

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

**Jefferson Room of the Millenium Hotel
St. Louis, Missouri
10:00 AM, Sunday, November 11, 2001**

MINUTES

Attendance: Board members: Drs. B.R. Charlton, L.J. Gershwin, R.L. Jones, M.A. Kennedy, D.S. McVey, J.A. Roth, D.L. Suarez and E.L. Thacker. Also present were: T.L. Bowersock, Y.F. Chang, M.M. Chengappa, B.W. Fenwick, C.S. Hayhow, D. J. Keil, S.B. Kleiboeker, S. Olsen, S.C. Olsen, L.N.D. Potgieter, S. Rajeev, D.L. Reynolds, Y.M. Saif, C.M. Scanlan, D.N. Tripathy, A.R. Woolums.

1. **Call to Order.** Dr Melissa Kennedy 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 11/6/01 was \$23,404.41). The cash flow report from 1/1/01 to 11/6/01 was presented (income of \$14,625.00 and expenses of \$7,788.99). \$7,075.00 was donated by industry for the symposium.
 - b. **Dues status.** A summary of the dues status of all members was presented to the board. Dues from about 73 members are still owing.
 - c. **Request for Emeritus Status.** The Board approved the requests for emeritus status from John R. Gorham, James A. House and William L. Mengeling.
 - d. **Deceased.** None

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

4. **Committees and Representative Reports.**
 - a. **Examinations Committee.** Diplomates wishing to sit for additional examinations and guests excused. 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 5 candidates for Part I examination this year. Only 3 of the 5 approved candidates actually took the examination in September plus 5 candidates approved in previous years (3 retakes and 2 first attempts). Six of the 8 passed the examination (60% score required for passmark). The range of pass scores was 63 to 74%, and the range of fail scores was 55 to 58%.

On November 10, 2001, a total of nine candidates took Part II examinations. Four candidates took Part II Immunology examination, five candidates took Part II Bacteriology/Mycology examination, and six took Part II Virology examination at the St. Louis Marriott Pavilion Downtown. This includes one diplomate who sought certification in an additional subspecialty.

The committee recommended that the following results be approved by the Board of Governors for the Part II examinations: Immunology, 0 of 4 pass; Bacteriology/Mycology 0 of 5 pass; and Virology, 5 of 6 pass. The pass point for all subspecialty exams was 75%. As a result, there will be 5 new diplomates; each one certified in virology. These new diplomates are Nasser Eleraky, Daniel Givens, Sanjeev Narayanan, Wole Odemuyiwa and Andrew Phipps.

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

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 and could be used to present all images for each question on a single screen. The committee expresses appreciation to Dr. Steve Kleiboecker for providing a laptop and LCD projector for use throughout the examinations to reduce travel security hassles for other committee members.

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 has determined that there is need at for an exam question development workshop next year. The committee requested approval to hold a workshop in November, 2002 in conjunction with the exam and ACVM meetings. A budget request was submitted for one day per diem (lodging and meals) per committee member (total of 10) plus up to 2 ad hoc diplomates per specialty area (estimated cost \$1500-2000).

The committee recommended the following changes in administration of examinations: Part 1 will be identified as the "General Veterinary Microbiology" exam. Part 2 exams will be identified as "Sub-specialty" exams.

The requirement to pass the General Veterinary Microbiology exam before sitting for any Sub-specialty exams will be removed, but each candidate will be required to pass BOTH the General Veterinary Microbiology exam and at least one sub-specialty exam (in any order) to become certified.

The General Veterinary Microbiology exam will be administered on the day preceding the Sub-specialty exams and at the same location.

Rationale for these changes: ABVS recommends that a longer time period be available between acceptance of candidates credentials and administration of exams to allow candidates time to focus on preparation. This change provides an additional two months. Many of our candidates are required to travel solely for the purpose of taking the first exam and then must travel again for the sub-specialty exam. This will eliminate the extra travel and make it easier for candidates to receive financial assistance for travel in conjunction with a scientific meeting. No additional changes are proposed in the number of times a candidate may attempt the exams (twice per exam) or the overall length of time available for completing the exams (5 years). It is not expected that these changes will create any hardship for candidates already in the process of examination. If this change is approved by the Board in principle, complete written documents

will be prepared for Board approval with expected implementation of these changes in the 2002 examination cycle.

The committee invites comments, suggestions and submission of questions from diplomates. Please contact Dr. Robert Jones at rljones@colostate.edu
The report was approved unanimously (Roth, Charlton).

- b. **Continuing Education and Program Committee.** Dr Eileen Thacker reported for the Chair of the committee, Dr. Chris Chase, who was not present. The speakers for the AVMA symposium, in Nashville, July 2002, on "Nutrition and Immunity have been set. Dr. Scot McVey reminded the Board of the joint symposium with ACVIM on "The Relationship between Infection and Immune-Mediated and Ideopathic Diseases" in Dallas on May 29.
- c. **Nominating Committee.** No report. The nominations will be solicited from Dr. L.D. Pearson by email report. Additional nominations can still be made under three signatures of members in good standing until February 15, 2001.
- d. **Honorary Diplomat Nominating Committee.** Dr Ed Stephenson submitted a written report and curriculum vitae nominating Dr. Robert P. Ellis for honorary membership.. The nomination was approved by the Board of Governors and is to be submitted to general membership for a vote.
- e. **Continuing Education Funding Committee.** Dr. Scott McVey, Chairperson of the Committee, submitted a written report which was included in the agenda materials. The donations from industry were reviewed. We received \$7,075 this year. Dr Scott McVey reviewed the process by which solicitations are made. He emphasized that the most important aspect was to make early personal contacts and follow up. We are likely to enhance our fundraising by participation at the ACVIM. However, he sought and was given approval by the Board of Governors to cover up to \$2000.00 in expenses for the joint symposium with ACVIM in Dallas.
- f. **Graduate Student Awards Committee.** Dr. Steve Olsen, Chairman of the Committee, indicated that participation was up this year including 33 presentations (14 bacteriology, 13 virology, 6 immunology) and 16 posters. Dr. Potgieter reviewed the status with Pharmacia who has proposed underwriting the cash awards and doubling the amount given. The check for this year, however, had not been received. Dr. Terry Bowersock assured everyone that the funding had been approved.
- 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, 2001, ACVM had 159 active members, 83 emeritus members and 32 honorary members for a total of 274.
- h. **Council on Biological and Therapeutical Agents.** Dr. Don Reynolds reported that the vaccination guidelines developed by COBTA has been published in the September issue of JAVMA. The vaccine recommendations for species will be available soon. He mentioned that Drs. Brad Fenwick, Daniel Keil and Eileen Thacker were very prominent in the process. He

mentioned that AVMA is concerned about the “Internet Pharmacy” and its control. It is very cloudy where the control and regulatory points are.

Dr Kennedy 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 reviewed the considerable progress that has been made with developing a relationship and a joint symposium with ACVIM. Much of the credit should go to Dr. Scott McVey. The ACVIM is an excellent and large meeting and he encouraged attendance at this meeting by ACVM members.

6. **New Business.**

None.

7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:48 A.M.