

CADMS Seminar Series

New advances and insights of African swine fever (ASF) epidemiology

Two outstanding experts as Guest Speakers!!

Prof. José Manuel Sánchez-Vizcaino, DVM, PhD, Dhc (Director of the OIE Reference Lab for ASF):
Master Lecture: "ASF: The main threat of the global pig industry. A view of its present and future"

Dr. Marisa Arias, PhD (Technical Director of the EU and FAO Reference Lab. for ASF)
Master Lecture: "ASF Surveillance programs. A view from the experience of the EU and FAO Reference laboratories"



February 19th (3:00-5:00pm), 1030 Valley Hall, UC Davis



*Organized by the Center for Animal Disease Modeling and Surveillance (CADMS)



José Manuel Sánchez-Vizcaíno was born in Murcia in 1951. He received his DVM and PhD at the Veterinary Faculty of the Universidad Complutense. Subsequently, he did his post-graduate studies in animal immunology and virology at Cornell University in New York. Upon returning to Spain he joined the National Institute of Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (INIA) performing the following functions: Researcher (1978-1980), Chief of Research Projects (1980-1985), Chief of the Animal Virology Department (1985-1988), Chief of the Animal Health Department (1988-1993) and Chief of the Animal Health Research Center (CISA) (1993-2002). Since 2002 is Full Professor of Animal Health at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, as well as Director of the Reference Laboratory of the OIE for African Swine Fever and African Horse Sickness

Professor Sánchez-Vizcaino has notably contributed to the control and eradication of various animal diseases, among them the African Swine Disease, African Horse Sickness and Classical Swine Fever. All of that thanks to the development of new methods and fast and sensitive diagnostic reagents, new epidemiologic strategies and effective vaccines. He has more than two hundred scientific publications in high international impact Journals. He is the author of various chapters in books with international prestige (e.g. African Swine Fever in Diseases of Swine, African Horse Sickness in the OIE handbook, Trends in Emerging Viral Infections of Swine) and digital courses dedicated to immunology and infectious diseases as well as sanitary simulations. He has directed a great number of investigation projects and 20 doctoral theses about animal infectious diseases. He has obtained numerous awards and prizes including the Merit Medal from the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), as international recognition to his outstanding services to veterinary science (5/24/09), and has been awarded Doctor Honoris Causa by the University of Murcia (22/04/10); furthermore he has been nominated "2013 George C. Poppensiek Visiting Professor in Global Animal Health" by the Cornell University (09/2013).



Marisa Arias was born in Valencia, Spain. She obtained the PhD degree in Biochemistry working on African swine fever, at the Universidad Autónoma of Madrid. She From 1987 she earned the position of staff Researcher in the National Institute of Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (INIA). Since 2005 is the Technical Director at the Animal Health Research Center (CISA), belonging to INIA. She has been also responsible for National and International Reference laboratories, in a number of animal infectious diseases of mandatory OIE notification. At present she is Technical Director of the EU Reference Laboratory for African swine fever (ASF) and Technical Director of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for ASF.

Throughout her career, Dr. Arias has been concerned in over sixty two National and EC-funded R&D projects as well as in National and International Agreements for Scientific and Technical cooperation with private Companies and international Organisms. As a result of it, she has contributed with more than a hundred scientific and technical publications. She has got three national scientific awards for outstanding research. Therefore, she got a merit for the activity research performed in 1998-2000. Her main expertise is related to R&D on emerging and transboundary animal diseases, mainly related with the development of new diagnostic tools and/or control strategies for a number of economically important animal viruses, including African swine fever, Classical swine fever, African Horse sickness, Bluetongue, Vesicular diseases, Aujeszky's disease, and PRRS. More than forty scientific publications are directly involved with the new developments. She has also worked actively in early warning system and various Spanish epidemiological surveillance and/or control and eradication programs of several former OIE list diseases, for which the INIA-CISA has been participating as National Reference Laboratory. She has participated in over fifty international Courses on Animal Health, Infectious Exotic diseases, with a special relevance in the last years to African swine fever, organized in Europe, and Central and South America, often in the capacity of Coordinator and /or Director.