



Laboratory Animal Scientists' Association (LASA), India

NEWSLETTER – April 2021

Greetings! from LASA, India

On the behalf of LASA-EC, I take this opportunity to connect with the all LASA members. We all faced challenging year 2020 and may continue to live in the pandemic situation for few more months. However, we are trying to overcome from the pandemic situations with various ways by following health and safety measures.

You are aware that we could not organize the annual conference and general body meeting due to pandemic during the year 2020. However, the Executive Committee members were working continuously to take up the LASA vision ahead. Considering the Covid-19 crisis, we had decided in the November 2020 EC meeting to postpone the scheduled LASACON2020 to year 2021. The decision was communicated to all LASA members via email as well as WhatsApp messages. Nevertheless, there are several progresses made by the Executive Committee and it is high time for the EC to update all the LASA members on the developments of LASA India.

Update on LASA and its activities

- During the lockdown period LASA organized at least 13 webinar series.
- LASA obtained AALAS Global Membership and provided free access to the AALAS online journals to benefit LASA members.
- Being a Global partner of AALAS, LASA members were offered free registration for the virtual conference. We had informed LASA members to attend AALAS 71st Virtual meeting for the benefit of lab animal professionals in the country.
- Postponed LASACON 2020 which was scheduled in the month of November 2020 at Hyderabad due to Covid-19 pandemic. With the prevailing situations, the EC members and the organizers could not finalize the next date as the Covid-19 is still rampant and has imposed several restrictions making the logistics very difficult. However, we have decided to host the LASACON 2021 and AGM tentatively in the month of August / September 2021 at Hyderabad.
- The LASA EC has agreed to financially support 02 regional workshops in the financial year 2020-21. These workshops were also postponed to 2021 due to COVID pandemic. LASA-EC has consented to carry forward the financial support to these workshops in the next financial year 2021-2022.
- Renewed ICLAS membership.
- Renewed AALAS Global Membership.
- ICLAM membership payment to International Association of Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine (IACLAM) was done.
- Became AAALAC Member Organization and we have nominated Dr. Sarita Jena to represent LASA India.
- Renewed FELASA "C" Certificate Course Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between LASA and TANUVAS.
- LASA EC approved to obtain AALAS e-library and promote ALAT, LAT and LATG certifications to promote the laboratory animal professionals in India. EC has approved to support of 1-2 eligible candidates financially (partial/full) who is aspiring to take Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT), Laboratory Animal Technician (LAT) and Laboratory Animal Technologist (LATG) online certification course from American Association of Laboratory Animal Science (Very soon LASA EC will prepare suitable guidelines for this purpose).



Accounts status (FY-2019-20)

A - The income of LASA includes	Rs.
1. By Membership	177,000/-
2. By Bank Interest	11,763/-
3. By Fixed Deposit Interest	175,586/-
4. By Profit From LASA Conference (Bengaluru and Pune)	1,730,685/-
Total	2,095,034/-

B - Expenditure	Rs.
1. To Conveyance & Travelling expenses of the speakers (Bengaluru and Pune)	570,458/-
2. To ICLAS Membership expenses	28,969/-
3. To two Workshops seed Money	50,000/-
4. To Event Management Fee Bangalore	170,000/-
5. To Professional Fees	11,800/-
6. To Website expenses	5,900/-
7. To Accounting charges	6,500/-
8. Miscellaneous	23,997/-
Total	8,67,624/-

C - Asset and property	Rs.
1. Fixed Deposit	25,29,663/-
2. GST Input Credit (To be received),	13,46,038/-

D - Cash in Banks	Rs. 5,10,654/-
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Audit of Income and Expenditure as well as Balance Sheet for the year ending March 2020 has been carried out. Auditors report, audited Income and Expenditure as well as Balance Sheet has been pasted on the LASA website under 'Accounts' at <http://lasaindia.in/accounts.php>.

Establishment of the Indian College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ICLAM)



- The process to establish ICLAM began after the formation of new LASA EC and approval of AGM in LASACON2019. The pre-conference workshop was organized in this direction during LASACON2019 at IISER Pune held on 21st November 2019 by inviting Diplomates from other member colleges of International Association of Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine (IACLAM) to make LASA community aware about ICLAM and other international colleges.
- LASA Secretary and President along with other EC members started drafting documents (By-laws, Role Delineation Document (RDD), Questionnaire etc.) necessary for the society registration and IACLAM membership by taking the inputs from international colleges as well as national associations.
- The documents were refined and finalized after e-mail circulation during March-June 2020 among all EC members based on the inputs and approval. In the EC virtual meeting held on dated 7th June 2020, final draft of the By-laws was deliberated and approved.
- The ICLAM Governing Council was framed with senior as well as young LASA EC members and eminent member from LASA.
- The documents for ICLAM registration were submitted to Office of the Society Registrar under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act. 1975 (Tamil Nadu Act 27 of 1975) in June 2020 and obtained necessary approvals.
- The ICLAM was under observer status since 2019. IACLAM announced the Full Membership to ICLAM during the IACLAM business meeting held in December 2020.
- LASA EC has framed format of CV to select the Founder Diplomate as per the Bye laws of ICLAM and this CV template was circulated to all the EC members with request to submit to Secretary, LASA for selection of ICLAM Founder Diplomates from EC members/ Governing Council of ICLAM. From the CV's of EC members / Governing Council of ICLAM, five members met the criteria as per Bye laws of this category of members and they have been selected for Founder Diplomate and conveyed to EC members. This information of Founder Diplomate selection by EC members is conveyed to LASA members through Newsletter as well as in the next AGM.
- The five Founding Members of ICLAM participated the IACLAM quarterly meeting held virtually in February 2021. However, the three ICLAM representatives (Dr Shakthi Devan, Secretary; Dr Arvind Ingle, President; and Dr Ramachandra, Registrar) will continue to attend the IACLAM quarterly business meeting in the future to update the progress of ICLAM.
- At present, ICLAM is the member college of IACLAM and officially joined the member colleges such as the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM), the European College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ECLAM), the Japanese College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (JCLAM), and the Korean College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (KCLAM).

- The constant support and guidance rendered to shape up the corner stone frameworks of the ICLAM establishment by the Diplomates that includes Dr Hilton Klein, Past President of IACLAM; Dr David Moore, Emeritus Assoc. Professor and former Associate VP for Research Compliance, Virginia Tech; Dr Angela King-Herbert, NIEHS, Vice President, ACLAM; Dr Miki Kurosawa, JCLAM (first past President of IACLAM) apart from Dr Patricia V Turner, President, WVA , Dr Michele Bailey, President, IACLAM and Dr Kazuo Yano, Secretary, IACLAM.
- The EC members will serve as regional representatives and coordinate with the Founder/ De- facto Diplomates to promote the certification programs by imparting the training of prospective Diplomates by collaborating with surrounding institutions as well as coordinated network with other regional centers in India.
- In this regard, the ICLAM executed MoU with the regional training centers such as Syngene, Bangalore; ACTREC, Navi Mumbai and TANUVAS, Chennai and other regional centers are also under the progress.
- LASA EC has approved to invite CV and applications in the format used for the selection of Founder Diplomates, to select De Facto Diplomates from the EC and LASA members.
- Applications received will be scrutinized by the Founding Diplomates as per ICLAM bylaws and accordingly De Facto Diplomates will be certified. Thereafter, their organizations will be identified as Regional Centers and MoU will be executed.
- The format for ICLAM website was designed and finalized after consensus among the EC members. The materials related to ICLAM GB, Byelaws, and RDD etc. has been pasted on the website for information of the members.
- The LASA-EC met virtually first in the month of June 2020, second in October 2020 and three time in the month of March 2021 to take stock of the association, ICLAM deliberation and necessary approvals (minutes of AGM 2019, June 2020 and October 2020 are pasted on LASA website).
- For more details, please visit the new website of ICLAM www.iclam.in (Website is still under development process).

About the International Association of Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine (IACLAM, USA)

The IACLAM brings together national and regional Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine. IACLAM includes member colleges like ACLAM, ECLAM, ICLAM, JCLAM, and KCLAM. Over 1300 diplomates from these five Colleges are representing internationally. IACLAM provides a common platform at the global level for communication, and representation of national and regional Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine and their Diplomates to advance the specialty of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Further information can be accessed at www.iacclam.org

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 www.lasaindia.in