Winter Meeting will be hosted at Meharry Jan. 24, 2020. More information to come!

We’re in need of a new President Elect! If you, or anyone you know, is interested, please contact Chris Stokely. stokelyc@etsu.edu

Lets talk about BRAD!

BRAD is a program of Americans for Medical Progress // bradglobal.org
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jeremy.m.parker@vumc.org

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(615) 322-2231
katherine.shuster@vumc.org

Dr. Carlos Virgous Meharry Medical College
(615)327-6070
cvirgous@mmc.edu

Avi Barlatier VUMC
aviceen.barlatier@vanderbilt.edu

Technician Branch Representative
Donna LeMay, RLAT VUMC
donna.m.lemay@vumc.org

Webmaster
Jennie Hoard East TN State University
(423) 439-8819
hoard@etsu.edu

Newsletter Editor
Lindsey Benefield VUMC
Lindsey.m.benefield@vanderbilt.edu

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February

Keep an eye out for the Winter Meeting updates and registration!
Presidents Page

President
Jeremy Parker, RLATG VUMC
(615) 322-9437
jeremy.m.parker@vumc.org
As we head into the final days of the year, I think back to what a busy but great year we have had here in DLAR. We were able to get our immunocompromised mouse housing room going, we had very positive site visits from AAALAC and ORO, and we have made the switch to a new software system. Dr. Hanley, Chris, Antoinette, and I were able to attend the National Meeting in Denver, where we were able to get up to date on all of the latest info and products, as well as enjoy such a beautiful location. We also had a couple of great Branch meetings, too!

We are looking forward to another exciting and productive year at ETSU, and want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Happy Holidays from VUMC! We’ve had another great year here at Vanderbilt and ready to see what the new year brings. Our IACUC inspection is just around the corner, shortly followed by a visit from AAALAC. So we are busy, busy, busy! We’ve said farewell to Dr. Ken Salleng and thank him for everything he has done for us, and wish him the best.

We can’t wait to see everybody at the next meeting here in Nashville at Meharry!
Happy Holidays from Meharry Medical College. We are looking forward to 2020. We want to remind everyone that January 24, 2020, we will be hosting our next branch meeting. Save the date and more information will be forthcoming.
**BRAD: Biomedical Research Awareness Day**

**What?** A day to honor, raise awareness of, and pledge support for animals needed for biomedical research.

**When?** Thursday, April 16th, 2020

**Where?** Veterinary, medical, veterinary technician and K-12 schools, research institutions, companies, associations, veterinary hospitals, and more around the world!

**Why?** To educate people about the vital role animals play in the development of new treatments and cures for people and animals, highlight careers in biomedical research, and promote support for the compassionate care of animals needed for research.

**How?** Your institution can collaborate with Americans for Medical Progress (AMP) to tailor the event to your audience. The day (or several days!) can be as simple as a table with information on animals in biomedical research or full of activities, seminars, and tours. You can even move the date to work around activities happening at your institution. This is YOUR event and AMP is here to support you with planning, materials, and any other logistics.
BRAD is a program of Americans for Medical Progress (AMP). AMP provides accurate and incisive information to foster a balanced public debate on the animal research issue, ensuring that among the voices heard are those whose lives have been touched by research and those who work in the field. Through various specialty publications, outreach initiatives and the media, AMP informs the public of the facts of animal-based research. AMP also distributes timely and relevant news, information and analysis about animal rights extremism to the research community through its news service.
BRAD is an international outreach program led by the advocacy group Americans for Medical Progress (AMP). Its goal is to increase public awareness about the role of animals in biomedical research and the resulting medical advancements that benefit both humans and animals. BRAD is officially celebrated annually on the third Thursday in April. It seeks to highlight the tremendous importance of animal studies and the commitment of research organizations to providing excellent animal care. It was also designed to build a community of research advocates and highlight careers in biomedical research and laboratory animal care and medicine.

The new BRAD Regional Champions Program recently launched and allows individuals to not only bring BRAD to their home institution, but to serve as program ambassadors who will help launch BRAD at other organizations, veterinary clinics, and schools in their region. If you are interested in taking part, email BRAD@amprogress.org.

We would like to thank our BRAD Sponsors and Partners: **Include the logos for the following**

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TBR Corner!

Hello Appalachian Branch members! Are you cold enough yet? Quite the winter welcome lately with the weather! I hope everyone stays safe in this cold! Please be careful out there!

Let’s talk about the national level things happening right now!

Christmas is here and if you need any last minute presents, let your shopping help out AALAS!! What an awesome way to donate!!!

If you consider shopping on Amazon.com, they will donate a portion of your purchases to the AALAS Foundation!!!! That’s great so let’s go shopping! [https://smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

AALAS is celebrating the pig!!! They are playing an amazing role in transplant research! Vanderbilt is fortunate enough to be a part of this amazing research. Only a few more weeks are remaining to order your pin now. For every donor making a $10 online donation to the AALAS Foundation, between now and December 31, 2019, will receive one “celebrate the pig” lapel pin.

($20 donation = 2 pins, etc.) Click the link to make your donation.


Help us celebrate the pig and it’s role in organ transplant!

Don’t forget to encourage a student you may know, to enter into the 2019 Celebrate the mouse, biomedical research video essay contest! The deadline to enter is January 31, 2020!

The contest is open to students in grades five through 12. Lots of cash prizes and trophies to be won! Although not a requirement, we would love to see more entries this year from students with relatives working in the laboratory animal field! Click the link below for more details and how to enter the contest!


You can be a part of the LASPRO magazine in 2020!!!

Think about setting a goal to submit an article to LASPRO next year! Learn more about info for the authors page.

[http://ed.gr/bz96d](http://ed.gr/bz96d)

Just a reminder that the AALAS store will be closed for inventory and will reopen on January 2, 2020!

Webinars are coming up! Check them out here!!! And if you missed a webinar, be sure to check out the webinar recordings available through the AALAS Store. Train when it is convenient for you. [http://ed.gr/bz930](http://ed.gr/bz930)
Upcoming titles are

Barbering and ulcerative dermatitis: myths, management, and welfare. January 14 at 12 PM central time.

Proper perioperative procedures: do they really matter? February 27, at 12 PM central time.

Do you need resources for staff training? Please remember to check out the Training Shorts and Webinar Recordings in our Group training resource section of the AALAS store.

http://ed.gr/bokup

Do you know about GLAS???

Grants for Laboratory Animal Science provides competitive, short term research grants in the laboratory animal science field. Current members are invited to apply for one year grants up to 50,000$ for a standard grant or $7500 for a small grant. The grant submission deadline is 11:59 PM central time, February 1 of each year, and notifications of awards are sent by May 15.

Please check out this site from information.  http://ed.gr/bz93k

TECH week is coming up soon!!! 2020

“You Are The Shining Stars!!!!” http://ed.gr/bz94w

And Now...the local news!!

The 2020 Winter Branch meeting will take place on **January 24, 2020** at ** Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN.** More information will follow as we get closer to the meeting date.

Our branch offers the Steven D Blevins National AALAS Meeting travel award. This is a $1000.00 award that is given to cover travel expenses for a deserving candidate to attend the National AALAS convention. We were fortunate to send 2 branch members to last years National AALAS meeting. Applications are accepted until May 31st of each year. This is a great opportunity to attend the national meeting! This upcoming year it will be held October 25-29th at Charlotte, NC! Tell our awards committee, in an essay why you would like to attend and apply for the national travel award! This is an amazing opportunity!! Check our branch website at http://www.appaalas.org to find out more about the travel award and access to all the great info we have to offer!!
I would like to reach out to members of the different institutions of the Appalachian Branch. I would love some participation from you for our Spotlight section. Let me introduce you in our next newsletter! Remember that we welcome your input for the Colleague corner. Do you know a coworker you would like to recognize? Or maybe you would like to introduce yourself to the branch? Let us do a feature spotlight and say hello! Just email me a name and email address, and I will do the rest! How about sharing some interesting tech tips? We are all looking for ways to work smarter! Why not share with us?! Need information about AALAS certifications?...Submitting a nomination for an award?...Want help with a talk topic or submission?...Need help navigating the Learning Library? Let me assist you with the answers to these questions and more. I am your Branch representative and I am here to help you any way I can. My email address is below and I am just a click away!

Please feel free to reach out to our new Newsletter editor Lindsey Benefield as well! She is doing an awesome job as our new editor!!

Lindsey.m.benefield@vumc.org

Thank you all for taking the time to get the latest news about AALAS and reading the TBR corner! I look forward to seeing everyone at the winter meetings!!

Have a great New Year!

Donna

Donna.m.lemay@VUMC.org
Two Thumbs Up

Do you have someone who has achieved a goal, won an award, or deserves recognition? We want our members to hear about it!

The technician certification designations of ALAT, LAT, LATG are widely known throughout the varied fields of laboratory animal care. They care universally becoming a requirement for a lab animal care position.

For complete program information, download the Technician Certification Handbook. The handbook contain everything you need to know about application and testing procedures, qualification criteria, exam fees, and many other topics, and should be retained for use as a reference during the application process.

Passing an AALAS certification exam at any level entitles you to one free year of membership in the Appalachian Branch of AALAS. Attach a copy of your certificate to your membership application and send no monies.
This past October I attended the 70th annual AALAS National Meeting in Denver, Colorado. This was the first national meeting that I have been able to attend. I was able to attend this meeting because I was one of the recipients of the Steven D. Blevins National Travel Award. For those of you that are unaware, the Appalachian Branch of AALAS awards to one or two individuals the Steven D. Blevins National Travel Award every year. The award is in the amount of $1,000 and is to be used to help cover the cost of attending the AALAS National Meeting. There are a few requirements an individual has to meet to be eligible to receive the award, and you can find out more about those by visiting our Branch’s website. For 2020 the AALAS National Meeting will be in Charlotte, North Carolina, and I encourage everyone to apply for the travel award when the time comes to do so.

While at the National meeting I was fortunate enough to attend the Emergent Leadership Forum (formerly known as the Leadership Academy). The Emergent Leadership Forum is a one day workshop that focuses on preparing individuals for leadership positions at the branch and national levels of AALAS. The workshop consists of multiple speakers giving talks on the history of AALAS, information on the AALAS structure, volunteerism, leadership style, and how to function as a board or committee member at the branch and national levels. Out of all the events I attended at the national meeting this was what I enjoyed the most. I learned a lot of valuable information and met people from all the different branches and districts of AALAS. I would highly recommend anyone attending future national meetings to take part in this event. There is so much information presented that there is no way you can walk away without having learned something.

Another thing I enjoyed at the national meeting was the exhibit hall. The exhibit hall is where all the lab animal science vendors showcase their products and give away free promotional items. I spent a decent amount of time in the exhibit hall partially because I took part in the Technician Fun Fair. The Technician Fun Fair is a game that allows you to interact with the different vendors and earn Continuing Education Units. I would highly encourage anyone who is attending national meetings to take part in this. Not only is it an easy way to earn Continuing Education Units but it also allows you to interact with many people and see the new developments in lab animal science products.

I truly enjoyed going to the AALAS National Meeting. The experiences I had and people that I met not only assured but reaffirmed that I have chosen to establish my career in the right field. I would like to thank the Branch for choosing me to be one of the recipients of the Steven D. Blevins National Travel Award. I would also like to thank my supervisors Dr. Greg Hanley and Jennie Hoard for encouraging me to apply for the travel award. If it were not for the support of the Branch and my supervisors I would not have been able to attend my first national meeting. Again, I encourage anyone who has a desire to attend an AALAS National Meeting to apply for the travel award. If anyone has questions or concerns about the travel award feel free to reach out to me anytime.

Chris Stokely
Appalachian Branch of AALAS
Secretary/Treasurer

Appalachian Branch American Association of Laboratory Animal Science www.appaalas.org
The 2020 meeting will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S College St, Charlotte, NC 28202, U.S. from October 25-29, 2020. The Spotlight Forum will be announced soon.

Exhibit Hall Hours

- Monday, October 26, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. (8:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to open the Exhibit Hall)
- Tuesday, October 27, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 28, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
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DEADLINE for listing in the annual directory is February 28. Please return a copy of this application and a check payable to The Appalachian Branch of AALAS to:
Christopher Stokely
P.O. Box 70418
Johnson City, TN 37614

If you pay via PayPal, you may email a copy of this application to: stokelyc@etsu.edu
Membership is easy

The Appalachian Branch of AALAS is a not-for-profit educational 501(c)3 association, chartered under the laws of the State of Tennessee. The Appalachian Branch is affiliated with the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS™) and is one of five Branches in AALAS District IV. We are dedicated to the advancement of laboratory animal science primarily through education, training, and information exchange. The ultimate goal being the improvement of both human and animal health. In concert with this aim is the enhancement and development of the careers of our technicians, and recognizing their achievement via our awards program.

Appalachian Branch American Association for Laboratory Animal Science www.appaalas.org 23

The Appalachian Branch of AALAS has several individual, institutional, and commercial members worldwide. We are geographically located in middle and east Tennessee, covering Nashville to Knoxville, and the Tri-Cities. Membership is not regionally restricted and anyone professionally involved with the production, care, and study of laboratory animals is welcome to join. You'll find both the individual membership and the corporate membership applications in this newsletter or on our web pages. Come and join us, you'll be glad you did!

Appalachian Branch American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual dues include a quarterly newsletter subscription and free registration to Branch meetings. Check one:

Individual Membership: $15.00/year _______ Student Membership: $10.00/year _______

Institutional Membership: $150.00/year _______

for 12 persons, attach correspondence information (as below) for each member

Complimentary: Have you passed an AALAS Certification exam at any level this year? Then you get one free year of membership, compliments of the Appalachian Branch. Attach a copy of your certificate to this form and send no money.

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