



## American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians E-Newsletter

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In our Committee meetings in Kansas City, we'll be looking carefully at AAVLD's Mission and Vision and further developing our Strategic Plan. Each Committee will be asked to provide the Executive Board with a brief statement outlining its strategic plan for activities that support and promote the Mission and Vision of AAVLD, to be submitted to our Executive Director, Jim Kistler, in conjunction with the committee meeting minutes. Please take a few minutes to review the Mission, Vision and current Strategic Plan (please insert link to strategic plan page here) so that you can contribute to the conversation. Committee Chairs, look for a doodle poll to set a conference call with more information.

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### 2014 Annual Meeting Registration Open July 1st

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Hana Van Campen  
Southwest Rep.

Estela Cornaglia,  
Canada Provincial F

Maria Perrone,  
Canada Federal Ex-  
Officio

**October 16 - 22, 2014  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Sheraton Hotel at Crown Center**

About the 2014 Annual Meeting

Make plans to attend the 118th USAHA / 57th AAVLD Annual Meeting as AAVLD and USAHA return to the midwest, at the Kansas City Sheraton Hotel at Crown Center .

Join 1200 colleagues in addressing the latest issues in animal health, learn about the latest research and information in disease eradication and control, and network with federal and state animal health officials, industry representatives, diagnosticians and other leaders in animal agriculture.

**Hotel Information**

**Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center**

2345 McGee St  
Kansas City, MO

Phone: (816) 841-1000

[www.sheratonkansascityhotel.com](http://www.sheratonkansascityhotel.com)

Group Rate: \$140.00 per night (plus taxes)

Sheraton Crown Center Reservations

link: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1404179930&key=296879E9>,

or Call the hotel direct at 816-841-1000, reference the AAVLD/USAHA meeting.

Additional rooms also available at the **Westin Crown Center**, adjoining the Sheraton.

Westin Crown Center Reservations link:

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1404301749&key=1C916779>,

or

Call the hotel direct at 816-474-4400 and reference the AAVLD/USAHA meeting.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS OPEN - REGISTER NOW:**

<http://usaha.org/Meetings/AnnualMeetingRegistration.aspx>

Jim Kistler  
AAVLD Executive Director

Beth  
Lautner, Larry  
Granger,  
NVSL Ex-Officio

Christine Hoang,  
AVMA Ex-Officio

## iPhone / Android App Returns to 2014 Annual Meeting

AAVLD and USAHA in partnership with Life Technologies is once again offering members attending the Annual Meeting a smartphone app to help you navigate the meeting.

The free and easy to use Annual Meeting App will allow you to:

- View the entire meeting program
- Plan your own schedule of meetings / events including dates, times and locations
- Search sessions, abstracts and author information
- Find contact information for presenters, exhibitors and meeting attendees
- View presentation materials before the meeting and during the meeting on your smartphone, tablet or - NEW THIS YEAR - your laptop. You will also be able to refer to meeting materials months after the meeting
- Submit comments / questions for presentations
- Receive instant notification of changes in meetings, rooms or times
- Navigate the conference center with maps inside the app
- Send and receive messages from colleagues attending the meeting
- Submit comments and meeting evaluations regarding conference content and meeting facilities to AAVLD / USAHA through the app

**You must be registered for the meeting in order to download and use the app. Once registered, you will receive an email with your login credentials and instructions on how to download the app.**

The app can be found beginning after August 12th by searching your app marketplace or playstore for AAVLD USAHA Annual meeting.

See you in Kansas City!

## Joint U.S BVDV - ESVV Conference Joins Lineup at AAVLD / USAHA Annual Meeting

### **Pestiviruses: Old Enemies, New Challenges**

Sheraton Crown Center

Kansas City, MO

October 14-15, 2014

"Pestiviruses: Old Enemies, New Challenges" will be the theme of a joint meeting of the 6th U.S. Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus (BVDV) Symposium and European Society of Veterinary Virology (ESVV) Pestivirus Symposium. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crown Center in Kansas City, Mo., October 14-15, 2014. This is the first time that the U.S. BVDV group and the ESVV group will jointly meet. The objective of the symposium is to bring

together scientists, animal health industry representatives, veterinary practitioners, educators, cattle producers and policy makers to discuss how the latest BVDV/pestivirus research findings can be used improve the health of beef and dairy cattle and control emerging disease problems.

For more information and to view the program, visit the ESVV website at <http://esvv.vamosarodar.es/meetings/show/joint-us-bvdvesvv-pestivirus-symposium>.

### Continuing Education Credits Available for AAVLD / USAHA Annual Meeting

The AAVLD / USAHA meeting is accepted by many State Veterinary Licensing Boards for continuing education credits. AAVLD and USAHA will be working to expand the number of states which grant recognition for CE.

Specific presentations and sessions may have direct pre-approval or may need additional documentation or certification from AAVLD / USAHA.

AAVLD / USAHA will provide additional information to assist you in obtaining CE recognition as we get closer to the meeting. A list of states and their status with regard to pre-approval or approval upon submission will be made available. Meeting attendance certifications will be provided to you at the meeting or upon request.

If you have questions, please contact Jim Kistler, AAVLD Executive Director or check with your State Licensing authority. USAHA will provide a form for your records at the Annual Meeting. No certificates are provided.

### AAVLD / USAHA Joint Workforce Development Committee Asking For Your Participation in Survey

Dear Colleagues:

The joint AAVLD/USAHA Workforce Development Committee is charged with developing proposed resolutions relative to veterinarian and laboratory workforce issues. Information regarding the status of the nation's diagnostic laboratory workforce is not available. Thus, data are needed on the current workforce and existing gaps.

The workforce survey can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q6B6G69>

We sincerely hope you will take a few minutes to go through the survey. The effort and information will be appreciated and beneficial as we look to forecast future needs in diagnostic laboratories.

Michael J. Gilsdorf, DVM  
Co-Chair  
AAVLD / USAHA Joint Committee on Workforce Development

Gary Anderson, DVM PhD  
Co-Chair  
AAVLD / USAHA Joint Committee on Workforce Development

*PLEASE RESPOND ONLY ONCE TO THE SURVEY PER LAB!*

## Texas A&M Veterinary Lab Prepared for Disease Outbreak

Texas A&M Veterinary lab prepared to ID foot-and-mouth virus, other livestock diseases

By Emily Wilkins  
The Eagle  
July 30, 2014

Should foot-and-mouth disease hit Texas livestock, the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory -- the only Texas lab able to test samples for the virus -- is prepared.

Laboratory officials ran a scenario last week mapping their response during an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease.

The plan could be enacted for any foreign disease, but foot-and-mouth was chosen because of how quickly it spreads and how detrimental it can be.

"It's a disease that would have a huge potential impact if it occurred here," said Bruce Akey, executive deputy director of the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory. Akey went through the scenario with members of the Texas Animal Health Commission and the National Animal Health Laboratory Network.

Foot-and-mouth disease occurs in hooved animals such as cattle, pigs, sheep or goats. Once contracted, dairy animals stop producing milk and beef animals stop growing. In younger animals, the disease can be fatal.

Although foot-and-mouth is rarely transmitted to humans, an outbreak among livestock could wreak havoc on Texas' cattle industry, which brought the state \$10.5 billion in 2012, according to the Texas Department of Agriculture. If the disease is found anywhere in the United States, it's likely international trade of cattle and other animals susceptible to the disease would be immediately cut off.

If foot-and-mouth is identified in the country, the amount of damage depends on how quickly the disease is contained. To determine how far the disease spread, thousands of tests could be required -- and Texas A&M's lab is the only place in the state that can process them. The lab can test more than 3,000 samples a day and is part of a network of labs around the country, which could test additional samples.

Full text:

[http://www.theeagle.com/news/local/texas-a-m-veterinary-lab-prepared-to-id-foot-and/article\\_696eb54d-c32a-518e-9358-a6ab6a8e2dc2.html](http://www.theeagle.com/news/local/texas-a-m-veterinary-lab-prepared-to-id-foot-and/article_696eb54d-c32a-518e-9358-a6ab6a8e2dc2.html)

## Next-Generation Sequencing Rapidly Identifies Pathogens

By Tim Lundeen  
Feedstuffs  
July 28, 2014

Next-generation sequencing identifies porcine enterovirus G, a novel but benign virus in the U.S., according to Benjamin Hause, an assistant research professor at the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Kansas State University, who recently published an article about the find.

"We had isolated a virus in cells, but didn't know what it was," Hause said. "We used next-generation sequencing to identify it, and it turned out to be porcine enterovirus G, which had been described before but had never previously been found in North America."

The virus had only been reported before in Europe and Asia.

"Fortunately, porcine enterovirus G doesn't do much in pigs, but it raises concerns about other viruses getting through the border," Hause said. "We're not sure if this has been here for some time undetected or is a recent introduction. Coincidentally, the virus was most similar to 2012 Chinese isolates and was detected around the same time as a couple of other viruses: porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV) and porcine deltacoronavirus (PDCoV), both of which were detected in China in the same time frame prior to the U.S."

Full text:

<http://feedstuffs.com/story-next-generation-sequencing-rapidly-identify-pathogens-45-115666>

## Members On The Move

### TOM MCKENNA

McKenna to retire from Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory  
by Kelly April Tyrrell  
Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison News  
August 8, 2014

They say blood is thicker than water. So much so, that even the volume of water in all of Madison's lakes is still too thin for Thomas McKenna, director of the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (WVDL). After seven years in

the role, he is officially retiring from the lab and moving to Massachusetts to be closer to his grown daughters.

Associate Director Peter Vanderloo will step in as interim director upon McKenna's departure, delaying his own retirement until a replacement is found.

"We are sorry to leave Madison, it's a great town to live in," McKenna says of himself and his wife, a Wisconsin native and UW School of Veterinary Medicine graduate. "But you want to be near your kids. You don't know what the future holds."

McKenna will take a new position with the United States Department of Agriculture, in the Animal and Plant Health and Inspection Service's Veterinary Services unit, as an assistant district director representing New England.

Full text:

<http://www.news.wisc.edu/23044>

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#### JAMES MAXWELL

Florida Selects New Chief of the Bureau of Animal Disease Control

By Michael A. Short, D.V.M.

Division of Animal Industry

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

July 24, 2014

I am very pleased to announce that Dr. James Maxwell has been selected as the new Chief of the Bureau of Animal Disease Control effective immediately. Dr. Maxwell received his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Colorado State University. He has been with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for over 13 years. Most recently, Dr. Maxwell served as the Laboratory Director in the Bureau of Diagnostic Laboratory.

Dr. Maxwell will be located in Room 332 of the Mayo Building, Tallahassee, Florida. His office phone number is 850-410-0942 and his e-mail is [James.Maxwell@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:James.Maxwell@FreshFromFlorida.com).

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Maxwell on this appointment.

Michael A. Short, D.V.M.  
State Veterinarian/Director  
Division of Animal Industry

### **Zoetis: What's In A Name**

Zoetis (zMEH-tis) is derived from zoetic, which means "pertaining to life."

In February 2013, Pfizer Inc. spun off Pfizer Animal Health, creating the independent animal health company Zoetis. Zoetis is now the leading animal health company, dedicated to supporting its customers and their businesses.

Building on more than 60 years of experience in animal health, Zoetis discovers, develops, manufactures and markets veterinary vaccines and medicines, complemented by diagnostic products and genetic tests and supported by a range of services.

Diagnostics is a relatively new venture for Zoetis.

Pfizer Animal Health (PAH) acquired the diagnostics company Synbiotics in December 2010, enabling PAH to enter the diagnostic testing market for the first time in its 60-plus year history. US licensed and/or international products include point-of-care and reference laboratory tests for avian, bovine, canine, equine, feline, and porcine species. High-quality tests include DiroCHEK® for canine and feline heartworm disease and the ViraCHEK® and ProFLOK® lines of ELISA tests for equine and feline and avian species, respectively. A focused team of sales, marketing, and veterinary technical services experts, collectively referred to as the US Diagnostics division, are dedicated to support this new customer segment.

Zoetis also has a dedicated veterinary team in Veterinary Medical Information and Product Support (VMIPS) that is available for your product inquiries. Coincidentally, Zoetis employs the largest number of veterinarians across its worldwide organization.

Zoetis, too, excels at educating and partnering with its customers with its vast resources. Zoetis-employed and external veterinarians across all species daily educate individual and small and large groups of veterinary professionals. Continuing education credit often accompanies the latter. To date, new or existing customers of the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory benefited from this value-added service. Similarly, this month customers of the University of Georgia Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory will receive education on serological testing of companion animals, a collaboration between university laboratory and Zoetis veterinarians.

These educational events are examples of partnerships between Zoetis and its laboratory customers, and they are one of two initiatives that the US Diagnostics team has created to help its customers like you gain more local or regional exposure such that you gain more business. The second initiative is the access to marketing support for our customers to promote their laboratory and service offerings. The Zoetis US Diagnostics team has already partnered with laboratories to promote their services including the availability of Zoetis' TiterCHEK® CDV/CPV, an ELISA test for identifying antibodies to canine distemper virus and canine parvovirus. To learn more about these initiatives, contact your US Diagnostics' Strategic Account Manager and visit the entire US Diagnostics team in the exhibit hall at the annual AAVLD conference.

What's in the name Zoetis?

- A dedicated team to support you
- Initiatives to help your laboratory gain business
- High-quality diagnostic test kits for multiple species

**Events To Watch For At The Annual Meeting !**



**IDEXX presents: Introduction to the new IDEXX RealPCR™ Modular System  
Sat, Oct 18, 6:00-6:30 in Atlanta A**

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Visit [www.facebook.com/AAVLD](http://www.facebook.com/AAVLD) and like us.

We value your opinion and contributions. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions for articles, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jim Kistler  
Executive Director  
American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians