



Conference: SAAVT Congress

Dates: 9- 10 October 2024

Venue: 26 Degree South Hotel, Muldersdrift

ORGANISER REPORT

18 November 2024

FINANCES

Income vs Expenses			
	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Variance
Income	R266 085.00	R392 400.00	R126 315.00
Expense	R220 888.86	R476 813.68	-R255 924.83
Total SAAVT 2024	R45 196.15	-R84 413.68	-R39 217.53

Income Charts			
	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Variance
Registration fees	R216 085.00	R250 400.00	R34 315.00
Sponsorships	R50 000.00	R142 000.00	R92 000.00
Total Income	R266 085.00	R393 900.00	R127 815.00

Expense Charts			
Details	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Variance
Venue costs	R117 489.75	R239 810.00	-R122 320.25
Audio-visual costs	R6 095.00	R49 150.00	-R43 055.00
Décor & Entertainment	R10 646.13	R43 325.00	-R32 678.37
Accommodation & Travel	R5 750.00	R16 877.00	-R11 127.00
Marketing & Promotion	R25 185.00	R42 934.10	-R17 749.10
Administrative Expenses	R4 000.00	R38 964.83	-R34 964.83
Event Management & Planning	R51 722.98	R45 752.75	R5 970.23
Total Expenses	R220 888.98	R476 813.68	-R255 924.83

INVOICE TO SAAVT

Event management fee	1	R 39 785.00	R 39 785.00
Hybrid	1	R 33 618.20	R 33 618.20
Total ex VAT			R 73 403.20
VAT			R 11 010.48
Total inc. VAT			R 84 413.68
Deposit received			R4 497.65
Amount outstanding			R 79 916.03

REGISTRATION

- **9 October = 122**
 - Delegates = 106
 - Sponsors = 19
- **10 October = 102**
 - Delegates = 83
 - Sponsors = 19
- **Virtual paid for registrations = 1**
- **Virtual attendees sponsored by HWSETA = 204**

AWARDS

- Lifetime Achievement Award – certificate, R5 000 & trophy:
 - Francois Dreyer
- Best overall oral presenter (all 3 categories) – certificate and R1 000:
 - Dr Itumeleng Matle
- Best overall junior oral presenter – certificate and R1000:
 - Moloko Fransiscah
- Best overall poster – certificate and R1 000:
 - Maphori Nozipho Prudy
- Best student poster – certificate and R1 000:
 - Nelly Mokoka
- Best undergraduate poster – certificate and R1 000:
 - Elizabeth Sebisha

PROGRAMME

- **Keynotes**
 - Dr Faith Peta
 - FMD Vaccine Production Manager, ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Research
 - Prof. Mulunda Mwanza
 - HOD Animal Health Department, North-West University
- **Guest/invited speakers**
 - Sphamandla Qwabe
 - SAVC
 - Nomfundu Mnisi
 - HWSETA
 - Moetapele Letshwenyo
 - WOAHA

- Lebo Sentle
 - NSPCA

Oral Abstracts

- 18 Oral abstracts received
- 17 Oral abstracts presented

Full name	Surname	Company	Mark the correct option	Abstract Title
Dorothea Sophia	Conradie	Western Cape Provincial Veterinary Laboratory	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Small changes making big differences in the Avian Influenza ELISA Test
Maria	Mathekga	ARC-OVR	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Discrepancy in dourine complement fixation test results at the Agricultural Research Council: Onderstepoort Veterinary Research, Bacterial Serology Laboratory
Jabulane S.	Magagula	University of Cape Town	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Collaboration within the para-veterinary professionals in South Africa
Juanita	van Emmenes	Agricultural Research Council	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Biobanking for animal health: storing natural treasures
Jabulane S.	Magagula	University of Cape Town	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Microbiological health status of experimental animals, South Africa's challenge
Moloko Fransiscah	Selepe	Stellenbosch Provincial Veterinary laboratory	First-time *JUNIOR oral presentation - post graduate students, newly graduated VT or early career VT (Less than 5 years of experience)	Building a foundation for quality: journey to setting up a laboratory for accreditation
Portia T	Mashego	University of Pretoria	STUDENT oral presentation	Analytical assay validation in a Clinical Pathology Laboratory set-up
Itumeleng	Matle	Onderstepoort Veterinary Research	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Nontyphoidal Salmonella monitoring and surveillance in South Africa from 1959 – 2023: A bridging path to innovative approaches towards Global Health Security and Safe Trade Perspectives
Emmanuel M.	Seakamela	Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Retrospective analysis of laboratory diagnostic data to assess the prevalence and seasonal variation of heartwater in commercial farms of Lephalale municipality, Limpopo, South Africa

Refiloe	Malesa	Agricultural Research Council	STUDENT oral presentation	Functional characterization of Type III Secretion System escV and escD proteins from E. coli genomes
Puseletso	Masemola	North West University	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Genomic characterization and antimicrobial resistance profiles of Listeria monocytogenes isolated from pig farms
Aletta	Mathole	Agricultural Research Council	Oral	Antimicrobial resistance and the population structure of salmonella enterica serovars from the environment, animals, and food products in South Africa
Emmanuel M.	Seakamela	Lephalale Veterinary Laboratory	**SENIOR oral presentation - more than 5 years of experience	Laboratory-based longitudinal surveillance of malignant catarrhal fever in Lephalale municipality in Limpopo province, South Africa: 2001–2021
Ni-Mari	Smith	University of Pretoria	First-time *JUNIOR oral presentation - post graduated students, newly graduated VT or early career VT (Less than 5 years of experience)	Development of a real-time PCR assay to detect a novel rickettsial agent identified in patients with acute febrile illness
Neo Cecil	Galetlole	North West University	Oral	Occurrence, antibiotic resistance, and genetic diversity of Klebsiella pneumoniae from various retail chicken meat in the Ngaka Modiri Molema district, South Africa
Mmantshuruge J.	Miyen	Agricultural Research Council	Oral	Phylogenetic analyses of recent dog rabies viruses from outbreaks in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa
Thendo	Mafuna	University of Johannesburg	Senior Oral presentation	Metagenomics insights into the microbial resistome composition of Ready-to-eat (RTE) food products

Poster Abstracts

- 8 Poster abstracts received
- 10 Posters abstracts presented

Full name	Surname	Company	Mark the correct option	Abstract Title
Ntlhokoana D.	Maluleke	ARC-OVR	First-time *JUNIOR poster presentation - post graduated students, newly graduated VT or early career VT (Less than 5 years of experience)	An overview of diagnosing bovine spongiform encephalopathy
Thabile Petunia	Lukhele	University of Pretoria	**SENIOR poster presentation - more than 5years of experience	Isolation of a multidrug-resistant Escherichia coli pathotype Stx2:Cnf1:Cnf2:Eae as a potential cause of hemorrhagic diarrhea and secondary septicemia in a dog
Maphori Nozipho	Prudy	Northwest university	First-time *JUNIOR poster presentation - post graduated students, newly graduated VT or early career VT (Less than 5 years of experience)	Molecular comparative study of antibiotic resistance of Salmonella enterica from animal, food, and environment isolated over 62 years
Carol M.	Nkosi	NCPVL	First-time *JUNIOR poster presentation - post graduated students, newly graduated VT or early career VT (Less than 5 years of experience)	Prevalence, characterization and antimicrobial susceptibility patterns of extraintestinal pathogenic Escherichia coli from chicken carcasses in Gauteng province, South Africa
Nelly	Mokoka	North West University	First-time *JUNIOR poster presentation - post graduated students, newly graduated VT or early career VT (Less than 5 years of experience)	Evaluating the risk factors of manure as fertilizer, and prevalent foodborne pathogens in feedlot cattle manure through metagenomic analysis
Nkagiseng Unity	Moatshe	Agricultural Research Council	**SENIOR poster presentation - more than 5years of experience	Validation of Rift Valley Fever method in the absence of positive samples since 2010 in South Africa
Elizabeth	Sebisha	Tshwane University of Technology, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Pretoria, South Africa	Poster - student	Testing for blood protozoa in ticks collected from cattle and pastures in North-West and Mpumalanga
Kamogelo	Mokonyane	Tshwane University of Technology, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Pretoria, South Africa	Poster - student	Tick DNA extraction using high-pure PCR template preparation kit
Nikiwe	Mkhari	Tshwane University of Technology, Department of Biomedical	Poster - student	Evaluation of OneTaq®2X Master Mix with standard buffer in amplification of tick DNA

		Sciences, Pretoria, South Africa		
Salome RM	Leshilo	Tshwane University of Technology, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Pretoria, South Africa	Poster - student	Detection of tick-borne blood bacteria from collected ticks

- **Social Events**
 - Wed 9 Oct – Official congress sponsor

SPONSORSHIPS, ADDITIONAL INCOME & EXHIBITORS

- JGK (Congress bags) – R25,000 (paid)
- UCT (Advert in abstract guide) – R3,000 (paid)
- Chemetrix, SANAS, Labotec, Inqaba, National Separations, The Scientific Group (Exhibition stand) – R10,500 (paid)
- Chemetrix, Lasec, SANAS (product showcase) – R3,000 (paid)
- Income – previous webinar – R42,000 (Savetcon has already received the funds)

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

- E-Mail Blasts:
 - First announcement – 11 March
 - Second announcement & extended abstract deadline– 20 May
 - Third announcement – 18 July
 - Abstract last call reminder – 15 August
 - 2 weeks left to register - Final call to register – 20 September
 - Payment Reminder – 2 October
 - Virtual only invitation – 2 October
 - Final details – 3 October

LOGISTICS AND OPERATIONS

- Venue
 - 26 Degree South Hotel - Muldersdrift
 - Setup on Tuesday afternoon 8 October.
 - Exhibitor tables in foyer and posters in venue on balcony.
- Accommodation
 - Negotiated room rate R1,075 per person single B&B and R1,690 per room for 2 persons sharing, bed and breakfast.
- Health and Safety
 - None required.
- Poster boards
 - Five double sided poster boards were provided.
- Audio-Visual
 - Venue Audio system was used
 - Includes PA system and 2 mics
 - Data projector at venue was used
 - EPH's laptop was used for presentations
 - EPH provided the equipment for the virtual component

- Promotional Items
 - Lanyards & Name Tags
 - Branded SAAVT lanyards – Savetcon ordered the lanyards
 - Branded name tags on hard paper were printed at the Savetcon offices.



- Bags
 - Branded SAAVT bags – sponsored by JGK



- Programme
 - Full colour double sided A4 conference programme was printed and placed in each delegate bag.
 - Full abstract book was e-distributed.

- Lectern Banner



Programme

Wednesday, 9 October 2024

Time	Description	Speaker
Session chair: Itumeleng Matle		
08h30	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Absalom Makhubela Chairperson SAAVT
08h40	Keynote address: The One Health Approach and the Opportunities it avails for Vet Techs	Dr Faith Peta, FMD Vaccine Production Manager, ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Research
09h25	Discrepancy in <u>D</u> ourine complement fixation test results at the AgriculturalResearch Council: Onderstepoort Veterinary Research, Bacterial Serology Laboratory	Maria Mathekga ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Research
09h45	Guest speaker: Collaboration in the Veterinary Sector	Dr Nomfundo Mnisi Chairperson of HWSETA
10h05	Mid-morning refreshments	
Session chair: Nomkhosi Mathebula		
10h30	Collaboration within the para-veterinary professionals in South Africa	Jabulane S. Magagula University of Cape Town
10h50	Development of a real-time PCR assay to detect a novel rickettsial agent identified in patients with acute febrile illness	Ni-Mari Smith University of Pretoria
11h10	Nontyphoidal <i>Salmonella</i> monitoring and surveillance in South Africa from 1959 – 2023: A bridging path to innovative approaches towards Global Health Security and Safe Trade Perspectives	Itumeleng Matle Onderstepoort Veterinary Research
11h30	Small changes making big differences in the Avian Influenza ELISA Test	Thea Conradie Western Cape Provincial Veterinary Laboratory
11h50	Poster Session 1	
12h30	Lunch	
Session chair: Jabu Magagula		
13h30	Analytical assay validation in a Clinical Pathology Laboratory set-up	Portia T Mashego University of Pretoria
13h50	The NSPCA, who are we?	Lebo Sentle NSPCA
14h10	Phylogenetic analyses of recent dog rabies viruses from outbreaks in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa	Mmantshuruge J. Miyen Agricultural Research Council
14h30	Building a foundation for quality: journey to setting up a laboratory foraccreditation	Moloko Fransiscah Selepe Western Cape Provincial Veterinary Laboratory
14h50	Company showcase: Chemetrix - Agilent BioTek solutions for VeterinaryTesting	Mr Nick Desmond Smith Cell Analysis & Microplate Automation
15h00	Mid-afternoon refreshments	
Session chair: Nomsa Mabogoane		
15h30	Genomic characterization and antimicrobial resistance profiles of <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> isolated from pig farms	Puseletso Masemola North-West University
15h50	Retrospective analysis of laboratory diagnostic data to assess the prevalence and seasonal variation of heartwater in commercial farms ofLephalale municipality, Limpopo, South Africa	Emmanuel M. Seakamela Limpopo Department of Agriculture andRural Development
16h10	Occurrence, antibiotic resistance and genetic diversity of <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> from various retail chicken meat in the Ngaka Modiri Molema district. South Africa	Neo Cecil Galetlole North-West University

16h30	Antimicrobial resistance and the population structure of <i>Salmonella enterica</i> serovars from the environment, animals, and food products in South Africa	Aletta Mathole <i>Agricultural Research Council</i>
16h50	End of Day 1	
18h00	Congress Social Dinner in the Lobolo Venue <i>Theme: Traditional</i>	
Thursday, 10 October 2024		
Time	Description	Speaker
Session chair: Sphamandla Qwabe		
08h30	Welcome	Absalom Makhubela <i>Chairperson SAAVT</i>
08h40	Keynote 2 – Veterinary Laboratory role in the control of diseases: Challenges and Perspective	Prof. Mulunda Mwanza <i>HOD Animal Health Department North-West University</i>
09h25	Metagenomics insights into the microbial resistome composition of Ready-to-eat (RTE) food products	Dr Thendo Mafuna <i>University of Johannesburg</i>
09h45	Guest speaker - The changes and challenges for the advancement of veterinary diagnostic laboratories in Southern Africa <i>*pre-recorded presentation</i>	Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo <i>WOAH Sub-Regional Representative for Southern Africa</i>
10h05	Company showcase: Lasec – Tools for Disease Research	Lesego Vilakazi <i>Application Specialist: Physiology and Animal Sciences</i>
10h15	Mid-morning refreshments	
10h40	SAAVT AGM	
12h10	Poster Session 2	
12h40	Lunch	
Session chair: Boitumelo Mokwana		
13h40	Functional characterization of Type III Secretion System escV and escDproteins from <i>E. coli</i> genomes	Refiloe Malesa <i>Agricultural Research Council</i>
14h00	Microbiological health status of experimental animals, South Africa'schallenge	Jabulane S. Magagula <i>University of Cape Town</i>
14h20	Biobanking for animal health: storing natural treasures	Juanita van Emmenes <i>Agricultural Research Council</i>
14h40	Laboratory-based longitudinal surveillance of malignant catarrhal fever inLephalale municipality in Limpopo province, South Africa: 2001–2021	Emmanuel M. Seakamela <i>Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</i>
15h00	Mid-afternoon refreshments	
Session chair: Obakeng Boshielo		
15h20	Guest speaker: Adapting to change: Navigating regulatory compliance challenges in veterinary laboratories	Sphamandla Qwabe <i>SAAVT – SAVC representative</i>
15h40	Company showcase: SANAS Accreditation for Veterinary Laboratories	Charmaine Morobe <i>SANAS</i>
15h55	Awards and closing of congress	
16h55	End of Congress	

POSTERS

Wednesday, 9 October 2024

POSTER SESSION 1: 11h50 – 12h30

Description	Speaker
An overview of diagnosing bovine spongiform encephalopathy	Ntlhokoana D. Maluleke <i>ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Research</i>
Molecular comparative study of antibiotic resistance of <i>Salmonella enterica</i> from animal, food, and environment isolated over 62 years	Maphori Nozipho Prudy <i>North-West University</i>
Evaluating the risk factors of manure as fertilizer, and prevalent foodborne pathogens in feedlot cattle manure through metagenomic analysis	Nelly Mokoka <i>North-West University</i>
Prevalence, characterization and antimicrobial susceptibility patterns of extraintestinal pathogenic <i>Escherichia coli</i> from chicken carcasses in Gauteng province, South Africa (TBC)	Carol M. Nkosi <i>NCPVL</i>

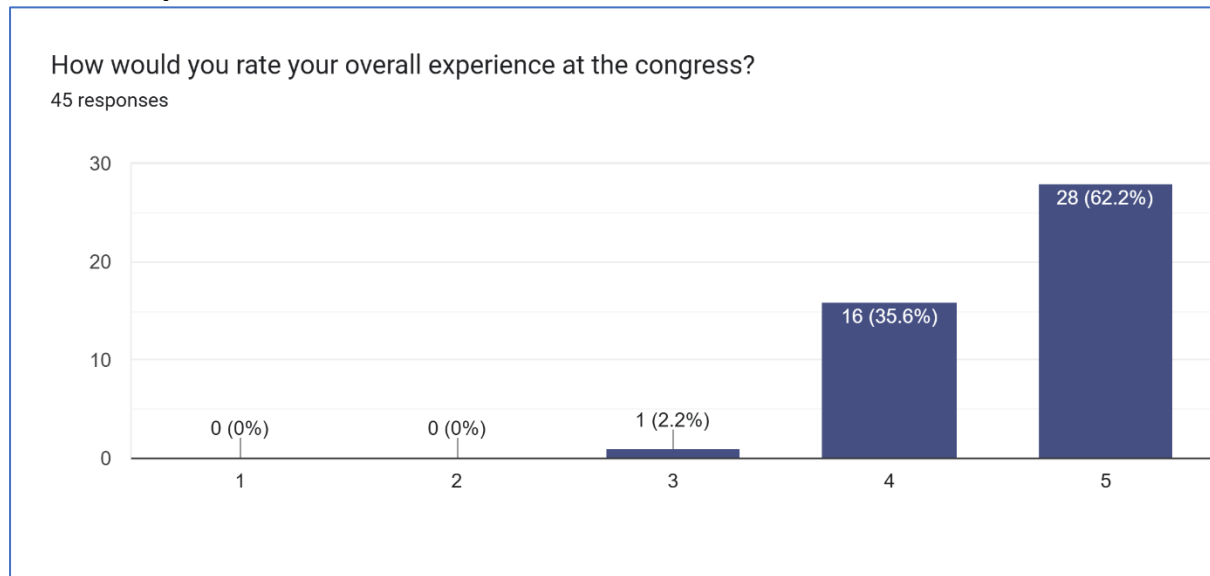
Thursday, 10 October 2024

POSTER SESSION 2: 12h10-12h40

Description	Speaker
Isolation of a multidrug-resistant <i>Escherichia coli</i> pathotype Stx2:Cnf1:Cnf2:Eae as a potential cause of hemorrhagic diarrhea and secondary septicemia in a dog	Thabile Petunia Lukhele <i>University of Pretoria</i>
Validation of Rift Valley Fever method in the absence of positive samples since 2010 in South Africa	Nkagiseng Unity Moatshe <i>Agricultural Research Council</i>
Testing for blood protozoa in ticks collected from cattle and pastures in North-West and Mpumalanga	Moyagabo Elizabeth Sebisha <i>TUT, Department of Biomedical Sciences</i>
Tick DNA extraction using high-pure PCR template preparation kit	Kamogelo Mokonyane <i>TUT, Department of Biomedical Sciences</i>
Evaluation of OneTaq®2X Master Mix with standard buffer in amplification of tick DNA	Nikiwe Mkhari <i>TUT, Department of Biomedical Sciences</i>
Detection of tick-borne blood bacteria from collected ticks	Salome RM Leshilo <i>TUT, Department of Biomedical Sciences</i>

Post-event Report

Overall Experience

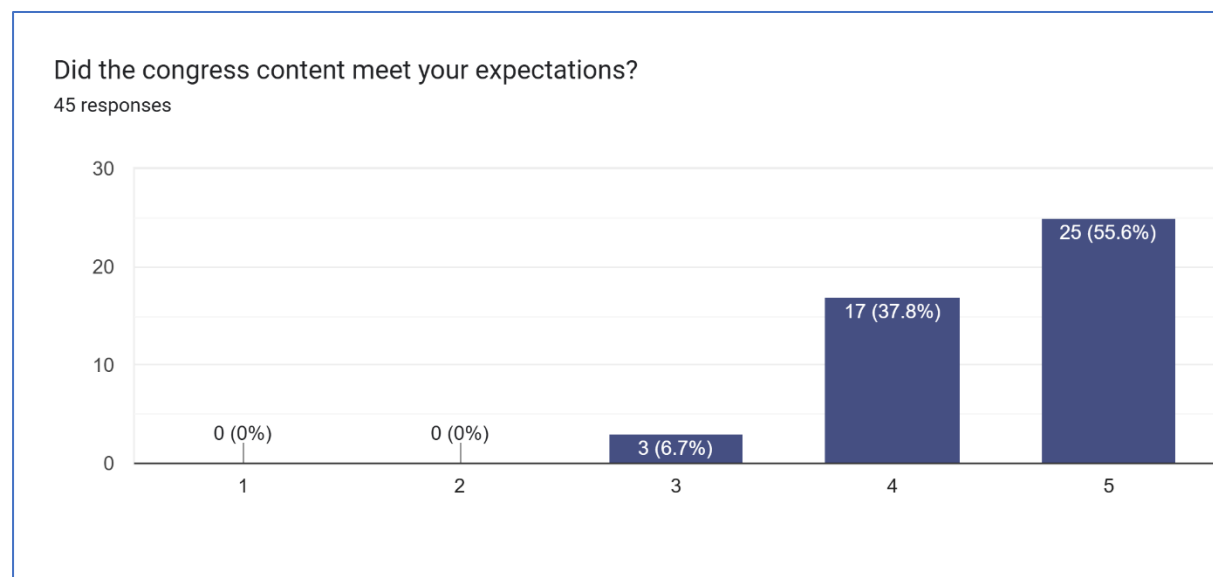


What aspects of the congress did you find most valuable?

- Varied topics but equally informative
- Presentations
- Research Presentations
- Discussion of different projects
- The presentations
- The research side
- The presentations were liberating and enlightening
- AGM
- When the speakers were teaching us.
- Presentations of method validations and having companies advertise their products
- The engagement between presenters and audiences
- New knowledge that can be helpful in the veterinary profession
- Collaboration within the para-veterinary professionals
- All the disease presentations
- One Health Approach
- Guest speakers talking about their research
- Allowing people from different universities and working areas to share their views about certain topics.
- Presentations
- Certain presentations were very insightful
- With collaborations from various sub department under veterinary field the sky is the limit. Also love prof Mwanza talk
- Laboratory Diagnostic Research presentations
- Presentations
- All the presentation
- Talks about the labs
- Valid information that adds up on our knowledge with animals diseases control.
- The talks
- The presentations were very informative
- Veterinary laboratory role in the control of diseases
- The presentations
- The presentations. They were insightful. I learnt a lot. Enjoyed the teachings on collaborations.

- SAAVT staff/members reaching out to make it possible for hybrid attendance and financial support to members who truly wanted to be part of the education shared and staying abreast in our industry. The human contact aspect was the most valuable to kick-start inclusion and support. Thank you again.
- Venue and presenters
- The content of the presentations was very informative
- Presentations from laboratory professionals who shared their findings /stories when working in the laboratory.
- The topics were really good
- Organisation, and Presentations
- HWSETA presence
- The presentations
- Some of the presentations
- Presentations
- Scientific presentations but also the opportunity to meet up with colleagues from other laboratories
- Proper guidance of what I can venture into in future to be a better animal health technician.
- The presentation
- Presentations

Content and Sessions



Which sessions or speakers did you find most engaging and why?

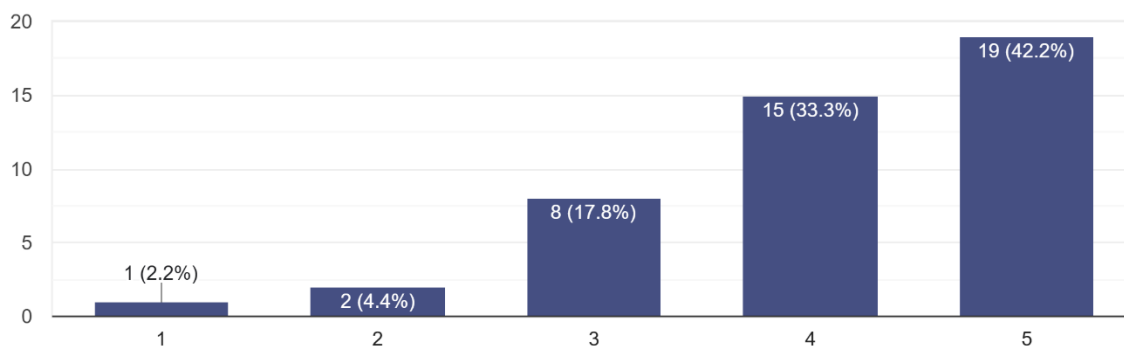
- Day 1
- Dr Faith Peta. She was courageous
- The collaboration between paravets , presentations on salmonella, Ecoli, Klebsila, heartwater prevalence, as well as presentations on how small changes in tests can make a huge difference.
- HWSETA, Authenticity was oozing from the speaker
- The lady that spoke of her first time validating a test method and Dr PETA. The conference should be about providing each other with solutions and seeing where we can bridge the gap and networking
- The Hwseta CEO , she was very fun and speaking a lot of sense
- The speaker from the NSPCA, she gave more insight of what the organisation entails
- Jabulane Magagula

- The speaker that presented about rabies, because I didn't know that the rabies cases are increasing, I thought since the department of agriculture is vaccinating every year the cases should at least drop.
- Ni-Mari Smith her presentation was insightful and interesting
- The first session, because most of the speakers were talking about how we can collaborate with people from other different fields of study.
- The first day's sessions - practical knowledge and the presenters were fantastic.
- Ms Puseletso Masemola's Presentation was of interest to me the information the presentation had I believe is very much relevant and a subject of interest to me.
- Prof Mwanza, Dr Peta and Dr Mafuna maybe my pick is bias due the fact they talks were relating to my field but overall, also speakers managed to deliver to our expectation
- Refiloe Malesa. I am passionate about bacteria studies and E.coli is very common bacteria I always get in the lab.
- QUALITY RELATED We are busy to prepare for that
- Nspca
- Talk on Dourine CFT
- Dr Mwanza.
- Mrs malesa, I am interested in her study
- Dr Nomfundo Mnisi, The presentation was on point, I learned a lot.
- Prof. Malunda Mwanza, The presentation was very educational and clear.
- Prof Mwanza he was very direct and informative
- One health approach presentation, learning about the challenges to harbouring collaboration in the vet community. Learning about analytical assay validation in a clinical laboratory. Changes and challenges for the advancement of veterinary diagnostic laboratories in SA. They were interesting to know more about and some relatable.
- Dr Nomfundo Nnisi. She displayed brave courage to break the patterns we held onto. Overall every speaker brought something valuable to the learning of the day.
- The One Health Approach and the Opportunities it avails for Vet Techs by Dr Faith Peta. - Collaboration in the Veterinary Sector by Dr Nomfundo Mnisi. -Collaboration within the para-veterinary professionals in South Africa by Jabulane S. Magagula. -These stood out as they dwell more on how as Vet Techs can improve our skills, collaboration with other departments and how we can work together and understand one another within the para-veterinary professionals in South Africa.
- Most of them.
- Moloko - the lady who presented about how to set up a successful laboratory. because all Vet Techs could relate with what she presented. Maria- the lady who presented about Dourine- it was interesting to hear challenges faced in the lab and how they solved them. Prof Mwanza- he shared light on the importance of good sample collection, which is crucial for lab professionals.
- Dr Faith
- Prof Mwanza
- Poster presenters - able to have a one-on-one with their research topics
- SAVC representative
- Scientific presentations as its relevant to one's field of practice.
- Dr Mnisi, depression is real topic that needs attention
- Dr Mnisi and Dr Matle they both spoke on the matters I had questions on and their presentations were very informative
- Development of a real-time PCR assay to detect a novel rickettsial agent identified in patients with acute febrile illness, development of new technologies to improve the diagnosis of illness is of vital importance as it improves the time spent between examination and final diagnosis

Networking and Interaction

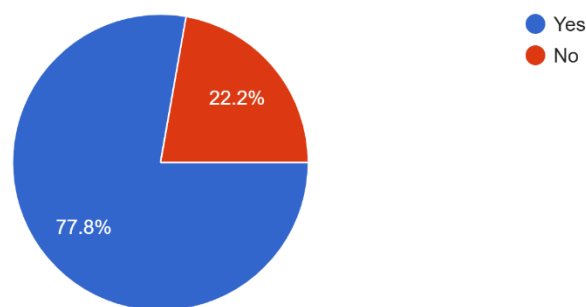
How would you rate the opportunities for networking at the congress?

45 responses



Did you find the networking events useful for making connections?

45 responses



Were there any specific networking features or activities that you particularly enjoyed?

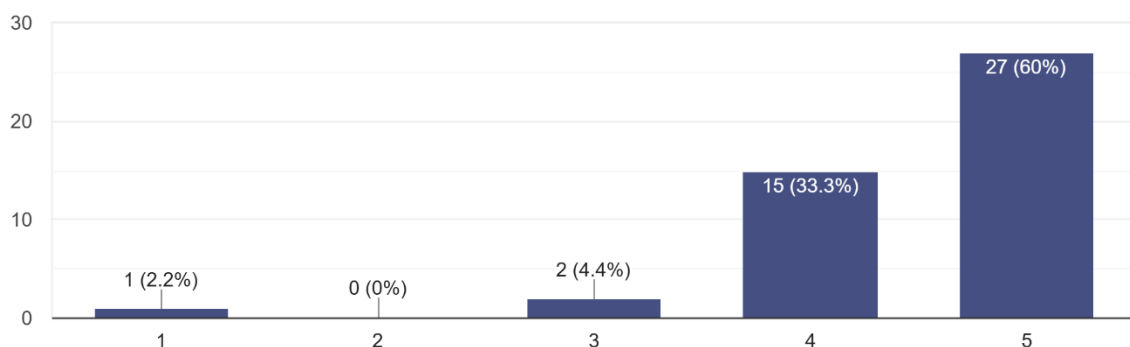
- The gala dinner
- Everything
- Lab AfriQA
- Gala dinner
- Yes, the Gala dinner.
- The presentations
- The dinner we had gave us more insight with people in a less professional setting, where we are able to engage more lightly.
- Gala Dinner
- Since it was a virtual one on my side, I didn't get the chance to network.
- I attended online
- Yes all the presentations
- No
- I enjoyed the virtual presentations by few individuals; however, we did not get the opportunity to ask questions.
- Yes everything was educational.
- Yes
- I was online so just getting to hear the guest speaker and get their contact information for further communication
- Reading the posters
- Virtual attendance - no networking.

- As i attended the online feature, Networking was very limited. Therefore i cannot really elaborate on this question.
- I can recall something specifically
- To know people in the same field
- No
- I enjoyed every activities
- No
- Most of them
- The sponsor
- Attended virtual
- No
- I only enjoyed listening to presentations
- I think it would have made it easier to network if I was physically there.
- Yes, thank you for sharing the images of the poster session also to members online. That was going the extra mile in ensuring that we don't miss out aspects shared for the day.
- With other labs especially OVI and TUT, UCT universities
- The whole session was enjoyable and very informative.
- No
- No
- None
- HWSETA interaction with Dr Mnisi
- I attended online, HWSETA's presentation was awesome
- The Gala dinner was one networking activity i enjoyed the most
- No, was on virtual platform
- The gala dinner including the great entertainment
- Presentations
- Questions and Answer sessions
- One Health approach

Logistics and Organization

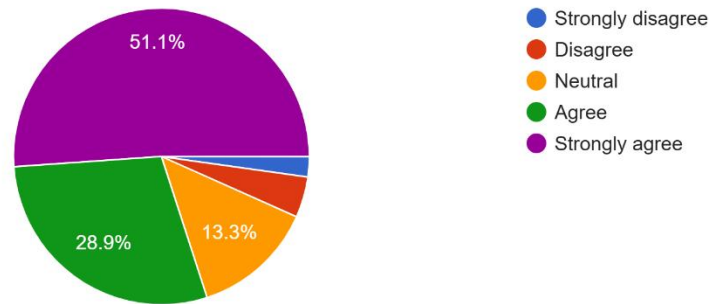
How satisfied were you with the overall organization of the congress?

45 responses



Were the congress schedule and venue logistics clear and well-communicated?

45 responses



Were there any logistical issues you encountered before or during the congress ?

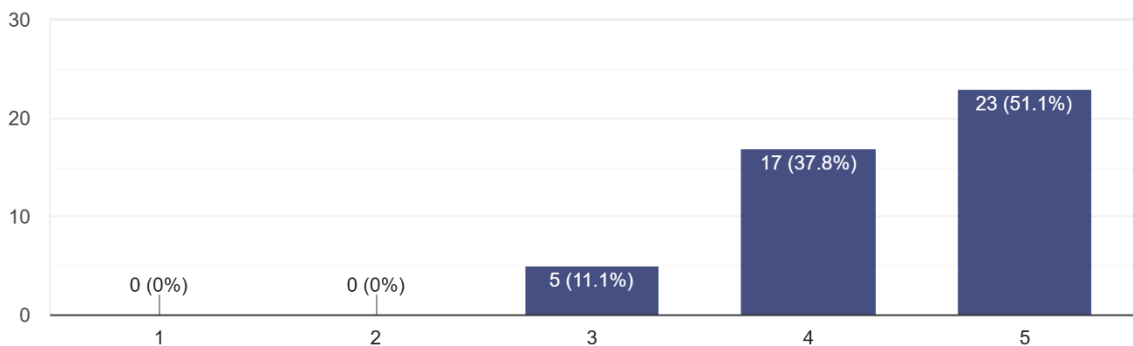
- No.
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- The gravel road was unexpected and slowing down.
- Before the congress because I was not made aware that that I was applying for virtual.
- No
- No
- No
- The sound issue at the beginning of the presentation.
- No
- No
- I was online so had connectivity issues
- No
- No
- No
- Attended online
- No
- Only from our procurement section
- No
- No
- Location was not mentioned
- None
- None
- No
- No
- No
- Yes. Being online we lost connection due to a local power outage in our area. After re-joining we may lose any important/relevant links perhaps shared. (excluding usual chats). Could these critical links also be shared again via email to all after the event. (FOMO)
- No, all was planned and well organised.
- None
- No
- No
- None

- No
- I attended online
- No
- None
- No
- None
- Only connection issues
- No
- Yes, network problem at the start of the congress

Speakers and Presentations

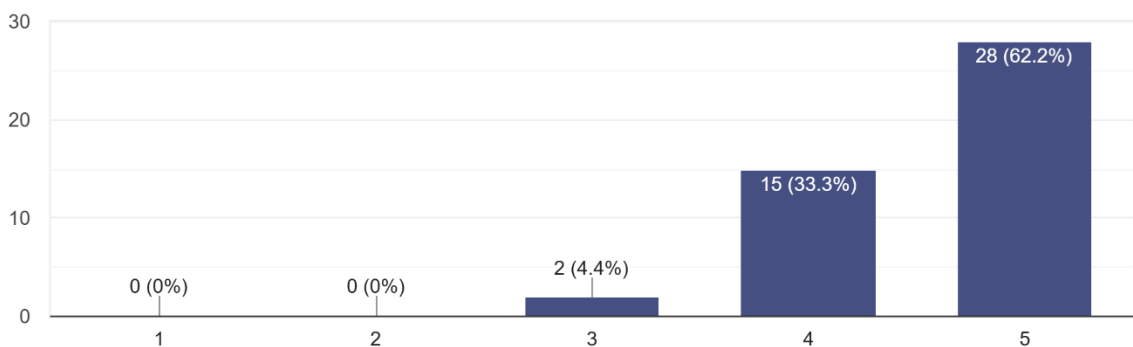
How would you rate the quality of the speakers and presentations?

45 responses



Were the presentations at an appropriate level of expertise for the audience?

45 responses



Suggestions for Improvement

Are there any specific areas where you think the congress could be improved or suggestions on how the organizers could enhance the overall congress experience?

- Professionalism of some (junior) speakers in presenting their work could be looked into.
- It is good for now
- Everything is perfect

- Engaging students more - Pair a student with someone that is already an expert to promote unity and also a greater understanding as to what is really expected of us from the industry (besides the usual information we are told at school)
- To get other experts from other fields
- The setting up of the chairs if we had tables and chairs we would be more comfortable and better engaging amongst peers
- The sound management had a lot of hiccups. The quality of the photos is very low.
- They should improve on keeping time.
- Tackle different topics by bringing delegates from different labs
- Everything turned out well
- I think it would be even better if the LATs are invited in the presenter's list since majority of the topics involve their field.
- I think the congress was good and thank you for making it online some of us needed the information
- No
- Work on time....a lot of the time the congress was behind schedule
- No
- No
- I think so far so good in terms of how organized the congress is and the opportunity given to individuals to showcase their knowledge and work.
- Nothing
- No
- Not really - perhaps sound system
- No
- Get more lab techs to speak about their problems when testing samples.
- They should invite disciplined professional students who knows how to answer questions professionally.
- None
- Expand the invitation to Provincial departments so that many officials can learn and gain more knowledge
- No
- They must also give everyone a chance to attend the congress instead of them attending it virtual.
- It was planned well.
- Maybe have break-out rooms for online members online during lunch break so they can engage or chat about the event ongoing.
- The programme was too congested if they can spread it over three days at least
- Can the speakers use hands-free microphones in the future.
- Invite more laboratory professionals to come and share their experiences working in the lab. Their presentations are more educational.
- No
- None
- Have Bigger venue that will allow delegates to have table when seated.
- Sound improvement and camera roll
- No
- None
- Sponsor more attendees to the event
- None
- Check on the online connection to help virtual attendees have a better experience throughout the congress.
- On how the collaboration between veterinary professionals can be improved In order to produce good quality work for the farmers while working towards the goal of ensuring food security
- Yes please check the network at the venue before hand

Do you have suggestions for additional topics, formats, or activities for future congresses?

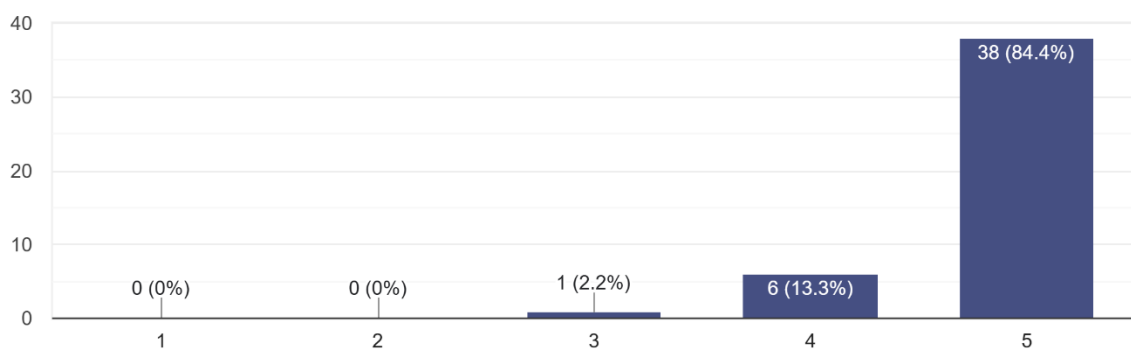
- Varied topics but equally informative
- NO
- Research in Aquatics
- NO
- As a suggestion- I noticed that it was mostly bacteria and a bit of virology- Maybe try to add a bit more of parasitology and aquatic research topics or studies and how we can fill in the gap, in that industry as Veterinary Technologists.
- No
- Maybe have a session where we would have teasers or technical questions just to see if organisations remain abreast with science
- The future of Veterinary Technology with AI
- Can they please include Animal Health technician next time.
- Sponsor final years and have presentations on the one-day skills and what to expect in the industry. Help on how they should approach interviews
- No
- None at the moment
- Yes.
- No
- No
- More masters or PhD students talking about their research. Have a way to show the posters properly for online crowd
- No
- Laboratory Management
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- How to be ready for a DALRRD audit.
- Topics about endemic animals' disease control changes.
- More days
- None
- No
- Not at all
- Not at the moment.
- A topic for the future: "making working under constant pressure/undue pressure "normal". Juggling way too many excess responsibilities, by expecting staff to handle high-stress levels as part of the daily job to the point of making it an expected attribute in an interview or a warning on the job advert. Mental Health is perhaps being abused to make abnormal stress acceptable. Staff retention is critical. Often a passion is killed by wearing out staff with excessive abnormal workloads. Usually, the problem is with leadership blindness. Just sometimes the job description is excessive for one person alone. HR and management MUST reduce expectations and lower stress levels back to normal. We are all human. This could make a very good topic and will ensure a balanced workforce. (Burning a candle at both ends).
- No
- None
- None
- Rabies topic
- None
- Provide association T-shirts with SAAVT logo for all attendees.
- No

- No
- Zoonotic diseases
- Integrated role of all veterinary and paraprofessionals and veterinary technology
- Would like to see more participation in presentations from colleagues who are not in the reach environment but routine diagnostics
- We can have ad breaks and motivation from our fellow successful para vets in the industry
- There must be speakers in each veterinary field AHT, Vet nurse, vet, lab tech, vet, meat inspector and lab scientist
- Yes, to see Para Veterinary out of Veterinary council

Likelihood to attend again

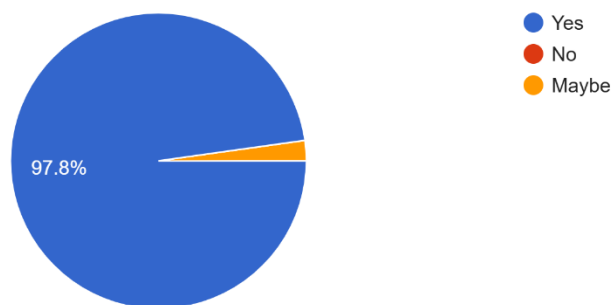
Based on your experience this year, how likely are you to attend the SAAVT congress again in the future?

45 responses



Would you recommend this congress to your colleagues or peers?

45 responses



Additional Comments

Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience at the congress?

- Congratulations on a well-organized congress.
- There was more to learn for everyone but more advantageous for colleagues in the Research field. I was inspired.
- Overall, it was a great experience, and I look forward to the next one. Hopefully I'll be able to make connections and engage more.
- This was a well organised event

- No
- The congress was very educational and fun
- All the sessions and presentations were well executed
- All the presenter who spoke about collaboration and the scope of our professions, they presented only their side of the story and listened, so, I believe that if the LATs side were heard, it would have been even better.
- The experience was great we learned a lot
- No
- Thank you for the opportunity.
- Keep up the good work.
- Stop using traditional as a theme for the gala EVENING
- No
- No
- I was interested to attend physically but i got myself on virtually. I felt the experiences I had missed.
- I am happy for opportunity and enjoyed all the talks
- None
- This congress was Fruitful, I learnt a lot about veterinary sections.
- Not at all
- It was a good conference.
- I'm proud to be associated with everyone in this association. Keep the good work up!
- I will suggest that the program be spread over three days at least because it had a lot of speakers yet received a very limited time.
- I would really appreciate being the part of the Congress again in the future.
- Yes. It was a wonderful experience.
- No
- None
- Overall experience - well-organised.
- No
- No
- None
- Yes, very relevant topics, I enjoyed all presentations. Keep up the good work.
- None
- I would really like to attend the congress physically and not virtually next time for better interaction with speakers

END