

TBAALAS



Fall 2018

The President's Message



Hello all! Welcome to Fall temperatures!

Our Program Chair, Mona Jaffari and her Co-Chair, Dr. Becky Blackwood have been hard at work preparing for our [annual conference](#) at the Sheraton Arlington Hotel February 20-22, 2019. Registration will open soon. Congratulations to **Stacy LeBlanc** for submitting the winning entry for the logo contest!! We have extended the abstract submission deadline to October 26th to give everyone a little more time to submit a poster or presentation abstract. [Awards Nominations](#) are due November 6th, so please nominate your hard-working, deserving animal technicians, managers, and veterinarians for one of our awards. I am excited to announce that we are offering the [AR review course](#) taught by Diana Baumann, from the Stowers Institute, on Wednesday, February 20th, for those of you preparing for your CMAR exam! Our social event on Wednesday evening is planned at [Texas Live!](#) which will be a blast! I hope you will make plans to attend, do a talk, or present a poster.

You can also get involved by joining one of our committees or other volunteer opportunities. *Speaking of committees*, we are still looking for Co-chairs for Nominations/Elections, and Publications. We also need a Historian Chair-person to manage the TBAALAS archives and preserve our history for the future. Another way to get involved with TBAALAS is to volunteer to assist with the AREA program at our annual meeting, participate on the Awards Committee judging nomination packets in advance of the meeting; judge posters and presentations at the meeting, or fill a volunteer slot at the Silent Auction or the Registration Booth. In addition, our Metro Coordinators can always use ideas and assistance with planning activities for TBAALAS members in their area. Happy Halloween and have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends in November! Please contact me or any of the board members to become involved in our wonderful organization. Also remember to check our [website](#), email blasts and [Facebook page](#) regularly for updates on activities throughout the year.

Sincerely,
Karen

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About The Cover

Xenopus is a genus of African frogs that are commonly known as the African clawed frogs. Two species of Xenopus are regularly used by biologists, Xenopus laevis and Xenopus tropicalis. Both species are fully aquatic, and are easy to maintain in captivity. Xenopus are an invaluable tool to study vertebrate embryology and development, basic cell and molecular biology, genomics, neurobiology and toxicology and to model human diseases

Interested in Outreach?

**Going to the 2019
TBAALAS Meeting?**

**Volunteer for the AREA
Program!**



We are looking for an enthusiastic bunch of individuals to help serve as tour guides and speakers at this upcoming year's Animal Research Education and Awareness (AREA) Program on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 from 9am - 2pm.

This event helps introduce high school students to Laboratory Animal Science. We will need about 3-4 speakers to talk about different career paths and/or any interesting progresses made at your institution. There will also need to be about 4-5 volunteers to help chaperone the students in the vendor hall for a scavenger hunt.

Lunch will be provided for volunteers and speakers!

Please email Kelly Gale at kagale@mdanderson.org if you have any questions or want to sign up.

OUTREACH UPDATE

The Outreach Team recently attended the GirlStart Conference in Houston, Texas in September. During the day-long event students learned about the wide variety of animals in science and their importance. They also made their own enrichment and were also able to “train” their friends.

GirlStart is all about inspiring young girls to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics (STEM).



As many of us realize, Laboratory Animal Science is often an overlooked field in science and our outreach team is working to change that! If you would like to join the team and participate in outreach events please contact the Education and Training Chairs, Kelly Gale at kagale@mdanderson.org and Arturo Barrera at AMBarrera@mdanderson.org. They will be able to get you in contact with outreach representatives in your area.

THE OUTREACH TEAM WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR RECENTLY DONATED ITEMS:

**IO-SERV
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**ENVIGO
LAB SUPPLY**

LOMIR



Congratulations!!!! TBAALAS Members



**Keisha Roberts, RLATG,
Animal Resources Team Leader at UT
MD Anderson Cancer Center won the
National AALAS Technician of the year
in Baltimore!**



**John C. Donoaho, BS, CMAR
Assistant Director—Husbandry
Operations at UT Health won the
Purina-Lab Diet 2018 Technician of
the Year Award in Baltimore!**

**Oscar E. Sanchez, B.S.,
CMAR, RLATG. Vivarium
Facility Manager at University
of Texas at El Paso's
Laboratory Animal Resources
Center was awarded a schol-
arship to attend The Institute
for
Laboratory Animal Manage-
ment (ILAM) this spring.**

Way to represent Texas and TBAALAS!

Member Spotlight

April S McGee, RLAT



Facility: Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center – Laboratory Animal Resources Center

Job Title: Business Coordinator

Years in Lab Animal: 14 years

Education and Certifications: RLAT

Membership: Local? National? National AALAS and TBAALAS

How did you get into this field? By accident. A friend recommended me for the job when I desperately needed one. The AV gave me a shot.

What are your current interests in Lab Animal Science? From an administrative standpoint, keeping the office running smoothly

What do you like most about your job? Advocating for the animals

Who are/were your mentors? ? Dr. Scott Trasti, Aveline Hewetson, Melanie Craven

If you had the podium at a speech for public outreach in Animal Science, what would your message be? That the 3 RRR's be more encouraged, if not enforced when protocols and rules are written.

What are your career goals? I've recently changed positions to Business Coordinator in the LARC. I will likely retire from this position, but if something new and exciting was offered I would be willing to explore that offer

If you were not in your current position, what would you like to be? Can't really think of anything else I would rather be doing

What advice do you have for others in the field? Prepare for it to be an uphill battle, but the rewards can be great

What animals/pets do you have? 3 dogs

When you were a kid, what did you want to be? A foreign language interpreter

What is one thing that no one knows about you? I'm a pretty open book...maybe too open sometimes. Can't think of anything, except maybe the interpreter thing

Favorite movies? Princess Bride, Young Frankenstein

Favorite tv shows? Big Bang Theory, Queen of the South

Favorite foods: Clams in a white wine sauce. A super moist, not too sweet chocolate cake. Homemade spaghetti. Almost anything with green chili's in it

What are your hobbies: ATV riding. Golfing. Reading when I have a little extra time. Yard work spring/summer. Swimming and jet skiing

Favorite quote? "He who is cruel to animals becomes hard also in his dealings with men. We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals" -Immanuel Kant

What is one thing you don't like about your job? The politics in research

If you were the boss, what is one thing you would change/do differently? That is a very difficult question. I would like to say I would want to change the culture in our facility from one of general apathy, to one of a little more enthusiasm and hopefully more trust



TBAALAS

Nominations

The deadline is approaching for this year's awards. TBAALAS needs your submissions for the annual awards by **November 9th**. These awards recognize our outstanding people: our Animal Care Technicians, Animal Health Technologists, Trainers, Environmental Enrichment Technicians, Laboratory and Research Technicians, Supervisors, Managers, Clinical Veterinarians and Vendors. **PLEASE** take this opportunity to recognize and honor those people who provide amazing care for our animals!

Please fill out the electronic [nomination form](#)
Click [here for the criteria](#)

ATTENTION FUTURE SPONSORS

Did you know the TBAALAS Annual meeting is just around the corner? Do not miss your chance to support and be a part of our AMAZING organization. We have many sponsorship opportunities available and we will be sure to recognize you throughout the meeting for your contribution. Mark your Calendars now as Sponsorship Open Enrollment begins November 19th-January 7th

Contact Michelle Sager sager@bcm.edu or Monica Torres Monica.Torres3@bcm.edu for any questions or interest.

The Legislative Report

TBAALAS October 2018

Airlines fight effort to force them to carry lab animals

By David Grimm

Science Insider

A last-ditch attempt by biomedical science advocates to force airlines to transport nonhuman primates and other research animals appears to be facing stiff headwinds. Last week, four international carriers strongly urged the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to summarily reject a plea from a leading research advocacy organization to order the airlines to resume flying animals to research facilities around the world. The request is “misguided,” “far-fetched,” and contrary to laws that allow airlines to decide what kinds of cargo they will carry, the companies argued. DOT has not said how it will respond.

“The prohibition on the carriage of research animals will slow down the progress of essential and life-saving biomedical research that is necessary for drugs, treatments, cures, and the prevention of disease,” wrote Matthew Bailey, president of the National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR) in Washington, D.C., which filed

the **complaint** in August, in an email to *Science*. “It also violates several provisions of federal law.”

But Kathy Guillermo, a senior vice president at Norfolk, Virginia-based People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), which for years has been putting pressure on airlines to end these flights, calls NABR’s complaint “an act of desperation.” She doubts it will have any impact on airline policy. Top of Form

Commercial air carriers have increasingly refused to fly research animals for more than 2 decades. Animal rights groups in the United Kingdom first began campaigns in the 1990s, protesting at airports against the transport of monkeys and other nonhuman primates. PETA began its own offensive in the United States about 8 years ago, staging airport protests and asking its supporters to bombard airlines with calls and emails. “If you do research on nonhuman primates, it’s easier and cheaper to get these animals from places like China,” Guillermo says. “We wanted to shut off that supply line.”

The tactics appear to have worked. United Airlines, which stopped transporting research

animals in 2013, has stated it did so because it became the target of animal rights groups and was worried about the safety of its passengers. And one of the last holdouts—Russian carrier AirBridgeCargo—stopped transporting nonhuman primates in July, after 200,000 people emailed the company as part of a PETA campaign.

Today, almost every major airline has a policy against transporting nonhuman primates—and in most cases, any animals—for scientific research. Air France appears to be the lone exception, citing its strong support for biomedical research. Within the United States, labs and companies must transport nonhuman primates by truck, because airlines refuse to ship them domestically. In Spain’s Canary Islands, researchers in were forced to use **military planes** to get their lab mice. And last year, the Indian Ocean island nation of **Mauritius** began to invite researchers to come there to study its large population of macaques so that they wouldn’t have to deal with issues transporting the animals. (Guillermo says she knows of no cargo ships that transport nonhuman primates.)

The situation has made it

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harder and more costly to get these animals, as some suppliers now have to rely on chartered aircraft to import them, says Cindy Buckmaster, chair of the board of directors of Americans for Medical Progress, a nonprofit in Washington, D.C., that promotes the need for animals in labs. “Some people are being priced out of being able to do this work. Some is being outsourced to other countries, where they don’t have the same level of animal welfare regulation.”

Currently, more than 1700 U.S. National Institutes of Health grants rely on nonhuman primate research, according to the NABR complaint, which notes that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration often requires these animals be used in the testing of human drugs. Approximately 23,000 nonhuman research primates were imported to the United States in 2014, the last year for which figures are publicly available.

NABR’s complaint alleges that four air carriers—United, British Airways, China Southern Airlines, and Qatar Airways—“illegally discriminate” against customers who transport research animals because these companies transport the

same animals as pets and for zoos. NABR has called on DOT to investigate these companies, force them to resume transporting lab animals, and levy penalties against any commercial airline that does not lift its ban.

Several companies have joined the fray, including the Bar Harbor, Maine–based Jackson Laboratory, which supplies research mice to labs around the world. “Limited airline transport options have made it more challenging for the Jackson Laboratory to meet global demand for critical research resources,” the company wrote in a [document](#) uploaded to DOT’s website.

More than 8000 members of the public have also chimed in on the website, mostly in support of the bans. “Monkeys should never be torn from their families ... stuffed into the dark and terrifying cargo holds of commercial airplanes, and flown thousands of miles to certain suffering and death in laboratories,” wrote one commenter, Elaine St. Leger.

The four named airlines all contend that U.S. law allows them to refuse to transport any cargo they wish and that there is nothing discriminatory about their

policies. “None of the allegations has any legal merit,” wrote British Airways in its [response](#).

It’s unclear what will happen next. According to United’s [response](#), NABR filed a similar, but informal, complaint with DOT last year and the agency took no action. As for the current complaint, “DOT will determine [the] appropriate action to take after full review of the documents,” a spokesperson tells *Science*.

Bailey says he is hopeful “DOT will pursue and investigate” NABR’s complaint. His organization plans to respond to the airlines’ comments next week. “We stand ready to provide whatever additional information the agency needs.” PETA plans to file comments with DOT as well, Guillermo says, making arguments in favor of the airline bans.

Whatever happens, Buckmaster says, monkeys and other animals will be required for biomedical research for years to come. “The need for research animals doesn’t end just because people don’t want to fly them.”

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DC Circuit Court Affirms Denial of Primate Import Data to PETA

A unanimous decision by a three-judge panel of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld the denial of primate importation data to PETA. PETA requested primate importation data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in 2014. In response to PETA's FOIA request, the CDC notified ten affected importers, seven of which objected to the disclosure of the information to PETA. The CDC ultimately withheld information about the number of nonhuman primates in each shipment, the size of their crates, and the airline carrier used under Exemption 4 of the FOIA. FOIA Exemption 4 protects from disclosure "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential."

The CDC argued that disclosing the information to PETA would harm the importers, as information about the number of primates imported, the size of the crates and the airline carrier used is maintained by the importers as confidential and the release may result in competitive harm, including disruption of supply routes.

As NABR members know, animal

rights organizations, including PETA have long targeted airlines, in an attempt to pressure them into refusing to ship nonhuman primates for research. The Court of Appeals recognized the risks associated with shipment noting that "knowing in the abstract which airlines transport nonhuman primates is very different than knowing which importers have relationships with which airline carriers, and which airline carriers are willing to transport which species of nonhuman primate along which routes and from which countries."

The D.C. Circuit Court upheld CDC's denial of the information to PETA and the Court of Appeals has now also affirmed that decision.

This case highlights the importance of understanding the FOIA and its impact on research. NABR encourages all members to ensure they have a reviewed the FOIA Guide, [Responding to FOIA Requests: Facts and Resources](#), which was jointly produced by NABR, FASEB and SfN.

Please File Letters of Support for NABR DOT Complaint

As previously reported in our update, NABR has filed an [official complaint](#) with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding the refusal of major airlines to carry animals for the purpose of research. Opponents to animal research have now activated their grassroots networks and are flooding the docket with individual comments. Please help us show the DOT how critical this issue is to the future of biomedical research.

The importation of non-human primates (NHPs) for research into the U.S. has become problematic. Further, the transport of several other research species around the world has also become increasingly challenging. As a result, the research community is beginning to see increased costs and uncertainty about the future of research projects. However, without access to the appropriate models for medical research, the public stands to lose the most, as treatments for emerging public health crises may be delayed, discontinued, or moved to other countries. This issue was also featured on September 21 in *The Scientist*, in that article NABR President Matthew Bailey stated, "Unfortunately, opponents to animal research have engaged in tactics of harassment, protests, and public smear campaigns in an effort to end the transportation of vital research animals involved in health studies worldwide." *The Washington Times* has also posted an analysis of the research animal transportation issue: <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/oct/22/animal-rights-extremists-should-not-be-dictating/>.

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NABR strongly encourages research institutions to submit letters of support for NABR's complaint on the DOT docket which argues that airlines' refusal to ship research animals violates common carrier rules regarding discrimination of cargo. If you have not done so, please submit a letter either as an individual or institution. Instructions on how to access the docket can be downloaded here: <http://www.nabr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Instructions-for-Access-DOT-docket.docx>. NABR has also made a [template letter available](#) for download.

Please take a moment to file a personal [comment of support](#) or draft a letter on behalf of your organization.

The following organizations have currently filed comments in support of the complaint:

AAALAC International
AbbVie Inc.
Academy of Laboratory Animal Veterinary Technicians and Nurses
Agenda Resource Management
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science
American Association of Immunologists
American Brain Coalition
American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American College of Veterinary Pathologists
American Federation of Aviculture, Inc.
American Neurological Association
American Physiological Society

American Psychological Association
Americans for Medical Progress
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
The American Society of Andrology
American Society of Animal Science
American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology
American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners
American Society of Primatologists
American Veterinary Medical Association
Arizona State University School of Life Sciences
Associated Medical Schools of New York
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Primate Veterinarians
Association of Public and Land Grant Universities
Animal Health Institute
Axion Research Foundation
Basel Declaration Society
Baylor College of Medicine
BFC Israel
Bioculture (Mauritius) Ltd.
Bridge the Gap
Brown University
California Biomedical Research Association
Camarney S.L.U.
Cardiovascular Research Institute-UCSF Zebrafish Shared Facility
Carolina Center for Neurostimulation
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Coalition for the Life Sciences
College on Problems of Drug

Dependence
Columbia Center for Translational Immunology
Columbia University Institute of Comparative Medicine
Comparative Biosciences, Inc.
Cornell University
Council on Governmental Relations
Drexel University
Duke University Laboratory Animal Resources
Duquesne University
The Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center at Duke University
Ellegaard Gottingen Minipigs Envigo
European Animal Research Association
European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations
Federation of European Neuroscience Societies
GIRCOR
Harvard University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences Office of Animal Resources
Helsinki Institute of Life Science
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Janelia Research Campus
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association
Institutional Officials Consortium
International Mammalian Genome Society
International Society for Stem Cell Research
The Jackson Laboratory
JMC Welfare International Ltd.
Johns Hopkins University
International Society for Transgenic Technologies
Laboratory of Pharmacology and Toxicology

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Louisiana State University
The Mannheimer Foundation, Inc.
Massachusetts Society for Medical Research
The Max Planck Institute for Neuroscience
McLaughlin Research Institute for Biomedical Sciences
McLean Hospital
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Medical College of Wisconsin
Merck KGaA
The Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
Michigan State University
Musella Foundation
National Animal Interest Alliance
National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science
National Association of Veteran's Research and Education Foundations
National Primate Research Centers
The Neuropsychopharmacology Translational Research Unit of the Albacete General Hospital (Spain)
New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research
New York University
New York University School of Medicine
Northwest Association for Biomedical Research
Northwestern University
Noveprim Ltd.
Oregon Health & Science University
Partners Healthcare

Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research
The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
Pfizer Inc.
PreLabs, LLC
Research4life
RxGen
Scripps Research
Shriners Hospital for Children-Canada/McGill University
Sinclair Research
Sleep Research Society
Smithers Avanza Toxicology Services LLC
Society for Neuroscience
Society of Toxicology
States United for Biomedical Research
Taconic Biosciences
Texas Society for Biomedical Research
Tulane University
The Society of University Surgeons
Understanding Animal Research
Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Hawaii System
University of Houston Division of Research
University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Maryland School of Medicine
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota Research

Animal Resources
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center
The University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania Animal Welfare
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
University of Wisconsin-Madison Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Center
VetEquip Inc.
Wake Forest University
Washington Animal Research Network
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
Yale University
Zoological Association of America



Member Updates

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock held an all-day IACUC Basics Training on Oct 3 with Mary Lou James and a team of instructors. It was linked out to our Abilene facility, our Amarillo facility, and the El Paso Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. It was attended by LARC staff, IACUC members, PI's, and research staff from all four campuses listed above, as well as those from the Texas Tech University campus. In all, there was about 75 people in attendance.

A Message from the Membership Committee:

CONGRATULATIONS

to all of you who have recently become AALAS certified!



Baylor College of Medicine

Angie Conns-LAT

Demi Lugo-ALAT

Jermario Reynolds—LAT

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center - M.E. Keeling Center

Shannon Andrews -ALAT

Laura Smith -ALAT

Thomas Webb -ALAT

Patricia Wier -ALAT

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center—Houston

Justen Adams -LATG

Rebecca Aden -LAT

Angela Asch -LAT

Joseph Bates -LAT

Joy Coffield -ALAT

Brayan Delgado -LAT

Johanna Guio -LAT

Cynthia Lottinville -LAT

Maricela Miranda -ALAT

Pratik Raval -LAT

Lenore Wilbert -ALAT

Vernikka Woods -LATG

Michelle Yacovone -LATG

Each of our newly certified individuals receives a complimentary one-year TBAALAS membership!

If you've recently become certified, contact the membership committee:

Tocorra Reynolds, RALAT
tocarra.reynolds@bcm.edu
(863) 266-5700

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and TBAALAS have both contributed boats for the AALAS Foundation's 2018 "Set Sail with Laboratory Animal Science" Contest



**Title: The Cure
Owner: University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UT Health)
Decorator: Jamieson Greaver**

**Title: The Life Saver
Owner: TBAALAS
Decorators: . Kelly Gale, Arturo Barrera, Michelle Yacovone and Rita Steckler from UT MD Anderson Cancer Center**





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Or info@labdiet.com

www.pmi-lacc.com

Links

LOCATION	EMAIL	WEBSITE
TBAALAS Website		http://www.tbaalas.net
Program Chair, Mona Jaffari	mona.jaffari@bcm.edu	
Awards, Cindy Evans	cynthiae@bcm.edu	
Membership Chair, Tocarra Reynolds	tocarra.reynolds@bcm.edu	
TBAALAS Awards Website		http://www.tbaalas.net/page-364035
Homes for Animal Heroes	buckmast@bcm.edu	http://animalheroes.naiaonline.org/
Newsletter Editor	TBD	
Nature Magazine Legislative Report		https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-01324-7
HAH Virtual 5K		http://animalheroes.naiaonline.org/get-involved/2018-hfah-virtual-5k/

TBAALAS Board Meeting

TBAALAS Board Meeting, September 14, 11pm-2:00 pm – Sheraton Convention Center, Arlington, TX

In Attendance or Attended by Phone

Name	Role		Name	Role
Karen Guerra	President		Sheri Brodie	Secretary
Julie Roller	Board Member		Mona Jaffari	Program Chair
Chris Rogers	Local Arraignments		Paula Rigling	Conference Planner
Ryan Byrd	Past President		Adrienne Duran	President-Elect
Eli Rodriguez	Board Member		Jennifer Volkmann	Board Member
Keely McGrew	Board Member		Keisha Roberts	Membership Co-chair
Lindsay Holmes	D7 Trustee		Brittany Fransaw	TBR Chair
Cindy Evans	Awards Chair		Michelle Yacovone	Awards Co-chair
Michelle Sager	Sponsorship Chair			

Not In Attendance

Name	Role		Name	Role
Leticia McGuffey	Treasurer		Chris Southern	Alt. D&7 Trustee
Paulina Michaud	Commercial Liaison Chair		Brian Geyer	Commercial Liaison Co-chair
Lane Watkins	Parliamentarian		Nicole Monts De Oca	Legislative/TSBR
Tocarra Reynolds	Membership Chair		Angie Hitt	Nomination/Elections
Jayalisa Walker	Publications Chair		Cordelia Rasa	Webmaster Chair
John Donaho	Webmaster Co-chair		Rebecca Blackwood	Program Co-chair
Frankie Howell	Local Arraignments		Monica Torres	Sponsorship Co-chair
Kelly Gale	Ed/ Training Chair		Arturo Barrera	Ed/Training Co-chair
Ashley Pawelka	ALL Coordinator		Michelle Johnson	Metro-Coordinator Houston
DeShawn Thomas	Metro-Coordinator Galveston		Kim Hildreth	Metro-Coordinator San Antonio
Brittney Hubbard	Metro-Coordinator DFW		VelvetLee Finckbone	Metro-Coordinator Panhandle
Oscar Sanchez	Metro-Coordinator West Texas			

Vacant Positons

Historian Chair	Publications Co-chair
Nominations/Elections Co-chair	Metro-Coordinator Central

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm by Karen Guerra

A Quorum was confirmed

President Remarks – Karen Guerra – Thanked everyone for attending. Limited remarks since this was a meeting for planning the logistics of the February Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's report- Leticia McGuffey – No report

2019 Program– Mona Jaffari/Rebecca Blackwood – The logo contest closes on September 28th. Abstract submission is open. The hotel and meeting registration will open on Oct 15th.

2019 Local Arrangements- Chris Rogers/ Frankie Howell- A group is touring Texas Live after meeting as a possible site for the social event. They will know more after the Tour. They will be looking into a shuttle service. It is less than a mile from the hotel.

Trustee's report- Lindsay Holms/Chris Southern – Ohio House of Rep. passed a bill that states AALAS certifications are not acceptable like what Louisiana is trying to pass. These certifications cannot be part of the hiring process and not allowing you or the company promote the AALAS Certifications.

AF celebrate the mouse video contest.

Come to Baltimore

Committee reports:

Awards- Cindy Evans/Michelle Yacovone – Last week in September will send out a blast to submit for TBAALAS Awards (web blast).

Education/Training- Kelly Gale/ Arturo Barrera – They were sent 2 boats and both will be painted. One will be our official submission and one will be just for fun.

TBR- Courtney Fadis/ Brittany Fransaw – no report

Sponsorship –Michelle Sager/Monica Torres– Approving the items for sponsorship and will have that posted on the website and send dates for early enrollment. There was discussion regarding when to start asking for sponsorships. It was decided that we wait until after Nationals.

Commercial Liaison 2018– Paulina Michaud/ Bryan Geyer – Jennifer Volkman reported that Paulina has received 3-4 talks from the vendors. We will have Paulina and/or Bryan to ask for other vendor to see if they can get several more vendor talks. When will hotel and conference open up for registration? Information for logistics will be sent out earlier since it was sent out to late last year and made it confusing for the vendors. Cordelia sent out the vendor survey and once the survey is received they get a list of attendees. The commercial liaison will work with Cordelia to ensure that this survey out in a timely manner. The liaison will work with the program chairs to brainstorm ideas to ensure visitors attend the vendor hall.

Metro Coordinators: There was an event in Porter, and there was a trivia quest in Houston. Metro-coordinators are encouraged to let Cordelia and the Publications chair know what is being planned so it can be posted on the website and in the newsletter. They should also ensure that the Education/Training Chair is informed about what is going on in their area.

Publications-Jayalisa (Jay) Walker– Scott Buss retired and Matt stepped in to assist us with the newsletter. There is a new person that may be interested in working on the newsletter.

Webmaster – Cordelia Rasa/John Donaho- No report

Membership- Tocarra Reynolds/Keisha Roberts – There are 444 active members, lapsed members 244. They are working on a letter to send out to new members explain what their membership with TBAALAS provides them with. Some of the lapsed members are actually duplicates. Karen asked that they work with Cordelia to see why there are duplicate members.

Nominations/Elections- Angie Hitt – Jennifer reported for Angie - She needs more nominees for the upcoming Board elections (Secretary, President-elect, and two board member); she only has one nominee so far.

Legislative/TSBR- Nicole Monts De Oca, - Karen reported for her: TSBR has a meeting on Oct 11th. PETA currently has a job posting for infiltrators.

Historian– Vacant

Long range planning- Ryan Byrd – He has been working with Paula and the committee for 2020 and 2021 meetings Galveston and San Antonio could not accommodate us. San Marcus can accommodate us for 2020 and will return to Sugarland in 2021.

2020 location – San Marcus-Feb 18th – 20th- they are offering \$159 per night per room, \$20,000 food & beverage minimum. Ryan reached out to various groups to see if folks would attend. He found that there was a good response and that they would be able to send individual. Julie motioned to hold the conference in San Marcus, Sheri seconded, the motion carried.

2021 location - Sugarland Embassy Suites offered us 4 different weeks. The board elected for Feb 16-19th offering \$169.00 room rate. Ryan motion to accept this for the 2021 meeting, Adrienne second, the motion carried.

Parliamentarian- Lane Watkins – No Report

AALAS Learning Library- Ashley Pawelka - No Report

Old Business – none

New Business –

SOP awards – Change that it is kept with the webmaster not the secretary. Since Sheri will be out of town next week, Julie will send out for electronic vote.

Julie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ryan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:38pm

HAPPY-HOUR

Are you a member of Texas Branch AALAS or would like to be? Do you want to become more involved or have more opportunities for networking? Come join others from the Houston metro area for happy hour!

What?

TBAALAS—Houston Metro
Happy Hour!

When?

Friday, November 16th, 2018
5pm-9pm

Where?



2118 Lamar St. Houston, TX 77003

No need to sign up—Come as you are—We look forward to seeing you there!

Elected Officers - Board Members and Committee Chairs

President Karen Guerra, MBA, CMAR, RLATG, karen.guerra2@crl.com	Past President Ryan Byrd, LAT Ryan.Byrd@bcm.edu	Secretary Sheri Brodie, LATG, CMAR sbrodie@utmb.edu	Treasurer Leticia McGuffey leticiam@bcm.edu	President-Elect Adrienne Duran asferguson@mdanderson.org
Board Members Keely McGrew Keely.McGrew@crl.com	Jennifer Volkmann reilly@bcm.edu	Eli Rodriguez, RLATG eli.rodriguez@crl.com	Julie Roller Julie.Roller@UTSouthwestern.edu	District 7 Trustees Lindsay Holmes, LAT Lindsay.holmes@bcm.edu
Alt District 7 Trustee Chris Southern, LATG, CMAR Southern@bcm.edu	Commercial Liaison Paulina Michaud pmichaud@tecnoplastusa.com Brian Geyer bgeyer@tecnoplastusa.com	Parliamentarian Lane Watkins, RLATG L.watkins@mdanderson.org	Historian Chair VACANT	Legislative Nicole Monts De Oca, LATG Nicole.Montsdeoca@crl.com
Membership Tocarea Reynolds tocarra.reynolds@bcm.edu Keisha Roberts KSRoberts@mdanderson.org	Nominations/Elections Angie Hitt Angie.Hitt@BSWHealth.org	Publications Jayalisa Walker JLWalker1@mdanderson.org	Web Master Cordelia Rasa rasa@uthscsa.edu John Donaho John.C.Donaho@uth.tmc.edu	Technician Branch Rep. Brittany Fransaw brittany.fransaw@crl.com
Long Range Planning Ryan Byrd, LAT Ryan.Byrd@bcm.edu	Awards Cindy Evans cynthiae@bcm.edu Michelle Yacovone MEYacovone@mdanderson.org	Program 2019 Mona Jaffari Mona.Jaffari@bcm.edu Rebecca Blackwood Rebecca.Blackwood@bcm.edu	Local Arrangements Chris Rogers chris.rogers@envigo.com Frankie Howell franklyn.howell@utsouthwestern.edu	Sponsorships Michelle Sager Sager@bcm.edu Monica Torres monica.torres3@bcm.edu
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Metro Coordinators Dallas/Ft. Worth Brittney Hubbard Brittney.hubbard@utsouthwestern.edu	Metro Coordinators Texas Panhandle VelvetLee Finckbone, MS, RLAT velvetlee.finckbone@ttuhsc.edu	Metro Coordinators West Texas Oscar Sanchez, CMAR osanchez@utep.edu	TSBR Representative TBD	

We want to hear from you!

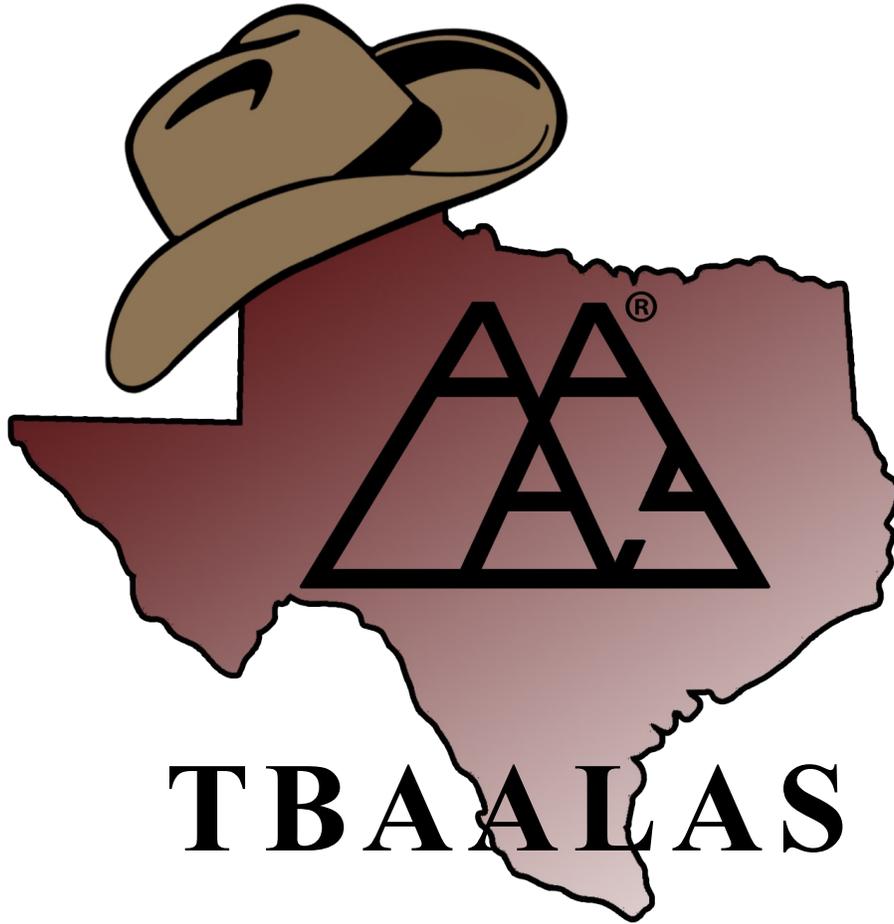
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Job Openings
Technician Tips
Showcase your pet
Anything you want to share with TBAALAS
Share a recipe, game or a fun fact

Email your Submissions to

Jayalisa Walker JLWalker1@mdanderson.org

The submission deadline for the next issue is December 15, 2018



TBAALAS

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