



## AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGISTS

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B.W. Fenwick

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**December 1998**

## NEWSLETTER

### **Minutes of the Board meeting held on Sunday, November 8, 1998**

In the enclosed minutes please note the Nominations Committee report. Drs. Kennedy and Suarez were nominated. Dr. Jones was nominated from the floor and accepted. Drs. Hayhow and Castro were nominated to serve a second term on the Board of Governors. Three positions will be vacated on the Board of Governors.

According to our constitution, additional nominations for the office may be made by petition over at least three signatures of three Diplomates in good standing if the petition is received by me before February 15, 1999.

Drs. John Cole and John Timoney were nominated for Honorary Diplomate status. A ballot will be going out in March.

At the CRWAD meeting in Chicago on November 8, 1998, ACVM sponsored a symposium on Immunology and Pathogenesis of Reproductive Tract Diseases. Speakers included Drs. C. Wira, Dartmouth College, P. Hansen, University of Florida, B. BonDurant, University of California-Davis, and S. Olson, National Animal Disease Center. The symposium was well attended by more than 200 people.

The ACVM certifying examinations were given in Chicago just prior to the CRWAD meeting. This year two Diplomates were certified in an additional subspecialty (both in immunology). They were Drs. David Suarez, S.E. Poultry Research Laboratory and Dr. Steve Kleiboeker, Plum Island Animal Disease Center.

The Diplomates were welcomed at the annual meeting and banquet held at Berghoff's restaurant with approximately 50 Diplomates and guests in attendance. At the banquet, three microbiologists were recognized as Honorary Diplomates and presented with certificates. They were Drs. Carlton Gyles, University of Guelph, Lorraine Hoffman, Iowa State University, and David Huxsoll, Louisiana State University. They were recognized for their long and distinguished contributions to veterinary microbiology.

Awards consisting of a certificate and check were presented to five graduate students for their presentations at CRWAD. The awards were given for . One for each of Bacteriology/Mycology (M. D. Edmonds, Louisiana State University); Immunology (D. L. Larsen, University of Wisconsin-Madison), Virology ( J.F.J. Huntley, Iowa State University); Best Poster (J. Yousif, South Dakota State University), and Best Overall (Don Kahn Award). This year the Don Kahn Award went to B. H. Bellaire, Louisiana State University.

### **Have You Paid Your Dues?**

Dues are still \$20 –an exceptional bargain until January 31, 1999 when they go to \$30 for those of you who have not paid. Please make remittances payable to ACVM by check drawn on a US bank or by international money order. Emeritus or

Honorary Diplomates do not need to pay dues (donations are always welcome).

### **1998- 99 Diplomate Directory**

Please visit our Web Site for the updated and detailed Directory, Constitution, Bylaws, and Newsletter information. Please notify me of any corrections for the directory (please download the Directory Information Correction Form and return it to me). Corrections may be made also by e-mail. Costs are going up including our expenses at meetings; the Web Site is significantly reducing printing and mailing costs, and it is my hope that we can minimize the number of directories to be printed and mailed.

### **Suggestions and Corrections**

Please contact Dr. Leon Potgieter for additional information, to make corrections or provide suggestions (potgieter@utk.edu).

**AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGISTS BOARD OF  
GOVERNORS' MEETING**

**Plaza Room of the Ramada Congress Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois  
10:00 AM, Sunday, November 8, 1998**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Board members: Drs. A.E. Castro, C.S. Hayhow, C.A. Baldwin, B.W. Fenwick, T. Bowersock, S.A. Dee. Also present were: R.L. Jones, D.G. Simmons, L.N.D. Potgieter, R.W. Fulton, J. Storz, M.D. Lairmore, L.D. Pearson, D.H. Ley, D.S. McVey, Chengappa, M.M., E.L. Thacker, H.G. Purchase, S.B. Kleiboeker, R.J. Morton, D.L. Reynolds, D.L. Suarez, D.L. Grooms.

1. **Call to Order.** Dr. Chris Hayhow called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes.** Previously distributed minutes were approved (Castro, Baldwin).
3. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report.**
  - a. **Financial Report.** The ACVM balance sheet was reviewed (balance as of 10/28/9 was \$24,397.12). The cash flow report from 1/1/98 to 10/28/98 was presented (a positive balance of \$3,800.88 existed on 10/28/98). \$3480.00 was donated by industry for the symposium. Dues from about 47 members are still owing. Projected expenses include the banquet (approximately \$1500), speaker expenses (about \$2500), Ramada Congress Hotel (about \$3800), Roosevelt University examination expenses (\$500), student awards (about \$600), and office expenses (about \$1000).
  - b. **Dues status.** A summary of the dues status of all members was presented to the board. Dues from about 50 members are still owing.
  - c. **Request for Emeritus Status.** The board awarded emeritus status to Drs. J.W. Dunn and Lloyd H. Lauerman by unanimous vote (Fenwick, Bowersock)
  - d. **Deceased.** None.

A motion to accept the report was made and passed (Castro, Fenwick).

4. **Committees and Representative Reports.**
  - a. **Examinations Committee.** The Examination Committee reported on the results of Part I and Part II examinations. Four candidates took Part I of the examination and none passed (three of five approved in 1998 and one approved before 1997). Three candidates presented themselves for Part II examination. The passing score is 75%. Three sat for the immunology subspecialty and two passed. One sat for the virology examination and failed. The net result is the certification of two Diplomates in additional subspecialties. The Part I examination was prepared in

the same way the examination has previously been prepared. It was prepared in draft form with 15% excess questions and distributed in August for critical review by all committee members. Committee members examine each question within their subspecialty to determine whether questions are: (1) properly constructed and edited, (2) the level of knowledge was essential, (3) the subject of the question was important, and (4) a correct response would be critical in differentiating adequate from inadequate performance. It is believed that the review produced a high quality examination that did not differ significantly from previous examinations.

Candidate performance for the years 1995-1998 was evaluated. For the Part I examination: 14 of 18 candidates from AVMA-accredited schools past on first attempt whereas 3 of 13 from non-accredited programs past on first attempt. Of the candidates that passed Part I examination (pass-mark 60%), candidates that scored 60-65%, one of five past Part II on first attempt; candidates that scored 65-70%, four of four passed Part II on first attempt; candidates that scored over 70%, six of seven passed Part II on first attempt. The committee expressed a Concern about the low number of candidates taking the examination and the low Number passing. Is the credentialing requirement of two publications a detractor? and preventing candidates earlier in their career development from taking the examination? A discussion ensued on factors such as public relations, visibility and economic issues reducing the number of potential candidates in the pipeline. The Chair of the Board of Governors, Dr. Chris Hayhow appointed an **ad hoc committee on Recruitment and Training** to evaluate this issue and to report at the next Board of Governors meeting.

Recently submitted questions for Part II examination were reviewed and validated for addition to the question banks. The committee is considering changes in the format of some questions and mechanisms to include more current information.

The weakest part of the Part I examination question bank continues to be the Molecular Biology and Technology section. The committee requests that Diplomates submit relevant questions for this section. Dr. Jones thanked the committee members for their efforts on the development of the examinations.

Motion was made and approved to accept the report (Bowersock, Castro).

The Board approved the pass/fail recommendation by the committee unanimously (Castro, Baldwin) and this action grants certification to the following:

Steve Kleiboeker	Immunology
David Suarez	Immunology

- b. **Continuing Education and Program Committee.** Dr. Terry Bowersock reported on the program entitled Immunology and Pathogenesis of Reproductive Tract Diseases at the CRWAD meeting in Chicago. The speakers scheduled should be very well received. The program for the Symposium in July at the AVMA meeting was not set yet. The topics being considered include risk assessment of antibiotic use in animals, that may complement topics being given by other organizations. Topics being considered for the symposium at the 1998 CRWAD symposium include fetal immunology, DNA vaccines, emerging and re-emerging diseases and antibiotic resistance. Dr. Potgieter mentioned that it might be possible to publish the proceedings of these symposia through a publication being considered by CRWAD and CABI on reviews on veterinary medicine. Dr.

Bowersock asked for input concerning topics for future symposia. Motion to accept the report was made and accepted (Fenwick, Dee).

- c. **Nominating Committee.** In the absence of Dr. Hana Van Campen, Dr. Hayhow indicated that the committee had not been very successful in identifying candidates. However, Dr. Van Campen approached Drs. Hayhow and Castro and they were willing, if elected to serve a second term. In addition, Dr. Melissa Kennedy was nominated. Dr. Bob Jones was nominated from the floor and accepted. Dr. Hayhow indicated that nominations could still be accepted by petition over three signatures until February 15, 1999. The final report of the committee is due on December 15<sup>th</sup>. A ballot will be sent out early in March. A motion to accept the report was made and approved (Castro, Baldwin).

A discussion ensued concerning the difficulty of ACVM members attending both CRWAD and AVMA meetings and the possibility of holding only one Board of Governors meeting a year. The Secretary/Treasurer was directed to poll the membership to determine what meeting (CRWAD, AAVLD/Animal Health or AVMA) they were most likely to attend.

- d. **Honorary Diplomate Nominating Committee.** Dr. Johannes Storz reported that the committee had forwarded two names for consideration as honorary Diplomates. They are Drs. John R. Cole and John F. Timoney. Dr. Storz presented summaries of their achievements and full vitae. The Board voted to accept both candidates for presentation to full membership (Fenwick, Castro). A 2/3 majority approval by the Board of Governors and the general membership is required for election to honorary membership.
- e. **Continuing Education Funding Committee.** Dr. Laurel Gershwin, Chairperson of the committee was not present. Dr. Hayhow listed the companies that had made contributions totaling \$3480.00. Motion to accept the report was made and approved (Baldwin, Bowersock). Dr. Bowersock indicated that industry budgets are established early in the year. The Board recommended that the CE Funding Committee contact potential sponsors in December or January.
- f. **Graduate Student Awards Committee.** Dr. Kapil, chairman of the committee, was not present. Dr. Potgieter reported that Dr. Kapil had contacted him several days before the meeting and was preparing information packets for all committee members to use during their review of the student presentations. A motion to accept the report was made and approved (Castro, Bowersock)
- g. **American Board on Veterinary Specialties.** Dr. Potgieter detailed the report made to ABVS by the secretary/treasurer. It included demographics on ACVM membership and summaries of candidate performance for the past six years. As of October 29, 1998 we had 159 active members, 75 emeritus members and 29 honorary members. A motion to accept the report was made and approved (Castro, McVey).
- h. **Council on Biological and Therapeutical Agents.** Dr. GE McKissick provided a written report. A vaccine workshop was conducted at the October meeting prompted by the American Association of Feline Practitioners and the Academy of Feline Medicine Advisory Panel on Feline Vaccines. The report recommended an extension of one-year booster-vaccination intervals to three years for feline

panleukopenia, herpesvirus and calicivirus. The recommendation was made in contradiction to the approved label recommendation of one-year booster intervals for these core vaccines. The contradiction begs the question of duration of immunity data. Such data was scant or non-existent at the time of publication. Nevertheless, the recommendations have been adopted by several veterinary medical colleges. Two members of ACVM were among the contributors, Dr. F.W. Scott (panel member) and Dr. R.D. Schultz (contributor). A potential problem for the practitioner who adopts the report recommendations is malpractice vulnerability if immunity wanes during the three-year interval between vaccinations by failing to follow the current approved label statement of one-year revaccination intervals. Details of the workshop will be published in the JAVMA.

Considering the fact that majority (>80%) protection from clinical infectious disease (frequently fatal) is the primary need for vaccine development, duration of immunity issues should be considered in proper perspective for APHIS-CVM approval of new vaccines. The veterinary profession enjoys success in the control of infectious diseases. The success now allows us to focus on the adverse reactions of repeat vaccines except that for rabies. The heterogeneous outlying adverse responders to repeat vaccinations do represent a small minority. In addition to vaccine duration of immunity challenge data, a need exists also for an expedient technique to recognize potential adverse vaccine responders. ACVM Diplomates are invited to forward comments/concerns regarding vaccine issues to Dr. Elizabeth Curry-Galvin at the AVMA.

5.

#### **Old Business**

a. **Proposal for Infectious Disease Specialty.** Drs. Scott Dee and Brad Fenwick presented information on a potential mechanism for including a clinically-orientated subspecialty in infectious diseases. They argued for greater flexibility in credentialing requirements for the graduate degree, publications and experience. They proposed that the qualifying examination could follow two tracks, that of ACVM or ACVIM; and that the certifying examination has a problem-solving format including oral, essay and/or clinical competency. Discussion ensued on the exact role of the certifying body (ACVM or ACVIM). The Board directed Drs. Dee and Fenwick to explore potential relationship with ACVIM and perhaps ABVP and report at the next meeting.

b. **Constitutional Change [Article IV, Section 2(3)] to add the following:**

**(e). The American College of Veterinary Microbiologists shall elect no more than one (1) Honorary Diplomate per year.**

Discussion ensued on how this provision would be applied, at the level of the nomination committee, Board of Governors or at the election by members. The Board recommended that this be done at the level of the nomination committee. The motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed (Bowersock, Castro). It was noted that this change would not apply to the current slate of Honorary Diplomates.

c. **Dues.** Dr. Castro raised the issue of financial pressure on the ACVM.

Costs at the Ramada-Congress were increasing dramatically and our income from industry to support the symposium was down this year. Dr. Potgieter indicated that although costs were increasing it might not be necessary yet to increase dues. Discussions have been held with Dr. Bob Ellis to include the Gold Room rental under CRWAD and in any event it appears that because of our tax exempt status we may not have to pay the exorbitant tax paid to the hotel. It was also indicated that the appropriate recommendation on dues increase should come from the budget committee. No action was taken.

- d. **Graduate Education.** Dr. Fenwick discussed some of the reasons that veterinarians were not entering into post-graduate education programs that could lead to board certification. He presented data comparing salaries and benefits of 1980 to those of today. Post-graduate track stipends have increased approximately 15% whereas entry level practice has increased approximately 50%. This is a significant factor considering salaries for the two tracks in 1980 were almost equivalent. Over the same period academic salaries have increased 30% which suggests that this career track may also have less appeal. The Chairman was directed to correspond with the Council on Research to raise the sensitivity of these concerns at the AVMA and perhaps stimulate a study to look at this issue.

6. **New Business.**

- a. **Appeal by Dr. Danielle Daignault.** The Board voted to go into executive session for this matter (Fenwick, Baldwin)
- b. **Endorsement of Dr. Ron Welch's Candidacy for the Council on Research.** Dr. Welch is a candidate for election to the AVMA's Council on Research and is supported by the Oklahoma Veterinary Association. The Board voted to support his candidacy and to write a letter of support (Fenwick, Baldwin).

7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

## **DIRECTORY INFORMATION CORRECTION FORM**

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**FIRST NAME AND INITIAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LAST NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Complete only lines below that need changing)

**(Area code) Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Internet Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Degree (University and year):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year Passed ACVM exam; area(s) of specialization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Job Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPANY, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FULL ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Interest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Classification:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Changes to Necrology or Committee Sections:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments/Suggestions:** \_\_\_\_\_

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