

WASHINGTON BRANCH AALAS



WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK

2021 EDUCATIONAL TRADE FAIR

With the pandemic keeping us from meeting in person these past couple of years, we have struggled to provide the same opportunities for engagement that we have in the past.

Last year we were unable to host our annual Educational Trade Fair. This year would we love to host a virtual event in the fall, but we need your feedback!

Would you attend a virtual trade fair?

Please fill out [this poll](#) to let us know and provide some additional suggestions/feedback.



Vendors!

Do you have ideas for what you would like to see from a virtual trade fair, or tips on what worked well from other virtual events you have attended?

Please email past_president@wbaalas.org with your feedback

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CATCHING UP WITH WBAALAS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR WBAALAS PRESIDENT



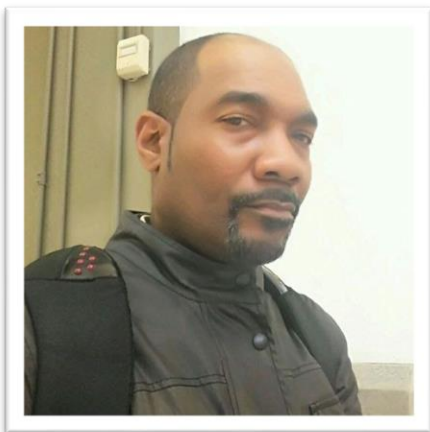
Young Researchers Shine at Tesla High

Dear Branch Members:

I would like to take this opportunity given to me by three young students of Tesla Stem High. They contacted me as they wanted support from our branch and needed me to assist in judging their Tesla STEM Expo. This was a great privilege and included such topics as “Effects of Political Post on Political Activism, Auditory Classical Conditioning of the Cockroach *Periplaneta americana* and Effects of Music Lyrics on Heart Rate and Exercise Performance. These were just a few of the interesting research projects conducted by so many of the Tesla youth.

On June 2, 2021, a live stream event took place from 6:00 – 7:30 PM and the students presented their topics in grand style! Dressed for the occasion, these youthful researchers took to the stage of zoom and gave dynamic intellectual performances along with outstanding explanations of their research! These young researchers gave hope for the future for all of us.

Yes, these youth could be involved in so many things, but they have chosen a field to help benefit mankind and animals as well. Our Branch is now a supporter of Tesla High through Bronze sponsorship. Therefore, all of you are supporters too! This is an opportunity to keep our youth encouraged and engaged and with the support of their Teachers, Parents, and the research community. It appears the future is so bright that the students of Tesla High will have to wear shades!



Tony G

2021 WBAALAS President



CATCHING UP WITH WBAALAS

MEET YOUR WBAALAS BOARD MEMBER

The sun is shining, and we are now in the middle of summer! I hope you are staying cool! This is the time for creativity and imagination. Let's take the inspiration that summer has to provide and bring it into our everyday life.

Hi, my name is Jonathan Montoya. I am one of the many board members for WBAALAS but I am so much more than that. I attended my undergrad at the University of New Mexico receiving a bachelor's degree in psychology as well as another bachelor's degree in sociology. I then moved up to beautiful Washington and received my master's degree in Social Work at the University of Washington. Pre-clinical research holds a spot in my heart while clinical work holds true to my soul. During my time in research, my primary focus was conducting neuromodulation approaches as well as research with small animals. I highly enjoyed working side by side with rats and mice as they have much to teach us.

Hobbies are my thing! Sometimes I feel like I have too many hobbies. Recently, I ran a 5k and went skydiving all in the same day. I love road trips and am enjoying the rain on the west coast. (We would get very little rain in New Mexico).

As a board member, I want to bring that passion of lab work to others. Please reach out to us at WBAALAS. We are here to help in any way we can.



CATCHING UP WITH DISTRICT 8

AALAS D8 TRUSTEE MESSAGE – SPRING 2021

Here in Portland, the days are finally getting longer, and I'm finding myself going home while it is still light out. The crocuses have come and gone, and I'm starting to greet my neighbors on the sidewalk again. But we're all in masks, which is a reminder that it has been just over a year since the global pandemic was declared. And while the death toll has been tragic, there is hope on the horizon as more and more people receive their COVID vaccines.

Your local AALAS branch has been hanging in there for the past year; if you haven't renewed your branch membership, now is the time. Many branches continue to offer monthly webinars and lecture series as they adhere to their commitment to uphold AALAS' mission of advancing responsible laboratory animal care and use to benefit people and animals. Please check your branch's newsletter or social media posts for upcoming events.

The AALAS national office has continued to be able to support the laboratory animal community, as I learned at the BOT Winter Session:

- AALAS's financial health is solid. Even though we finished 2020 with a deficit due to reduced income related to the pandemic, we were able to cover that deficit with a budget excess from 2019 and by participating in the federal Paycheck Protection Program. I'd like to express my appreciation for our Executive Director Dr. Ann Turner and the rest of the AALAS office for their dedication to ensuring the financial health of AALAS.
- AALAS membership also continues to be strong, having surpassed 15,000 members at the end of 2020.
- Looking for information on the latest LAS products and technology? Learn from 36 LAS industry experts at AALAS' first-ever [Demo Day](#). This free event takes place April 27-29. Each day will have a morning and afternoon session. Sessions will run from 10 AM CT to Noon CT and then from 1 PM CT until 3 PM CT on each of the three days. Experts in the field will present information in 15-minute segments followed by a 5 minute Q&A where attendees can ask questions and interact with presenters.
- The BOT Liaisons for each standing committee summarized their committee's recent activities and ongoing goals. Everyone has been busy! The BOT approved the proposed 2022 Chairs for these committees, as well as the Vice-Chair for the 2022 National Meeting Program Committee.
- The BOT approved a motion to waive the 2021 AALAS National Meeting registration for the winners of the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) Americas Regional Committee Travel Award. More information about this award is available [here](#).
- Speaking of the [2021 AALAS National Meeting](#), it is still scheduled to take place in Kansas City, Missouri. The meeting will be both virtual and on-site. The on-site registration will include the virtual platform. The topic submission deadline was March 15, but the platform presentation deadline is open until June 1. I will have an update after the BOT Summer Session, which is scheduled for early August. In the meantime, be on the lookout for announcements from AALAS as well as posts in the [AALAS Community Exchange \(ACE\)](#).

Please stay safe and well as we move into our second year of the pandemic. I'm sure that you share my hope that COVID-19 case counts, hospitalizations, and deaths decline as vaccinations increase. If all goes well, perhaps we'll meet up in person at the 72nd AALAS National Meeting in Kansas City, or at the 2022 District 8 Meeting next spring!

Best regards,



Tom Chatkupt, DVM He/him/his
Trustee, AALAS District 8

CATCHING UP WITH NATIONAL

NATIONAL AALAS MEETING

2021 National Meeting

October 17-21, 2021

Kansas City Convention Center

301 West 13th Street

Kansas City, MO 64105



AALAS National Meeting

Each fall since 1950, the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science has held its annual National Meeting. During the five days of the meeting, members and nonmembers come together to enjoy the workshops, lectures, poster sessions, and exhibits. The program is designed to have topics relevant to the entire membership. Exhibitors have an opportunity to interact with AALAS members from the academic community, research institutions, government organizations, and commercial companies. The AALAS National Meeting is the largest gathering in the world of professionals concerned with the production, care, and use of laboratory animals.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT AALAS.ORG](https://www.aalas.org)

Celebrate the Monkey!

The AALAS Foundation “Swing into Science” contest is on and WBAALAS is participating!

This year the University of Washington will be decorating our entry. Check the WBAALAS Facebook page to keep up to date on the progress and to vote from October 1st – October 20th

Do you want to enter the contest too?

Visit the [AALAS website](https://www.aalas.org) to enter



IN THE COMMUNITY

RUN for Research Awareness

 **REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

2021 RUN FOR RESEARCH AWARENESS

- Register as an individual
- Start or join a team
- Make a contribution



The 2021 Run for Research Awareness is a Homes for Animal Heroes fundraising event and raises much-needed program support to foster and rehome retired research dogs.

[Register or make a donation today](#)

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IN THE COMMUNITY



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GetReal! is a podcast by Cindy Buckmaster who has over 25 years of experience in the field. It covers issues that we face every day in the animal science community

Episode 5 - Addiction: a choice or a trap?

Is addiction a personal choice or a biological trap? Is it really possible for us to learn about this heartbreaking phenomenon with animal studies? Has research with animal studies ever actually led to an effective treatment for addiction?

Listen to the latest podcast episode to find out!



Visit getrealpodcast.info to learn more, subscribe to the podcast, and join the conversation!

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR FACEBOOK GROUP?



Send an email to secretary@WBAALAS.org with the email you used to sign up for facebook

You will receive an invite to join the group!

HeroRAT Update

Catching up with Carolina

**Welcome to the latest Impact Update for Carolina,
your adopted HeroRAT!**



April proved to be another busy month for Carolina and her clever nose! While sniffing through **1,730** samples, she detected an additional **40** cases of tuberculosis (TB) with an accuracy rate of **79%**.

Since the launch of APOPO TB detection program in Tanzania in 2007, HeroRATs have screened over **500,000** samples.

FUN IN THE SUN

Part of keeping Carolina happy and healthy is making sure that she has time to play outside in the sunshine and fresh air.



HeroRAT Update

Catching up with Carolina

APOPO TB PROGRAM ADDS A NEW PARTNER CLINIC



Dr. Georgies Mgone, Program Manager for APOPO TB Tanzania, announced a new partnership, launched April 12th, between APOPO and Kigogo Health Centre located in Dar es Salaam. This latest partnership will see HeroRATs like Carolina screening samples that may have undetected cases of tuberculosis.

Working alongside the Kigogo Health Centre staff, APOPO will enhance access to more patients as we widen our geographic coverage in the city. It is estimated that each case of tuberculosis caught and treated can prevent the spread of disease to up to 15 additional people.

Learn more about APOPO and HeroRATs at apopo.org



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HeroRAT Update

Catching up with Carolina

HERORATS HELPING OVERWHELMED CLINICS

With more countries taking the threat TB seriously, people have been better educated through campaigns and word of mouth. But this increase in awareness has had unintended consequences; local hospitals and clinics are now overwhelmed with suspected cases of TB. In many cases, these facilities lack both adequate staff and modern equipment to meet the needs for testing sputum samples.

It's because of these limitations that many sick people are misdiagnosed. That's where HeroRATs like Carolina are stepping in to help. After the HeroRATs indicate a TB-positive sample, the diagnosis is confirmed with World Health Organization endorsed methods. APOPO notifies the clinic within 24 hours so that patient can begin immediate treatment.



Dr. Joyce Mgohamweni, the Clinical Officer and District Tuberculosis and Leprosy Coordinator for Mbagala-Rangi Tatu District in Dar es Salaam, was skeptical when she heard that rats could help diagnose tuberculosis. But, over time, she saw that APOPO helped increased detection rates of clinics in Tanzania by 35%. That's over 10,000 people since 2011 who otherwise would probably have died without treatment.

"I was very sceptical about using rats at first. It sounded silly to me," said Dr. Mgohamweni. "But APOPO now account for a good percentage of our monthly TB results... What we must remember is that if people get correctly diagnosed on time, TB is entirely curable. I am grateful that APOPO are here supporting us."

[Read Dr. Mgohamweni's story here](#)

JOB BOARD

Lab Manager (Animal Science)

University of Washington

Seattle – This Lab Manager position involved working with non-human primates (~50%) and administrative work (~50%). Both are in the context of neuroscience experiments.

For more information, visit: <https://uw hires.admin.washington.edu>

Veterinarian (Head of Clinical Medicine, Surgery and Training)

Oregon Health and Science University

Portland - This position ensures the provision of veterinary care to all colony animals, development and oversight of preventative medicine programs, assists investigators with animal study model and experimental design development and oversight of medical, surgical and technical support to research scientists.

For more information, visit: <https://externalcareers-ohsu.icims.com/jobs>



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fees, benefits, and other perks!

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membership fees, benefits, and other perks!