

Fall 2004
Volume 72

News & Views



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President's Corner

Greetings from Kentucky! I was very glad to see so many outstanding members at the General Membership meeting in Philadelphia. Thank you for your attendance and input.

Congratulations to our 27 new Diplomates. We proudly welcome you to our organization and hope that you might become involved with one of our committees.

I have greatly appreciated Past President Dr. Paul Sundberg's vision to form the ad hoc Membership Coordinating Task Force. This committee is now referred to as the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC). The SPC met in Philadelphia before the AVMA conference to discuss and define areas to develop in the next few years. Many of these are to meet the requirements of American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS), which certifies all specialty colleges including the ACVPM. In the near future, ABVS may be requiring:

- A job analysis which will match our boards to how our diplomates are employed
- Psychometric analysis of all exam questions
- A recertification process for diplomates

The ACVPM Executive Board convened in Philadelphia and agreed with the Strategic Planning Committee's recommendations to:

1. Appoint a project officer to prepare for a job analysis of ACVPM members, which would include the cost involved with the study, available companies, and determine what is involved. Dr. Gary Gackstetter has agreed to lead this effort.
2. Sponsor a half day seminar at the 2005 USAHA/ AAVLD conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania, provide a booth display, and have the Executive Board convene.



3. Survey the membership about member's involvement, current employment, and how the ACVPM can better serve them.
4. Review the committee structure and prepare necessary changes to the By-laws.
5. Evaluate graduate programs.
6. Anticipate future ABVS requirements for recertification.

Recertification will be needed; five specialty colleges already have recertification in place. Recertification with continuing education is better than re-examination! This subject will need to be discussed, developed, and implemented in the near future. At the General Membership meeting, several members signed up for committee membership, recertification discussion, or graduate program evaluation. Thank you!

Congratulations to Dr. Dave Dreesen for receiving the 2004 President's Award! He is the work horse behind all ACVPM efforts! I also want to thank Joe Adams, our web master, who continues to improve the website and provide easier access for members to ACVPM information. My appreciation goes to Dr. Niall Finnegan as outgoing Past President for his guidance with the SPC and to Dr. Don Noah as outgoing Councilor.

As you know, it is important for the "herd" to remain healthy and improve its vitality. To do this for the ACVPM, we need your involvement and input! Please contact me if you are interested in becoming more involved in our activities at pscharko@uky.edu

Sincerely,
Patty Scharko
Head of the herd



Notes from the Immediate Past-President

I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to help direct the College business for the last 2 years. As I am sure that I am not the first with the College to say, much was done but there is so much more to do. The web site, the ACVPM World Headquarters, handling the first legal challenge to our examination process and making that process even stronger, the increased awareness of our College in food animal practitioner circles and in government agencies, and the formation of a Strategic Planning Committee are among the advancements.

If you weren't able to attend, please take a few minutes to review the notes, minutes, and documents from the annual meeting in Philadelphia. There was much talked about and discussed. There were decisions and actions taken that will work for the College in years to come. Input, ideas and participation by all are encouraged. Your Executive Board doesn't know your thoughts and wants if you don't become part of the process.

Finally, my thanks go to the Executive Board, Dr. Dreesen, the various committee chairs and members and all the others that have given me support, guidance and encouragement during my time as President. I encourage you all to give Dr. Scharko the same. And, I truly feel that I've gotten more than I've given and for that I'm grateful.

Paul

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ACVPM Welcomes 27 New Diplomates

T. J. Atkin—Silver Spring, MD
Patricia A. Bennett— FPO, AP
Roy D. Berghaus—Davis, CA
Bonnie Buntain—Washington, DC
Paul H. Dakin—Fayetteville, NC
Kenneth E. Despain—Darlington, MD
Mark R. Duffy—APO, AE
Robert W. Gilmore—Windcrest, TX
Steven T. Greiner—Bryan, TX
Kenneth E. Hall—Newport News, VA
Margery M. Hanfelt—APO, AE
Steven R. Hinton—Thurmont, MD
Natalie M. Keeler—Atlanta, GA
James C. Kile, III—Atlanta, GA
Jerrod W. Killian—San Antonio, TX
Robert L. Larson—Ashland, Missouri
Anne Mitchell MacLarty—Walkersville, MD
Jennifer H. McQuiston—Stone Mountain, GA
Alecia L. Naugle—Germantown, MD
Malcolm C. Roberts—Raleigh, NC
Aaron Scott—Fort Collins, CO
Renee Shibukawa-Kent—San Antonio, TX
Regina L. Tan—Reston, VA
Aurora Villarroel—Fort Collins, CO
Alisa R. Gomez Wilma—Davis, CA
Kirk Winger—Atlanta, GA
Brad S. Winterton—Brooks City-Base, TX

Highlights from The 2004 General Membership Meeting

President Paul Sundberg called the general membership meeting of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (ACVPM) to order at 2:05 p.m. at the Loew's Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Approximately 90 members were present.

Dr. Sundberg introduced the members of the Executive Board and other officers who were present:

President-Elect	Patty Scharko
Secretary/Treasurer	Candace Jacobs
Councilor	Don Noah
Councilor	Kelly Donham
Councilor	Gary Gackstetter
Past President	Niall Finnegan
Executive Vice President	Dave Dreesen

Executive Vice President's remarks: Dr. Dreesen offered some comments on the state of the College:

- a. This year has been a good year. Our budget continues in the black because of two reasons: 1) dues increase, and 2) expense reductions.
- b. We passed the American Board of Veterinary Specialties' (ABVS) annual review. The Internal Affairs Committee put a lot of effort into revising our bylaws to improve the appeals process, among other things.
- c. Our web page is interactive, but most of the activity is on the part of the EVP and Webmaster, so we are seeking information from the membership that may be of interest to the College membership. Please send in material for web publication! Please update personal information on the web rather than sending information to Dr. Dreesen.
- d. We need to increase membership and the membership needs to sell the organization. We will increase only 11 this year.
- e. A number of Committees have not been as active as they should be, so Councilors will be more involved with Committee activities this year. Please contact Dr. Scharko if you have an interest in serving on a Committee.

We need to increase membership and the membership needs to sell the organization.

—Dr. Dave Dreesen

President's report: Dr. Sundberg re-emphasized some of Dr. Dreesen's observations. He made some additional points:

- a. Candidate opportunities - We are looking at ways to ensure opportunities for everyone seeking diplomate status. We are considering moving the examination away from the AVMA meeting, for example.
- b. Website - The website has improved the communications capability of the College (thanks to Dr. Dreesen). The Aestiva Users Group has given the website its annual gold award, which identifies it as a website that is well organized.
- c. Outreach – the ad hoc membership coordination task force recommendations are provided later. We have expanded our outreach to practitioners which follows up on a focus identified a few years ago.
- d. Administration – Dr. Sundberg highlighted our successful ABVS report and our success in defending a legal challenge to the exam process.

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e. Task force effort – The ad hoc membership coordination task force looked at ways to help with awareness and educational resources along with examining the bylaws and what needs to happen to support these efforts. Nine members of the task force met in Kansas City and again at AVMA where they did an exemplary job. This effort was exciting, innovative, visionary and new and will bring the College into the 21st century.

f. Recommendations – The last newsletter's President's report discussed the book *Good To Great* by Collins. The book addressed the need to identify the return on investment and what you specifically do better than anyone else in the world. What are you most passionate about? Answers to these questions will lead us from Good to Great.

g. Appreciation - Thanks to the Executive Board for help, conference calls, and support. Thanks to Dr. Tom Murnane, the historian for the College, who has asked to resign. This position needs to be filled so please indicate your interest. Finally, thanks to the membership for all of your help.

ABVS report: Dr. Leon Russell: The ABVS is an organization of 20 specialty Colleges that meets once per year to maintain high quality of boards and address changes in the profession. Essentially it is a quality control organization – its processes are fair, legally defensible, and are the same for all specialty Colleges. The ABVS now has a trademarked, licensed logo that we can include on our letterhead, business cards, etc.

The ABVS approved the ACVPM annual report. Additionally, it noted that all Colleges should start preparing for:

- a. Job analysis – an in-depth review of positions that College diplomats hold in the workforce (the veterinary emergency and critical care group completed one last year)
- b. Examination - is our examination psychometrically sound and legally defensible
- c. Recertification to ensure ongoing competency and reduce liability
- d. Insurance – We currently have Directors and Officers' (D&O) insurance, but need Errors and Omissions (E&O) insurance to cover our examination process, among other things.

Dr. Russell thanked the College for allowing him to represent us.

Budget report: Dr. Jacobs discussed this year's internal audit and congratulated Dr. Dreesen on his conservative fiscal policies that resulted in a \$10,000 end of fiscal year surplus. She outlined the need to increase dues and examination fees to support upcoming expenses, including office computer replacement, increased insurance costs and staff salaries, as well as addressing activities identified by the ABVS and the ad hoc membership coordination task force. Additionally, ABVS asks specialty Colleges to maintain a reserve of one year's operating expenses. The ACVPM Certificate of Deposit stands at \$53,593. We should have at least \$75,000 in reserve, so increases in revenue will be used to build this up.

The Executive Board approved an increase in dues for the Calendar Year 2005 to \$125.00 from the current \$100.00. Two primary needs for the additional funds are: 1) An increase of approximately \$6,000 in insurance costs is occurring this year. Insurance carriers will no longer cover the certification process of specialty

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organizations, such as ACVPM, under the current Directors and Officers (D & O) insurance coverage. We now must also carry Errors and Omissions (E &) insurance to cover the work of the Credentials and Examinations Committees; 2) The American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS) requires that specialty organizations have equal to a one-year's budget in a secure savings account. Currently we are not at this level and need to provide a surplus budget over the next few years so that we can add to our savings without disrupting the function of the college.

Epidemiology Specialty: Dr. Millie Eidson reported that the Specialty grew by 2 new members in 2003, with 2 exam candidates this year. The Continuing Education Committee was reinvigorated and hopes to offer a computer wet lab at USAHA in Hershey PA in 2005. The membership was encouraged to contact her about that.

Standing Committee reports:

a. Internal Affairs – Dr. Peggy Carter recognized the Committee members and thanked them for their efforts. They prepared the ABVS annual report and developed and submitted bylaws changes to the membership which were all accepted by an overwhelming vote. Also, they identified an error in previously published bylaws concerning the historian. This position is not an ex officio member of the executive committee, as this was not voted on by membership. What is currently published is now consistent with membership voting records.

b. Examinations – Dr. Mo Salman reported that out of 36 total candidates, 27 passed, resulting in a 75% pass rate. He then recognized the incoming Committee members.

Out of 36 total candidates, 27 passed, resulting in a 75% pass rate.

Dr. Mo Salman

Special presentation:

Dr. Barb Masters, acting USDA FSIS administrator, offered key points on recent transformations accomplished by USDA veterinarians, including BSE initiatives and disease detection. Top agency priorities were mentioned, including improving the inspection process which results in significant reduction in human illness. USDA is currently in the reassessment phase of HACCP food safety systems, such as examining the design of programs and making changes if needed. Sixty percent of food processors had made significant changes to their food safety systems, including HACCP and sanitation systems as well as looking at interventions. The agency has only detected 7 positive E. coli O157:H7 this year, a significant reduction. A vision paper was released last week addressing preventing and predicting risks, using data. The aim is to obtain industry data if possible to use in preventing risk. Another area of focus is the hazard coefficient where the inherent hazards in food processing establishments are examined for compliance. Inspection frequency may be altered to address this. Another consideration for the veterinary work force is to change their name to Public Health Veterinarians – they are a critical component of the work force.

Awards presentation: Dr. Sundberg presented the following awards:

a. Honorary Diplomates – Dr. Lester Crawford, Acting Commissioner of FDA, and Dr. Roscoe Moore – former Assistant US Surgeon General

b. Distinguished Diplomat – for significant contributions to the Preventive Medicine specialty in veterinary medicine – Dr. Will Hueston

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- c. Helwig Jennings – for significant and lasting contributions – Dr. John Herbold
- d. Emeritus status – Drs. Anderson, Dierks, Dorn, Jorgenson, Morgan, Mock, Mueller, Satolowicz, Sawyer
- e. Outgoing Committee Chairs – Dr. Ron Blakely, Standards & Recognition; Dr. Michelle Jay, Publications; Dr. Peggy Carter, Internal Affairs, Dr. Stan Smith, Continuing Education; Dr. Kimberly Orr, Membership and Public Relations.
- f. Outgoing Councilor – Dr. Don Noah
- g. President's Award – for meritorious service – Dr. Dave Dreesen
- h. Recognition of Dr. James Steele – one of the visionaries in the formation of the College

Report of the ad hoc task force: Dr. Niall Finnegan reported that the task force undertook its charge to consider the future of ACVPM. The task force will now become a standing Strategic Planning Committee, pending approval of By-law changes. He articulated a need to identify our future direction and create a plan of action to accomplish it. The task force held meetings in Kansas City MO and then here at AVMA. The task force recommendations include:

- a) USAHA scientific session and Executive Board meeting in 2005,
- b) Survey membership
- c) Review committee structure
- d) Job analysis
- e) Psychometric examination
- f) ABVS requirement for recertification
- g) Executive VP position (Dr. Dreesen retires in Dec 2006)
- h) Graduate program evaluation
- i) Train new chairs and EVP on leadership
- j) Other.

New business: Dr. Dreesen mentioned the effort to secure federal professional pay for certified health scientists. The military currently has this, but it's under consideration for civilians. Another issue is that we are in search of a new historian for ACVPM.

Light refreshments were served during the latter part of the meeting. After accepting the gavel from Dr. Sundberg, the outgoing President, our new President, Dr. Scharko offered some brief remarks. She expressed her pleasure in stepping forward in this new position and offered her thanks to Dr. Sundberg for his efforts.

From the Desk of the EVP

This year the ACVPM meetings in Philadelphia, in conjunction with the AVMA, were quite successful. We had approximately 90 members in attendance on Monday at the General Membership Meeting. Elsewhere in this issue you will find the minutes of this meeting. One of the major highlights was the acceptance of the Membership Task Force report, an ad hoc committee that will now become known as the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) and which will become a standing committee if approved in a by-laws change vote by the membership later this year. This committee has set goals for the next several years that will help the College move forward in many respects. Also, a new dues increase was announced, necessitated by a significant increase in insurance costs; this is described more fully in the meeting notes. We also had a report on FSIS activities presented by Dr. Barbara Masters, Acting Director of FSIS, and welcomed Drs. Lester Crawford and Roscoe Moore as Honorary Members.

The College welcomed 27 new Diplomates this year—a 75% pass rate! Their names can be found in this issue of the *News & Views*. There were 10 from the Army, 5 each from the Air Force and CDC, 4 from academia (2 faculty and 2 in graduate programs), 2 from FSIS, and 1 from APHIS. While we welcome these new members, concern is expressed that the College is really not growing in membership as one would expect, what with the current national spotlight on veterinary public health and preventive medicine. Active membership will increase this year by only 11 members after the 27 new members are presented with their certificates. We have had 9 members move to Emeritus status this past year, along with several resignations and deaths. I want to urge each of you to encourage your colleagues to make the effort to become board certified in the College. Certainly, we are pleased with the relatively large number from the military (56%), but if we are to grow and prosper as a specialty, we must have a wider base and more members. As the Bible says, “Go forth and multiply.” And so must we. Take it upon your self now – talk with your colleagues and urge them to look into the role the College may be able to play in their respective lives.



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I hope you like and are using the new weekly E-newsletter format for the List Serve information. Remember, we can't make up all the news; we depend on you to provide much of it to us for placement in the weekly E-newsletter. Likewise, let us know when you have a job posting so that we can pass that along on our E-jobs Newsletter. We are always open to critiques of your College information, so let us hear from you. I wish to sincerely thank our Webmaster, Joe Adam, for his continuing excellent work in our computer support activities.

As always, both Joe and I ask (plead, cajole, beg, implore) that you keep up with your personal information found in the Directory in the Members Only page of the ACVPM web site. You can edit your own information and it helps us considerably when you do so. The dues billing will soon be going out (first week in December) via U.S. Mail and we still get far too much mail returned for address problems. Take a few minutes now to make certain we have your current information in our database.

Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

All the best.

Dave

ACVPM Officers' Email Addresses

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Dr. David W. Dreesen, EVP
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Dr. Roger A. Krogwold, ABVS Representative
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Dr. Millicent Eidson, President, Epidemiology Specialty
mxe04@health.state.ny.us



ACVPM Budget 2005

<u>Activity</u>	<u>2004 Budget</u>	<u>2004 Actual</u>	<u>2005 Budget</u>
AVMA Meeting			
AVMA hotel	6,000	7,110	7,500
Exec. Brd. Travel	6,000	3,188	4,000
	\$12,000	10,298	11,500
Professional fees			
EVP	11,700	11,700	13,760
Computer specialist	5,100	5,100	5,660
	\$16,800	16,800	19,420
Office Operations			
Office rent & utilities	3,600	3,217	3,500
Telephone - DSL	1,200	1,431	1,500
Conference calls	800	259	500
Newsletter printing	800	484	500
Other printing	2,600	2,191	2,500
Postage & shipping	2,000	2,313	2,000
Supplies & equipment	1,700	915	3,000
Awards & certificates	800	736	1,200
Legal fees	1,000	0	1,500
ABVS annual fees	200	0	0
Insurance	1,600	2,184	7,200
Administrative support	1,000	206	500
Web page maintenance	600	600	900
Accounting & Auditing	2,000	2,100	500
Miscellaneous	1,000	480	1,000
	\$20,700	17,116	26,300
Committees			
Examinations	13,000	10,218	11,000
Strategic planning	7,000	4,208	3,000
Credentials	100	0	100
Membership	1,000	0	100
Standards & recognition	100	0	100
Publications	100	0	100
Internal affairs	100	0	100
Nominations	100	0	100
Historian	100	0	100
Epidemiology specialty	1,400	813	1,400
	\$23,100	15,239	16,100
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$72,600	59,453	73,320
INCOME			
<u>Activity</u>	<u>2004 Budget</u>	<u>2004 Actual</u>	<u>2005 Budget</u>
Dues	\$51,000	52,327	64,325
Interest & misc.	0	220	200
Exam fees	24,000	16,850	18,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$75,000	69,397	82,525
Income	75,000	69,397	82,525
Expenses	72,600	59,453	73,320
INCOME OVER EXPENSES	2,400	9,944	9,205
In bank July 1, 2004	\$41,899		
Certificate of Deposit			
\$53,593			
Net Worth July 1, 2004			
\$95,492			
Net Worth July 1, 2003			
\$84,405			



Epidemiology Specialty News

The Epidemiology Specialty of ACVPM held its annual meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. on July 26, 2004 in Philadelphia. In attendance were Millicent Eidson (President), David Smith (Secretary), Kimberly Orr, Sue Trock (Examination Committee), Terry Lehenbauer (Nominations Committee), George Moore (Examination Committee), Robert Wills, Patty Scharko, Roger Gibson, and David Dreesen (ACVPM Executive Vice-President).

We are fortunate to welcome two new members to the Specialty who passed the exam this summer, Dr. Debra Cumro from USDA FSIS and Dr. Michael Sanderson from Kansas State University. The examination was administered this year on Friday July 23 by Examination Committee Chair Dr. George Moore. The Specialty now has 64 members (11 of whom are Emeritus status). The Specialty lost one of its members this year. Dr. Donald Blenden passed away in January at the age of 74. Dr. Blenden was professor emeritus at the Missouri University College of Veterinary Medicine, and had been a pioneer in rabies research and disaster preparedness.

The annual Specialty meeting was the official end of the term for our Secretary, Dr. David Smith, who completed his last official act of taking the minutes of the meeting. Dr. Smith has ably served the Specialty in the past two years, and we look forward to his continued involvement in the Specialty in other capacities. The new Secretary elected prior to the annual meeting is Dr. Wayne Schlosser (Wayne.Schlosser@fsis.usda.gov) with the USDA FSIS based in College Station, Texas.

Final committee assignments for the upcoming year are still being established, and Specialty members are encouraged to volunteer for service on the Credentials, Examinations, Nominations, or Continuing Education committees. Committee members and officers will be reviewing the current Specialty bylaws to determine whether any additional updates are required along the lines of recent updates for the ACVPM bylaws. ACVPM issues in regards to emeritus status, appeals process, job analysis, examination review, recertification, and insurance coverage will be reviewed in terms of their applicability to the Specialty.

The Specialty, in conjunction with ACVPM, is working to support AVMA sessions for the 2005 meeting in Minneapolis. Sessions have been proposed on real-time zoonoses surveillance and infectious disease informatics development. Specialty member participation in pre-planning for the 2005 USAHA meeting and the 2006 AVMA meeting is encouraged.



Dr. John Herbold, Helwig-Jennings Award.



Dr. Dave Dreesen, President's Award.



President, Dr. Paul Sundberg addresses the group.



Dr. Barb Masters, acting USDA FSIS administrator.





Issue #3, 2004

COMMENTS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

(No report—look for remarks from Hugh Mainzer, new AAPHV president, in the next newsletter.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financially, our organization is in good shape, mostly due to the cooperative response we get from members in paying their dues. To all those members who have paid on time and to those who have ponied up their past dues as requested: THANK YOU. I really appreciate it! Unfortunately, there is a small number of members who have been notified repeatedly about their dues status and still haven't paid up for the current year. You know who you are, so I'll leave it at that. Please PAY UP. Thanks. Once again, if you didn't get the word in the last newsletter, my mailing and e-mail addresses have changed from what you might remember. Contact me if you have any questions about your membership or dues status.

Dr. Bob Garrison
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR POSITON OPEN

If anyone would be interested in taking over the position of newsletter editor, please contact me (**Bob Garrison**) at the e-mail address listed above. I've been doing the job for seven years now, and it's time to hand over the position to someone else. It doesn't pay much (a little joke there—heh heh heh), but you have the freedom to organize the newsletter as you see fit, no fancy computer skills are required (no PageMaker or any of that stuff), and there are only three issues per year. Aspiring writers, apply now!

OFFICER NOMINATION

John Sanders was nominated for the position of President-elect at the AAPHV business meeting in July. In accordance with AAPHV by-laws, if no other nominations are received, the position will

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—AAPHV Newsletter, Continued

be considered to be filled by the nominee. If you would like to nominate someone, contact President Hugh Mainzer at hmm2@cdc.gov no later than December 1, 2004.

MINUTES FROM THE AAPHV BUSINESS MEETING

Date and place: July 27, 2004, Philadelphia, PA

In attendance: Mary Torrence, Hugh Mainzer, Katherine Feldman, Larry Barrett, Tracy DuVernoy, Millie Eidson, Wyatt Frampton, Dave Dreesen, John Sanders, Faye Sorhage, Alicia Anderson. Minutes taken by Katherine Feldman.

Materials provided: Outstanding student award information
AAPHV position statements (not up-to-date)
Treasurer's report
Minutes from 2003 AVMA convention meeting of the AAPHV

Following introductions, the minutes from the 2003 AVMA convention meeting were reviewed and approved. The treasurer's report was also reviewed and approved.

There was a long discussion about the **number of AAPHV members**, which was listed as 78. This number reflects AAPHV members who are not diplomates of ACVPM (diplomates get automatic membership in AAPHV). In an effort to gain a voting seat with the AVMA, we would need to increase the number of members. A voting seat at AVMA requires having a membership count that is at least 1% of the AVMA membership, of which a certain percentage (85%) need to be active AVMA members. If AAPHV, ACVPM, and NASPHV join forces, we may be within striking range.

Discussion followed about incorporating the **AAPHV annual meeting** into the ACVPM meeting, which was determined NOT to be a good idea. However, an AAPHV update should be given at the ACVPM meeting, and an announcement should be made about the AAPHV meeting. The AAPHV website (which John Sanders has revised, see below) should be accessible from the ACVPM website. Next year's AAPHV meeting will be held at the same time as this year's (the Tuesday morning of the convention) because it reduces the opportunity for conflicts and allows time to announce the meeting).

The 2004 **AVMA Public Health session** was conducted on Monday of the convention, which conflicted with the NASPHV and ACVPM meetings, but apparently there is no control over scheduling of scientific sessions. The public health session was well received, so we need to start thinking about ideas for AVMA 2005 and AVMA 2006. There has been a tendency for sessions to repeat from year to year so if anyone has new ideas, please pass them on to Mary Torrence who will in turn pass them on to John Herbold. Millie Eidson proposed a discussion of animal surveillance system for zoonotic agents, emphasizing livestock, pets, free ranging wildlife and captive wildlife.

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—AAPHV Newsletter, Continued

The **ACVPM meeting** was summarized: ACVPM has a 10 point strategic plan, which includes a jobs analysis of its membership, a psychometric analysis of the examination, and plans to require recertification of diplomates. Other ACVPM news includes the impending retirement of Dave Dreesen in December 2006; the pass rate for this year's examination was 75% (one of the highest ever); and the need to increase dues partly because there has been no insurance for the certification processes.

The **Outstanding Public Health Student Award** was discussed as to whether the award could be opened to graduate veterinarians in graduate programs. Mary Torrence explained that the award was originally intended for veterinary students, and that it is important to get the request for nomination to veterinary colleges in the fall semester so that the award can be given at graduation or an end-of-year awards ceremony. Requests for nomination for the award can be made to deans of veterinary colleges, members of the Teachers of Preventive Medicine group, and state public health veterinarians. If an AAPHV member lives close to the awardee's college, then perhaps that member can attend the awards ceremony and present the award. Also, announcement of the award by an employer could benefit the AAPHV. For instance, if the awardee is going to work at USDA or joining the military, the gaining agency could recognize the employee and thereby give AAPHV recognition in the process.

Mary Torrence nominated John Sanders for the **president-elect** position, which was seconded. This will be announced in the upcoming newsletter; if there are no other nominations, then John is considered elected (congratulations, John!).

John Sanders has finished revising the **AAPHV website** which includes the AAPHV mission, by-laws, policies, and PHVCC committee members. Once finalized, this will be linked to the ACVPM website, not the AVMA website.

The **exhibition booth** has been a source of frustration over time; it has been discussed every year. Coordinating the exhibition booth requires a dedicated, concentrated effort, which is difficult because there is no central place in which to store the display. Any volunteers to coordinate this effort? Some ideas that were discussed were if it was possible to get one larger space and split it into 3, or to get three booths in a row, then NASPHV, ACVPM, and AAPHV could be in the same area with one person manning all three. The booth is free, but there are required fees (\$200 exhibitor pass, \$140 for lighting, \$170 for carpet).

John Herbold is looking for help with the **Veterinary Public Health Special Interest Group (SPIG)** of the American Public Health Association (APHA), which requires APHA membership. Please contact John if you are willing to help. Katherine Feldman and Mary Torrence will assist as well.

Copies of the most recent **AAPHV position statements** were circulated and discussed. At the 2003 annual meeting, Kris Carter volunteered to coordinate the updating efforts. Katherine

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Feldman will get in touch with her and see if she is still willing. She would be responsible for getting in touch with appropriate individuals to determine what topics to add and those individuals would provide the statement.

Some specifics regarding the position statements that were discussed were that when AAPHV cites another group's position statement, it's not an endorsement by AAPHV, but rather just a way for us to provide information. Historically, the PHV Coalition Committee (PHVCC) listed issues of concern and this also needs updating. The PHVCC members are then assigned different statements to oversee. On our website we can have links to the original text of other groups' position statements so that we don't need to maintain text. It would also be nice to put out another booklet with the position statements because it is a good public relations tool for AAPHV.

Some topics to be considered or discussed regarding position statements:

- CSTE and NASPHV endorsed a PH veterinarian in every state. The PHVCC should consider doing the same.
- The position statement on ferrets is old and needs updating.
- The *Salmonella* position statement should be kept but updated. John Sanders will coordinate this effort.
- There should be statement on terrorism preparedness indicating that veterinarians are involved; Larry Barrett has volunteered to coordinate this effort.

The final item of business was Mary Torrence turning over the **AAPHV presidency** to Hugh Mainzer. Hugh made a few comments about his excitement for the future regarding terrorism and other issues. One of his priorities is showing AVMA that we need a voting seat, and the way to accomplish this might be to capitalize on the tie-in between AAPHV and ACVPM.

BOOKS OF INTEREST (all reviewed in March 15, 2004 JAVMA)

1. *Zoonoses and Communicable Diseases Common to Man and Animals*, 3rd ed, 2003. Pedro N. Acha and Boris Szyfres. Pan American Health Organization. Price \$80.
2. *Epidemiology Kept Simple: An Introduction to Traditional and Modern Epidemiology*, 2nd ed, 2003. B. Burt Gerstman. Wiley. Price \$60.
3. *Animal Disease Surveillance and Survey Systems: Methods and Applications*, 2003. M.D. Salman, ed. Iowa State Press. Price \$43.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. U.S. Animal Health Association / American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians joint meeting, October 21-27, 2004, Greensboro, NC.
2. Biological Terrorism Preparedness for Veterinary Bacteriology Laboratories: AAVLD Pre-meeting Symposium and Workshop, October 21, 2004, Greensboro, NC.
3. Conference of Research Workers in Animal Disease, November 14-16, 2004, Congress Hotel, Chicago.
4. American Public Health Association annual meeting, November 6-10, 2004, Washington, D.C.

Four FSIS Employees Earn Professional Certification By Katrine Pritchard

Four FSIS employees recently passed the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (ACVPM) board certification exam. Drs. Bonnie Buntain, James Kile, Alecia Naugle, and Regina Tan are now certified Diplomates of the ACVPM, indicating a specialized knowledge of preventive medicine within the veterinary field.

To sit for the board exam, applicants must meet educational and professional prerequisites, and must be sponsored by a Diplomate of the College. In 2004, 27 people passed the ACVPM board certification exam.

FSIS' new ACVPM Diplomates join others in the Agency that previously passed the exam and earned certification. The four newly certified staff members work in different areas of FSIS, but their backgrounds, specialties, and certifications highlight their dedication to their chosen professional field.

Dr. Buntain joined FSIS in 1995 and today works in the Office of Field Operations as the agency's Chief Public Health Veterinarian. Her numerous job duties include working to recruit and retain the best candidates to serve as public health veterinarians. She also recognizes the need for training and education, leading the development of a training program for newly hired public health veterinarians.

"Our veterinary oath states, 'I accept as a lifelong obligation, the continual improvement of my professional knowledge and competence,'" said Dr. Buntain. "Taking the boards was a personal and professional challenge for me that enhances my public practice skills in protecting public health and food security."

Each of the new Diplomates has an impressive educational and professional background in public health. Dr. Tan earned a Masters Degree of Molecular Epidemiology and Public Health, and a Doctor in Veterinary Medicine from Purdue University. It was while she was completing her masters degree that she became interested in a public health career. "My degree focused on Salmonella Enteritidis and using molecular sub typing to connect positive samples from human disease to an egg or poultry production environment," she said. "This is what excited me when I was in vet school." Dr. Tan then went to the CDC for Epidemic Intelligence Service and Preventive Medicine Residence, a veterinary fellowship. She joined the Office of Public Health Science (OPHS) Human Health Sciences Division as a Senior Staff Veterinary Epidemiologist last year.

Dr. Kile also spent time at the CDC as FSIS' first representative to the 2-year Epidemic Intelligence Service program. While at CDC, Dr. Kile had the opportunity to work on investigations involving West Nile virus, monkey pox, and avian influenza. He has been with FSIS since August 1996 and is currently serving as a Public Health and Epidemiology Liaison in the Foodborne Disease Investigations Branch of OPHS. Before joining the agency, Dr. Kile had his own clinical practice. "I enjoyed clinical practice, but I always felt like I wanted to do more," he explained. A search for other career opportunities led him to FSIS. "I decided that USDA FSIS provided the most diverse possibilities for a veterinarian wanting to expand their career in to public health by way of food

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safety," Dr. Kile said. "Since joining FSIS, I have directed my career path through different areas, but always with the thought of increasing my role directly in public health."

Dr. Naugle knew that she wanted to pursue a career in the agricultural field long before she headed to West Virginia University to study Animal and Veterinary Science, and to Ohio State University to earn her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and PhD degrees. "I grew up on a farm and I have always been interested in serving agriculture in a scientific capacity," she said. "As a veterinarian with additional training in epidemiology, I believe that one area in which I can utilize my education and agricultural background to serve my country is in the field of food safety." Dr. Naugle has been with FSIS since September 2004 as a Food Safety Fellow in Epidemiology, within the Human Health Sciences Division of the Office of Public Health Science. She handles a variety of epidemiology and biostatistical questions and is an active member on several FoodNet working groups.

As FSIS continues to work towards its mission of becoming a world-recognized public health regulatory agency, board certifications such as the ACVPM could help to build the agency's reputation. "[Certifications] send a message to the profession that FSIS is serious about public health and that we are taking a leadership role in this arena," Dr. Buntain explained.