

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

**Plaza Room of the Ramada Congress Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois  
10:00 AM, Sunday, November 12, 2000**

MINUTES

**Attendance:** Board members: Drs. B.R. Charlton, B.W. Fenwick, L.J. Gershwin, R.L. Jones, M.A. Kennedy, D.L. Suarez and E.L. Thacker. Also present were: Y.F. Chang, M.M. Chengappa, D.L. Grooms, C.S. Hayhow, D. J. Keil, D.S. McVey, F.A. Osorio, P.S. Paul, L.N.D. Potgieter, D.L. Reynolds, J. Storz.

1. **Call to Order.** Dr Brad Fenwick called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes.** Previously distributed minutes were approved (Jones, Suarez).
3. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report.**
  - a. **Financial Report.** The ACVM balance sheet was reviewed (balance as of 11/9/00 was \$26,507.74). The cash flow report from 1/1/00 to 11/9/00 was presented (income of \$16,508.00 and expenses of \$6,550.00). \$10,921.34 was donated by industry for the symposium. Projected expenses include the banquet (approximately \$1200), speaker expenses (about \$2500), Ramada Congress Hotel (about \$3800), Roosevelt University examination expenses (\$500), student awards (about \$600), and office expenses (about \$500).
  - b. **Dues status.** A summary of the dues status of all members was presented to the board. Dues from about 67 members are still owing.
  - c. **Request for Emeritus Status.** The Board approved the requests for emeritus status from John N. Berg and John B. Parks.
  - d. **Deceased.** Charles J. York.

A motion to accept the report was made and passed (Suarez, Jones).

4. **Committees and Representative Reports.**
  - a. **Examinations Committee.** Dr. R.L. Jones, Chair of the Examination Committee reported on the results of part I and part II examinations.

Upon recommendation from the Examinations Committee, the Board of Governors approved 14 candidates for Part I examination this year. Only 7 of the approved candidates actually took the examination in September plus 4 candidates approved in previous years (3 retakes and 1 first attempt). Six of the 11 passed the examination (60% score required for passmark). The range of pass scores was 61 to 78%, and the range of fail scores was 50 to 59%.

On November 11, 2000, a total of five candidates took Part II examinations. Three candidates took Part II Immunology examination, three candidates took Part II Bacteriology/Myecology examination, and four took Part II Virology examination at Roosevelt University in Chicago. One individual who passed Part I this year elected not to take Part II exams this year.

The committee recommended that the following results be approved by the Board of Governors for the Part II examinations: Immunology, 0 of 3 pass; Bacteriology/Myecology 2 of 3 pass; and Virology, 4 of 4 pass. The pass point for all subspecialty exams was 75%. As a result, there will be 5 new Diplomates: none certified in three subspecialties, one in two subspecialties, and four in one subspecialty each. No Diplomates sought additional certification in another subspecialty this year.

The new diplomates are:

Akbar Ali (application class of 00)	Virology
Sreekumari Rajeev (application class of 00)	Virology & Bacteriology
Timothy Stevenson (application class of 00)	Virology
Carl Uhland (application class of 00)	Bacteriology
Kyoung-Jin Yoon (application class of 97)	Virology

Other activities and discussions of the Exam Committee are as follows:

- Results of the Part I exam were reviewed and performance trends in recent years were discussed. For the period 1995-2000, 19 of 25 (76%) candidates from AVMA accredited schools passed Part I on their first attempt, whereas only 4 of 15 (27%) from non-accredited schools passed on first attempt. Of the candidates who passed Part I examinations (1995-2000), two of seven scoring 60-65% passed Part Examination whereas four of four scoring 65-70% and 16 of 17 scoring over 70% passed at least one subspecialty Part II examination of first attempt.
- The preparation, organization and administration of the Part II exams were reviewed. All slide images have been digitized so all images for the exam were assembled in PowerPoint so a single projector could be used to present all images for each question on a single screen. The committee unanimously concluded that this resulted in major efficiencies in organization and preparation of the exam, and these changes resulted in improved quality of projected images (adjusted for brightness, contrast and color correction). The administration of the exam was improved by eliminating mechanical problems with slide projectors and the addition an identifier of the question number on the screen with each slide . The committee expressed appreciation to Dr. Jonathan Green and Roosevelt University for the outstanding facilities (including a computer projector) that were provided.
- New questions submitted for Part I and Part II exams were distributed to subcommittees for review, modification and approval for addition to the question banks.
- The committee considered recommending a change in the passmark for Part I examinations but decided not to recommend a change at this time.
- The committee considered ways to make the examination process more "user friendly" and would like to receive input from potential candidates and all

Diplomates. Issues under consideration include: time period between acceptance of application and date for Part I examination, location and eligible proctors for Part I exams, time period between Part I and Part II exams (is it needed or could all exams be administered at the same location over a 2-day period?). The committee invites comments and suggestions. Please contact Dr. Robert Jones at [rjones@cvmb.colostate.edu](mailto:rjones@cvmb.colostate.edu)

- b. **Continuing Education and Program Committee.** No report. The Chair of the committee, Dr. Chris Chase was not present.
- c. **Nominating Committee.** Dr. L.D. Pearson submitted an email report which was included in the meeting materials. He reported that he had approached several members to serve on the Board of Governors. Six had agreed to be nominated. They are Drs. Kenny V. Brock, Daniel L. Grooms, Michael D. Lairmore, David Scott McVey, Steven C. Olsen and James A. Roth.. Additional nominations can still be made under three signatures of members in good standing until February 15, 2001. A motion to accept the report was made and approved.
- d. **Honorary Diplomat Nominating Committee.** No report.
- e. **Continuing Education Funding Committee.** Dr. Larry Arp, Chairperson of the committee was not present. Dr. Potgieter mentioned that collections were up this year. Donors are Merial, Pfizer, IDEXX, Boehringer Ingleheim, Intervet, Schering-Plough Animal Health, Fisher Biochemical Sciences, Fort Dodge Animal Health, Viral Antigenics, Pharmacia and Upjohn, Eli Lilly, Pathology Associates International and VMRD. Contributions totaled \$8800.00. Dr Scott McVey reviewed the process by which solicitations are made. He emphasized that the most important aspect was to make personal contacts and follow up.
- f. **Graduate Student Awards Committee.** Dr. Sanjay Kapil, Chairman of the Committee, was not present. Dr. Chris Hayhow indicated that Dr. Steve Olsen agreed to coordinate the activities of the Committee at the 2000 CRWAD meeting.
- g. **American Board on Veterinary Specialties.** Dr. Potgieter detailed the annual 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 November 1, 2000, ACVM had 163 active members, 77 emeritus members and 34 honorary members for a total of 275.
- h. **Council on Biological and Therapeutical Agents.** Dr. Don Reynolds indicated that his report was similar to the one submitted at the July meeting. The hot topic is vaccine recommendations especially in dogs and cats. There is a continuing debate and reiteration of these issues. The Council's goals are to give guidelines at their next meeting in February which will be reported in the April JAVMA issue.

Dr Fenwick requested a motion to collectively accept all the reports. The motion made by David Suarez and seconded by Lauryl Gershwin was approved unanimously.

5. **Old Business.**

- a. **Proposal for Infectious Disease Specialty update and proposed Infectious Diseases Interest Group and joint scientific meeting with ACVIM.** Dr. Fenwick led a discussion concerning a joint meeting with ACVIM to raise the visibility of ACVM. The former has an active infectious disease group but the expertise of our College is not utilized at ACVIM. They are willing to work with us. Should we have an annual meeting with ACVIM instead of with AVMA? Funding opportunities from industry are better at the ACVIM meeting. Dr. Fenwick proposed that we consider changing by 2002. This issue will be placed on the agenda of the next ACVM meeting. Consensus was developed and approved by the Board of Governors that Dr. Fenwick appoint a Symposium Organizing Committee to host a symposium with ACVIM at their annual meeting as part of a continuing dialogue concerning an infectious disease subspecialty.
- b. **Proposal for a long-term ACVM Chair or President.** To promote sustained leadership, to enhance continuity and implementation and to help develop a vision and strategic plan for the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists, it has been proposed (under three signatures of diplomates in good standing) that the leadership of the College be changed as described by the following constitutional/bylaws changes:

**CONSTITUTION:**

**Article VI. OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of this organization shall be a President Chair, a Vice President Chair and a Secretary- Treasurer. Officers shall be Diplomates of the College and elected by the Board.

Section 2. The election of these officers and their duties shall be provided in the By-Laws.

**Article VII. BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Section 1. The Board shall consist of ten (10) members, nine (9) of which shall be elected Diplomates as provided in Article VI of this Constitution and a President who shall also be an elected Diplomat.

Section 2. The general management and business of this organization shall be vested in the Board.

Section 3. The President shall be elected to no more than two (2) two-year terms as provided for in the By-Laws (Article I, Section 1). The Board shall annually elect from its membership a Chair and Vice President Chair. In

addition, they shall also elect a Secretary-Treasurer as provided in the By-laws (Article I, Section 4). The immediate past President Chair shall continue for one year as an ex-officio member.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **Article I. ELECTION AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

#### Section 1.

Elected members of the board, ten (10) in number of which nine (9), shall be Diplomates elected by the membership of the College by secret ballot, each to serve a term of three (3) years. Tenure in office shall be such that three (3) members of the Board are replaced each year. Any member having been elected to one full term or to fill a vacancy in an uncompleted term may be elected for one (1) additional term. At the completion of this second term, the Board member cannot be re-elected until at least one (1) year absence from the Board.

The President of the Board of Governors shall be a Diplomate elected by the membership of the College by secret ballot, to serve a term of two (2) years. Any member having been elected to President for one full term or to fill a vacancy in an uncompleted term may be elected for one (1) additional term. At the completion of this second term, the President cannot be re-elected until at least one (1) year absence from the Board.

#### Section 2.

(1) Nomination for all vacancies on the Board and President of the Board shall be made by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall present the names of at least two (2) candidates for each position to be filled on the Board and shall submit the list of recommendations to the Secretary-Treasurer by the 15th day of December following its appointment. The Secretary-Treasurer shall inform diplomates not later than the first day of January of the committee report. Additional nominations for office may be made by petition over the signature of three (3) Diplomates in good standing, if the petition is received by the Secretary-Treasurer on or before the 15th day of February. A petition bearing the names of three (3) Diplomates may nominate only one (1) candidate to office. Nominations of other candidates will each require a similar petition.

#### Section 3.

(1) The Board shall elect annually from its membership a Vice President Chair. Nominations for Vice President Chair shall be made by a nominating

committee comprised of the President ~~retiring Chair~~ of the Board of Governors and one other Diplomate not currently serving on the Board. Nominations will be announced to the College before the July meeting of the Board. Additional nominations by Board members may be made at the July Board meeting.

- (2) The ~~Vice-Chair~~ President in any year shall automatically ~~assume~~ succeed to the office of ~~Chair~~ President if the latter is unable or unwilling to complete a term in the subsequent year unless he or she is unavailable to serve. ~~In that event, both Chair and Vice Chair will be nominated and elected.~~ New officers shall assume office at the close of the July Board meeting.

Section 5. Duties of the President Chair and Vice President Chair:

- (1) The President Chair shall preside over all meetings of the College and meetings of the Board, shall be a member, ex-officio, of all committees and shall perform the usual duties of such office. The President Chair shall have no vote in the Board except in case of a tie, and no vote on committees in an ex-officio capacity. The President is expected, with the assistance of the Board, to develop strategic plans for ACVM and to develop and implement strategies to achieve objectives.
- (2) The Vice President Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President Chair, and shall succeed to the office of President Chair should that office be vacated. The Vice President Chair shall have no vote on a committee when serving in an ex-officio capacity.

Discussion ensued. Dr. Reynolds questioned whether the general membership should not be polled even though it is not required because the change was so significant. Dr. Fenwick indicated that if the motion passed it would be implemented in the next cycle; spring of 2002. Motion was passed unanimously (Jones, Charlton).

6. **New Business.**

a. **Request from AAHA to sponsor a joint meeting.** Discussion centered around AAHA's target audience which is somewhat different from that of ACVM. Consensus was developed to decline the request and the Secretary/Treasurer was charged to respond.

7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:48 p.m.