

Final CSAS Executive Meeting

July 12, 2009
Montreal, Quebec

Awards Report

By Luigi Faucitano

1. Undergraduate Award

As reported in the mid-year CSAS executive meeting, this award was given to students of 8 universities in the fall of 2008.

Starting from this year, this award consisting of a framed plaque, one year subscription to CJAS and one year CSAS membership will be enriched with a \$100 cheque. The Awards handbook has been modified accordingly.

2. Graduate student competition

The abstracts for graduate students oral and poster competitions at the annual meeting in Montreal have been evaluated by the Award committee members with the help of Dr. Chiquette, president of the CSAS executive committee. All abstracts were accepted, except one for the poster competition. There will be 22 oral presentations and 19 poster presentations that will be judged by the members of the Award committee (Luigi, Ermias and Nina) with the help of Dr. Schwartzkopf-Genswein, incoming president of the CSAS executive committee, replacing Ira Mandell.

The oral presentations are scheduled for the whole day of August 13th and will be made separately from the other presentations. The posters for the competition have been divided into two groups and will be displayed over two consecutive days (9 posters on July 13 and 10 posters on July 14). This procedure will reduce the work load for the judges and will allow sufficient time for the evaluation.

Similarly to last year, sponsors for these awards are Pfizer Animal Health (oral presentations) and CSAS (poster presentations). As last year, CSAS contribution replaces that expected from Novus International. Unfortunately, again this year it was impossible to communicate with the company representative to get a confirmation of support. A new sponsor should be identified.

3. Major Awards

The series of reminders to CSAS members and extension of the deadline by 2 weeks resulted in a higher number of nominees for the different awards compared to 2008. The proposed nominees for each award were distributed as follows:

- CSAS Fellowship Award: 2
- Excellence in Nutrition and Meat Science: 6
- Technical Innovation and Production of Safe Affordable Food: 3
- CSAS Animal Industries Award in Extension and Public Service: 5 (ruminants) and 2 (non-ruminants)
- Young Scientist: 3

Sponsorship for all major awards in 2009 was confirmed. However, due to lack of nominees for the CSAS Animal Industries Award in Extension and Public Service (non-ruminants) in 2008, the request for financial contribution was not renewed to the Canadian Pork Council and Chicken Farmers of Canada this year as last year cheques will be used.

4. Honorary Life Membership

AIC (through Ermias) sent me a list of 14 retired members from which to choose the 2009 Honorary Life Membership recipient. Due to lack of time, the recipient has been chosen after consultation with Johanne Chiquette, president of the CSAS executive committee.

Suggested changes to the CSAS major awards

Changes in the Awards Handbook

- As requested by the executive committee at the mid-year meeting, the confirmation of sponsorship will be requested by official letter rather than by email.
- Similarly, at the end of the annual meeting sponsors must be thanked for their support and be given details of the award recipient and a justification of his/her selection by official letter rather than by email.

Changes in the CSAS website

- According to the CSAS handbook the recipients of CSAS fellowships are ineligible for lesser awards. This important information is missing in the description of the Extension and Public Service award description in the CSAS website. For this reason one nominee was not retained this year. To avoid frustrations for the nominators, this information must be added.
- A note requiring to submit nominees' documentation in electronic format only should be added in the instructions for nominators. This would allow an easier documents' distribution through the evaluating committee and would unnecessary frustrations for the nominators.

Respectfully submitted,

Luigi Faucitano
2009 CSAS Award Committee Chair