



**Fact Sheet**  
**North American Veterinary Medical Educational Consortium (NAVMEC)**  
*August 13, 2009*

1. During 2009, the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) in looking to the future of veterinary medical education and ensuring that the profession is positioned to meet societal need, organized and launched the North American Veterinary Educational Consortium (NAVMEC). The Consortium, over a 12 to 18 month period, will hold a series of national discussions on several important questions in planning the future of veterinary medical education, including 1) what is meant by meeting societal needs, and what knowledge, skills, and competencies should all new graduates of veterinary medical colleges possess at graduation to ensure societal needs are met; 2) what are different educational models that will prepare all new graduates to meet societal needs; and 3) what are the essential principles and relationships between colleges, accreditation, and licensure that will ensure that new graduates meet societal needs.
2. During July 2008-June 2009, letters of invitation to join the Consortium were sent to 368 groups and organizations, comprising AAVMC's 61 institutions members, 4 affiliate members, four national veterinary medical associations, 53 US state veterinary medical associations, 11 Canadian provincial veterinary medical associations, 74 veterinary specialty groups, 24 US State and Federal Government Agencies, Associations, and Officials, 57 groups from private industry, 15 veterinary technician groups, 6 international veterinary medical associations, 2 licensure associations, 2 animal welfare organizations, 2 international governing organizations, and 20 miscellaneous groups (See the complete list of invitees as well as other information on NAVMEC at <http://www.aavmc.org/navmec> -- the primary information source for NAVMEC information, updates, and events).
3. All invited groups and individuals were invited to the Consortium and to participate in the discussions at the national meetings, irrespective of any financial contribution they wished to make. Financial contributions were not a requirement to join the Consortium.

Invited groups and individuals were asked to consider making a financial contribution of any amount. Those groups and individuals making a financial contribution were designated "co-sponsors". All co-sponsors were invited to name a representative who would attend a meeting to help plan the national meetings, make recommendations concerning the organization of consortium meetings, and periodically review progress of the consortium and make recommendations to the Consortium Board of Directors to assure progress is being made to meet the goal of the consortium to provide a "national report" to the AAVMC Board of Directors.

4. To date, of the 368 invitees, a total of 158 groups and individuals have joined the Consortium, including 97 Co-sponsors, and 61 other groups and individuals wishing to participate in discussions but not making any financial contribution.
  - a. The 97 Co-sponsors include 39 AAVMC member institutions, AVMA, one licensure group, 8 state veterinary medical associations, 16 veterinary specialty associations, 9 private industry groups, 2 laboratory animal science groups, 2 animal welfare groups, 2 Canadian veterinary medical associations, one veterinary publishing group, one veterinary technician group, three miscellaneous groups, and 13 individuals (these include past AAVMC presidents, past AVMA Presidents, past Deans of US Colleges of veterinary medicine, past Executive Directors and staff of AAVMC and AAVMC member institutions).
  - b. Among the 61 groups participating in discussions but not having made a financial contribution are 6 AAVMC member institutions; one licensure association, 2 state veterinary medical associations, 17 veterinary specialty organizations, 5 federal and state government agencies and associations, 2 private industry groups, one veterinary technician group, one veterinary publishing group, 3 miscellaneous groups, 3 international veterinary medical associations, one international governing organization, and 19 individuals (see types of individuals in (a) above).
5. AAVMC is providing the leadership for this initiative. Governance of the Consortium involves AAVMC leadership and a soon to be named NAVMEC Board of Directors. The AAVMC Executive Committee (current AAVMC President, President-Elect, and Immediate Past-President), on behalf of the AAVMC Board of Directors, will appoint members to the NAVMEC Board of Directors and will make final decisions concerning NAVMEC policies, procedures, and products.
6. A NAVMEC Board of Directors will be composed of members representing education (AAVMC representatives), accreditation (AVMA), and licensing (licensure groups) arms of veterinary medical education. The NAVMEC Board of Directors will work closely with the NAVMEC Project Manager and develop recommendations to the AAVMC Board of Directors concerning NAVMEC governance policies, criteria and procedures of the consortium, including admitting new NAVMEC participants and co-sponsors, and drafting the final “national report” to be recommended to the AAVMC Board of Directors.
7. Dr. Mary Beth Leininger in August 2009 joined NAVMEC as its Project Manager. Following the imminent formation of the NAVMEC Board of Directors, Dr. Leininger will work closely with the NAVMEC Board of Directors in the planning and scheduling of NAVMEC meetings, and setting milestones for the final “national report”.
8. AAVMC’s NAVMEC website (<http://www.aavmc.org/navmec>) is the primary information source for NAVMEC information, updates, and events. For further information, please contact Dr. Marguerite Pappaioanou, Executive Director, AAVMC ([mpappa@aavmc.org](mailto:mpappa@aavmc.org); 202-371-9195, Ext 15), or Dr. Michael Chaddock, Deputy Director, AAVMC ([Mchaddock@aavmc.org](mailto:Mchaddock@aavmc.org); 202-371-9195, Ext 14) at AAVMC.