

YE NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME

Hi YE members !

After the successful young EPIZONE meeting in Copenhagen last year, we are already looking forward to the next meeting that will take place on the 2nd of September in Montpellier. With our new chairmen and a largely new core group, we hope that we will again organize a nice, informal meeting where you will get to know other young scientists from many different countries. Compared to former YE meetings, some things have changed. We do not have a separate YE day this year, but our meeting is now combined with the ESVV. This is a great opportunity to meet even more young scientists from different research fields. We will have three different YE sessions on Wednesday the 2nd of September. The exact topic of the day will follow soon and we hope you will all attend!

Best regards,
the YE core group



- Aims to integrate young scientists into the network of EPIZONE ERG
- Provides a platform for young scientists working on epizootic disease, where they are able to meet and discuss with peers from all over the world
- Organizes workshops and panel discussions with senior scientists

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ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

Don't forget that the deadline for submitting an abstract for the meeting is coming up. Abstracts can be submitted until **29th of March**. The EPIZONE scientific topics covered at this edition, will again include diagnostics, vaccines and antivirals, epidemiology, risk assessment and modelling, emerging diseases, domestic animals and wildlife virus interaction.

YE TRAVEL GRANTS

Also this year EPIZONE can supply travel grants of up to 500 € for young scientists to come to the EPIZONE annual meeting (2-3 September 2015). Applications for travel grants have to be made by the EPIZONE partner institute at least before the **31th of May 2015**.

An application letter should be send to the EPIZONE coordinator (wim.vanderpoel@wur.nl) and must include the following information:

- * Name of the young scientist involved,
- * Requested amount of money,
- * Estimated costs of the travel,
- * Ground for the application,
- * Must be undersigned by the head of the institute

IMPORTANT DATES

Don't forget to mark the following dates in your agenda:

- * Deadline for abstract submission: 29th of March
- * Deadline for YE travel grant application: 31th of May
- * YE meeting: 2nd of September

BUDGETS AVAILABLE FOR EPIZONE SHORT TERM MISSIONS

We once more would like to ask your attention for the renewed EPIZONE scientific missions programme. It is a very attractive instrument for exchange of knowledge and cooperation between EPIZONE partners in particular involving young scientists. It gives individual scientists the opportunity to visit other EPIZONE partner institutes and to improve their knowledge through cooperation. Also technicians are eligible for the scientific missions. There are still budgets available for 2015!

Scientific mission applications should be submitted at least three months prior to the first day of the visit. An executive committee member and the EPIZONE administration office will review proposals. A mission is eligible up to 3 months and the visit must be relevant to the EPIZONE objectives. In principle the missions are for EPIZONE members visiting another EPIZONE partner institute. However, scientific or strategic missions outside this rule could be considered provided that the added value for EPIZONE is clearly identified.

See for detailed information and application form here (<http://epizone-eu.net/en/Home/Events.htm>)

WHO ARE THEY, THE YE CORE GROUP MEMBERS?

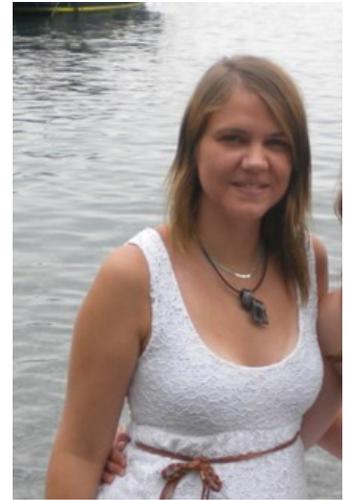
OUR NEW CHAIRMEN – HAIJIN LIU

Hello everyone! My name is Haijin and I feel very glad to be the new Young Epizone chair person. I am studying as a PhD student in Montpellier, France. This year is the second year of my PhD and the first year to be a member of Young Epizone. At the moment, I am working at the Cirad institute on the generation of a new vaccine to prevent poultry getting Newcastle disease and to control viral shedding. I will use the reverse genetics technology to generate and modify viruses. I am doing research on Newcastle disease virus since my master period and virological research is highly interesting to me. As a Chinese, I feel lucky to join Young Epizone and I believe I will learn lots of things being the new YE chair, such as scientific skills, ideas and so on. In addition, I think I will meet new friends of the same age and with similar interests. I am looking forward to see you in Montpellier.



MARIA JENCKEL

Hello! My name is Maria Jenckel and I joined the YE core group after the YE meeting in 2013. I am in the third year of my PhD at the FLI (Germany) and deal with Next Generation Sequencing and sequence data analysis. My main focus lies in genotype/phenotype correlation of and Cowpox viruses and virus population analysis of pestiviruses. Next to this I am also involved in virus identification and molecular characterization of various viruses. Therefore I try to find out what is possible with Next Generation Sequencing. I mostly spend my free time with my friends, reading and travelling. I am really happy to be a part of YE and looking forward to see you all at the next meeting.

**FEMKE FEENSTRA**

My name is Femke Feenstra and I am in the final year of my PhD on Bluetongue virus vaccine development at the CVI in the Netherlands. This will be the fourth young EPIZONE meeting I will help organizing, so I know how nice, interactive and interesting the YE meetings are and would advise all of you to attend! See you in September in Montpellier.

JOHANNE HADSBJERG

I am currently in the second year of my PhD at the Danish Veterinary Institute where I study the replication of classical swine fever virus (CSFV). In particular I am looking at RNA-RNA interactions that can regulate a switch between translation and replication. I joined the YE core group last year and really enjoyed the annual meeting. I am happy to be a part of such a nice and useful network and I look forward to meeting a lot of other young scientists in Montpellier this year.



MARC GUIMERA

Hello! My name is Marc Guimera and I am a PhD student at the Pirbright Institute (UK). I am in the second year of my project, which aims to characterize the genes involved in the uncommon phenotype that Bluetongue virus serotype 26 exhibits. This is also my second year as a member of the YE core group and I have really enjoyed it so far. Other things about myself: I like travelling, languages and playing water polo. I hope to see all you at the next Young Epizone meeting in Montpellier!

**SARA VERPOEST**

I'm working at the Belgian Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA) and this will be my last year of PhD. My research focusses on the differences in virulence between Pseudorabies virus strains from wild boars and domestic pigs. I've already attended two YE meetings in the past, but this year I'm also part of the YE core group. I hope to get to know you all better at the next YE meeting.

CLAIRE BARBER

I am currently in the final year of my PhD which is looking at the ways African swine fever virus evades the host stress response; in particular I have focussed on a small protein called DP71L. I have really enjoyed my PhD and my time at the Pirbright Institute, but I am really looking forward to finishing and getting a real job! I joined the YE core group last year and loved being so involved, I am sure we will all have a great time again this year!



JULIE GOUZIL

Hi everyone! I've attend twice to the Young Epizone meeting before joining the core organization group, and I'm very happy to finally contribute to this great annual meeting. I'm in the last year of my PhD in the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) in Maisons-Alfort (just few minutes from Paris) in France. I'm studying the Schmallenberg virus (SBV) and especially the role of its virulence factor (NSs protein) in viral replication. This work aim to better understand how SBV, and closely related viruses as Akabane and Shamonda viruses, hijacks cells metabolism and innate immune response at molecular level. When I'm not pondering over my PhD, I like doing sports (mainly swimming and climbing), reading, have some fun and also, doing nothing! I look forward to see you in September in Montpellier and I hope the sun will also join us.



YE IS ALSO OPEN TO YOUNG SCIENTIST OF NON-EPIZONE MEMBER INSTITUTES

The Young EPIZONE network is not only open for institutes with an EPIZONE membership. Also young scientists of non-EPIZONE member institutes could become a member and attend the Young EPIZONE and EPIZONE annual meetings. However people from EPIZONE member institutes get a **discount** on the meeting registration fee.

“the YE network is open to ALL young scientist”

We are on [Linked in](#)