

## Meet another Member Association of FELASA: AISAL

AISAL - Associazione Italiana Per Le Scienze Degli Animali Da Laboratorio - was legally constituted on October 13, 1993 as a non-profit organisation, with offices in Milan, Italy. The by-laws and the statutes were registered in Milan on October 26, 1993; a revision with some amendments was approved on October 13, 2000.

### *Aims*

AISAL's main aim is to improve the knowledge and skills of people working with laboratory animals, so as to ensure their correct use and achieve "Refinement, Reduction, and Replacement" of experiments with living animals. Its other aims are:

- to improve the quality of use of animals in biomedical research so as to meet international standards and guidelines;
- to educate and up-date researchers, students and technicians in the field of laboratory animal sciences, through educational programs at all levels of competence and planned for the harmonization with Europe;
- to promote research for valid alternatives;
- to promote and coordinate contacts with parallel organizations in Italy, Europe, the United States and elsewhere.

### *Organs and Membership*

Executive Board 2000-2003: President: *G. Perretta*; Vice President: *C. Bernardi*; Past President: *A. Guaitani*; Secretary: *S. Filippeschi*; Treasurer: *A. Cocilovo*; Three Counsellors: *M. Cilli, L. De Francesco, R. Dorigatti*.

### *Members*

- Ordinary: include research scientists, graduates and technicians working in sciences or teaching;

- Institutional: include Institutions (represented by one delegate) in areas related to AISAL's interests;
- Honorary: persons with acknowledged merits in laboratory animal sciences.

At present (list updated in October 2000) AISAL has: 148 ordinary, 6 institutional and 8 honorary members.

### *Contacts with FELASA*

At present, *I. Bartosek* and *G. Perretta* are AISAL representatives at FELASA Board.

### *Activities*

- Technical and scientific work is organised and coordinated through Working Groups and *Ad hoc* committees;
- AISAL has focused his activity mainly in organizing scientific meetings, educational courses at all levels of professional qualification. In the last twelve years more than 1500 persons have attended these courses in different geographical areas. AISAL publishes monographs and teaching texts; three books were published in Italian. AISAL has also published Italian guidelines on: "Educational programs in LAS" and "Health and safety in animal experimentation";
- AISAL cooperates with National Regulatory Authorities, Universities, private organizations, FELASA Working groups and International Scientific Societies.

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