President’s Message - Gary Anderson

We continue to look for ways of increasing our membership, with particular focus on young people who will be future diagnosticians. Our Foundation and selected discipline committees again will provide considerable support for resident-graduate student travel and presentation awards. In addition, we have established a Memorandum of Understanding between our association and the Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine (CPCVM) that is intended to enhance visibility of laboratory diagnostic medicine and increase opportunities for veterinary students to experience the “discipline” of diagnostics. There will be a variety of ways to utilize the AAVLD-CPCVM agreement, and it will take time and effort to reap the benefits for each organization, the students and our profession.

An AAVLD-CPCVM mentorship program is currently being developed that will be aimed at providing an opportunity for students to develop one-on-one relationships with laboratory diagnostic professionals working in similar areas of interest. It is anticipated that much of the mentoring will be done long-distance because students and AAVLD members may not be in the same place. Mentoring packages are being developed that will provide tips and suggestions on how to best have an effective mentoring relationship even though you might not be in the same location as the student. The intent is to develop a mutually beneficial relationship that will provide AAVLD members opportunities to meet, get to know and provide some level of guidance for young, enthusiastic upcoming members of our profession.

The goal is to finalize a mentor program structure and begin identifying AAVLD members who may be interested in either serving as a mentor for a student or hosting a senior student for a clerkship. We anticipate matching students with potential mentors, and initiating more AAVLD-CPCVM interactions when students return for the upcoming academic year. If you are interested in participating in this partnership, either as a mentor or by hosting a student for an externship opportunity, please contact Dr Valerie Ragan, director of the CPCVM at vragan@umd.edu or 301-314-6820. For more information click here.

Dr Craig Carter and the Program Committee are working hard to finalize the program for our annual meeting - we anticipate and expect it will be top-drawer. Thanks very much to all who have submitted abstracts and to those who are preparing for committee work and all the activities needed for a successful meeting. Please make plans to attend our 2010 annual meeting. It will be a great time to catch up with colleagues and move our profession forward. We hope to see you in Minneapolis!
February Lab Directors – NVSL Conference Call Minutes
February Executive board minutes
Trek Microbiologist Nominations due by August 15. 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.

AAVLD Annual Meeting News
Real time PCR cutoff values standards symposium will take place Thursday, Nov 11th from 1-5pm. The symposium will include presentations on the challenges in setting values between labs and equipment with a proposed plan presented to participants. Separate registration (25.00).

CL Davis will sponsor a symposium on Ocular Pathology Nov 12th, Friday.

The plenary session topic is One Health: opportunities for veterinary diagnostic labs

There will be increased opportunities to interact with exhibitors with changes in the scientific session scheduling and exhibitor hours.

Online version of 2010 BMBL Manual Now available!
The new online (2010) version The new online version matches the CDC/NIH Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories ("BMBL") 5th ed published in December 2009 can be found on the CDC website. Hardcopy is available via ordering from www.gpo.gov for US $38.00.