

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2010 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **Fotini Athanasopoulou**, being a Full Member of the WAVMA, agree to be considered on an election ballot for the **Office of President Elect** 2010 Association year (January 1 – December 31), and offer the following information in support of this position.

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education: DVM, (Univ. of Thessaloniki, Greece 1981), Certificate in Veterinary Microbiology & Parasitology (Univ. of Thessaloniki, Greece -1983), MSc in Aquatic Veter. Medicine University of Stirling, Scotland, 1985), PhD in Fish parasitology/pathology (Univ. of Stirling, 1990).

Professional Memberships: Fish Veterinary Society, European Association of Fish Pathologists, RCVS, Hellenic Veterinary association, World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, WAVMA, Representative of Greek Consumers Association (fish products) (INKA) to the EEC.

Experience:

Lecturer, Univ. of Thessaloniki teaching fish diseases & Aquaculture at 3rd yr Veter. Medicine students (1981-84)
Research Fellow, University of Florida, Institute of Biomedical Aquatic Studies, Gainesville, USA. Project: on aquaculture and pathology of dolphin fish (*Coryphaena hippurus*) (1985-86).

Consultant to major and international fish farms in Greece dealing with health management of Mediterranean marine fish, salmonids, eels, cyprinids and sturgeon (1990- today)

Research Fellow, Univ. of Stirling, (1993). Research on treatment of sea lice with hydrogen peroxide.

Senior Researcher, National Agricultural research foundation, Greece (1997-2000). Research on fish diseases and hygiene of aquaculture products.

Professor of Fish Diseases and Ichthyology (2000-today) & Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece (2004-2010).

MSc (Aquaculture & Fish Diseases), course Director, Faculty of Veter. Medicine, Univ. of Thessaly (2005-today)

Scholarship for 6 month research in Canada by the OECD (1998)-research on therapy of protozoans in fish and lobsters, UPEI, and Nanaimo, Canada. Scholarship from the Greek National Foundation for postgraduate studies (1984-88)

Your vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role (only add text to fill the allotted space)

The need for the organisation is compounded by the demands from owners of companion aquatic animals, aquatic food species producers, industries such as aquaculture, and governments for veterinary assistance in aquatic animal health and welfare, public health and seafood safety. Having worked in most of these sectors (academic sector, industry, research) I have a broad understanding of the needs of veterinarians willing to work in then field of aquatic health and hygiene and I hope I can assist in solving problems, in providing consultations, in meeting demands from consumers and the industry and dealing with various issues that may rise from these sectors.

I am particularly interested in collaborating with other experts in order to create the framework of a correct and contemporary educational program of specialization in aquatic animal health for veterinarians worldwide and have worked hard to achieve this within European community being one of the main organizers of a potential European College of Aquatic animal health within the scope of EBVS. This I believe is a major issue, as education of veterinarians in aquatic animal health as well as the diagnosis of diseases of aquatic animals is not always in the hands of the profession. It is important to identify and certify centers of excellence of aquatic veterinary training so that interested vets can go and obtain a high standard of education whether this is vocational training, CEPD or a formal qualification (certificate, diploma, MSc, PhD).

Another important issue for me is the dissemination of knowledge, up to date information and achievements within various fields of aquatic animal medicine therefore I am willing to assist in creating a database /information centre within the association dealing with legislation, welfare issues for different species, medicines, alternative therapy methods, training, new research and disease aspects that can be available to any interested practicing vet worldwide.

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2010 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **Julius M Tepper** being a Full Member of the WAVMA, agree to be considered on an election ballot for the **Office of President-Elect** for the 2010 Association year (January 1 – December 31), and offer the following information in support of this position.

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education: Docteur en Medecine Veterinaire (DMV), Universite de Liege, Belgium

Professional Memberships: Founding member AAV, ARAV, WAVMA; member LIVMA, NYSVMS, AVMA, IAAAM

Experience: Director-at-Large of WAVMA since founding, Treasurer of IAAAM 2006-2009

Your vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role in this position

As our organisation was formed and has grown, I have had the opportunity to be an integral part of this development. I was responsible for the first draft of our bylaws, the first draft of our ethics document, the development and finalization of our logo and the organization of our AGM this year in Seattle. I would like to begin work on a project which has been received with enthusiasm by all those members I have discussed it with and which will culminate in the formation of an online Manual of Aquatic Veterinary Practice.

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2010 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **Dusan Palic**, being a Full Member of the WAVMA, agree to be considered on an election ballot for the Office of **Treasurer** for the 2010 Association year (January 1 – December 31), and offer the following information in support of this position.

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education: Dr. Vet. Med. (1997) and Mr. Sci. Vet. (2002), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Belgrade, Serbia), Ph. D. (2005), Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA

Professional Memberships: : American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Fish Veterinary Society (FVS), American Fisheries Society (AFS) Fish Health Section (FHS) and Iowa Chapter, International Association for Biologicals (IAB), International Society for Developmental and Comparative Immunology (ISDCI).

Experience: Assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at The College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University. Involved in aquatic veterinary medicine since 1992 with active research program in fish infectious diseases, immunology, and epidemiology. Participates in development of aquatic animal veterinary medicine internet modules for National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) for U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) accredited veterinarians. Participated in development and refinement of the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for aquatic animals. Teaching aquatic animal medicine course for veterinary students since 2001. WAVMA founding member and Executive board member since 2007. Executive board member for International Aquaculture Biosecurity Conference, Trondheim 2009. The listed activities demonstrate experience at the national and international level of aquatic veterinary medicine research and education and also with international issues, legislation and effects of disease occurrences on international trade in aquatic animals

Your vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role in this position

I have served as interim Director and Treasurer of the Association since January 2007, and I was involved in developing WAVMA's strategic plans, budget, banking and financial statements, and coordinate tax preparation for U.S. Internal Revenue Service as tax-exempt 501 c(6) entity. I want to contribute to the development and recognition of the veterinary profession in the area of aquatic animal medicine and help the veterinarians, government, industry and public to produce and keep healthy fish, and protect environment in the process.

Aquatic veterinary medicine is in need for organized representation worldwide. I think that my international experience and diverse education background can help the Association to serve the discipline of aquatic veterinary medicine in enhancing aquatic animal health and welfare, public health, and seafood safety in support of the veterinary profession, aquatic animal owners and industries, and other stakeholders.

As treasurer of the Association, I will continue to provide service in Executive Board meetings and contribute to forming policies to support the mission of the Association. As a founding member, I will work closely with executives and membership alike to establish modern organization, responsive to emerging issues in the rapidly changing world. Finally as an academic professional in the field of aquatic animal veterinary medicine, I will convey the message to the new coming generations of veterinarians: aquatic animal medicine needs veterinary presence, and we are here to help establish it.

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2010 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **Christopher I. Walster**, being a Full Member of the WAVMA agree to be considered on an election ballot for the Office of **Secretary** of the Association for 2010, and offer the following information in support of this position.

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education: Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVMS) Glasgow University (1983);
Master of Veterinary Public Health (2008)

Professional Memberships: Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), British Veterinary Association (BVA), Fish Veterinary Society (FVS), European Association of Fish Pathologists (EAFP), American Fisheries Society (AFS), Royal Society of Medicine (RSM).

Experience: Senior partner in 18-veterinarian, 7-centre companion animal practice. Involved in aquatic veterinary medicine since 1988 mainly in ornamental and coarse fisheries, working in the UK, Europe, Middle East and Asia. Since 1996 I have served on the committees of several veterinary organisations and non-veterinary organisations. Current interests include Koi Herpes Virus, the epidemiology of fish disease, public health issues and aquaculture and veterinary certification and auditing of aquaculture biosecurity programs.

The above provides experience at the national and international level of aquatic veterinary practice and also provides experience of international issues, legislation, veterinary education, the working of veterinary committees and organisations. Through being a Fellow of the RSM and the public health aspects of my work I have experience of the synergies and integration that occur between human and veterinary medicine.

You vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role in this position

Working with and communicating with colleagues around the world has left me with no doubt that there is a strong need for an international organisation representing aquatic veterinary medicine. Aquatic veterinary medicine is diverse and it is this very diversity which precludes colleagues from having a unified and influential voice that can be heard. The WAVMA can provide the forum to achieve this and one cannot disagree with the Mission and Purpose of the Association.

Having had the privilege of being involved not only in the Steering Committee but also through the interim directors in laying the foundations of the Association, I would hope that the membership will vote to continue to give me the opportunity of seeing the Association mature in to a respected, prominent and influential international veterinary organisation. I believe I have the time, experience, qualities and qualifications to help guide the Association towards this aim. At the same time, it is essential that the Association not only reflects its member's opinion but provides the democratic means to ensure that every member has the chance to voice their opinion in formulating Association policy and use of resources. The role of Secretary is not only keeping the records of the Association, but also ensuring that communication channels are established between the members, so as to ensure democracy, but also to provide a portal to those the Association would wish to influence, other stakeholders and industries involved or connected to aquatic veterinary medicine.

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2010 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **Peter Werkman**, being a Full Member of the WAVMA, agree to be considered on an election ballot for the Office of for the 2010 Association year (January 1 – December 31), and offer the following information in support of this position.

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education:

DVM State University Utrecht The Netherlands 1972,
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association: Certificate of Qualification 1972

Professional Memberships:

Royal Netherlands Veterinary Association (Koninklijke Nederlandse Maatschappij voor Diergeneeskunde); Fish Veterinary Society (UK); World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association

Experience:

Practitioner, private practice: large animals in The Netherlands 1972 - 1978
Practitioner, private practice: small animals and fish in The Netherlands 1978 - 2009
Practitioner, private practice: only fish (foodfish, petfish) The Netherlands 2009 - now

Experience with recirculating systems for foodfish: eels, tilapia, African catfish, English sole, turbot and petfish: marine and fresh water aquariums and ponds, goldfish, cichlids, koi and other species. 3 Weeks Malawi: helping with petfish export problems 2000, 2 days Lagos, Nigeria helping problems with African catfish 2007
Fish disease course 2 weeks University of Stirling (Scotland) 1984. Int. Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health, Baltimore (USA) 1984. Eastern Fish Health Baltimore (USA) 2006. Fish Veterinary Society 2 day meeting Fish Welfare Edinburgh (Scotland) 2004. WAVMA/WVA Annual Convention, Vancouver 2008.

Your vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role in this position

My intentions are helping to make the WAVMA better known to colleagues in my country and abroad.

I will try to stimulate veterinary schools and universities in Europe to start or improve education in aquatic medicine.

I will help to the best of my ability colleagues with questions concerning problems with foodfish and petfish or help to find answers elsewhere.

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2009 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **Paul Hardy-Smith**, being a Full Member of the WAVMA agree to be considered on an election ballot for the Office of **Director-At-Large** of the Association for 2009, and offer the following information in support of this position.

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education: Bachelor Veterinary Science (Honours) - University of Melbourne, Australia (1987); Graduate Diploma (Aquaculture) - Deakin University, Victoria (1995); Graduate - Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Professional Memberships: Member - Australian College of Veterinary Science (Aquatic Animal Health Chapter), 2006,

Experience:

State (Provincial) Government Veterinarian for Tasmanian Aquaculture industry 1995-1999,

Production veterinarian Heritage Aquaculture (British Columbia) 1999-2003,

Veterinary consultant 2003-2009 (Managing Director Panaquatic Health Solutions Pty Ltd) - 100% aquatic animals - consultancy work has includes Asia (e.g. China, Thailand, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore), Canada and around Australia. Aquatic species include finfish (Atlantic salmon, rainbow trout, Asian sea bass (barramundi), yellowtail kingfish, Southern bluefin tuna, silver perch, tilapia, Murray cod), molluscs (particularly abalone), crustaceans (black tiger shrimp, white shrimp, client mix currently 60% private fish/mollusc farming companies, 40% government agencies (both state and Federal). Also heavily involved in fish welfare issues and government fish health policy and biosecurity. Commercially qualified diver, keen recreational diver and keen recreational fisher.

You vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role in this position

I am very keen to become actively involved in WAVMA and I believe an excellent way of doing this is through becoming a Director at large. As I understand it, DALs are there to represent the member's interests. I am particularly interested in the adoption or modification of policies and programs that directly affect the practice of aquatic veterinary medicine internationally.

My base is Melbourne, Australia so I also am interested in being a key representative in WAVMA of Southern Hemisphere Aquatic veterinarians. My company is expanding, and we deal 100% with aquatic animals and primarily with production medicine and providing health advice to industry and governments. Hence I think I will bring a practical element to the position. I believe having an international organisation such as WAVMA to be a key step in advancing the profession of aquatic animal medicine and am delighted to be a member. Hopefully I can indeed contribute more as a Director at Large.

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2009 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **William Van Bonn, DVM**, being a Full Member of the WAVMA agree to be considered on an election ballot for the Office of **Director-At-Large** of the Association for 2009, and offer the following information in support of this position.)

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education: BS Veterinary Science, Michigan State University 1984; DVM Michigan State University 1986.

Professional Memberships: American Veterinary Medical Association; International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine; World Veterinary Medical Association; Association of Zoos and Aquariums; American Association of Human Animal Bond Veterinarians

Experience: In 1991 Bill enrolled in the inaugural Envirovet program an intensive, in-residence short course in aquatic animal medicine and environmental toxicology, jointly offered by the University of Illinois and the University of Wisconsin. Later that year he was commissioned into the US Army Veterinary Corps and assigned duty at the US Navy's Marine Mammal Program in San Diego. He spent four years on active duty followed by support as a civilian spending almost 15 years with the program where his last position was Managing Veterinarian for Research and Advanced Clinical Technologies. In 2005 Dr. Van Bonn accepted the Position of Senior Director for Animal Health at the John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. There he provided oversight for the preventive medicine program to over 25,000 individual animals of over 2,500 species. In May of 2009 he moved to the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito California and fills the role of Staff Veterinarian. He is Past President of IAAAM, an invited member of the WAVMA Ethics and Governance Committee and founding faculty of Marvet, a short course in marine veterinary medicine. He holds Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor status at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University.

Your vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role in this position

I believe my long tenure as an active board member of the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine has provided me with experiences and insight valuable to WAVMA as we move forward. My role within IAAAM is now limited to Nomination Committee membership allowing me to focus on promoting the mission and vision of WAVMA. Additionally, I believe my broad-scope affiliations with government agencies, a not-for-profit Association of Zoos and Aquariums accredited organization with a rich history of conservation leadership, and most recently a stranding facility, brings equally valuable perspective to the board. I look forward to the opportunity to provide positive contributions to aquatic veterinary medicine oversight through the important efforts of WAVMA.

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association 2010 Officer/Director-at-Large Nominee

I **Richmond Loh**, being a Full Member of the WAVMA, agree to be considered on an election ballot for the Office of **Director-At-Large** for the 2010 Association year (January 1 – December 31), and offer the following information in support of this position.

Credentials (include degrees) and experience in aquatic veterinary medicine

Education: Veterinary: BSc (2001, Murdoch University); BVMS (2001, Murdoch University); MPhil (2006, Murdoch University); MACVSc (2006, Aquatic Animal Health Chapter). Non-veterinary: Diploma in Project Management – Institute of TAFE, Tasmania (2007); Certificate in Companion Animal Services - Aquatics, Level 3 – Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (2009).

Professional Memberships: Founding Member of the World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association (since 2007); Chartered Member of the Australian Veterinary Association (since 2006); Treasurer for the Australian Society for Veterinary Pathologists (since 2008); Treasurer for the CL Davis Foundation Australia (since 2009); Member of the Australian Animal Pathology Standards Program (since 2006).

Experience: My professional exposure to aquatics started when I took up the post as a veterinary fish pathologist for the Tasmanian state animal health laboratory from 2002-2007. Here I undertook laboratory investigations of disease outbreaks on aquaculture farms and fish kills in Tasmania. I dealt with a variety of aquatic case material encompassing cultured finfish (salmon, trout, striped trumpeter, barramundi, seahorse, various ornamental fish), molluscs (abalone, oyster, scallop) and the occasional crustacea (rock lobster, giant freshwater lobster). I have regularly contributed to several print and on-line publications. Currently, I provide a consultancy service for ornamental pet fish owners, ornamental fish retailers & the public aquarium under the trading name of "The Fish Vet". Since moving back to Western Australia in 2007, I am a regular guest lecturer on aquatic animal matters for the Murdoch University School of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences.

Your vision and plans for fulfilling this WAVMA leadership role in this position

My visions are:

- to generate interest in aquatic health matters within the veterinary profession;
- to promote to the general public and in particular, to the people dealing with aquatic animals, that veterinarians are trained professionals capable of treating aquatic animals;
- to assist in the development of a viable sustainable environmentally sound aquaculture industry;
- for industry sectors dealing with aquatic animals to apply scientific reasoning for the better health and welfare of fishes.