

# News & Views



## From the Desk of President Peggy Carter, DVM

Driving back to Baltimore on a spectacularly sunny day after our Executive Board meeting at USAHA, I found myself pondering the meaning of the word 'collegial' while miles of blazing fall colors sped by. The word has etymological roots in Latin, French and Middle English that are worth pondering on. To be a colleague is to be an emissary, vested with authority and/or power, who joins with peers in good-hearted fellowship.

Veterinarians are probably better known for their good spirits than for their authority and power, and I confess to beginning with the word collegial in remembering the surprisingly large turnout after posting an invitation at the ACVPM's booth for all Diplomates to come for a happy hour gathering, which turned into dinner for several of us. The evening was not only enjoyable, it capped off a productive day of professional association amongst colleagues.

At the EB meeting we had continued a discussion begun by email beforehand about two requests for ACVPM endorsement. The first was from a group seeking support against a California ballot measure to regulate farm animal confinement, and the second was from the AVMA asking the College to sign onto a letter to Congress asking that the federal government increase the number of federal veterinarians and their compensation.

The EB decided unanimously not to take a position on Proposition 2, but we did not have the same consensus on whether we should endorse the federal employment letter. Those opposed felt that endorsing policy positions was outside the mandate of the EB, especially since no mechanism existed to poll members for their support. Those in support believed that increasing federal veterinary positions was in keeping with Article III of the ACVPM Constitution which defines as ACVPM objectives "advancing the science and art of the specialty of veterinary preventive medicine" and "furthering the identification and recognition" of Diplomates. Ultimately, the EB voted against endorsement in both cases, but due to the lack of consensus on the federal employment issue, asked the Internal Affairs committee to examine the issue and potentially draft a C&B amendment to put before the membership.

Another action that came before the EB was a request from the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) for the ACVPM's financial help in establishing a consortium to develop a national plan that would identify and then design a strategy for answering our society's need for veterinarians. The AAVMC proposes to conduct three meetings, the first aimed at developing

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# EVP Update:

The EVP search is winding down and Dr. Mo Salman's ad hoc committee has done a terrific job of summarizing background information on all five candidates. The Executive Board plans to discuss the candidates during their bimonthly December Conference call on Tuesday, 9 December 2008.

Turnover of office holders looms on the horizon as well. We need to fill elected offices of Councilor to Executive Board, three year term (July '09 to July '12) and Secretary-Treasurer, also three year term (July '09 to July '12). The Nominations & Awards committee (Drs Herbold, Carter, Krogwold, and Grayson) would welcome nominations for these two offices including self-nominations for a proposed election about mid-January.

## Calendar of Future Events for your information:

**1 December 2008** – Posting of 2009 membership dues invoices.

**7 December 2008** - CRWAD meeting (Conference of Research Workers on Animal Diseases) hosts a special Schwabe Symposium on Sunday afternoon. This year's honoree is Dr David W. Hird, emeritus professor, University of California-Davis CVM and ACVPM diplomate.

**15 January 2009** – Application deadline for June ACVPM certification examination.

**8-10 February 2009** - Examination Committee meeting to plan 2009 Examination, Asheville, SC.

**18-19 June 2009** - Annual ACVPM exam administration, Ohio State University CVM, Columbus, OH.

**8-14 July 2009** - AVMA Convention in Seattle [Exam cmte meeting, Executive Board meeting, General Business meeting, One Medicine Symposium, etc]

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Finally a persistent problem is keeping track of our membership. Please note address and other contact information when you relocate by visiting our newly remodeled website and edit in changes. If you need website assistance, please contact Joe Adam at [jadam@acvpm.org](mailto:jadam@acvpm.org). Otherwise you may post a communique or email of details to my office and I will ensure the changes are entered.

2009 is shaping up to be a great year for the college. I encourage everyone to actively recruit candidates for examination, offer sponsorship, support with letters of reference, and mentor them on preparation. The past year saw a significant increase in our pass/fail ratio and we would like to expand same with even more candidates sitting for the 2009 examination.

Russell W. Currier DVM, MPH  
Executive Vice President

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## Epidemiology Specialty News

The Epidemiology Specialty's Continuing Education Committee has planned three epidemiology sessions for the 2009 AVMA Convention in Seattle. Due to the popularity of the EXCELlent Epidemiology workshops, basic and intermediate workshops will be offered again in 2009. In addition, there will be five hours of epidemiology-related presentations. Topics will include a review of epidemiology principles, use of epidemiology in a practice setting, interpreting test results, outbreak investigation, and critically appraising literature. Further details will be provided in the next newsletter.

This spring, the Epidemiology Specialty will hold an election for the office of President. If you are interested in serving as President of the

Specialty, please submit a brief statement of interest and qualifications to Dr. Bruce Burnham ([Bruce.Burnham@kirtland.af.mil](mailto:Bruce.Burnham@kirtland.af.mil)), Chair of the Nominations Committee, by January 31, 2008. Please also let Dr. Burnham know if you would like to nominate a member for the office.

Epidemiology Specialty meeting minutes, annual reports, and committee standard operating procedures have been submitted to the ACVPM webmaster. Epidemiology Specialty members will soon be able to access these documents on ACVPM's members only website.

Happy Holidays!

Beth E. Karp, DVM, MPH  
President, ACVPM Epidemiology Specialty

# From Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Candace Jacobs

At the ACVPM annual meeting, Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Candace Jacobs reported that the FY2008 expenses were very close to the FY2008 budget and we ended the year in the black. We showed final figures of \$34,341 income greater than expenses, however, \$27,500 of this is grant funding earmarked for One Medicine symposia. This leaves an actual \$6,841 income over expenses figure. The college's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. She provided a report of non audited figures as well as an approved "flat" budget for 2009 totaling \$94,400 (see attachment).

The job analysis effort has one outstanding payment, \$6,700, which will be made in FY09, and that should conclude the \$33,500 multiyear job analysis effort. Next year we will also have

a close budget, as Dr. Currier has indicated he will resign from the Executive Vice President position and the college's office will move, incurring moving expenses. We will need to do a formal audit in 2009 as we hire a new EVP.

One issue to note is that our college certificate of deposit, earning 4.90% APY, is at \$70,887, which is below the one-year operating expense level recommended as a reserve level by the American Board of Veterinary Specialties. She recommended no increases in dues or fees in 2009. Rather, we need to evaluate how we fund the expenses for administering our examination and perhaps restructure the fee base - one cost for credentialing, one for the examination, and another for becoming a diplomate.

2009 Budget Info on page 12.

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## From the Desk of President Peggy Carter, DVM

*Continued from page 1*

agreement on societal needs, skills and knowledge of veterinary graduates; a second meeting to explore educational models; and a third to discuss licensure and accreditations issues. While the EB decided the College was in no position financially to support this effort, we would send the results of our recently completed job analysis as a means of contributing to the effort, as well as provide a ACVPM representative to attend the workshops if it could be done without cost to the College.

Another organization, the American Association of Public Health Veterinarians (AAPHV) is looking for volunteers to work on public health policy issues that can be coordinated with the AVMA and provided to state health officers and other national organizations concerned with public health. ACVPM Diplomates have automatic membership in the AAPHV, which was incorporated in 1995 with the idea of uniting

public health/preventive medicine veterinarians to speak with one voice in promoting the science and art of public health, epidemiology, and preventive medicine and the development of professional recommendations and public health resolutions.

The ACVPM and Epidemiology Specialty continuing education committees have been busy planning sessions for the 2009 AVMA meeting, as well as submitting nine zoonotic disease articles to the Journal of the AVMA. In all of these areas, members of our College are acting as colleagues in the truest sense. As emissaries of our profession, they are taking the lead on important issues as authorities in veterinary preventive medicine. We can all be inspired by their example of taking action in friendly association with peers, working together to be better than any of us can be by ourselves.

# Animal Welfare Institute Examines Ag Practices

New UC-Davis animal welfare institute examines agricultural practices

Publish date: Oct 8, 2008

Davis, Calif. - The newly formed International Animal Welfare Training Institute is exploring new approaches to animal handling and housing practices for animal agriculture.

In September, the institute at the University of California-Davis' School of Veterinary Medicine brought in veterinary experts, faculty members and representatives from the beef and dairy industries to examine and address animal welfare issues.

The goal, the university reports, is to develop new approaches and examine agricultural practices that will benefit the welfare of food animals.

Jim Reynolds, DVM a UC-faculty member at the Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center in Tulare, and chair of the American Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Welfare Committee, suggested several ways for producers to seek help from their veterinarians to conduct assessments and implement sound welfare practices.

"Owners' values and attitudes influence welfare more than the size of a farm," Reynolds said in a prepared statement.

Matt Byrne, executive director of the California Cattlemen's Association, states that the infamous

video from a Hallmark slaughterhouse of disabled animals became the catalyst for different types of producers to address welfare issues.

"Recognizing that consumers do not always see the distinction among different kinds of cows," he states, "we need to address the issues, good and bad."

Participants discussed the need for more science-based information to determine the most effective way to improve animal welfare in livestock. They outlined several existing programs and potential research projects:

- Measurement of animal stress and pain;
- Length of time of animal transport and transport conditions;
- Optimal training methods for producers and animal handlers;
- Bridging gaps in implementation of welfare strategies;
- On-farm assessments and welfare audits;
- Providing the most humane end of life for agricultural animals, appropriate techniques, and training in methods approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association;
- Costs of welfare practices;
- Roles of producers, animal health technicians and employees; and
- Demonstrating and communicating welfare successes.

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## Risk of Disease Rises with Water Temperatures

Risk of Disease Rises With Water Temperatures

By Kari Lydersen

Washington Post Staff Writer

Monday, October 20, 2008; A08

When a 1991 cholera outbreak that killed thousands in Peru was traced to plankton blooms fueled by warmer-than-usual coastal waters, linking disease outbreaks to epidemics was a new idea.

Now, scientists say, it is a near-certainty that global warming will drive significant increases in waterborne diseases around the world.

Rainfalls will be heavier, triggering sewage overflows, contaminating drinking water and en-

dangering beachgoers. Higher lake and ocean temperatures will cause bacteria, parasites and algal blooms to flourish. Warmer weather and heavier rains also will mean more mosquitoes, which can carry the West Nile virus, malaria and dengue fever. Fresh produce and shellfish are more likely to become contaminated.

Heavier rainfalls are one of the most agreed-upon effects of climate change. The frequency of intense rainfalls has increased notably in the Midwest, the Northeast and Alaska, and the trend will accelerate, said the 2007 report of the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

The consequences will be particularly severe in

# Nabbing bats' nemesis

The Scientist;  
Volume 22 | Issue 10 | Page 26  
[ from: The Scientist-Daily; 24 Oct '08 ]

By Kathryn Campbell  
Nabbing bats' nemesis

A little brown bat is inspected for signs of white nose syndrome.

Courtesy of Kathryn Campbell

Wearing a mining helmet, Greg Turner scales a wobbly 30 foot ladder and squeezes his 6' 2" frame into the window of an abandoned white clapboard church. On a June afternoon, the temperature inside the attic hovers in the 90's (°F). The spongy floor, caked in layers of guano, reeks. The roar of cicadas competes with the tell-tale chitter of thousands of bats.

In the darkness, Turner gently leans his head toward a marooned bat pup plucked from a splintering beam. He puckers and blows a huff of air over the flea-ridden and furry newborn, trying to remove the parasites that coat its body.

"At least that might give him more of a fighting chance," says Turner, of the two-inch mammal that resembles a sinister fox-faced mouse with wings - which, despite the parasites, is still free of the biggest threat facing its species in years. The sweltering eaves of the church, located in the outskirts of Altoona, are home to Pennsylvania's second largest known maternity colony for little brown bats (*Myotis lucifugus*) and a handful of endangered Indiana bats. It offers researchers an ideal site to study a bat colony before what some predict is the inevitable arrival of White Nose Syndrome, the mysterious disease decimating bat populations throughout the northeastern US states. "We're talking about possibly tens of thousands of bats dying last winter and even into this summer. Why now and why all of a sudden?," says Susi von Oettingen, endangered species biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

What is killing bats?

The cause of WNS is still unknown. The disease is defined by its symptoms, which include a white fungus around the muzzle of hibernating

bats, activity during daylight, problems flying, loss of body fat, and death.

Turner, an endangered mammal biologist, is at the start of a two-year study on White Nose Syndrome for the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Natural Resources Defense Council. Early signs of the disease have aroused suspicions in other parts of Pennsylvania. "It's knocking on our doorstep," says Turner. "We know that for sure." So far, the state likely remains WNS-free, giving researchers an important window into a still-mysterious disease.

"If the disease spreads to [unaffected regions] next year, we will be able to track what happens when WNS first enters an area and gain a better understanding of how the disease progresses within individual animals and within the populations," says Elizabeth Buckles, an assistant professor and bat researcher at Cornell University. Turner has teamed up with Bucknell University professor DeAnn Reeder, a comparative ecophysiological who studies the relationships between animal physiology and environmental conditions. This winter, the researchers will study hibernation and immune competence by placing small devices on the backs of bats to track temperatures during hibernation and arousal.

All mammal hibernators, Reeder explains in an E-mail, add fat for the winter, but periodically experience an increase in normal body temperatures during hibernation, using up stored energy. "We think that the arousal patterns of WNS bats may be affected - causing them to lose too much body fat," which may weaken their immunity and make them vulnerable to an infection. If too many die off, everyone could start to notice, she says. "Each bat can eat between 40% and 100% of their body weight in food each night - and that there are surely millions of bats in the [northeastern US] - this will mean lots more insects" such as mayflies, mosquitoes, and moths.

Back in the clapboard church, the maternity colony's numbers and health fortunately look normal. The small number of carcasses scattered across the guano-smeared floor represents a normal mortality rate for a healthy colo-

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# Book Review

**Vaccinated – One Man’s Quest to Defeat the World’s Deadliest Diseases** by Paul A. Offit, MD. Smithsonian Books [Harper Collins Publishers] © 2007. ISBN 978-0-06-122795-0. USA \$26.95. [Access Abebooks.com for a list of discounted booksellers offering this publication.]

Occasionally in life one comes across a personality that has made enormous contributions to society and owing to peculiar circumstances or the individual’s preference to keep a low profile, may not receive the recognition that he or she deserves. Such a person was Dr Maurice Hilleman who was a giant in vaccine development during a long career at Merck. Author Paul Offit has captured wonderful details of Hilleman’s life and career starting first in Miles City MT where he once worked as an assistant manager of the JC Penneys store and later with college followed by a PhD, and then the race to develop effective vaccines. The sphere of his terrific accomplishments while working in the private sector as opposed to the academic or public sector, monumental as it was observes Offit, precluded nomination for the Nobel Prize in medicine for which he certainly merited consideration.

This book is sort of an anecdotal biography of Dr Hilleman but also interspersed with all the discussion are a series of historical vignettes that detail vaccine development – both their successes and failures. The history of any disease of importance - from small pox to pneumococcal pneumonia - is reviewed by Offit. Interesting spin offs are reviewed too, like Hilleman’s development of a Marek’s vaccine for chickens that was an outgrowth of developing leukemia-free chicken eggs for vaccine production.

While Maurice Hilleman performed research work critical to the development of the measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis A, and hepatitis B vaccines as well as pneumococcal, chicken pox, meningococcal and Hib vaccines, he also worked with others on technical issues relating to human rabies vaccines. This development coupled with issues of viruses in animal based cell lines would be of interest to the veterinary reader.

But the history is absolutely absorbing to anyone in the fields of veterinary medicine, human medicine and public health and in fact underscores the interconnections we all have and are hearing about in the One Medicine – One Health movement. In the final analysis, Dr Maurice Hilleman was a giant in the field but also very much a human being with his share of family difficulties, work-related problems, and a vocabulary laced with enough profanity to make a drill sergeant blush. Author Paul Offit captures this very well and you are left with a keen appreciation of the earthy quality of his persona. We are so fortunate to have produced the likes of Maurice Hilleman. His detailed life experience coupled with the historical drama of vaccine development is a great read and I recommend it without reservation.

PS: Dr. Dave Dreesen read this book and found it a ‘page turner’ and could not put it down. He recommends it without reservation to our readership.

Russ Currier

## Lab weathers storms, not concerns?

NewsBlog: [from: The Scientist-Daily; 29 Oct '08]

Lab weathers storms, not concerns?

Posted by Alla Katsnelson

[Entry posted at 29th October 2008 04:39 PM GMT]

A high-security pathogen lab in Galveston, Texas, survived the hurricane that hit the region last month, but is now the focus of safety concerns plaguing biosafety research of late.

Galveston is an island often hit by hurricanes. Ike, which hit in September, caused more than \$700 million in damage to the University of Texas facilities there, about \$18 million of that to research labs, Nature reported. But the pathogen lab escaped unscathed. "The entire island can wash away and this is still going to be there," the lab's deputy director, James W. LeDuc, told the New York Times.

Still, some say that locating a lab working with dangerous pathogens such as Ebola and Marburg virus in a geographical area so vulnerable to storm damage is risky. "As destructive as it was, Hurricane Ike was only a Category 2 storm," Ken Kramer, director of the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter told the Times. "A more powerful storm would pose an even greater threat of

a biohazard release."

The lab is a kind of sister institution to a similar but much more contentious project in Boston, which has been stalled over safety concerns. Both were pushed by President George W. Bush's administration in the wake of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Galveston has run a small-scale BSL-4 lab since 2004, but a state-of-the-art \$174 million building housing an expanded facility is set to open in November. Both safely survived the storm.

The new building, 30 feet above sea level, was constructed to withstand the area's wild weather, from 140-mile winds to power outages. Extensive air filters, waste disposal protocols, and plans for stopping research and destroying some live viruses 24 hours before a storm hits should be enough to keep the facilities safe, officials say, though concerns still linger.

Galveston is one of the five currently operating BSL-4 labs in the country; two other labs on that list were found to have serious security shortfalls earlier this month. Four more BSL-4 labs, including Boston's biolab, are now in various stages of planning or construction. Officials are set to decide the final location for one of them, the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, by the end of this year.

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## Influenza scientists, WHO face off in virus row

Associated Press (10/03/08) Robin McDowell  
<http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/10/03/asia/AS-Vaccines-David---Goliath.php>

In a battle that could affect the world's ability to monitor and track disease and develop vaccines, international influenza scientists are taking on the World Health Organization (WHO). At issue is the WHO policy of collecting virus samples and data from nations around the world. Governments of developing nations relinquish their intellectual property rights to

those samples when they provide them to WHO, but argue that those samples are then used by private pharmaceutical companies to make vaccines sold at such high prices that many of those donor nations cannot afford them. Two years ago, WHO agreed to work with developing nations to ensure they have better access to drugs, but that process is still on-going. In the meantime, scientists and other health experts developed a publicly accessible online database which offers basic intellectual property rights to scientists who submit genetic information.

# Financial Meltdown Worsens Food Crisis

Financial Meltdown Worsens Food Crisis  
As Global Prices Soar, More People Go Hungry  
By Ariana Eunjung Cha  
and Stephanie McCrummen

Washington Post Foreign Service  
Sunday, October 26, 2008; A01

SHANGHAI – As shock waves from the credit crisis began to spread around the world last month, China scrambled to protect itself. Among the most extreme measures it took was to impose new export taxes to keep critical supplies such as grains and fertilizer from leaving the country.

About 5,700 miles away, in Nairobi, farmer Stephen Muchiri is suffering the consequences. It's planting season now, but he can afford to sow amaranthus and haricot beans on only half of the 10 acres he owns because the cost of the fertilizer he needs has shot up nearly \$50 a bag in a matter of weeks. Muchiri said nearly everyone he knows is cutting back on planting, which means even less food for a continent where the supply has already been weakened by drought, political unrest and rising prices.

While the world's attention has been focused on rescuing investment banks and stock markets from collapse, the global food crisis has worsened, a casualty of the growing financial tumult. Oxfam, the Britain-based aid group, estimates that economic chaos this year has pulled the incomes of an additional 119 million people below the poverty line. Richer countries from the United States to the Persian Gulf are busy helping themselves and have been slow to lend a hand. The contrast between the rapid-fire reaction by Western authorities to the financial crisis and their comparatively modest response to soaring food prices earlier this year has triggered anger among aid and farming groups.

"The amount of money used for the bailouts in the U.S. and Europe – people here are saying that money is enough to feed the poor in Africa for the next three years," said Muchiri, head of the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that 923 million people were seriously undernourished in 2007. Its director-general, Jacques Diouf, said in a recent speech that he worries about cuts in aid to agriculture in developing countries. He said he is also concerned by protectionist trade measures intended to counteract the financial turmoil.

Although the price of commodities has come down in the past few months, Diouf said, 36 countries still need emergency assistance for food, and he warned of a looming disaster next year if countries do not make food security a top priority.

"The global financial crisis should not make us forget the food crisis," Diouf said.

Commodity prices have plummeted in recent weeks as investors have shown increasing concern about a global recession and a drop in the demand for goods. Wheat futures for December delivery closed at \$5.1625 on Friday – down 62 percent from a record set in February. Corn futures are down 53 percent from their all-time high, and soybean futures are 47 percent lower. Such declines, while initially welcomed by consumers, could eventually increase deflationary pressures – lower prices could mean less incentive for farmers to cultivate crops. That, in turn, could exacerbate the global food shortage.

In June, governments, donors and agencies gathered in Rome to pledge \$12.3 billion to address the world's worst food crisis in a generation. But only \$1 billion has been disbursed. An additional \$1.3 billion, which had been earmarked by the European Commission for helping African farmers, is tied up in bureaucracy, with some governments now arguing that they can no longer afford to give up that money. "The financial crisis is providing an excuse for people across the spectrum – governments, multilateral organizations, companies – to not do the right thing," said Oxfam spokeswoman Amy Barry.

The precarious aid situation is compounded by export taxes and bans imposed this year by a

the 950 U.S. cities and towns – including New York, the District, Milwaukee and Philadelphia – that have “combined sewer systems,” archaic designs that carry storm water and sewage in the same pipes. During heavy rains, the systems often cannot handle the volume, and raw sewage spills into lakes or waterways, including drinking-water supplies.

On Sept. 13, during an unrelenting downpour, Chicago chose to prevent urban flooding by opening and releasing runoff containing raw sewage into Lake Michigan. About a month later, a University of Wisconsin study published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* predicted an increase of 50 to 120 percent in such releases into the lake by the end of the century.

“One of the strongest indicators from climate models is more intense rains,” said co-author Stephen Vavrus, director of the university’s Center for Climatic Research. “They don’t agree on everything, but they do agree on that. A warmer atmosphere holds more moisture, so as we get more moisture in the air, when we do have a storm situation, you get more total rainfall.”

From 1948 to 1994, heavy rainfall was correlated with more than half of the nation’s outbreaks of waterborne illness, according to a 1991 study commissioned by the Environmental Protection Agency. In one of the worst, torrential rains in Milwaukee in 1993 triggered a sewage release that exposed 403,000 people to cryptosporidium, a protozoan parasite transmitted in fecal matter. Fifty-four people died.

“Raw sewage got sucked back into the clean water supplies,” said Paul Epstein, associate director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School.

“Cryptosporidium is a parasite that chlorine doesn’t kill, so it escaped water treatment.”

On Ohio’s South Bass Island in Lake Erie in the summer of 2004, at least 1,450 residents and tourists suffered gastrointestinal illnesses linked to several months of above-average rains that contaminated the town’s drinking water.

More than 100 pathogens can cause illness if you drink or swim in water contaminated by sewage, including norovirus Norwalk and hepatitis A viruses and bacteria such as *E. coli* and *campylobacter*.

“If someone gets something swimming, they could bring it into work or day care. This is what’s happened with cryptosporidium before,” said Joan Rose, a Michigan State University professor and water researcher. “So we have all these rippling effects that occur in our community.”

Combined sewer overflows can be eliminated by upgrading sewerage systems, but it is an expensive process.

“Here we are in a wealthy country with a very strong public health infrastructure,” said Jonathan Patz, a professor of environmental studies and population health sciences at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. “But we need to realize it’s not as strong as we thought it was, and water systems really need tremendous resources for upkeep in the face of climate change.”

A report last week by the National Research Council concluded that the EPA’s storm-water program needs major overhauls to deal with increasing runoff, including a more integrated permitting system based on watersheds and a focus on land use by growing municipalities. Benjamin H. Grumbles, EPA assistant administrator for water, said Friday that upgrading combined sewer systems is among the agency’s top priorities.

Runoff from agricultural land can also spread waterborne diseases, and rising water temperatures are conducive to the growth of pathogens such as *naegleria*, an amoeba that enters the nasal passages and leads to often-fatal meningoencephalitis. Warmer waters also trigger blooms of algae and plankton, which themselves can be toxic or can harbor pathogens such as the bacteria that cause cholera, as has happened in Peru and the Bay of Bengal.

Algae blooms are also fostered by nitrogen and phosphorus that are washed into rivers, lakes and the ocean by heavier rainfalls.

# In Memory of Dr. Ron Davis

From Dr. Ronald Warner

*This is an announcement (below) of the passing of Ronald M. Davis, MD [immediate past president of the AMA]. As a fellow public health/preventive medicine advocate, I encourage you to read or listen to his 2008 speech to AMA House of Delegates. Thanks, Ron W.*

"It is with tremendous sadness that we report the passing of Dr. Ron Davis, past President of the AMA and a major supporter of the One Health Initiative. Indeed, the AMA wouldn't have passed its historic One Health Resolution without Ron's leadership. As the first preventive medicine physician to be president of the AMA, he recognized the need for collaboration between veterinarians and physicians. As he said, "I was primed for the issue of One Health."

Dr. Roger Mahr, who was President of the AVMA at the same time, contacted Ron to discuss bringing animal and human medicine together. They met and had dinner together. After Roger educated Ron about the issues, Ron told him that he would be happy to help. Ron not only advocated One Health principles within AMA, but he personally represented AMA on the AVMA One Health Initiative Task Force and contributed materially to the development of the Task Force recommendations <http://www.avma.org/onehealth/>.

This was a case where the right people were in the right place at the right time. In our subsequent One Health collaborations regarding drafting the AMA One Health Resolution and other related issues, Ron always graciously and expeditiously supported and guided our efforts with much wisdom.

Tragically, not long after the AMA passed the One Health Resolution in June 2007, Ron was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. He fought the disease with grace and dignity. The New York Times reported on his battle. <http://>

[www.nytimes.com/2008/09/23/health/23voic.html?partner=rssnyt&emc=rss](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/23/health/23voic.html?partner=rssnyt&emc=rss) At the 2008 AMA Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, Ron gave a very moving speech. The transcript can be read at (<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/18670.html>) and the video can be watched at (<http://www.webguild.com/TeamRon/>) The world has lost a great man, and we have lost an esteemed colleague, friend, and One Health champion."

Laura H. Kahn, MD, MPH, MPP, Bruce Kaplan, DVM, and Thomas P. Monath, MD



Photo by Joseph L. Murphy, MD  
June 2007- American Medical Association Meeting during "One Health" resolution testimony. Historic resolution subsequently adopted. Ronald M. Davis, MD, President AMA, Roger K. Mahr, DVM, President, American Veterinary Medical Association and Laura H. Kahn, MD, MPH, MPP of Princeton University.

# WKU Offering Exam Review Course

WKU Offering Exam Review Course For  
Veterinary Group

November 20, 2008

Bowling Green, Ky. - Western Kentucky University is partnering with other organizations to offer a review course for the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine Board Certification Exam.

Partners include the WKU Department of Public Health, the Center for Food Security and Public Health (CFSPH) at Iowa State University and the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps.

The online course will be held Jan. 12-June 22 and will be coordinated by the Division of Extended Learning & Outreach at WKU. The use of distance learning technology allows for participation regardless of geographic location.

The review course will focus on five main areas: infectious and parasitic diseases, epidemiology and biostatistics, food safety, environmental health and toxicology, and public health administration and education. PowerPoint presentations, podcasts, discussion boards, and numerous review materials will be utilized for course delivery. Experts in each field provide content to help participants review and learn the information.

"Preparing for the board certification exam can be daunting," said Dr. Danelle Bickett-Weddle, one of the course instructors from CFSPH.

"The goal of this asynchronous web course is to provide candidates with a wide variety of reliable resources and presentations to match the learning styles of busy veterinarians. The course will also allow students to connect with future colleagues in the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine."

"Preventive Medicine Veterinarians are in demand," according to Maj. Christopher Young of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps who cited

several reasons for the demand. "In the daily headlines, you read about food safety concerns, and our homeland security continues to be threatened by agroterrorism. Foreign animal diseases and emerging diseases threaten our livestock, poultry, pet and human populations."

The review course costs \$175 per participant and requires a computer with Internet access and speakers, PowerPoint and Adobe's free Acrobat Reader software.

For information and to request a registration form, call (270) 745-1912, e-mail [cont.ed@wku.edu](mailto:cont.ed@wku.edu), or visit the Continuing Education website at [www.wku.edu/ce](http://www.wku.edu/ce).

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## Bats' Nemesis

*Continued from page 5*

ny of this magnitude. Turner gingerly extends the wings of a glossy little brown adult bat. He examines the thin, leathery span for any scabs or spots. Satisfied of its health, Turner releases it. The creature flutters and vanishes into the thick air.

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## Meltdown Cont'd

*Continued from page 9*

Downpours are likely to lead to more seafood contamination as human waste, animal manure, nitrogen and phosphorus make their way to coastal areas.

Epstein said the recent flooding in Texas from Hurricane Ike and the mosquito infestation that followed are one example of climatic conditions that are likely to foster more waterborne disease in coming years, despite efforts by the EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"It will be the next few years. This is not 20 years away," Epstein said. "It's already occurring. The CDC is gearing up to deal with [it], but at the same time, we need to be focused on the primary driver, which is our unstable climate. We need to do all of the above - protect, prepare and prevent."

# 2009 Budget

## ACVPM Expenses

## 2009 Proposed

<u>Activity</u>	<u>2005 Actual</u>	<u>2006 Actual</u>	<u>2007 Actual</u>	<u>2008 Budget</u>	<u>2008 Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>AVMA/USAHA Meeting</b>						
AVMA hotel	5,060	4,813		4,000	11,189	
AVMA/USAHA Exec. Brd. Travel	3,742	5,301		9,000	0	
	<b>\$8,802</b>	<b>\$10,114</b>	<b>\$16,291</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>	<b>\$11,189</b>	<b>-\$1,811</b>
<b>Salaries</b>						
Incoming EVP			\$18,750			
EVP	13,740	16,992	4,500	18,750	18,750	
Computer specialist	5,664	6,750	8,641	7,200	7,845	
	<b>\$19,404</b>	<b>\$23,742</b>	<b>\$31,891</b>	<b>\$25,950</b>	<b>\$26,595</b>	<b>\$645</b>
<b>Office Operations</b>						
Office rent & utilities	3,374	3,494	3,597	3,400	3,317	
Telephone - DSL	1,400	1,157	2,102	1,750	2,057	
Conference calls	298	TBD		500		
Newsletter printing	288	731	583	750		
Other printing	413	1,027	3,355	1,500	1,834	
Postage & shipping	718	1,006	1,984	1,500	2,899	
Supplies & equipment	2,730	890	2,543	1,500	991	
Awards & certificates	898	298	474	1,000	197	
Refunds	1,200	337	2,783	0		
Legal fees	0	0	150	0		
Insurance	8,119	8,286	8,378	8,400	7,878	
Administrative support	830	1,773	1,416	1,500		
Web page maintenance	510	3,020	820	450	1,292	
Accounting & Auditing	966	853	1,250	1,500	2,575	
Contributions			3,415	0	500	
Travel - other			2,266	0	1,338	
Repairs & Maintenance				0		
PayPal Expense			109	0	1,218	
Bank Charges			71	0	101	
Dues & Subscriptions			150	0	950	
Miscellaneous	74	1,514	26	0	93	
<b>Certificate of Deposit</b>	<b>5,430</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		
	<b>\$27,248</b>	<b>\$44,386</b>	<b>\$35,472</b>	<b>\$23,750</b>	<b>\$27,240</b>	<b>\$3,490</b>
Total without cert of deposit		\$24,386				
<b>Committees</b>						
Examinations	9,440	15,118	16,325	17,500	15,692	
Strategic planning	1,291	0	0	2,000	0	
Credentials	0	0	0	0	0	
Membership	0	0	0	0	0	
Continuing Education	0	0	0	3,000	0	
Publications	0	0	0	0	0	
Internal affairs	0	0	0	0	0	
Nominations	0	0	0	0	0	
Historian	0	0	0	0	0	
Epidemiology specialty	1,223	1,410	108	2,000	1,296	
Job analysis/psychometric	0	0	18,110	13,400	13,400	
	<b>\$11,954</b>	<b>\$16,528</b>	<b>\$34,543</b>	<b>\$37,900</b>	<b>\$30,388</b>	<b>-\$6,512</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$64,037</b>	<b>\$94,770</b>	<b>\$118,720</b>	<b>\$100,600</b>	<b>\$95,412</b>	<b>\$4,188</b>