



American Association of  
Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians  
**E-Newsletter**

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Issue: # 9-2014

News & Events September 2014

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

**BVDV - ESVV Pestivirus Pre-Conference Symposium**  
Tuesday-Wednesday, Oct. 14-15

**AAVLD Quality Assurance Pre-Conference Symposium**  
Thursday, Oct. 16

**AAVLD Foundation Auction and Dinner**  
Friday, Oct. 17, Exhibit Hall B

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

**AAVLD / USAHA Presidents' Reception and Dinner**  
Sunday, Oct. 19, Exhibit Hall B

**Various Symposiums, Seminars and Activities**

**Check out the following link:**

<http://www.aavld.org/symposium-workshops-2014>

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## Abstracts and Presentations Available NOW in Mobile App

### Executive Board

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### ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR ANNUAL MEETING EXPERIENCE?

**Did you know you can read abstracts, presentations and committee agendas NOW through the AAVLD USAHA Mobile App?**

For More Information on how to use the app, please view our new [Mobile App Tutorials](#)

Are you using the AAVLD / USAHA Mobile App or Laptop version? New tutorials to help you get the most out of your app experience are available on the AAVLD website. There is a link to a PowerPoint tutorial (.ppt file) and to a Video tutorial (.wmv file).

Both tutorials contain visual and audio presentations for your assistance. You will need to download the file you choose in order to play it on your computer. You may elect just to view the powerpoint slides without downloading. Both tutorials contain the same information, however the video file tutorial is significantly larger in size.

The link where you can find the tutorial downloads is: [www.aavld.org](http://www.aavld.org)

The links to the file downloads are under Quick Reference.

If you haven't downloaded your app yet, please review the following:

USAHA and AAVLD are proud to announce the second installation of the 2014 USAHA/AAVLD Annual Meeting App! The app will again be available for registered attendees on your smartphone and tablet devices - as well as a new feature this year, a laptop-compatible version. The app will allow access to all of the meeting information on your devices. The app is available on Apple and Android systems, downloadable through the Apple store or Google Play. The app will be accessible for attendees only. It is a native app meaning internet connection is not required to run the program. However, internet connection is necessary for any updates or announcements and we will have complimentary wireless internet available for your use at the Sheraton Hotel in Kansas City. The app is brought to you by the generous support of Life Technologies.

- Key App features
  - Interactive Schedule & Agenda, including the ability to build your own agenda
  - Connect with other attendees through the app
  - Downloadable Scientific Session presentations to your device
  - Interactive Exhibitor information
  - General meeting information & announcements

How to access

- You must first be registered for the 2014 Annual Meeting to have an account. PLEASE NOTE: if you used the app last year (2013), your

NVSL Ex-Officio

Christine Hoang,  
AVMA Ex-Officio

registration is no longer active. Only 2014 Registrants will be recognized.

- Once you have registered for the meeting, your account will be established within the app. You will receive a notification once the activation is completed.
- If you used the app last year, you should be able to update the 2013 app with the current version. If you are a new user, simply go to your app store, and search for AAVLD USAHA, and select download. (Data rates may apply). Once you've downloaded, start the app and you will be prompted to enter your email address, and you're all set.
- For those interested in the desktop version, it can be accessed at: <http://www.bravuratechnologies.com/aavld2014/web/attendeelogin.aspx>

### NBAF Funding, Construction Move Forward - Slowly

NBAF funding, construction move forward - slowly [edited]  
By Brianne Pfannenstiel  
Kansas City Business Journal  
September 16, 2014

The National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility is moving toward completion - just slowly, said Ron Trewyn, Kansas State University's NBAF liaison.

Trewyn, who is also assistant to the president and the bio/agrodefense facilitator for the university, said that despite a possible public perception that work has stalled on the \$1.25 billion project, construction is ongoing at the K-State site, and the final leg of funding is on the horizon.

"I think people have sort of lost track of what's happening with it," Trewyn said. "Things tend not to move real quickly in Washington ... I'm not sure people understand that there are things happening on the site currently."

So far, the government has allocated about \$700 million toward the project, and Congress is expected to appropriate the final \$300 million during this next year's budget. Once that final piece has been allocated, construction on the lab will begin.

Full text: <http://tinyurl.com/o4xkq6k>

### One Health Commission Newsletter Now Available

*Please read the new, inaugural (first ever), [OHC newsletter](#) that will update you on recent Commission events and current volunteer working 'teams' that are underway. I hope you will also visit the expanding OHC website (<http://www.onehealthcommission.org/>) to review participating sponsor organizations/corporations/individuals, current Board and COA members (look under Leadership).*

*You will note in the newsletter that at the first ever 'in person' OHC Board meeting in Atlanta (Feb '14) the Commission's mission and vision were updated into a new 'charter' statement.*

*The Charter of the One Health Commission is to 'Educate' and 'Create' networks to improve health outcomes and well-being of humans, animals and plants and to promote environmental resilience through a collaborative, Global, One Health approach.*

*The One Health Commission will be sending out periodic updates and information. If you would like to be removed from this distribution list please let us know by sending a response to this email with the words, please remove from this distribution list in the subject line. However, if you know of someone who may be interested in the work of The Commission, please forward this email.*

*Best,*

*The One Health Commission Leadership Team  
The Board of Directors and Executive Staff*

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## Congress Should Let More Veterinarians Serve America's Communities

*By Ron DeHaven, DVM  
The Hill [blog]  
September 19, 2014*

Imagine you are a dairy farmer in rural Wisconsin who desperately needs a veterinarian to care for your cows and ensure the safety of the milk products produced on your farm. Unfortunately, roughly 180 areas across the United States are suffering from a severe shortage of essential veterinary services. But there is a program and a bill before Congress that can address this critical need.

The Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) places livestock and public health veterinarians in underserved areas of the country in exchange for paying off up to \$25,000 annually in that veterinarian's student loans. Administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA),

the VMLRP has, since 2010, successfully placed 205 veterinarians in 45 states, Puerto Rico and on U.S. federal lands to help farmers and ranchers ensure the health and welfare of their livestock, protect food safety and guard our country against harmful diseases. However, more veterinarians could serve our nation's communities if the VMLRP were exempt from the withholding tax, thus freeing up financial resources that could go toward funding additional recipients.

That's where the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program Enhancement Act (S. 553/H.R. 1125) comes into play. This important federal legislation would eliminate the tax on the VMLRP, following a similar precedent established by its counterpart program for human medicine-the National Health Services Corps' loan repayment program.

Congress currently appropriates \$4.8 million annually for the VMLRP, but unfortunately the full amount is not used to get veterinarians into communities that need their services. VMLRP awards are subject to a 39 percent withholding tax, meaning Uncle Sam-before any veterinarian receives an award-takes back 39 cents of every dollar that he gives to this vital program. If that money was left in the program, more veterinarians per year would be able to participate in the program and more communities could be reached.

Not only would our nation's ranchers and farmers gain access to the veterinary care they need if this bill passes, but more veterinarians could establish practices in rural communities while paying off some of their student debt. Since Congress first authorized the VMLRP 11 years ago, the average graduating debt for veterinarians has more than doubled from \$76,558 in 2003 to \$162,113 in 2013.

Full text: <http://tinyurl.com/nfyujcm>

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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