



AAVA Post-Conference Newsletter, 2025



75th Anniversary AAVA Conference:

July 31st-August 2nd, 2025

Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, SK, Canada

Thank you, Saskatoon!

Our gratitude to Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan for an excellent meeting - and thank you to those who were able to join us! The conference had 57 attendees, from 8 different countries (Canada, USA, Germany, Spain, India, Hungary, Romania and the British West Indies).

The conference kicked off with a casual welcome reception on July 31st, graciously hosted by Baljit and Sarabjit Singh at their home in Saskatoon. On August 1st, the conference began with keynote speaker Christiane Pfarrer of Germany. The sessions proceeded with many engaging and in-depth topics presented on bench and anatomical research, as well as pedagogy. The first day concluded with a tour of a synchrotron ([The Canadian Light Source](#)) and the AAVA members meeting. August 2nd featured friendly 'Trainee' competition in both oral and poster presentations. Many other interesting posters were also presented and discussed. This final day of the conference included a tour of the anatomy lab followed by a panel discussion on the future of veterinary anatomy education and the presentation of awards. Many attendees concluded the evening at [Wanuskewin Heritage Park](#) with tours, dinner and a unique dance presentation.

AAVA Executive Committee

(2025-2027)

Past-President:

Dr. Shireen Hafez

President:

Dr. Tiana Magee

President-Elect:

Dr. Mahmoud Mansour

Membership

Secretary/Treasurer:

**Dr. Karen Hershberger-
Braker**

Corresponding Secretary:

Abby Brown, CVT



AAVA Award Recipients

The following awards were presented at the conference (not all award recipients were in attendance):



AAVA Technical Staff Excellence Award:
Abby Brown (*pictured at left*)

AAVA Distinguished Retiree Award: **Dr. Thomas Caceci**

AAVA Fellow Status Award:
Dr. Mahmoud Mansour

75th Anniversary Senior Anatomist: **Dr. Robert Henry**

AAVA Outstanding Anatomist Award: **Dr. Shireen Hafez** (*pictured at right*)



Trainee Award Recipients



Trainee Presentation Competition Award Winner:

Shayla Jesse (*pictured at left*) for her presentation titled '*Uterine Smooth Muscle Cell Adaptation to Mechanical Stretch Mediated by Stress Proteins*'

Runner(s) Up: (not pictured)
Sophia Pankoke and Sarah Gniesmer

Trainee Poster Competition Award Winner:

Jason Fu (*pictured at right*) for his poster titled '*Potential in Vitro Effects of Vaping on Formation of Testis Tissue*'

Runner Up: (not pictured)
Sarah Gniesmer

