In May 2019, an overview of IABS’ mission and activities was presented at the U.S. Veterinary Biologics Training Program. The training program is co-sponsored by the USDA APHIS Center for Veterinary Biologics, the USDA APHIS National Veterinary Services Laboratories and the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine’s Institute for International Cooperation in Animal Biologics (IICAB). The IICAB was founded in 1995 by the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Iowa State University. In June 1998, the IICAB received designation as a component of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Collaborating Centre for the Diagnosis of Animal Diseases and Vaccine Evaluation in the Americas. The designation is shared with the USDA APHIS National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) and Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB).

The first Veterinary Biologics Training Program was held in June 1996 at the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine. The training program has been offered each year since then. More than 2800 individuals have attended the program including over 833 international participants from 96 different countries. More than 140 participants attended in 2019. The program is known worldwide as a premier training program in immunology and veterinary vaccines. Many individuals who have participated in the training continue to be actively involved with veterinary biologics issues and activities world-wide.

Training Program participants were keenly interested in IABS and had many questions. Complimentary IABS Membership for 2019-2020 was offered to participants. IABS is looking forward to some of the new members attending upcoming conferences and workshops and becoming more actively involved with our organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Hill, IABS Communication Committee Chair