our subcommittees in different fields of VetPar to implement our discipline and to contribute, in our capacities, to the health and welfare of animals in the whole world. I would like to thank the coordinators of these SubCommittees and the many colleagues, early career researchers who have worked over the last 5 months. When we instituted these SubCommittees the idea was to implement the participation to our discipline and to enforce the action of our Association. On the behalf of the executive committee. I am extremely happy, more than expected, about the first outcomes.



watch the video

# WAAVP AND BILL & MELINDA FOUNDATION

We are focusing our action mainly in low- and middle-income countries by pursuing a number of initiatives to alleviate the conditions caused by parasites. For this reason, the WAAVP with the financial support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation instituted an Africa network aiming to link veterinary parasitology experts from Africa and help them to tackle the issues posed by parasites. This initiative aims to identify key topics for priority activities, conduct and support studies, and surveillance programs to help to improve scientific knowledge and provide guidance and expert recommendations to decision makers in Africa. The network will also contribute to the advancement of Veterinary Parasitology across the continent by promoting scientific meetings, seminars, training and policy workshops. We are organizing an in-person meeting to be held in the coming months in Africa. Progress will be shared with the WAAVP community during the 29th WAAVP Conference to be held in Chennai, India in August 2023.

This initiative comes beyond the WAAVP African foundation that has a long and continuous successful history in supporting young researchers from Africa. The Communication and Promotion sub-committee has started a new deal of communication through the Newsletter. The sub-committee has started to promote the WAAVP related initiatives on social Media and is organizing a new website.

An important position paper on the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion has been papered by the EDI sub-committee and will be shortly approved by the Executive Committee.

The Guidelines sub-committee has been working with authors and reviewers to publish new or updated WAAVP guidelines with three guidelines published as open access in February and March 2022, the first Guideline is for evaluating the efficacy of parasiticides against ectoparasites of ruminants the second for evaluating the efficacy of equine anthelmintics and the 3rd the efficacy of anthelmintics in food-producing and companion animals.

The Education, Training and Career Development sub-committee has started to define a list of webinar series about parasitology topics. We are also aiming to develop local and more specific VetPar curricula adherent to VetPar in specific contexts and to define rules for the organization of training courses under the WAAVP aegis.

I wish you all a wonderful re-start of academic activities as well as of a normal life.

Regards,  
Domenico Otranto



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**We are organizing an in-person meeting to be held in the coming months in Africa. Progress will be shared with the WAAVP community during the 29th WAAVP Conference to be held in Chennai, India in August 2023.**



# CALLING ON THE NEXT GENERATION OF AFRICAN VETERINARIAN PARASITOLOGISTS

This is the first announcement for WAAVP African Foundation partial scholarships inviting next generation African veterinary parasitologists to submit applications for the 29th WAAVP Conference in Chennai, India.

## Calling All Next Generation African Veterinary Parasitologists!

### World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology African Foundation (WAAVP AF)

The WAAVP African Foundation will provide a limited number of partial scholarships to assist veterinary parasitologists from Africa to participate in the 29<sup>th</sup> WAAVP Conference (WAAVP 2023) to be held in Chennai, India, 20-24 August, 2023.

#### Applications should include:

- A copy of the abstract(s) for paper(s) or poster(s) which were submitted to the 29<sup>th</sup> WAAVP Conference Convenor;
- A letter of recommendation from a current supervisor;
- An indication of how other costs (beyond a WAAVP AF grant) will be met (i.e., possibility of obtaining supplemental funds elsewhere);
- Other envisaged contributions to the conference (i.e., workshop participant, chairperson of session, etc.);
- A brief indication of how the applicant sees attendance contributing to his/her development in veterinary parasitology, and
- A 1-2 page Bio/CV including level of applicant (e.g., MS, PhD, Postdoc, etc.) and indication of passport used when travelling.

#### Submit applications to:

Dr. Rosina C. Krecek  
4302 Berwick Place  
College Station, TX 77845 USA  
Tel: +1-972-822-5480  
E-mail: [rkrecek@icloud.com](mailto:rkrecek@icloud.com)

**DEADLINE: To be announced in 2022**





# WAAVP AFRICA NETWORK

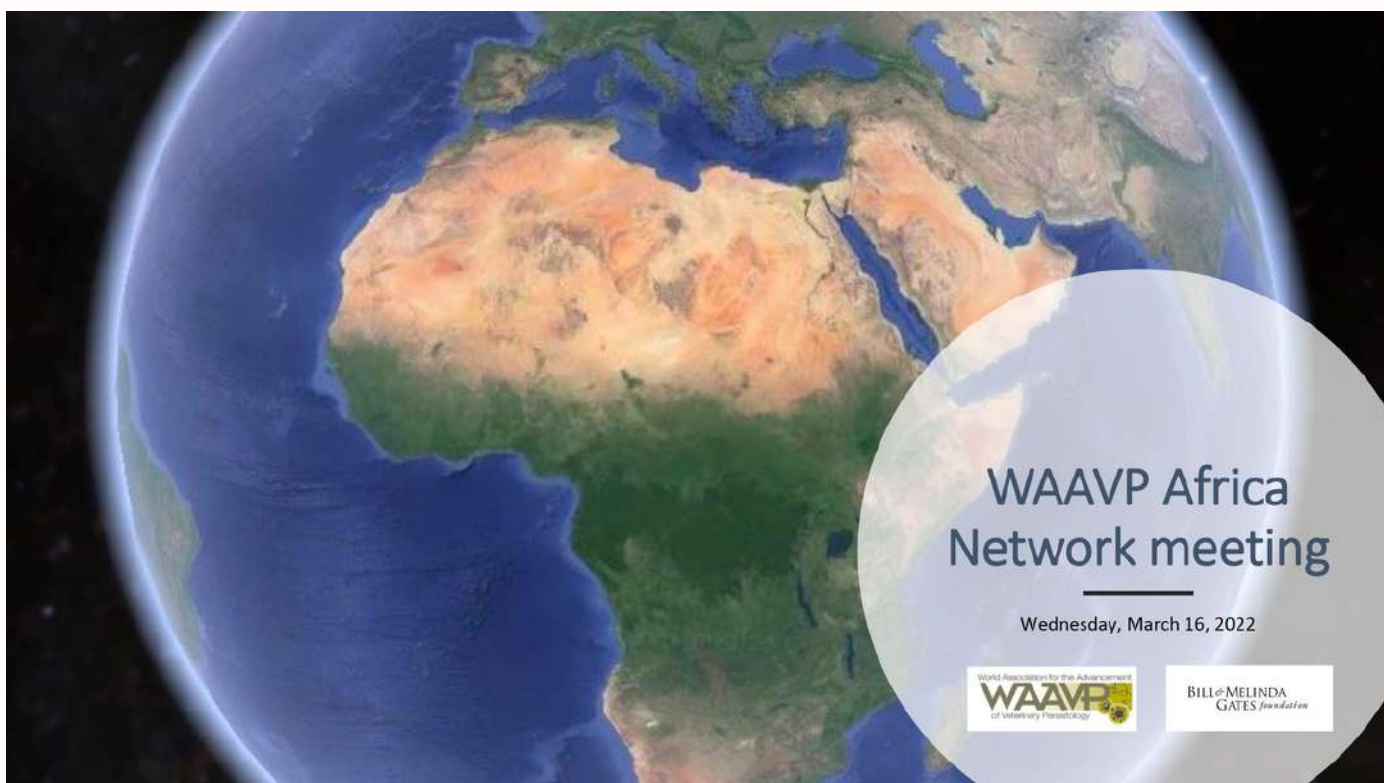
**THE WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY (WAAVP) AFRICA NETWORK AIMS TO LINK VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY EXPERTS FROM AFRICA AND HELP THEM TO TACKLE THE ISSUES POSED BY PARASITES**

**The First Meeting of the steering group for the WAAVP Africa network was held on March 16th 2022**

Parasites are a major cause of animal morbidity and mortality in Africa. Ectoparasites and endoparasites of livestock have an appreciable negative impact on the livelihood of farmers and on public health as a result of zoonoses. This burden is expected to increase in the coming years in the context of climate change and growing population. However, parasitic disease of animals remains relatively neglected. Fragmented scientific knowledge, poor availability of control tools, equipment or infrastructure, among other constraints, hamper effective management. A strong, integrated, pan-African scientific network in veterinary parasitology will make a major contribution to more sustainable approaches to parasite control in Africa.

The World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) Africa network aims to link veterinary parasitology experts from Africa and help them to tackle the issues posed by parasites. Leveraging the established global connections and expertise of WAAVP and benefiting from the initial financial support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, this initiative aims to identify key topics for priority activities, conduct and support studies, and surveillance programs to help to improve scientific knowledge and provide guidance and expert recommendations to decision makers in Africa. The network will also contribute to the advancement of Veterinary Parasitology across the continent by promoting scientific meetings, seminars, training and policy workshops.

**"A STRONG, INTEGRATED, PAN-AFRICAN SCIENTIFIC NETWORK IN VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY WILL MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO MORE SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES TO PARASITE CONTROL IN AFRICA"**



# WAAVP AFRICA NETWORK

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**The First Meeting of the steering group for the WAAVP Africa network was held on March 16th 2022**

The first activity has been to identify an enthusiastic steering group of researchers and policy makers from across Africa. In an initial 2-hour online meeting, the group introduced themselves as well as their research and expertise. This exchange gave insight and set the ground for the initiative. It included seven experts from six African countries: Fouaïbou Farougou (Université d'Abomey-Calavi, République du Bénin), Patrick Vudriko (Research Center for Tropical Diseases and Vector Control, Uganda), Johnson Ouma (Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines, Kenya), Jahashi Nzalawahe (Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania), Daniel Masiga (International Center for Insect Physiology and Ecology, Kenya), Ayodele Majekodunmi (FAO, Nigeria) and Allal Dakkak (Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II, Morocco).

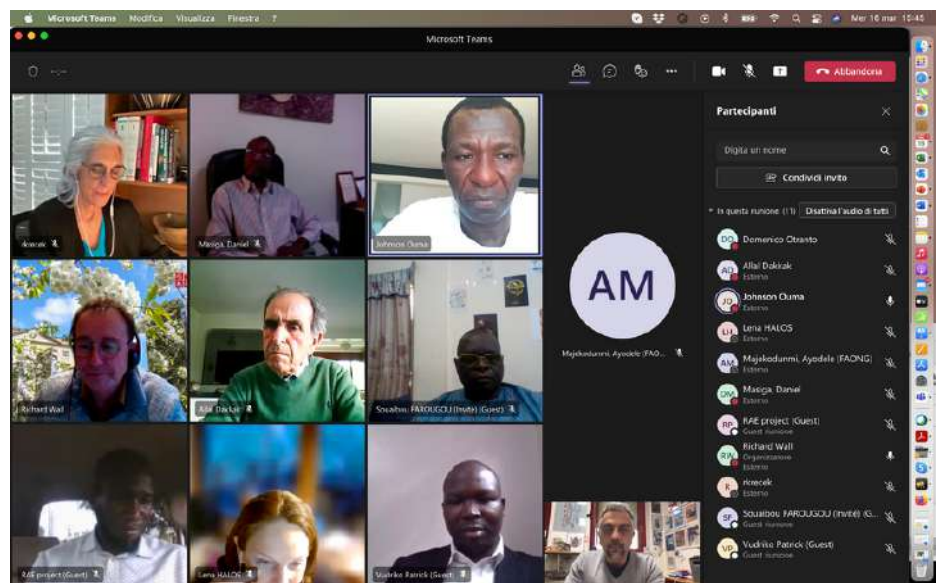
Three representatives of WAAVP also attended: Domenico Otranto (University of Bari, Italy, and President of WAAVP), Rosina Krecek (Visiting Professor, University of Johannesburg, South Africa; Independent Scholar, USA) and Richard Wall, WAAVP secretary/treasurer and Lena Halos representative of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (USA).

**"THE NEXT STEPS ARE THE NOMINATIONS OF CO-CHAIRS FOR THE NETWORK, IDENTIFYING REPRESENTATIVES TO JOIN THE WAAVP SUBCOMMITTEES, AND THE PREPARATION OF AN IN-PERSON MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE COMING MONTHS IN AFRICA"**

**World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology African Foundation (WAAVP AF)**



The next steps are the nominations of co-chairs for the network, identifying representatives to join the WAAVP subcommittees, and the preparation of an in-person meeting to be held in the coming months in Africa. Progress will be shared with the WAAVP community during the 29th WAAVP Conference to be held in Chennai, India during August 2023.





# JOIN THE WAAVP SUB-COMMITTEES!

At the Dublin meeting of the WAAVP Executive Committee it was decided to establish five sub-committees to: i) deal with specific aspects of the WAAVP remit, ii) to further the effectiveness of activities, and iii) to offer a greater involvement of members in the organization. Each sub-committee will be chaired by a member of EC, who will act as liaison with the EC, plus four- six members in addition to the Chair. The one exception will be the Guidelines subcommittee where a larger number of members is required.

WAAVP members are invited to volunteer to join the sub committees. The EC will also seek additional nominations the membership as required. Each subcommittee will include a minimum of two early career researchers (maximum of five years since award of PhD or equivalent). The Term of Office shall be four years, with re-appointment for a further one or two years to be permitted, contingent upon appropriate balanced recruitment of new members. If interested: please contact the sub-committee chair directly.

Please express your interest to join the WAAVP subcommittees!

## **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) sub-committee**

Chair: Tim Geary

(email: [timothy.g.geary@mcgill.ca](mailto:timothy.g.geary@mcgill.ca))

## **Communication and Promotion sub-committee**

Chair: Filipe Dantas-Torres

(email: [fdtvvet@gmail.com](mailto:fdtvet@gmail.com))

## **Education, Training and Career Development sub-committee**

Chair: Domenico Otranto (email:

[domenico.otranto@uniba.it](mailto:domenico.otranto@uniba.it)) and Reuben

Sharma (email: [reuben@upm.edu.my](mailto:reuben@upm.edu.my))

## **Guidelines sub-committee**

Chair: Silvina Fernandez

(email: [silvfernandez@gmail.com](mailto:silvfernandez@gmail.com))

## **Finance sub-committee**

Chair: Richard Wall

(email: [richard.wall@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:richard.wall@bristol.ac.uk))





# PHD (PARASITES IN HIGH DEFINITION) THE ADVENTURES OF BECOMING A PARASITOLOGIST ABROAD

**LUNGWORMS IN RUMINANTS OF THE STATE OF PERNAMBUCO  
FROM BRAZIL TO BARI**

**LUCIA OLIVEIRA DE MACEDO DVM, MSC, PHD STUDENT IN ANIMAL BIOSCIENCE  
FEDERAL RURAL UNIVERSITY OF PERNAMBUCO**

Studying parasites of domestic ruminants has been always my main field of research and has directed me towards my passion for parasitology. It gave me a perspective on how these animals are affected by diverse pathogenic microorganisms that cause significant impairment in the animal development, as well as high economic losses. The livestock in Brazil is one of the main economic pillars, particularly in the state of Pernambuco, which is mainly based on the dairy farming. Among the problems faced by breeders, the occurrence of parasitic infections, often neglected by veterinarians and ruminant producers, are a burden to the animal health and economic development of areas in which this activity represents the main income.

Recently, I was selected for a grant to spend part of my PhD in a European University, and the University of Bari was my choice due to the strong research in parasitology held by the department of veterinary medicine of this institution. Despite being an experience dreamed by many people, deciding to leave my country for the first time was something that left me with many fears and insecurities, due to facing possible language barrier and adaptation to a new and totally different reality from Brazil. However, knowing that I would meet Brazilian people was something that helped me to make this decision.



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I arrived in the city of Bari, Italy, in November 2021 and I was welcomed by a cold climate unlike anything I have ever experienced, but I adapted easily and had a pleasant experience knowing new and magical places. I was delighted with the beauty of the historical buildings of the city and the warm welcome of my colleagues. During my first days at the department of veterinary medicine I already felt like a member of the parasitology group and having contact with other Brazilian colleagues was also very important for my first interaction with the group. Speaking Italian was essential for me, as I still don't have good English communication skills. I think the main difference between Brazil and Italy is the behaviour of people, mainly during a talk, in which Italians use to communicate using gestures with their hands. Also, they speak in a strong way, that may create some fear at first, but then you notice how nice and friendly they are. I cannot speak about the food. Undoubtedly, they are the best in cuisine.





## *My short but intense Parasite in High Definition story for you*

At the Federal Rural University of Pernambuco, my research studies on the epidemiology of lungworms in ruminants of the state of Pernambuco is in progress. In general, lungworm infection in ruminants in Brazil is largely underdiagnosed, leading to gaps in knowledge on the distribution and epidemiology of these parasites, resulting in suboptimal management practices and control strategies. At the University of Bari, I am living an incredible experience discovering new fields of research, such as canine vector-borne pathogens. The experience in a European Institution is being very important for me, helping me to improve the construction of logical reasoning in the development of research, and being of great significance for my growth as a young researcher. Essa é minha Parasites in High Definition história para vocês (This is my Parasites in High Definition story for you)!



**LEFT: EDITORS OF PHD  
JAIRO ALFONSO MENDOZA ROLDAN AND  
MARCOS ANTONIO BEZERRA SANTOS**

About the author: Lucia is a Brazilian veterinarian that started her academic life in 2011 when she was admitted to the undergraduate degree in veterinary medicine at the Academic Unit of Garanhuns, Federal Rural University of Pernambuco. She has experience in the field of Parasitology, developing research activities mainly on gastrointestinal parasites of ruminants. In 2016, she was admitted to the master's degree in the postgraduate program in Ruminant health and Reproduction at the Federal Rural University of Pernambuco. In 2019, she was admitted to the PhD program in Animal Bioscience at the Federal Rural University of Pernambuco to study the epidemiology of lungworms in ruminants of the state of Pernambuco.





# UPCOMING EVENTS



## XXXII National Congress of the Italian Society of Parasitology, SOIPA

Date: June 27-30, 2022  
Location: Napoli, Italy  
Link: <https://congresso2022.soipa.it/>  
Theme: Transizioni Parassitologiche



## Entomology Summer Course, National Veterinary School of Toulouse

Date: July 4-8, 2022  
Location: 23 chemin des Capelles, 31076, Toulouse, France  
Link: <https://entomologysummercourse.com/>  
Theme: Hands on Course on Arthropods of Medical and Veterinary Significance: A global perspective, from theory to practice



## XXVI International Congress of Entomology

Date: July 17-22, 2022  
Location: Helsinki, Finland  
Link: <http://ice2020helsinki.fi/>  
Theme: Entomological Science



## WorldLeish7

Date: August 1-6, 2022  
Location: Cartagena - Colombia  
Link: <https://www.worldleish7.org>  
Theme: Leishmaniasis



## World Federation of Parasitologists ICOPA XV

Date: August 21-26, 2022  
Location: Copenhagen, Denmark  
Link: <http://www.icopaxv.dk/>  
Theme: Scientific exchange across the broad discipline of parasitology



## 10th International Symposium for Fish Parasitology

Date: it will take place at ICOPA XV, August 21-26, 2022  
Location: Copenhagen, Denmark  
Link: <https://www.isfpx.org/>  
Theme: New Challenges in Fish Parasitology



## TTP.10 - 10th Tick and Tick-Borne Pathogen Conference

Date: 29 August - 2 September 2022  
Location: Murighiol, Danube Delta, Romania  
Link: <http://www.zooparaz.net/ttp10/>  
Theme: Taxonomy and evolution, genetics and genomics, ecology and epidemiology, spatial modelling, diagnosis and treatment, immunity and vaccines, infection and pathogenesis



## 4th International Congress on Parasites of Wildlife

Date: September 11-15, 2022  
Location: Kruger National Park, South Africa  
Link: <http://savetcon.savetcon.co.za/icpow2022/>  
Theme: Wildlife Parasites



## XXI Congresso Brasileiro de Parasitologia Veterinária

Date: October 19-21, 2022  
Location: Ilhéus-Bahia, Brazil  
Link: <https://congressocbpv.com.br/>  
Theme: Biology, Epidemiology and Perspectives on the Control of Parasites in Production Animals, Company Animals and Wild Animals. Resistance of Ecto and Endoparasites to Antiparasitics. Veterinary Protozoology and Vector borne disease. Diagnosis of Domestic Animal Parasites and the Impact of these on Animal Health



## 29th WAAVP Conference

Date: August 20-24, 2023  
Location: Chennai, India  
Link: <https://waavp2023.com/>  
Theme: Parasites: global impacts, local solutions

# NEWS AND NOTICES

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF VETERINARY  
 PARASITOLOGY



## Young Parasitologists Awards

Don't miss the chance to present the results of your research to an international scientific community and try to win one of the 10 awards of 500€ each dedicated to young members of the society at the 32nd National Congress of the Italian Society of Parasitology, which will be held in Naples from June 27th to 30th. Visit the website of the congress to know more (Submission deadline: 10/04/2022).



## WAAVP Social Network

@worldparasitology  
 @worldparasitology



Follow our social network accounts and share your pictures about lab life, job opportunities, work and parasites with hashtag #worldparasitology



# WAAVP INFORMATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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PARASITOLOGY

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## WAAVP Newsletter submission deadlines

The WAAVP Newsletter is published twice a year with issues in April and November. Contributions to the Newsletter are welcome and should be submitted by the first day of the month prior to issue, as follows:

### Newsletter release dates

1st November 2022  
1st April 2023

### Submission deadlines

1st October 2022  
1st March 2023

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