

CSAS MATTERS



September 2022: Fall Edition

Incoming
Executive

Meet your
Student Ambassadors!

Faith Omonijo
and Amir Behrouzi

Award Winners

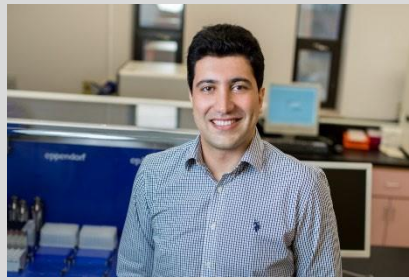
Renew your
Membership

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Meet your CSAS Executive!



Oscar Lopez-Campos
President



Younes Miar
President-Elect



Obi Durunna
Vice-President

CSAS Board Members



Devin Holman, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada



Lee-Anne Huber, University of Guelph

Welcome new members!

This year, the Eastern and Western Director seats on the CSAS Executive Committee needed to be filled. Following a call for nominations, and a successful election, CSAS welcomes Devin Holman of Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada to fill the Western Director role, and Lee-Anne Huber of University of Guelph to fill the Eastern Director role.

Welcome to the CSAS Executive! We look forward to having you on the Board.

CSAS Board Members

- **President** – Oscar Lopez-Campos, Agriculture & Agri Food Canada
- **President-Elect** – Younes Miar, Dalhousie University
- **Vice President** – Obi Durunna, Lakeland College
- **Past President** – Ronaldo Cerri, University of British Columbia
- **Secretary/Treasurer** – Mohsen Jafarikia, University of Guelph
- **Eastern Director** – Lee-Anne Huber, University of Guelph
- **Western Director** – Devin Holman, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada
- **Director-at-Large**
 - Francesca Malchiodi, Semex Alliance
 - Greg Penner, University of Saskatchewan
 - Michael Steele, University of Guelph
- **Membership Committee Chair** – Carl Julien, Centre de recherche en sciences animales de Deschambault
- **Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Animal Science** – Filippo Migloir, University of Guelph
- **Consultant Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Animal Science** – Kees Plazier, University of Manitoba

Meet your Student Ambassadors!

Faith Omonijo was born in a small town of Osun State located in the western part of Nigeria. She went to Osun State University for her bachelor's degree in animal science between 2009 and 2015. After she graduated, she did a compulsory one-year National Youth Service known as NYSC from 2015 to 2016. She moved to Canada in 2017 to pursue MSc studies at the Department of Animal Science, University of Manitoba under the supervision of Dr. Chengbo Yang. During her master's program (2017-2019), she specialized in Monogastric nutrition (swine). Her thesis was on "Microencapsulation for effective delivery of essential oils to improve gut health in pigs" of which a patent was approved due to the quality of the research. Faith is a member of several professional societies. She has authored and co-authored up to seven publications. After completing her MSc. program, she worked as a Biological Technician with several professors at the University of Manitoba before proceeding for her doctorate degree in Animal Genetics at the Department of Animal Science, McGill University under the supervision of Dr. Xin Zhao and Dr. Ibeagha-Awemu in 2021. She is currently a Research Assistant at the Sherbrooke Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Sherbrooke, Quebec. Her research focus is to study the "Regulatory roles of miRNAs in bovine *S. aureus* mastitis". Her research will shed more light on understanding the mechanisms of action of miRNA during *S. aureus* infection as well as identify candidate miRNAs that could be further developed for use in the management of mammary gland infections due to *S. aureus*. During Faith Omonijo's past times, she likes to sing and to play violin.



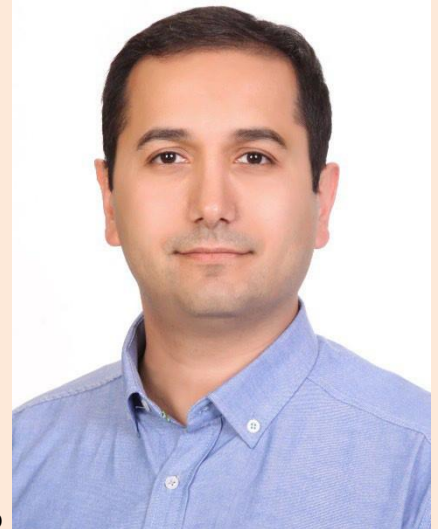
Amir Behrouzi is a first-year Ph.D. student at the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science of the University of Alberta where he works on methane and carbon dioxide emissions from crossbred beef cattle grazing native pastures. He previously graduated (MSc) from the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science of the University of Alberta, majoring in Animal Science.

He has experience working as a Research Technologist at the Livestock Research Section of the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, and experience in the capacity of a Research Assistant-Beef Genomic at the Science and Technology Branch of the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the University of Alberta (AFNS Department). While holding provincial and federal government positions, he has taken part in various research projects in professional environments in agricultural industry settings, in the cattle industry in Alberta/Canada.

Furthermore, Amir's experiences have provided him with a unique opportunity to come into direct contact, and work with research officers and scientists from the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, University of Alberta, University of Saskatchewan, Alberta Milk, and dairy and beef farmers on an individual basis.

Moreover, he also worked as a Registration Coordinator for the Western Canadian Dairy Seminar, where over 900 cattle producers, extension specialists, researchers, and cattle service and supply representatives attend this seminar each year.

He has published over twenty peer-reviewed articles and conference abstracts in highly respected journals and national/international conferences.



2022 CSAS Award Winners

Scientist Awards



Excellence in Meat
Nutrition Science
Dr. Kim Iminski
University of
Manitoba

Over last 20 years, Dr. Ominski has made significant contributions towards the advancement of the beef industry in the following priority areas: nutrition, agricultural economics, animal health and welfare, environmental stewardship, feed efficiency, food safety, forage and grassland production, social license to operate, technology transfer, and industry program development.

Her primary research program is dedicated towards furthering the environmental and economic sustainability of cattle production systems from a nutritional perspective in both forage and grasslands as well as confined feeding systems. Her research continues to improve the accuracy of estimates of the greenhouse gas footprint of beef production in Western Canada, as well as developing strategies that improve forage quality, cattle productivity and support climate change mitigation and adaptation. Her research program also captures innovative technology for testing and application in the industry in addition to training the next generation of stakeholders across a diverse range of research areas.

Dr. Omniski has exceptional contribution to Canadian science and the livestock industry through her expertise and service.



Technical Innovation in
Enhancing Production of
Safe Affordable Food
Dr. Greg Penner
University of Saskatchewan

Dr. Penner is an internationally recognized as a leader in ruminant gastrointestinal physiology with a focus on absorptive and barrier functions. His research utilizes novel in vitro, ex vivo, and in vivo approaches to understand how tissues respond in terms of absorptive capacity, maintenance of permeability, and the underlying mechanisms.

With his students, Dr. Penner has developed novel techniques to measure permeability of the gastrointestinal tract in ruminants which have been broadly adopted under both dairy and beef cattle settings. In addition to basic research, Dr. Penner maintains a broad applied research program and outcomes from this research have had significant impact on feeding management for dairy cattle in automated milking systems, cereal grain processing for feedlot cattle, and stage of maturity recommendations for whole-plant cereal grain hay.

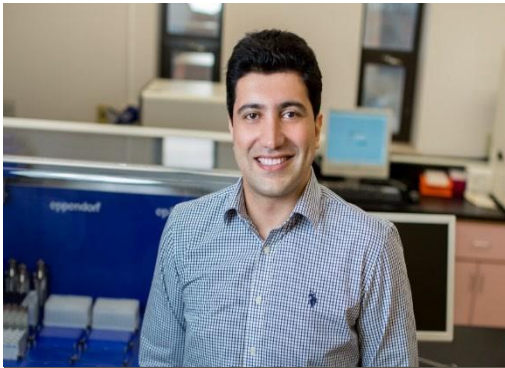
In recognition of his research program, Dr. Penner has been awarded with many awards including the Canadian Society of Animal Science Young Scientist Award (2013). Greg also serves as Co-Editor in Chief for the Canadian Journal of Animal Science.



CSAS Fellowship
Dr. Joshua Gong
Agriculture & Agri Food
Canada

In the past 20 years, Dr. Joshua Gong has made a considerable contribution to gut health research as a means of improving animal nutrition and health of livestock and poultry. His research has provided considerable insight into the interactions between gut bacteria and animal hosts, functional mechanisms of antibiotic-alternatives, and pathogenicity of critical enteric pathogens targeted by in-feed antibiotics but has also developed tangible and affordable non-antibiotic strategies and technologies that have been adopted by industry.

Dr. Gong has co-authored 168 scientific publications with a cumulative H-index of 54, two issued patents, and 16 patent applications. He is an adjunct faculty member at the Universities of Guelph and Manitoba and has served on the Scientific Advisory Committee of Canadian Poultry Research Council since 2004. Dr. Gong has received several honorable awards for his achievements in the research of animal gut health and alternatives to antibiotics. His significant contribution to animal nutrition and health is also indicated by his mentorship that has led to several trainees from his laboratory being appointed to faculty or scientist positions in animal science in national and international universities and industries.



Young Scientist
Dr. Younes Miar
Dalhousie University

Dr. Younes Miar is an Assistant Professor of Animal Breeding and Genomics in the Department of Animal Science and Aquaculture of Dalhousie University. Dr. Miar received his PhD. In Animal Genomics from the University of Alberta in 2014. He was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Guelph before joining Dalhousie University as the Industry Research Chair in Mink Genomics in 2016. In 2020, Younes started the Tenure-track position he holds today.

Over this short time, he has developed a reputable research program focused on the use of genomics to improve animal health and performance. Through support from industry and government funding, Dr. Miar has received a total of \$4.2 million to conduct research that has contributed significantly to the Animal Science community. His more recent work has led to him becoming well known as one of few researchers that work with mink globally. In addition to his work with mink, Dr. Miar works with numerous teams of researchers that have provided him extensive experience working with other livestock species. A collection of 26 peer reviewed journal articles and 48 conference appearances demonstrates the productivity of Dr. Miar's research program. Along with his teaching experience Dr. Miar has become a valued faculty member and a leader in genomics research in Canada.



Canadian Industries Award
in Extension and Public
Service
Dr. Emma McGeough
University of Manitoba

Dr. Emma McGeough's industry-relevant research program and expertise has led to a prolific extension program that includes numerous industry and scientific presentations and articles. She has participated in several large conference planning committees, including the Sustainability of Canadian Agriculture Conference and Animal Nutrition Conference of Canada Planning Committees, which serve to ensure that research outcomes are communicated to the industry.

Most notable is her service on numerous University, as well as national/provincial, and industry boards and committees. Several of these committee set the direction of research and extension, such as the Manitoba Protein Consortium, and the Manitoba Beef and Forage Initiative, and the National Dairy Research Strategy Focus Group on Dairy Farm Environmental Sustainability.

In 2021, she was named "Teacher of the Year" by students in her course. She uses novel teaching strategies and incorporates relevant aspects of her research into her course material. It is evident that Emma's outreach activities, service on a wide range of boards and committees and novel approaches to teaching have significantly impacted the cattle industry and demonstrate that she is worthy of receiving the Canadian Animal Industries Award in Extension and Public Service.

Graduate Student Travel Award



Jenna Sarich
University of
Saskatchewan



Shunshun Jin
University of
Manitoba

Student Competition Winners

Oral Masters Student Competition

- 1st place: Jenna Sarich
- 2nd place: Mathew Reynolds
- 3rd place: Olivia Willoughby

Oral PhD Student Competition

- 1st place: Koryn Hare
- 2nd place: Agbee Kpogo
- 3rd place: Yajing Ban

Graduate Student Poster Competition

- 1st place: Kaitlyn Burns
- 2nd place: Rachel Carey
- 3rd place: Amber Zupan

Undergraduate Awards



Andrei David
Dalhousie University



Jessica Kotelnikoff
University of
Saskatchewan



Kyla Thiessen
University of Manitoba



Marianne Lessard-
Mastine
McGill University



New Administration!

Recently the Canadian Society of Animal changed administrators and CSAS business is now being run by Fitzgerald & Co., which is based in Fergus, Ontario. Fitzgerald & Co. is a sole proprietorship launched in April 2001 by Susan Fitzgerald. The company specializes in agricultural association administration and project management. They are very excited to work with CSAS!

Laura Shantz is the full-time Program Administrator. Laura oversees the Canadian Association of Animal Science. She specializes in organizing and running conferences and workshops and website maintenance. If you have any questions relating to CSAS, she can be contacted at laura.tfio@bell.net

Krista Bates was added to the team as a Financial Administrator. Krista provides financial record keeping for the Canadian Society of Animal Science. If you have any questions relating to finances for CSAS, she can be contacted at krista.tfio@bell.net

Office mailing address:
105 Queen Street West
Unit 14CS
Fergus, ON N1M 1S6



Renew your Membership

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- ✓ Foster animal agriculture solutions for a hungry world.
- ✓ Ensure humane care of livestock.
- ✓ Get recognition through CSAS sponsored awards.
- ✓ CSAS sponsored travel awards for students to attend annual meetings.
- ✓ Discounted cost of registration for annual meetings.
- ✓ Reduced cost to subscribe to Canadian Journal of Animal Science (CJAS).
- ✓ Discounted page charges for accepted manuscripts in CJAS.
- ✓ Be the first to know when a new issue of CJAS is available.
- ✓ Propose topics for Animal Frontiers Magazine/act as guest editor.
- ✓ Quality networking among members.
- ✓ Quality networking among professional animal science societies globally.
- ✓ On-line access to the membership list.
- ✓ Participation in membership discussions on CSAS events/activities/issues



2022 Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to Emma McGeough and Carolyn Fitzsimmons!

Many thanks to our
sponsors!



Your ongoing support is
appreciated!