IUIS
Veterinary Immunology Committee (VIC)
Mission and Objectives:
To enhance the profile of veterinary immunology through international knowledge exchange and outreach activities that support research into animal diseases and vaccine development for the benefit of global communities.

- In a context of global change, all living organisms share fluctuating environmental pressures and the One health initiative should give us a highly relevant umbrella to collaborate with human immunologists in the frame of IUIS and of its various committees.

- Combining fundamental immunology and genomics will help to better understand and predict disease resistance and vaccine responses and will contribute to improve sustainable practices in farm systems: a way toward systems immunology and systems vaccinology.

- We have to foster fundamental research in immunology and in host-pathogens interactions, as well as large scale studies to investigate individual response variabilities.
The activities and goals are to:

- Promote veterinary immunology globally
- Support veterinary immunology initiatives
- Support young researchers in the field
- Assist with the planning and funding of the International Veterinary Immunology Symposia (IVIS)
- Sponsor and support regional workshops and conferences
- Support the development of a toolkit of veterinary immunological reagents
- Coordinate databases and resources containing information of interest to veterinary immunologists (VIC Toolkit and VIC MHC)
- Administer the Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist (DVI) Award
International Course on bovine and porcine immunology

- Location: Buenos Aires at INTA facilities
- Dates: May 2020
- Organizers: Claudia Mongini, Marie Montoya, Patricia Zamora
- IVIS funding support: 3500 $

Pre-meeting course on systems immunology

- Location: Buenos Aires
- Dates: November 2020
- Organizers: Alejandra Capozzo, Eduardo Mortola,
  - Argentinean Association for Veterinary Immunology (AAVI)
  - Latin American Veterinary Immunology network
- Remote conference: theoretical lectures for 100 attendees and a practical workshop for 25 people
- IVIS funding support: 2000 $
European Veterinary Immunology Workshop (EVIW)

- Location: Belgrade
- Dates: August 29-31, 2021
- Organizers: Gregers Jungersen (Denmark), Isabelle Schwartz-Cornil (France)
- Local chair of the organizing committee: Milica Kovačević Filipović (Serbia)
- Contribution to six travel awards
- IVIS funding support: 3000 $
Activities

Resources and toolkits

Publication of two articles in 2020

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Activities

Steering committee
- Sven Parsons (SA), Chair
- Claire Rogel-Gaillard (FR), Co-Chair

Scientific committee
- Christine Maritz-Olivier (SA), Chair
- Alejandra Capozzo (ARG), Co-Chair

PCO: Savetcon, South Africa
- Corné Engelbrecht
- Deposit payment for event management services: 550 $

Links with IUIS conference
- IVIS: satellite meeting
- One week before

Expenses in 2020

- Deposit payment for IVIS 2022 [$ 550]
- Pre-meeting course on systems immunology (AAVI) [$ 2000]
- VIC EVIW Bulgaria in 2021 [$ 3000]
- Porcine and bovine immunology course (postponed to 2021) [$ 3500]
- Remaining budget for 2021 [$ 10138,33]
Opportunities and Challenges

Opportunities

− Supporting establishment of a veterinary immunology network in South Africa under the auspices of the South African Immunology Society
− Maintaining strong relationships with global funders (BMGF) and networks (STAR-IDAZ, IVVN)
− Special Topics in Frontiers in Immunology, papers written by VIC members
− Offering webinars on hot topics in the field of veterinary immunology
− Co-ordination/provision of education resources for veterinary immunology
− Supporting the development of community databases (reagents, MHC)
− Working more closely with other IUIS Committees
− Planning IVIS 2022 as a satellite meeting of IUIS conference

Challenges

− Finding the appropriate format for IVIS 2022: in person, face to face or hybrid
− Efficiently advertising on IVIS 2022 to ensure a large audience
− Finding mechanisms to sustain online global veterinary immunology databases that serve the community (immunological reagents, MHC) – relates to the importance of the relationships we build