



Scand-LAS
56th Annual General Meeting
28th of May, 2026
Copenhagen, Denmark

Scand-LAS
SUMMONS / AGENDA
2026-04-17

Annual General Meeting 2026

The 56th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Scandinavian Society for Laboratory Animal Science (Scand-LAS) will take place on the **28th of May 2026 at 12.00 - 13.00 CET.**

Place: The Hangar located at Comfort Hotel & Congress Copenhagen airport
Address: Ellehammersvej 20, Kastrup Airport
<https://www.strawberryhotels.com/hotels/denmark/kastrup/comfort-hotel-copenhagen-airport/>
(Conference room Merlin, 1 st floor).

Agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of chairman and secretary for the meeting
3. Approval of the agenda
4. Questions concerning notice of the meeting
5. Election of two scrutinizers of the minutes
6. Rollcall by country
7. Register of proxy votes
8. Change of bylaws
9. Presentation of the Board's report for **2025**
10. Presentation of the Auditors' report for **2025**
11. Acceptance of financial statement for **2025**
12. Granting authority for the Board for the remaining time in office
13. Activity plans and budget for the subsequent period
14. Election of the President for the accounting year **2027** and **2028**
15. Election of Board Members (including substitutes) from Norway and Sweden for the accounting year **2027** and **2028**
16. Election of auditors and substitutes for the accounting year **2027**
17. Processing of proposals submitted to the Board no less than 8 weeks prior to the meeting
18. Processing of questions from the Board and the Accountant
19. Processing of questions arising during the meeting
20. Determination of membership fee for the coming year
21. Election of Nomination committees for the accounting year **2027**
22. Information from the Board
23. Announcement of the time and place of next meeting
24. Other proposals to be laid before the AGM
25. Closing of the meeting.

On behalf of the board

David Arney

Scand-LAS
ANNUAL REPORT
The Financial Year 2025

The Board of the Scandinavian Society for Laboratory Animal Science, Scand-LAS, hereby gives the statement of account for January 1st – December 31st, 2025.

THE BOARD

The Board had the following composition:

President	David Arney, Estonia
Members	Lene Bregnholt Larsen, Denmark Toomas Tiirats, Estonia Anna Meller, Finland Siv Eggen, Norway Madeleine Le Grevés, Sweden
Substitutes	Lene Gorm Pedersen, Denmark Sulev Kuuse, Estonia Satu Mering, Finland Joanna Godawa Stormark, Norway Katarina Cvek, Sweden

The inaugural meeting was held 20/01/2025 in Tartu, Estonia.
There have been three regular Board meetings during the period. The regular meetings were held on 20/01/2025 in Tartu, Estonia, and the meetings on 24/03/2025 and 21/11/2025 were held online *via* Zoom.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting was held on June 4th, 2025, at Megaron Athens International Conference Centre, in Athens, Greece, in connection with the FELASA Congress.

There were 22 members with voting rights representing 5 member countries.

The auditors and their substitutes elected to review the financial year 2025 were:

Ordinary	Hanna Miettinen, Finland Ann-Christine Eklöf, Sweden
Substitutes	Preben Leonhardt, Denmark Åsa Holmberg, Sweden

ANNUAL FEE

The annual fee for 2025 has been 30 euro.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Nomination committee for 2025 consisted of the following members:

National Nomination Committees.

- Denmark: Klas Abelson (chairman), Jan Lund Ottesen, Dorte Bratbo Sørensen
- Estonia: vacant positions
- Finland: Niina Kemppinen (chairman), Emra Yarkin, Brian Mphande
- Norway: Aurora Brønstad (chairman), Adrian Smith, Siri Knudsen, Hege Haraldsen
- Sweden: Sara Lysén (chairman), Kristina Edvardsson, Jörgen Jönsson

Klas Abelson was convener for the Nomination committee.

SECRETARIAT

The secretariat was situated in Stockholm and run by Pia Hägg Haraldson.

WEBSITE

The Society has its own website with the address <https://www.scandlas.org>.

NEWSLETTER

The Scand-LAS newsletter is issued to improve the quality and level of information and communication between the Scand-LAS Board and the Scand-LAS members.

Two newsletters were published in 2025. The editor of the newsletter was Joanna Godawa Stormark. The newsletters were distributed to the Scand-LAS members by Joanna Godawa Stormark.

All members are very welcome to submit any news or relevant information for publication in the newsletter to either secretary@scandlas.org or president@scandlas.org.

THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL

SJLAS, the Scandinavian Journal of Laboratory Animal Science (ISSN 0901-3393; online ISSN 2002-0112) is the official scientific journal of Scand-LAS. The journal was founded in 1973 as the Scandinavian language house journal for Scand-LAS. The Journal was changed into an English language scientific journal with peer-review in 1985, and the name changed to the Scandinavian Journal of Laboratory Animal Science.

Since 2014, the journal has been an open access journal. To publish in the journal, a fee of 300 EUR applies. However, if the corresponding author is a Scand-LAS member, the publication fee is waived. SJLAS is publishing exclusively online on the journal's website <https://sjlas.scandlas.org>. On the website, previous publications dating back to 1976 can also be found, free of charge.

The editorial board is chaired by the Editor-in-Chief (EIC), and has one section editor from each Scand-LAS country, as well as some appointed *ad hoc* editors. In addition, members in charge of administration, copyediting, linguistics, and the website, are represented in the editorial board.

In 2025, the editorial board was constituted as follows:

Editor-in-Chief:

Klas Abelson

Section Editors:

Sara Hestehave Kristensen, Denmark

Aavo Lang, Estonia,

Emrah Yatkin, Finland

Siv Eggen, Norway

Lynne Sneddon, Sweden

Ad hoc Editor:

Hanna-Marja Voipio, Finland

Copyeditor and administrator:

Niina Kemppinen, Finland

Layout editor:

Oskar Styrenius, Sweden

Staffan Westerlund, Sweden

Linguistic editor:

Dick Islay, UK

External expert:

Risto Mustonen, Estonia

The editorial board had one regular meeting in 2025, and otherwise worked through e-mail correspondence and through the Open Journal System (OJS).

The journal's most recent impact factor in Web of Science Group is 0,2, with a 5-year impact factor of 0,4. The H-index is 22.

Five (5) articles were published in 2025 (Volume 51). There were altogether 18 manuscripts submitted to the journal in 2024, of which five (5) were accepted for publication. Most of the rejected manuscripts were rejected by the EIC or one of the section editors before being sent to review, as they were not of sufficient quality or not within the scope of the journal. Submission of good quality manuscripts from Scand-LAS members are strongly encouraged.

SJLAS is struggling with attracting sponsors. In 2024, seven (7) companies were sponsoring the journal, but in 2025, only two companies remained.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND CPD GRANTS

In 2025, no new Scholarships grants were given since no Scand-LAS conference was organized.

To facilitate participation in the FELASA congress in Athens, a total of 7 Scand-LAS CPD grants up to 1,000 euros each were given to the following Scand-LAS members:

Emily K Lindh, Finland

Eva Diemar, Denmark

Nicole Gutman, Denmark

Lene Larsen, Denmark

Marie Louise Hansen, Denmark

Fredrikke Uldall Fløe Mortensen, Denmark

Pernille Ørtberg Olsen, Denmark

LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN 2025

The university of Bergen, Norway, in collaboration with Charles River Laboratories, Denmark organized a one-day seminar on the focus on Culture of Care, on the 8th April.

Culture of care was one of the main topics on this meeting, and Chloe Stevens (RSPCA), gave a thought-provoking talk “Caring for the Carers – avoiding compassion fatigue”. Culture of care was also addressed in Adrian Smiths’ talk – where he also gave an update on the status for establishing a Norwegian 3R centre. Improving animal studies was another topic and Tine Rudolph, Charles River Laboratories gave a talk on “How to increase animal welfare, reproducibility and transability in your animal studies” with a focus on genetic control. Thomas Svava Nielsen, of TS Nielsen Scientific Consult, addressed shared experiences on improvement in rodent surgery in his talk “Trauma, pain, and infections – the importance of Good Surgical Practice in rodent surgery”.

Finally, Chloe Stevens, gave a second talk on “Refinement for laboratory fish”. The programme had room for informal small talk networking between participants– who also came from outside Bergen, during the breaks. Feedback from the participants has been exclusively positive both on the choice of topics as well as the scientific quality of the speakers. All course participants have received a course certificate - with the Scand-LAS logo included. The dinner in the evening was sponsored by Scand-LAS.

The number of participants was 23, seven of whom were Scand-LAS members. Scand-LAS supported the activity with 1,500 euros.

WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

The Committee for Education and Training (ET Committee)

The ET committee consists of the following members (appointed period in brackets).

Hanna-Marja Voipio, Finland (2021-2025)

Klas Abelson, Denmark (2021-2025)

Lene Gorm Pedersen, Denmark (2022-2026)

Åsa Holmberg Wenell, Sweden (2022-2026)

Toomas Tiirats, Estonia (2021-2025)

Scand-LAS president acted as observer in the Committee.

Three members: Klas Abelson, Toomas Tiirats and Hanna-Marja Voipio, were re-elected for the next four-year term.

The ET Committee had nine meetings (via Zoom) in 2025.

The ET Committee has decided to organise a workshop for technicians in years when Scand-LAS does not have a conference. A Communication workshop was organised in Copenhagen on the 17th - 18th of September 2025, with a diverse programme and a lot of discussion. Since most of more than 50 participants were from Denmark; it was decided that a similar workshop would take a place in different Scand-LAS countries in future. A detailed description of the workshop can be found in the Scand-LAS Newsletter of February 2025.

Plans to launch the Technicians’ visiting programme continued. The aim is to develop a programme in which animal technicians would have the opportunity to visit another laboratory animal facility in the region, gain new knowledge and learn different ways of working. Support for the visits will begin to be offered in 2026.

ET session preparation for Scand-LAS 2026 began with the topic: Continuous professional development and training of staff and trainers.

***Ad hoc* committee on the history of Scand-LAS**

The *ad hoc* committee consists of Ann-Christine Eklöf. Those who have collaborated and contributed to the writing include Timo Nevalainen, Axel Kornerup, Adrian Smith, Otto Kugelberg and Jann Hau. We have had frequent mail contacts and zoom meetings for discussing and planning the content.

We have now several chapters i.e. background history, education, the Journal and some more are in the pipeline.

The draft is almost ready but still some editing remains.

INFORMATION ON FELASA ACTIVITIES IN 2025 - early 2026

FELASA Member Delegate meetings (MDM) were attended by Scand-LAS representatives, David Arney and Joanna Godawa Stormark.

These meetings are now predominantly online, and are in-person once per year. There was an in-person meeting at in Athens on the 31st May 2025. Online meetings were held on October 15th 2025, 26th November 2025 and 9th April 2026.

The next MDM will be held in Budapest on June 6th 2026.

The top news for Scand-LAS is that we are submitting a bid to host the FELASA congress of 2030 in Gothenburg. A letter of intent has been sent and received, and there has been a site visit to Gothenburg Gothia Towers for an inspection by the President of FELASA. This was also attended by David Arney and Madeleine Le Grevés. The FELASA President reported himself very satisfied with the visit, site and city. Our bid will be presented to the FELASA board at the Budapest meeting in June and there will follow a vote. Should we be selected for the final two host associations we will present a more detailed bid in October.

Our competitors are Milan and Lisbon.

Other news from the meetings of note were:

FELASA can provide speakers and support their expenses financially for our congresses.

Following a point raised by Scand-LAS regarding Scand-LAS members who are technicians not gaining any benefit regarding fees to attend FELASA congresses, “For the next Congress, there will be a cheap registration fee for those technicians who are members of a MA, and day tickets taking advantage of the fact that the Congress is in Cologne, which should be widely reachable for a one-day visit from Europe.

For many, the most expensive part of going to the Congress is travelling there and accommodation rather than the registration fees”.

Financial support for ETPLAS from FELASA was approved.

Reminder that the FELASA website can be found here: <https://felasa.eu/> .

We are now able to advertise any scholarships on the FELASA website if we wish to do so.

Current working groups (WG) are on a range of topics listed below:

- Anesthesia and Analgesia in calves, goats, sheep and pigs for biomedical research
- Benchmarking the Ratio of Technical Staff for the Care of laboratory mice, according to the personnel’s role and housing and husbandry conditions
- Blood sampling of rodents
- Communication in Animal Research - FELASA-AALAS-CALAM-CALAS-EARA

- Harmful and non-harmful phenotypes of mice
- Health & welfare management of laboratory chickens
- Health & welfare management of the Equine Species in research and education
- Humane Endpoints for Mice in Research
- Learning Outcomes for laboratory animal caretakers, technicians and technologists
- Methodology for Health Monitoring of mice maintained in IVCs
- Pig training and conditioning for research
- Rat housing
- Rehoming: sharing-information platform
- Role of the designated veterinarian – FELASA-ECLAM-ESLAV WG
- Severity classification in zebrafish and their larvae
- Severity Workshops
- Training for Replacement
- Welfare and health management of laboratory dogs, cats and ferrets.

Details of all these can be found here: <https://felasa.eu/working-groups> .

Notices from FELASA throughout the year were sent on to members.

The report for FELASA on Scand-LAS activities for 2025 was submitted on time.

INFORMATION ON ICLAS ACTIVITIES IN 2025

Scand-LAS has continued its liaison with ICLAS and disseminated information about ICLAS activities to Scand-LAS members.

For information about ICLAS activities, please visit <https://iclas.org>.

SCAND-LAS MEMBERS

In 2025 Scand-LAS had members in the following countries:

	2025
Denmark	129
Estonia	10
Finland	24
Great Britain	1
Greece	1
Hungary	1
India	1
Italy	1
Norway	31
Sweden	72
Total	271

CLOSING REMARKS

The financial situation of Scand-LAS is solid, which enables the society to continue to organize and support further educational activities.

The ET-Committee has also in 2025 been very active initiating, executing and planning new educational activities.

The number of members was **271 in 2025** (in previous years the numbers were 256 in 2024; 268 in 2023, 238 in 2022; 264 in 2021 and 270 in 2020).

The Board will have a continued focus to increase the number of members and have, amongst other initiatives, have created a new website for the society, which the board hope the membership approve of.

We hope for a successful bid for the FELASA congress of 2030 in Gothenburg.

Finally, the board would like to thank the members of the society for their contribution and support in 2025.

We encourage you all to be active, take advantage of our association's educational activities and support opportunities, and please do bring forward ideas for the further development of the society. The society is for you.

David Arney

Lene Bregnholt Larsen

Madeleine Le Grevés

Anna Meller

Siv Eggen

Toomas Tiirats

FINANCIAL REPORT, 2025

Currency Euro

Ingoing balance 2025-01-01		215 153
Revenues		
Bank interest	244	
SJLAS (The Journal)	700	
ET Committee	2 885	
Membership fees	8 164	
Total Revenues	11 993	
Expenses		
The board (meetings/annual meeting)	9 847	
FELASA annual fee	2 514	
ICLAS annual fee	428	
SJLAS (The Journal)	1 500	
CPD grants	4 000	
Local activity support	1 080	
ET Committee	2 551	
Secretariat	4 383	
Office supplies	498	
Website	3 433	
Boards disposal	193	
Bank charges	312	
Total Expenses	30 739	
Result 2025		18 746
Outgoing balance 2025-12-31		196 407



AUDITOR'S REPORT

We, signing auditors, appointed of Scand-LAS 54rd ordinary Annual meeting, May 22, 2024, will hereby give our Report.

The examination has been made of Annual Financial Report and Report of the Board of Scand-LAS Denmark / Estonia / Finland / Norway / Sweden Administration for year 2025. The Board is responsible for all financial reports and administration.

We have made examination of important decisions and state of affairs in the association to estimate if any of the members of the board has made action against the Association statutory.

We found that the members of the Board have not made any action against the Associations statutory and we will therefore suggest the Annual meeting to adopt the report and accounts for year 2025.

Sweden and Denmark in March 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann-Christine Eklöf', with a small vertical bar at the end.

Ann-Christine Eklöf

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Preben Leonhardt', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Preben Leonhardt

ACTIVITY PLAN 2026

Scand-LAS will continue to focus on education and training, foster co-operation between Scand-LAS member countries as well as other European countries, and exchange knowledge and information in the field of laboratory science. All the members are encouraged to take part in Scand-LAS activities and granting opportunities offered by Scand-LAS. Specific activities for the coming year include preparations for the bid to host the FELASA congress in 2030.

The draft of the publication on the history of Scand-LAS is expected this year, and new activities are being planned for our members through the ET committee. The board is focused on increasing the membership, including a more attractive and intuitive website. An activity for our members is to consider submitting items of interest to the society newsletter. Itemises activities are detailed below:

1. Annual meeting

The Scand-LAS conference will in 2026 be held in Copenhagen, Denmark May 26th-29th.

The Annual General Meeting in 2026 is scheduled for the 28th of May, during the Scand-LAS conference in Copenhagen.

2. Scand-LAS secretariat

The Scand-LAS secretariat is located in Stockholm and run by Pia Hägg Haraldson.

3. Scand-LAS working groups and committees

The ET Committee will launch the technicians' visiting programme in 2026.

As there will be no Scand-LAS conference in 2027, ET committee will organize a workshop for technicians. At the end of the year 2026, the first term of two members is coming to an end and the call for new members will be held in the autumn.

4. Awards, scholarships, grants and local activity support

Scholarships for attending Scand-LAS meetings

The board has decided to grant 10 Scholarship of 725 euro each for participate to the Scand-LAS conference in Copenhagen.

Grants for Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

The aim of the Scand-LAS CPD grant is to support a person's continuous education plans, and cover costs up to 1,000 euro e.g., for participating in a laboratory animal science meeting other than the Scand-LAS symposium, visiting a relevant institute or laboratory, taking a particular course or other education opportunity etc. The grant is open for applications from animal technicians, biomedical laboratory technicians, PhD students, postgraduate junior scientists, and non-scientific personnel such as facility managers and veterinarians.

In 2026, the board budgeted for 3 CPD grants à 1,000 euro each.

Local activity support

Local activity support can be applied for organising seminars, workshops, or courses in one of the Scand-LAS countries. Support is especially important considering the continuing education of those Scand-LAS members who are not able to participate in the annual conference or educational days or prefer having education in their own language. Members in each country are encouraged to organise seminars and apply for Scand-LAS support.

5. Information channels

The Board has produced a new website for the society: <https://www.scandlas.org>

The Scand-LAS newsletter is published regularly, with approximately four issues per year. The newsletter is an easy way to give short news and current activities.

To publish items on the website or in the newsletter, contact webmaster@scandlas.org or your national board representative.

Scand-LAS is also present on social media, with member groups on Facebook and LinkedIn.

6. Scandinavian Journal of Laboratory Animal Science

The Journal can be accessed <https://ojs.utlib.ee/index.php/SJLAS> . The Editorial Board are still working on improving the submission system and publishing system and attracting more sponsors to make it an attractive alternative for scientists to publish their work in laboratory animal science in our journal.

7. International connections

Scand-LAS has close relationships with many international organisations. In FELASA, Scand-LAS is one of the largest associations, and our representatives in FELASA's Members' Delegate Meeting actively spread and gathering information for FELASA purposes.

During 2025, David Arney and Joanna Godawa Stormark are the Scand-LAS representatives in the FELASA Members' Delegate Meeting.

Scand-LAS is also a member of ICLAS and will continue to disseminate information on ICLAS-activities for our members.

On behalf of the Scand-LAS board,

David Arney
President

BUDGET proposal for 2026

Currency Euro

Ingoing balance 2026-01-01		196 407
Revenues		
Donations	100	
Bank interest	10	
SJLAS (The Journal)	1 000	
Scand-LAS Denmark	5 000	
Membership fees	8 000	
Total Revenues	14 110	
Expenses		
The board (meetings/annual meeting)	10 000	
FELASA annual fee	2 600	
FELASA board travel costs	1 000	
ICLAS annual fee	437	
Scholarships	7 250	
CPD grants	3 000	
Local activity support	3 000	
ET Committee	3 750	
SJLAS (The Journal)	3 000	
Secretariat	5 000	
Office supplies	500	
Website	5 000	
Boards disposal	500	
Bank charges	500	
Total Expenses	45 537	
Result 2026		-31 427
Outgoing balance 2026-12-31		164 980

ELECTIONS

Suggestion from the Nomination Committee for Scand-LAS governing board members and substitutes for the accounting years **2027** and **2028**.

This year the annual meeting should elect board members and substitutes from Norway and Sweden

The Nomination committee suggests:

Election of President: David Arney

Norway:

Siv Eggen	Ordinary board member
Amalie Hofmeyer Andersen	Substitute

Sweden:

Katarina Cvek	Ordinary board member
Madeleine Le Grevés	Substitute

Auditors for the accounting year 2027:

Ann-Christine Eklöf	Ordinary
Otto Kalliokoski	Ordinary

Åsa Holmberg	Substitute
Preben Leonhardt	Substitute

National Nomination Committees for 2027:

Denmark:

Klas Abelson, Dorte Bratbo Sørensen, *vacant*

Estonia:

Raini Pert, *vacant, vacant*

Finland:

Niina Kemppinen, Sakari Laaksonen, Brian Mhphande

Norway:

Aurora Brønstad, Hege Haraldsen, Siri Knudsen

Sweden:

Kristina Edwardsson, Sara Lysén, *vacant*

Convenor for the Nomination Committee:

Klas Abelson

Date: 29th April, in Copenhagen 2026

Klas Abelson

Convener of the Nomination Committee

**SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE -
Scand-LAS**

LETTER OF ATTORNEY

PROXY FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

Hereby I give proxy to

.....

to use my right to vote, at the annual meeting of Scand-LAS, 28th May 2026.

(Your name)

_____2026
(Date)

Witnessing: _____

N.B. Members are only allowed to have one proxy beside his/her own vote.