### President’s Message - Gary Anderson

A group representing the AAVLD and USAHA recently gathered at the site of our next annual meeting in Minneapolis, the Hilton Hotel and Convention Center. We were also accompanied by exhibitor/sponsor representatives who have attended our meetings in recent years. The goal was to work on meeting details in order to enhance and enrich the annual meeting experience for attendees, sponsors and exhibitors. It is important that we work closely with our industry partners so our annual meeting is a mutually rewarding and beneficial event. Our meeting would not be possible without the strong and consistent involvement of sponsors and exhibitors – membership costs would have to be far greater if these partners did not actively participate in our meeting.

You will notice some changes in the upcoming 2010 meeting. Suggestions and ideas for possible changes stem from the recent “task force” meeting in Minneapolis. We believe we have heard correctly from some of you, as well as from many exhibitors and sponsors who want to have increased interaction and better quality exposure during the meeting. A major change to be implemented will be staggered scientific sessions on Sunday, which will be a significant challenge for Program Chair, Dr Carter and the Program Committee but we expect it to spread out and increase the flow of traffic through exhibits over a wider time frame so attendees and exhibitors have more quality time for discussion. In addition, the exhibit area will be open on Saturday beginning at the 9:30am break and remain open until 6pm and Sunday from 7am to 2pm. Scientific session start, break and end times on Sunday will be staggered with sessions starting at 8, 8:30 and 9am. Food will be available throughout the exhibit area when it is open. Finally, there will be opportunities for exhibitors and sponsors to highlight products and technologies during presentations made on Saturday following the scientific sessions. We hope the changes will be positive for all attendees and welcome your feedback after the meeting in Minneapolis.

There is no doubt that the AAVLD-USHA “venue team” of Pat Blanchard, Jackie Cassarly, Ben Richey and Linda Ragland are working hard to make the 2010 meeting an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all. Get ready for Minnesota in November!

### What’s New on the Web (colored text below are hot links)

- **2009 Second House of Delegates** text of the two resolutions added
- **December Lab Directors –NVSL** Conference Call Minutes
- **2010 Annual meeting materials**: tentative schedule of events; call for papers (deadline June 15), trainee travel award application (deadline June 1), call for Diagnostic pathology slide seminar submissions (deadline July 30) and Diagnostic Bacteriology case presentation titles (deadline October 1). CL Davis Ocular Pathology symposium.
- **AAVLD committee minutes** have been updated to include Laboratory Safety committee minutes. Use the table of contents for links to each committee report.
- **Committee chairs** list with email contacts.
• **SOP on Committees** updated version is posted on the Committees members only site.
• **Internal Bacteriology Quality Assurance self assessment** results for the 5 unknowns in 2009 are posted under the Bacteriology subcommittee link for members only. Also disclaimers on antibiotic sensitivities used by various laboratories are available at this site.
• **Trek Microbiologist Nominations** due by April 30. Form under News on AAVLD website

Follow links in left column or above in this newsletter. If you click on a link for a members only item in this newsletter, the first time you will see a note stating: *You do not have permission to view this page.* To the right of this notice is a Login button. You only need to login once then all other members only page links in the newsletter will go direct to the page.

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**AAVLD Annual Meeting News**

- Diagnostic Bacteriology case presentations are Friday from 10am to noon.
- QA committee is planning some training during their committee meeting rather than a separate symposium.
- Laboratory Safety is looking at a mini-symposium within their meeting.
- CL Davis will sponsor a symposium on Ocular Pathology on Friday.
- There will be increased opportunities to interact with exhibitors with some changes in the scheduling as outlined in the President’s message.

**European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (EAVLD) to hold their 1st Congress in 2010**

The First Congress of the European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (EAVLD), to be held in Lelystad, the Netherlands, from the 15th until the 17th of September 2010. Full information about this congress can be found at our website: [www.eavld2010.org](http://www.eavld2010.org)

For other meetings of interest to members visit [meeting announcements](http://www.aavld.org) on the aavld web site.

**JVDI Manuscript reviewers and review articles needed.**

The Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation (JVDI) has consistently been cited as one of the benefits that AAVLD members highly value. The editor-in-chief, Jerry Saliki, is again asking for reviewers for manuscripts. The review process is critical to continuing to provide a quality journal with a short review turnaround. For those who are willing to become a manuscript reviewer, contact JVDI’s editorial office at editorial@jvdi.org and the editorial assistant will create an account for you. After an account is created, the editorial assistant will send you the relevant login information for Manuscript Central ([http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jvdi](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jvdi)) to edit your account. Once you have logged in to Manuscript Central, simply click on Edit account (upper right) and follow the instructions. On the last page, you can change your password and add up to 5 areas of expertise, which will enable the editorial staff to route manuscripts that are appropriate to your field as well as limit requests that are outside your areas of expertise.

JVDI also encourages submission of review articles—contact Jerry Saliki via editor@jvdi.org with review article and author suggestions on topics you would like to read about or topics you would like to write.