

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

It is my pleasure to write to you on behalf of your readers and subscribers to summarize this year's European Association for Aquatic Mammals' 45th Annual Symposium. The meeting was held at Acquario di Genova, Genova, Italy, from 8 to 11 March 2017, and was a very pleasant and important meeting.

The meetings were held at the Aquarium, with oral presentations and posters covering a variety of subjects such as acoustics, veterinary medicine, education, animal behavior and welfare, and training.

Our Association is growing, and we are very proud of its international membership with European and overseas colleagues. We encourage everyone actively working with marine mammals or with an interest in marine mammals to join our next conference at the Planet Sauvage, France, in March 2018.

Sincerely,

Brad Andrews  
President, EAAM

## The 45th Annual EAAM Symposium 2017 – Scientific Program

### Invited Speakers

- Diana Reiss – “Reflecting on Dolphin Minds”
- Sandro Mazzariol – “Large Cetacean Strandings and Health Monitoring: Known and Unknown”
- Vincent Janik – “The Role of Acoustic Signals in the Social Life of Bottlenose Dolphins”

### Oral Presentations

- Hocevar, Reiss, & Magnasco – “An Interactive Platform for Dolphins at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, USA”
- Clegg, Mercera, van Elk, Rödel, & Delfour – “Are All Dolphins Really Smiling? More Social Dolphins Judged Ambiguous Cues More Optimistically”
- Andrews – “The 6th Extinction”
- Gnone, Bellingeri, Fossa, & Gili – “The Ecology and Behaviour of the Bottlenose Dolphin in the NW Mediterranean Sea: The Results of a Long Term Cooperative Research Effort”
- Lomac-MacNair, Jakobsson, Mix, Freire, Hogan, Mayer, & Smultea – “Relating Marine Mammal Habitat Use to Physical Characteristics in a Rare and Changing Ice-Tongue Fjord Environment, Northwest Greenland”
- Dudzinski, Hill, Ribic, & Bolton – “Maternal Style and Sibling Choice: Pectoral Fin Contact

Shared Within Mother/Calf Pairs and Between Siblings”

- Ziliene & Delfour – “Interactions with Familiar Humans During Enrichment Sessions Significantly Increase Participation by Black Sea Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus ponticus*)”
- Jabois, Leon, Garcia, Alcazar, Cermeño, & Fernandez-Bellon – “How Institutional Collaboration Leads to Success in Dolphin Welfare and Clinical Recuperation”
- Ruiz Aranda & Henderson – “Visual Examination by Responses (V.E.R.): A Practical Test to Dolphins with Sign of Visual Impairment by Operant Conditioning Techniques”
- Henderson, Ruiz, & Garcia – “Voluntary Gastroscopy in Bottlenose Dolphins: An Effective Training Plan Developed to Diminish Stress Due to Invasive Procedures”
- Palma, Neto, Rico, Silva, Silveira, & Vicente – “Urine Collection in Pinnipeds”
- Neto, Quintino, Palma, Rodrigues, Silveira, & Vicente – “From Marine Mammals to All Other Zoological Taxa – An Updated Visual Encyclopaedia of Trained ‘Voluntary Welfare Behaviours’”
- Kreiviniene, Kleiva., Ziliene, & Miskine – “Welfare Aspects of Dolphins and Humans

in Dolphin Assisted Therapy Center of the Lithuanian Sea Museum”

- Álvarez, Martín, Clegg, López-Béjar, Monreal Pawlowsky, & Almunia – “Multi Facility Study to Determine a Salivary Cortisol Baseline in *Tursiops truncatus*”
- Baumgartner, Encke, Mägdefrau, Will, & von Fersen – “Assessment of Welfare of Marine Mammal Species in Zoological Parks – Animal Welfare Indicators Workshop”
- Rubio-Garcia, van Zeijl, Rosema, Garcia Cobos, Friedrich, Wagenaar, & Rossen – “Antimicrobial Resistance in the Dutch Sea? Prevalence in Bacteria Isolated from Stranded Harbour (*Phoca vitulina*) and Grey (*Halichoerus grypus*) Seal Pups”
- Zaccaroni, Chiurazzi, & Garcia Hartmann – “Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone Test Validation in Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*)”
- Garcia Hartmann – “Inflammation and Infection Markers in Bottlenose Dolphins”
- Grande, Fiorucci, & Di Stefano – “Management of Grey Seals’ (*Halichoerus grypus*) Nutrition Under Human Care: The Experience of Zoomarine Italy”
- Gili, Bonsembiante, Beffagna, Mazzariol, & Gelain – “Hereditary Bisalbuminemia in Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*, Montagu 1821)”
- Issenjou, Garcia, & Rubincam – “Hand-Rearing Europe’s Second Captive-Born Beluga at Oceanogràfic”
- Dendrinos – “Three Decades of Systematic Efforts by MOM for the Conservation of the Mediterranean Monk Seal in Greece: Up-to-Date Achievements and Future Plans”
- Oswald, Alongi, Archer, Yack, & Rankin – “A Novel Acoustic Classification Method for Odontocete Species”
- Lopez Marulanda, Adam, Mercera, & Delfour – “Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) Whistle Production in Relation to Training Sessions”
- Morales, Lalueza, & Almunia – “Analysis of Call Sequences in *Orcinus orca*”
- Lalueza, Morales, & Almunia – “Analysis of Cohesion Calls in *Orcinus orca*”
- Sanguineti, Alessi, Brunoldi, Mandich, Grosso, Gnone, Valettini, Gili, Melchiorre, Viano, Vassallo, Petrillo, Pesce, Cavalleri, & Taiuti – “Use of Underwater Sound to Prevent Collision Between Ship and Sperm Whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) the Case Study of the Project Life+ WHALESAFE”
- Neves & Giger – “There Is More Than Meets the Eye – Visitors’ Stereotypes and Attitudes Toward Dolphins”

### Short Talks

- Cafaro, Bruccoleri, Mandich, & Alessi – “First Knowledge About the Presence and Distribution of Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) in an Understudied Area of the Sicily Channel (Mediterranean Sea)”
- Rubio-Guerri, Melero, Crespo-Picazo, Jimenez, Garcia-Párraga, & Sánchez-Vizcaino – “First Case of Dolphin Morbillivirus in Short-Beaked Common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) in Mediterranean Sea”
- Ruiz & Henderson – “Relaxation and Breathing Used as an Effective Method for Desensitization of Invasive Behaviours”
- Silva, Leal, Flanagan, & Silva – “A New Approach to the Management of Chronic Joint Pain in a California Sea Lion”
- Pasterny – “Prevalence of Ocular Anterior Segment Disease in Pinnipeds Kept in Captivity in Poland”
- Bonato, Centellegho, Pussini, Esposti, Gili, & Mazzariol – “Unmanned Aerial System: Research Tool from Zoological Park to Natural Environment”
- Badenas Krakauer, Elwen, Rashley, James, & Gridley – “Speed Talk: Factors Influencing the Vocal Production of Bottlenose Dolphins”
- Gridley, Rashley, James, McGovern, & Elwen – “Speaking in Stereo – Evidence of Two Voice Signature Whistle Production in Common Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*)”
- Elwen, Rashley, James, McGovern, Bastian, & Gridley – “Mark-Recapture Using Acoustic Labels – A Case Study Involving Wild Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) Signature Whistles”

### Poster Presentations

- Arija – “Early Death Among Newborns in Orcas (*Orcinus orca*) Population Under Human Care”
- Bundone, Fai, Rizzo, De Marchi, Guerzoni, & Molinaroli – “Sightings and Historical Presence of Mediterranean Monk Seal Along the Coast of Salento (Southern Italy)”
- Fernández-Maldonado, Sierra, Arbelo, Díaz-Delgado, de la Fuente, & Fernández – “Pathology and Causes of Death of Stranded Cetaceans on the Coast of Andalusia, Spain (2011-2014)”
- Garcia – “Pangasius as a Diet Option in *Tursiops truncatus*? Relationship Between the Serum Liver Enzymes Increment and the Pangasius Consumption”
- Grande, Nespola, & Fiorucci – “Microbiological Assessment of Some Culturable Microbiota from Clinically Healthy Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) Under Human Care”