

NEWSLETTER

November 2006

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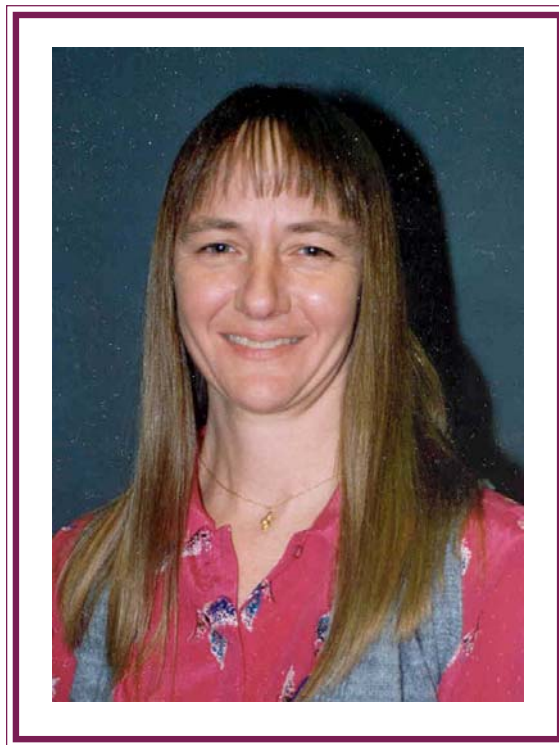
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The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

2007 AAVLD PRESIDENT

Dr. Barbara Powers
Colorado State University
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory



2007 Executive Board

President.....Barbara Powers

President-Elect.....Grant Maxie

Vice President.....Dave Steffen

Immed. Past President...Donal O'Toole

Secretary/Treasurer.....Alex Ardans

North East.....Bruce Akey

South East.....Ron Wilson

North Central.....Neil Dyer

South Central.....Richard Mock

North West.....Timothy Baszler

South West.....Robert Poppenga

Canada Provincial.....Maria Spinato

Canada Federal,
Ex-Officio.....Shane Renwick

NVSL, Ex-Officio.....Beth Lautner

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AAVLD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In this first message from your new AAVLD President, I will quickly summarize the activities during the recent AAVLD/USAHA Meeting held in Minneapolis, MN. Hopefully, many of you attended that meeting. It was full of wonderful scientific information with over 185 scientific presentations and posters. The 2006 proceedings book has all the abstracts within and you can access these on the AAVLD website. We hope you enjoyed all these presentations. At the AAVLD plenary sessions, we heard wonderful presentations about avian influenza, high-throughput testing for foreign animal diseases, and the future of veterinary diagnostic medicine. These were most informative presentations. At the joint plenary session with USAHA, we heard about the future of surveillance systems for the next 20 years. All of us in veterinary diagnostic laboratory systems have great input into all of these surveillance systems and it was good to hear from our various partners at USDA, FSIS, CDC, Wildlife Conservation Society and the Department of Homeland Security. Surveillance for emerging and foreign animal diseases will remain a high priority for this country for the foreseeable future, and we were pleased to be able to provide such an informative session. We also had numerous successful pre-meeting symposia, committee sessions and fun at the president's reception, auction and joint AAVLD/USAHA dinner. The committee minutes are posted on the web site and the list of committee chairs are on page 22. Please also note that Dr. Bruce Akey has replaced Dr. Alfonso Torres as the Northeast region representative and Neil Dyer replaces David Steffen, our new Vice President, as the North Central representative on the Executive Board. Joining them are newly elected representatives Drs. Bob Poppenga (SW) and Tim Baszler (NW).

Many challenges face AAVLD in the future. We need to continue to work with USDA and strengthen and expand funding for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN). It was wonderful to see the prominence and the importance that the NAHLN has gained, as was repeatedly mentioned throughout the meeting at both AAVLD and USAHA sessions. The progress of the NAHLN has been truly amazing in its short life to-date. The efforts of Drs. Terry McElwain and

Willie Reed toward establishment and progress of the NAHLN was highlighted as they received an award from USDA (see page 20) at the joint AAVLD/USAHA dinner. Congratulations Terry and Willie! However, challenges still remain as the NAHLN needs to have full-funding to all AAVLD laboratories that are participants. We need to work with our partners and our legislators to achieve this full-funding for the NAHLN. Another highlight of the meeting was the signing ceremony for the renewal of the MOU between AAVLD and USDA/NVSL at the second House of Delegates. John Clifford, Elizabeth Lautner, Barb Martin, Donal O'Toole, Barb Powers and Grant Maxie are the signatories for the MOU which expires in 2011. Another issue that was quite prominent at the AAVLD meeting is the new AAVLD accreditation standard which will be in effect December 31, 2006. We are all committed to meet all the requirements for this new accreditation standard, as raising the bar, as we have done, will only benefit all of us now and in the future. We hope others realize the tremendous amount of work and effort it takes to now achieve AAVLD accreditation, and we are confident our clients and partners appreciate our quality systems and results.

Other issues facing AAVLD that we need to continue to work on are workforce issues as the incoming stream of veterinary diagnosticians remains limited and insufficient to fill the needs of the diagnostic laboratory systems throughout the country. Working with the AAVLD Foundation and other organizations, we need to continue to encourage students and young professionals into our field. Finally, we are facing shortages at the state level for funding of diagnostic laboratories which equates into difficulties in funding new diagnosticians and gaps in animal disease surveillance systems, among other challenges. These are just some of the many issues that we need to continue to work on and certainly will not be solved in my short tenure as an AAVLD President, but hopefully, we can continue our momentum and progress on these.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara E. Powers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barb Powers, DVM/PhD/DAVCP
President/AAVLD

AAVLD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Friday, October 13, 2006, 1pm-5pm

Hilton Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN

Present: Donal O'Toole, Richard Mock, Grant Maxie, Ron Wilson, Alex Ardans, Beth Lautner, Barb Powers, David Steffen, Gary Osweiler, Bill Layton, Shane Renwick, Alfonso Torres. **Guests:** Pat Blanchard, Sharon Hietala, Jerry Saliki, Tim Baszler, Bob Poppenga, Jackie Cassarly, Terry McElwain, Leon Thacker, Peter Vanderloo.

1. President Donal O'Toole called the meeting to order at 1:12pm.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion to accept the minutes of the July, 13 2006 Executive Board meeting was made (Maxie) and seconded (Ardans), and carried unanimously.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Dr. Alex Ardans presented the report of the Treasurer as follows:

JANUARY 1, 2006 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

Checking Account Balance on Hand January 1, 2006:	\$31,248.03	
Total Administrative Operating Receipts	\$343,857.31	
Total Administrative Operating Expenses	(\$232,688.27)	
ENDING BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2006:		\$142,417.07

Certificates of Deposit as of SEPTEMBER 30, 2006		
CD#000418518 (Maturity Date: January 12, 2007)	\$16,500.86	
CD#650338113 (Maturity Date: March 23, 2007)	\$49,900.00	
TOTAL, CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT		\$66,400.86

Mutual Fund, Edward D. Jones, as of SEPTEMBER 30, 2006		
Account #190876276 New Perspective Fund	\$124,655.01	
Account #165939129 Investment Co. of America	\$106,437.53	
Account #650338114 American Balanced Fund	\$ 53,919.48	
Account #650338119 Capital World Growth & Income Fund	\$ 51,568.70	
Account #650338120 Washington Mutual Investors Fund	\$ 28,104.51	
Account #650338121 Growth Fund of America	\$ 11,673.73	
TOTAL, MUTUAL FUNDS		\$376,358.96

TOTAL ASSETS ON HAND- SEPTEMBER 30, 2006 **\$585,176.89**

FOUNDATION

JANUARY 1, 2006 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

Checking Account Balance on Hand January 1, 2006:	\$43,186.06	
Total Administrative Operating Receipts	\$ 2,691.54	
Total Administrative Operating Expenses	\$(2,834.44)	
ENDING BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2006:		\$43,043.16

Mutual Fund: Account #182504125 Income fund of America	\$79,800.37	
TOTAL MUTUAL FUNDS		\$79,800.37

TOTAL ASSETS ON HAND- SEPTEMBER 30, 2006 **\$122,843.53**

Dr. Ardans reported that the AAVLD Foundation's mutual fund balance will now be reported separately from the general account mutual funds. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Donal O'Toole reported that after the July Executive Board meeting in San Francisco, he attended the AVMA House of Delegates meeting in Hawaii. Although there were no issues discussed that were directly pertinent to veterinary diagnostics, Dr. O'Toole felt it was important for AAVLD to continue participating in the AVMA House of Delegates.

The AAVLD Memorandum of Understanding with USDA, which is up for renewal this year, has been updated and will be signed at the second AAVLD House of Delegates meeting on Monday, October 16th.

Dr. O'Toole attended a meeting in Virginia designed to gain support for a national companion animal network. Several different agencies were represented at the meeting. A private hospital has spurred the efforts to set up such a network on the premise that companion animals act as a sentinel for disease in humans and food animals. The network has already received \$1.2 million in funding from CDC.

A one-year contract was signed with Jackie Cassarly and the Planning Connection for meeting planning services. The AAVLD Executive Board needs to decide whether to renew the contract. Dr. O'Toole noted that Jackie has been very effective so far.

Dr. O'Toole purchased a gift for Donna Dare to be presented at the first AAVLD House of Delegates meeting on Saturday, October 14th on behalf of AAVLD as a token of the association's appreciation for her work with the annual meeting.

Two NAHLN high throughput testing demonstrations have been held and both went well. Although continuation funds are being provided, expansion of the network has not yet been funded. It appears that National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) laboratories may be allowed to perform the matrix component of the AI PCR test. Dr. O'Toole urged members of the board to discuss the issue with their State veterinarians and John Clifford. Barb Powers suggested key points for discussion to emphasize how real time PCR testing for AI is different from serology testing for regulatory diseases such as the PCR is much more complex and detects antigen and not antibody. It was suggested that members discuss options with Dr. Clifford to address the complexity of the test (e.g. NPIP labs partnering with a NAHLN lab). Any laboratory approved to perform AI PCR should also be expected to meet NAHLN checklist standards and pass a proficiency testing required of NAHLN labs. Dr. Lautner noted that it is still unclear as to whether NPIP labs will do testing only on sick birds or if they will perform pre-harvest surveillance testing. NPIP laboratories feel that performing the AI PCR testing would allow them to be more responsive to the needs of the industry in managing their flocks. Another question raised was what input will state veterinarians' have on industry sending testing to another state's NPIP poultry industry laboratory rather than a NAHLN lab if a state does not approve NPIP industry laboratories to test in their state?

The Board requested that Ron Wilson bring the issue up in the National Assembly of State Veterinarians. Shane Renwick noted that Canada does not allow private laboratories to perform regulatory testing and questioned whether conflict of interest has been addressed as a possible problem with NPIP laboratories performing AI PCR testing. Dr. O'Toole urged the members of the Board to continue pursuing this issue.

The new membership management website through MemberClicks is up and running. JVDI will go online beginning with the November 2006 issue.

Dave Korcal has been selected to replace Monte Reimers as the chair of the Quality Assurance committee. Terry McElwain will replace Dr. Leon Thacker as chair of the Accreditation committee.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Accreditation

Leon Thacker reported that the Accreditation Committee met 4 hours the afternoon of Thursday, 10/12/06 with 15 committee members in attendance and 4 hours Friday morning 10/13/06 with all 17 committee members in attendance. The Committee received update reports from Wisconsin, Oregon, New York, Missouri, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Connecticut. Preliminary site visit reports from visits to Kansas, Texas, and South Carolina were presented. Site visits to be scheduled as soon as possible include NVSL, Illinois, Nebraska, Arizona, Arkansas, Missouri and Montana. There are 8 laboratories or laboratory systems scheduled for site visits in 2007.

The Committee discussed mechanisms for verifying laboratories' full implementation of and compliance with New Essential Requirements for AAVLD Accredited Laboratories in 2007. By January 2, 2007 each accredited laboratory shall provide to the Accreditation Committee a completed check list of new essential requirements primarily addressing revised quality system development and implementation; a copy of their most recent Quality manual; and a complete set of the laboratory's system SOP's/System Documents. In addition, each accredited laboratory must send to the Committee by April 30 a schedule and example of internal audits; and records of compliance with instrument

calibration, personnel training, and corrective action requirements. Failure to document compliance with these items will result in review of the laboratory's accreditation status.

The Committee also had a discussion session considering the future and structure of the AAVLD accreditation process. A subcommittee of 5 members of the Committee was appointed to draw up initial recommendations for subsequent session(s) of this discussion.

The Committee has requested nominations from each accredited laboratory for technical experts to serve as assessors on future site visits. A training session for new assessors as well as current Committee members will be scheduled in concert with the next meeting of the Committee to be held at the time of the Western States Veterinary Conference in early 2007.

B. Publications

Dave Steffen reported that the Publications committee met Thursday, October 12, 2006. They discussed the new website and will be looking into whether or not several databases currently managed on the Iowa-hosted website can be hosted on new site. The committee voted to approve moving to an e-mail newsletter with links to full text on the web rather than the full newsletter currently published. In order to address concerns regarding differing requirements of e-mail systems, both an HTML email and full text PDF will be sent.

i. JVDI

Jerry Saliki reported that to date 158 manuscripts have been received from 23 countries in 2006. Based on citations, JVDI is ranked 39th out of 123 journals in the veterinary science category. Of the submitted manuscripts, 63 have been accepted or are in press, 31 are pending revisions by the author, 20 are under review, and 44 have been rejected. The current acceptance rate is 58.9%. The average time from submission to first decision is 33 days (36 in 2005). The average reviewer turnaround time is 12 days. Editor turnaround time has decreased to 2 days (7 days in 2005). The journal continues to grow, as indicated by the steady growth in numbers of manuscripts submitted and the number of articles published. Furthermore, based on limited data, the international recognition of the journal is also growing, as indicated by the geographical distribution of countries from which manuscripts are being submitted. The challenge is to maintain and improve on quality while still growing.

Moving to online manuscript submission shifted responsibilities from the editor's assistant to the editor and has allowed her to focus more on the journal's finances, such as soliciting additional advertisers. Currently Bio-Rad, Idexx and Ambion are running full-page, color ads in the journal.

The online publication project is going very well and is proceeding faster than anticipated. There will be a free 2-month trial period where the journal is available to the public. The projected go-live date is November 20, 2006. Online access will be provided to members/subscribers exclusively for 12 months of current content starting in early February. After twelve months, back content will be available to the public. A pay-per-use function will be available for non-subscribers. The pay-per-use charge has not yet been determined and will be set and collected by HighWire. E-mail alerts can be set-up as a benefit to members. All members would get an e-mail table of contents for each issue of the journal. A one-time set-up fee of \$500.00 will be charged by HighWire. A motion to approve the expenditure of \$500.00 to set up e-mail alerts for JVDI (Ardans, Maxie second) carried unanimously. Dr. Saliki will look into the possibility of using color photos for the web version of the journal and black and white photos for the print version. If this option will cost more, Dr. Saliki will not pursue it further.

A policy regarding the posting of JVDI articles on private websites is needed. A motion to formulate a policy allowing authors to post articles published in JVDI as a PDF on private websites, only after publication in JVDI, and including full copyright information, (Maxie, Powers second) carried unanimously. Dr. Saliki would like to submit the policy to Sherpa, a website dedicated to archiving articles, for posting. Dr. Saliki will implement the addition of JVDI copyright information on first page of all articles.

Sage Publications has approached Dr. Saliki regarding a publishing partnership with JVDI. They would handle finances, page charge collections and advertisements. The Financial Advisory committee and Dave Steffen will look into a publishing partnership and research other associations that use this type of service.

On behalf of the Board, Donal O'Toole expressed thanks to Dr. Saliki for his efforts in moving the journal forward. Dr. Saliki expressed his thanks to the Board members for their support.

C. Program

Barb Powers reported that the program begins Saturday October 14, 2006 and the Proceedings book is out. She urged those present to fill out the evaluation form. Dr. Powers noted that working with Dr. Lee Meyers on the AAVLD/USAHA on Joint Plenary session was a pleasure. The Program committee enlisted 11 sponsors for a total of approximately \$14,000.00, allowing them to fund each of the scientific sessions. Each sponsor was listed and given a half-page ad in the proceedings book. Most of the sponsors are also exhibiting at the meeting. Dr. Powers encouraged everyone present to visit the booths of the sponsors and thank them for their contributions. There were 189 abstracts were received, and a majority of those were accepted with the addition of an extra session.

D. Canada Report – Dr. Shane Renwick presented the report as follows:

1. Avian Influenza

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is continuing to develop projects with provincial and university veterinary diagnostic laboratories for enhancing biocontainment and quality assurance to allow testing for notifiable avian influenza, foot and mouth disease and classical swine fever. As of September 29, the 2006 wild bird survey for AI has recorded 8059 samples collected from live wild birds across Canada. 5619 live and 1687 dead birds have been tested with 576 and 134 matrix positives, respectively, thus far. So far, any H5 isolates have been low path, North American strains none of which have been N1. Results are being reported on the website of the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC) http://wildlife1.usask.ca/en/aiv/aiv_latest_results.php.

2. BSE

Canada confirmed its 5th case of BSE in 2006, bringing the total to 8 since May 2003. Over 40,000 BSE surveillance tests on high risk animals have been completed thus far in 2006—it is anticipated that about 60,000 samples will be tested during 2006. Over 122,000 samples have been tested since January, 2004 when the enhanced BSE surveillance program was announced. Investigational epidemiology reports for BSE cases 1-7 are posted on CFIA's web site at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/disemala/bseesb/comenqe.shtml#7>.

The CFIA is implementing a revised protocol for the ongoing reporting of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in Canada as BSE is eradicated from the national cattle herd. All new BSE detections will now be reported through the CFIA's website. Final reports from these investigations will also be posted online.

It was announced on June 26, 2006 that the CFIA is banning specified risk material (SRM) from all animal feeds, pet foods and fertilizers. The new regulations entered into force on July 12, 2007, with additional time provided for small establishments to achieve full compliance. In the meantime, an awareness campaign has been undertaken to ensure that all regulated parties are fully aware of their responsibilities and have adjusted their practices and procedures as required.. The Government has set aside \$80 million to work with the provinces to assist industry's implementation of the new feed controls.

3. Anthrax

As of September 27 there had been no new cases reported in the previous 2 weeks. In Saskatchewan, there have been 153 positive premises, with 800 dead animals reported to date; in Manitoba, 21 positive premises, with 137 dead animals reported to date. Quarantines were lifted on 15 premises in Saskatchewan since the update of September 13, 2006; 52 premises remain under quarantine. In Manitoba, 21 premises remain under quarantine.

E. Membership Report:

Grant Maxie reported that the total membership for 2006 is 1292. There are 1037 full members, 121 graduate student/resident members, 39 retired members, 49 associate members and 46 life/honorary members. There are 165 new members.

F. Foundation:

Barb Powers reported that the Foundation will hold an auction with both live and silent portions on Friday, October 13, 2006. A professional auctioneer is again being brought in for a nominal fee. Dr. Powers encouraged everyone present to attend the auction and bring their checkbooks.

F. NVSL– Dr. Beth Lautner presented the report as follows:

Bill Knight has been appointed Undersecretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs (replaces Bill Hawkes).

USDA is looking forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with AAVLD to be performed at the second AAVLD House of Delegates meeting on Monday, October 16th. Beth Lautner, John Clifford and Barb Martin will be present for the signing.

Modernization Plan update: NVSL will be inviting people to see the BSL-3 facility. The consolidated laboratory is on track to open in 2009. There have been discussions regarding what to do with NVSL central facility, which is not currently part of the modernization plan. Suggestions include use for diagnostic development, veterinary stockpiles, emergency management, and proficiency panels. Projected costs are being reviewed. Options are being explored, but no decisions have been made. Beth Lautner, Randall Levings and Rick Hill have been charged with drafting a plan for the facility. Additionally, operating funds will need to be secured.

Funding has been received for BSL-2 and BSL-3 mobile trailers in the amount of \$1.5 M. A list of planned needs/use for the trailers has been developed, but a company has yet to be selected.

VS Memo 580.4 dealing with FAD investigations, sampling and location for performance of testing is in need of revision.

NAHLN: A strategy needs to be put in place for NAHLN laboratory relations. Issues to be resolved include what is consequence if a NAHLN lab is not in compliance with requirements and what is the appeals process for any actions that are taken? What of the NAHLN should be codified? The recently established NAHLN Technical working group has been very useful to NVSL.

ISO 17025 Accreditation: The first and second of a series of audits of NVSL by AALA have been completed. The third audit will be performed the last week of November at FADDL. The audits have been going well so far and NVSL is on track for receiving accreditation for their scope of tests by end of December. More tests will be added at a later date.

Dr. Lautner distributed an update on the NAHLN. BSE enhanced testing is converting to on-going surveillance levels.

NVSL will train up to 2 technicians/target state to perform VSV complement fixation serology testing. A proficiency test panel will be offered after training. Once the disease is confirmed in a state, the approved states can perform the serology testing on suspect horses in state. Dr. Lautner will check on whether labs already performing the testing on horses for movement will be allowed to take the proficiency test.

The NAHLN budget was discussed. Two projects within NAHLN budget include a high throughput robotics project at Kansas State University and an alligator project in Louisiana.

G. Nominations

Donal O'Toole reported results of the election for 2007 Executive Board members are as follows: Vice President – Dr. Dave Steffen, Secretary/Treasurer – Dr. Alex Ardans, Northwest Representative – Dr. Tim Baszler, Southwest Representative – Dr. Bob Poppenga, and Canada Provincial – Dr. Maria Spinato.

H. Awards

Gary Osweiler reported that four trainee travel awards were given this year. Two awards were from association funds and two were funded by the pathology committee. Life Memberships were awarded to Dr. Leon Thacker and Dr. Bill Quinn. Awards for best graduate student poster and presentation will be presented at the AAVLD/USAHA Joint President's reception. The winner of the Pope award will also be announced at the joint reception. A suggestion was made to put graduate student award winners on the cover of the journal.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Annual Meeting/Planning Connection

Jackie Cassarly of the Planning Connection provided a summary of her experience working on the AAVLD/USAHA Annual Meeting. She reported that it was a positive experience and that there are many people to coordinate and get to know. She believes now that she better understands AAVLD and how the arrangement with USAHA works, she will be better able to help improve the meeting. She noted that she operates differently than how things have been done in the past, but that most arrangements went fairly well. She expressed concerns about the hotel contract, especially in regards to cancellation, attrition language and room block size, and suggested that AAVLD become more involved in contract development and review and request more of the hotels than has been done in the past. In addition, she suggested that the exchange of information between AAVLD and USAHA needed to improve.

B. MemberClicks Update

Allison Reitz reported that the MemberClicks website is up and running. Online membership renewals were accepted beginning in August 2006. Approximately 900 renewals have been received to date. There have been a few kinks, but overall the system is working well. Ms. Reitz requested that members send her any feedback they have on the site.

B. 50th Meeting in Reno

Commemoration of the 50th AAVLD Annual meeting was discussed. Inclusion of a history of the association and significant milestones over the last 50 years in the plenary session was proposed. Older members with a long history in AAVLD could possibly be invited to participate. Possible contacts mentioned to help with the history of AAVLD were Robert Crandell, Harvey Gosser, Art Bickford, Stan Snyder, Vaughn Seaton, Anthony Gallina and Larry Morehouse. It was suggested that the history piece also be included in JVDI. It was also suggested that a commemorative pin be given to members. Dave Steffen will assist Grant Maxie with further planning.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Validation/Serology Committee

Pat Blanchard reported that there are 180 assays in need of validation information. She would like AAVLD to support a conference call for the Serology committee every other week to work through validation for these assays. She also plans to send a notice out to the membership announcing openings on the serology committee.

B. Resolutions from the Joint Animal Emergency Management Committee

Pat Blanchard reported that there are three resolutions being developed by the Joint Animal Emergency Management Committee.

1. A resolution regarding leadership on animal issues during disasters/emergencies will request that ESF 11 a part of the national response plan be revised to include all species and all hazards, and have USDA as the lead agency.
2. A resolution that USDA take lead in working with FDA, EPA, DOT, NRCS and other agencies on developing a national carcass disposal plan for routine and emergency events.
3. A resolution to request adequate funding for demonstration projects based on FEMA regions to develop animal emergency plans that involve and integrate all parties from local and industry to federal multiple agencies.

The resolutions will be made available Sunday, October 15th. They will then be presented and voted on at the second House of Delegates meeting.

C. Editorial Appointment

A motion to reappoint Jeremiah Saliki as JVDI editor (Ardans, Maxie second) carried unanimously.

D. Regional Reps

Regional representatives need to be appointed to replace Alfonso Torres, who has stepped down from his position, and David Steffen, who will be assuming the position of Vice President in 2007. A motion to appoint Bruce Akey to replace Alfonso Torres (Ardans, Maxie second) carried unanimously. A motion to appoint Neil Dyer to replace Dave Steffen (Osweiler, Steffen second) carried unanimously. Dr. Torres expressed his thanks to the Board for his involvement over the years.

E. NIAA Liaison

Alfonso Torres reported that he is seeking a replacement as NIAA Liaison.

F. National Surveillance Unit

Sharon Hietala reported that she and Francois Elvinger have been appointed by USDA as representatives from veterinary diagnostics to the National Animal Health Surveillance System Steering Committee. One of the unit's goals is to incorporate science into surveillance and to identify how data should be utilized. Representatives are charged with bringing input from their commodity group to the unit. Dr. Hietala inquired as to the best mechanism to solicit feedback from the veterinary diagnostics field & AAVLD. The Board suggested that she send a note to the laboratory directors' listserv announcing her role as representative and requesting that individuals contact her if they have any input.

G. Resolutions from the Executive Board

Donal O'Toole proposed six items for approval to forward to the House of Delegates.

1. Currently the Foundation committee consists of fifteen (15) members and it is not necessary to limit membership to twelve.

Bylaws change: Article VIII, Committees; Section 9, AAVLD Foundation

The committee shall consist of **at least** twelve (12) members appointed by the President for a three (3) year term.

2. The way the bylaws are currently worded does not align with current practices and would require delinquent members to be included on the rolls until several months into the membership year.

Bylaws change: Article IX, Membership and Dues; Section 9; Subsection A

Dues are payable on **October 1st**. Members who are three (3) months in arrears in payment of annual dues shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association.

3. The current regional representative nomination process is unsatisfactory as the incumbent is being asked to select a competitor.

Bylaws change: Article V, The Executive Board; Section 1

Each regional representative to the Executive Board shall be elected by the membership of the respective region.

A list of no less than two nominees shall be prepared by a committee appointed by the President. **The committee shall consist of three (3) members from the same region.**

4. **WHEREAS:** The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for CWD is approved and licensed for free-roaming mule deer, white tailed deer and elk. Ample data indicate that there is essentially equal sensitivity and specificity of ELISA compared to immunohistochemistry (IHC). ELISA can be done with faster turnaround times, is more efficient for the laboratory, and requires fewer personnel than IHC. ELISA positives can be confirmed by IHC and laboratory personnel are experienced in identifying the obex and lymph node tissue to ensure proper tissue submission. Expedient laboratory results are needed for producers to move animals and product, to verify CWD disease-free status, and for proper disposal of potentially CWD-positive animals.

RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the AAVLD request that USDA VS approve ELISA testing for use on cervids in the alternative livestock industry.

5. **WHEREAS:** The AAVLD as of 2006 now incorporates World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) guidelines in the accreditation process.

RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the AAVLD requests that USDA/NVSL formally recognize and notify WOAH that the AAVLD accreditation process is consistent with the WOAH (OIE) Guidelines for Quality Management in Veterinary Testing Laboratories, Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and, as such, meets WOAH requirements.

6. **WHEREAS:** The last time dues for membership of the AAVLD were last increased was in 2002

WHEREAS: Expenses for the organization have increased, such as Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation going online as of January 2007, hiring of a new conference coordinator, participation in Member Clicks, and office expenses.

WHEREAS: The cost of supporting membership is now \$114, which exceeds the current membership fee.

Motion: It is moved that the AAVLD increases its dues for a regular member to \$115, effective January 2008.

A motion to present the bylaws changes, resolutions and membership dues increase to the House or Delegates (Ardans, Torres second) carried unanimously. They will be read at the first meeting, and voted on at the second.

H. Lighting in post mortem rooms

Grant Maxie reported that he had received inquiry regarding lighting in post mortem rooms. He noted that he has a contact with a lot of information on how to design a laboratory and suggested the topic as a possible monograph or web posting.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in February 2007 in Las Vegas, NV.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM

MINUTES OF THE AAVLD FIRST HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING

Minneapolis Hilton, Saturday, October 14, 2006, 11:15 AM-12:00 PM, Salon AB

Call to Order: President Donal O'Toole called the meeting to order at 11:20 am.

Roll Call: Secretary/Treasurer Alex Ardans called the role of delegates from the states and provinces. With forty-two state and provincial representatives present, a quorum for business was declared.

Treasurer's Report: Alex Ardans presented the Treasurer's report as follows:

Cash on hand is now approximately \$142,000, there is approximately \$443,000 in CDs and mutual funds and total assets are \$585,000. Dr. Ardans noted that the annual meeting is an important source of income for AAVLD, which in part comes from exhibitor fees, and reminded everyone to stop by the exhibit hall to visit the exhibits and thank the vendors for their participation.

President's Report:

Donal O'Toole reported that a membership dues increase proposal will be made later in the meeting. He also reported that JVDI will be going online at the end of November 2006. Dr. O'Toole acknowledged Leon Thacker's contributions to AAVLD through his service as chair of the Accreditation committee and thanked him for his work. He also acknowledged Donna Dare for her work with the Association through meeting planning and exhibit coordination and presented her with a gift on behalf of AAVLD.

Standing Committee Reports:

1. Accreditation Committee:

Terry McElwain expressed his thanks to Leon Thacker for his leadership in his role as Accreditation committee chair. Through his leadership the Association has seen the greatest changes to date in its role as an accrediting body. He has helped to develop and implement new standards and has been a great mentor and friend. On behalf of association, Dr. McElwain expressed appreciation for his tireless efforts.

Dr. McElwain reported that the Accreditation Committee met 4 hours the afternoon of Thursday, 10/12/06 with 15 committee members in attendance and 4 hours Friday morning 10/13/06 with all 17 committee members in attendance. The Committee received update reports from Wisconsin, Oregon, New York, Missouri, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Connecticut. Preliminary site visit reports from visits to Kansas, Texas, and South Carolina were presented. Site visits to be scheduled as soon as possible include NVSL, Illinois, Nebraska, Arizona, Arkansas, Missouri and Montana. There are 8 laboratories or laboratory systems scheduled for site visits in 2007. The Committee discussed mechanisms for verifying laboratories' full implementation of and compliance with New Essential Requirements for AAVLD Accredited Laboratories in 2007. By January 2, 2007 each accredited laboratory shall provide to the Accreditation Committee a completed check list of new essential requirements primarily addressing revised quality system development and implementation; a copy of their most recent Quality manual; and a complete set of the laboratory's system SOP's/ System Documents. In addition, each accredited laboratory must send to the Committee by April 30 a schedule and example of internal audits; and records of compliance with instrument calibration, personnel training, and corrective action requirements. Failure to document compliance with these items will result in review of the laboratory's accreditation status.

The Committee also had a discussion session considering the future and structure of the AAVLD accreditation process. A subcommittee of 5 members of the Committee was appointed to draw up initial recommendations for subsequent session(s) of this discussion.

The Committee has requested nominations from each accredited laboratory for technical experts to serve as assessors on future site visits. A training session for new assessors as well as current Committee members will be scheduled in concert with the next meeting of the Committee to be held at the time of the Western States Veterinary Conference in early 2007.

2. Program Committee:

Barb Powers expressed her thanks to the Program committee for all their work in helping to review abstracts and develop the program together. There were 185 abstracts submitted. The committee was able to accept most of the abstracts submitted due to the addition of an extra session. Dr. Powers thanked Pat Blanchard for working to secure room and equipment for the extra session. There are a record number of sponsors this year. A sponsor was obtained for each session for a total of 11 sponsors and approximately \$14,000.00. Sessions begin Saturday, October 14th and there are five breakout sessions. The last session is the AAVLD/USAHA Joint Plenary session on Monday, October 16th. Dr. Powers urged everyone to fill out the feedback form enclosed in their registration packets.

3. Publications Committee:

Dave Steffen recognized the work of Pat Blanchard and Jerry Saliki as newsletter and JVDI editors. As a reviewer for JVDI Dr. Steffen has enjoyed working with the online manuscript review system Manuscript Central. The new system has resulted in a decrease in review time. Once JVDI goes online with HighWire Press in November, members will have access to the journal online and they will

receive an e-mail with the table of contents and notice of access when posted. The AAVLD Newsletter will be moving to an e-mail format with hotlinks to sections on the web. The committee plans to publish the newsletter every other month instead of three times per year. AAVLD is entering the electronic age with all of its publications.

Dr. Steffen announced that he is resigning as chair of the Publications committee and hopes that the position will be filled from within the committee. The committee is also looking for new members. If interested, AAVLD members should contact Dave Steffen or Barbara Powers.

4. Foundation Committee:

Paige Carmichael reported that the foundation committee met following the auction on Friday, October 13th at 9:30pm. The Foundation has a balance of approximately \$123,000.00 with approximately \$80,000.00 in mutual funds and \$43,000.00 in cash on hand. The auction raised approximately \$5,200.00, which was slightly less than last year, but the auction finished earlier.

Next year is the 50th anniversary of AAVLD. The Foundation will be soliciting items of historical significance to AAVLD for the next auction. The committee discussed the AAVLD Foundation brochure, which is under development. The brochure will be part of a multi-pronged effort to educate the public about AAVLD and raise money for the Foundation. The committee also discussed additional efforts needed to recruit students into veterinary diagnostics. One proposal is to visit student bodies and speak to them about veterinary diagnostics.

5. Constitution, Bylaws and Resolutions Committee:

- a. Dave Steffen presented proposed amendments to the Bylaws for consideration.

Article VIII Committees
Section 9 AAVLD Foundation

- OLD It shall be the duty of this committee to be responsible for the development, investment and disbursement of AAVLD Foundation funds. The committee shall consist of twelve (12) members appointed by the President for a three (3) year term.
- NEW It shall be the duty of this committee to be responsible for the development, investment and disbursement of AAVLD Foundation funds. The committee shall consist of **at least** twelve (12) members appointed by the President for a three (3) year term.
- RATIONALE Currently the Foundation committee consists of fifteen (15) members and it is not necessary to limit membership to twelve.

Article IX Membership and Dues
Section 9 Subsection A

- OLD Dues are payable on **the first day of each fiscal year**. Members who are three (3) months in arrears in payment of annual dues shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association.
- NEW Dues are payable on **October 1st**. Members who are three (3) months in arrears in payment of annual dues shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association.
- RATIONALE This change will bring the bylaws in line with current practices and allow the membership rolls to be updated as of January 1 (the beginning of the membership year).

Article V The Executive Board
Section 1

- OLD Each regional representative to the Executive Board shall be elected by the membership of the respective region. A list of nominees shall be prepared by a committee appointed by the President **and shall consist of the incumbent regional representative and two (2) additional members from the same region**.
- NEW Each regional representative to the Executive Board shall be elected by the membership of the respective region. A list of no less than two nominees shall be prepared by a committee appointed by the President. **The committee shall consist of three (3) members from the same region**.
- RATIONALE The current arrangement is unsatisfactory as the incumbent is being asked to select a competitor.

b. Dave Steffen presented proposed resolutions for consideration.

i. WHEREAS: The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for CWD is approved and licensed for free-roaming mule deer, white tailed deer and elk. Ample data indicate that there is essentially equal sensitivity and specificity of ELISA compared to immunohistochemistry (IHC). ELISA can be done with faster turnaround times, is more efficient for the laboratory, and requires fewer personnel than IHC. ELISA positives can be confirmed by IHC and laboratory personnel are experienced in identifying the obex and lymph node tissue to ensure proper tissue submission. Expedient laboratory results are needed for producers to move animals and product, to verify CWD disease-free status, and for proper disposal of potentially CWD-positive animals.

RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the AAVLD request that USDA VS approve ELISA testing for use on cervids in the alternative livestock industry.

ii. WHEREAS: The AAVLD as of 2006 now incorporates World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) guidelines in the accreditation process.

RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the AAVLD requests that USDA/NVSL formally recognize and notify WOA that the AAVLD accreditation process is consistent with the WOA (OIE) Guidelines for Quality Management in Veterinary Testing Laboratories, Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and, as such, meets WOA requirements.

iii. Three joint resolutions will be available Sunday to review prior to and discuss at the next meeting.

c. Dave Steffen presented a proposal for increasing membership dues.

WHEREAS: The last time dues for membership of the AAVLD were increased was in 2002

WHEREAS: Expenses for the organization have increased, such as Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation going online as of January 2007, hiring of a new conference coordinator, participation in Member Clicks, and office expenses.

WHEREAS: The cost of supporting membership is now \$114, which exceeds the current membership fee.

Motion: It is moved that the AAVLD increases its dues for a regular member to \$115, effective January 2008.

Alex Ardans presented a breakdown of costs associated with supporting membership benefits and explained how the \$115.00 fee was derived. Donal O'Toole encouraged members of the House of Delegates to approve the change.

There was a discussion about the first resolution on ELISA testing. It is a joint resolution with USAHA and will also go before the USAHA Alternative Livestock committee. Barbara Powers spoke about the origination of the resolution and reasoning behind its development. The resolution is important to laboratories that perform a lot of testing on alternative livestock and mainly deals with the fact that the two assays are equivalent.

There was also discussion regarding the proposed dues increase; questions were raised regarding if dues should be raised to a higher amount and if costs would go down with the movement to an electronic journal. Jerry Saliki, JVDI editor, reported that printing & mailing costs are small portion of the cost of publication compared to copy editing costs.

A suggestion was made in relation to the change to Bylaws, Article V The Executive Board, Section 1 that nominations for regional representatives should come from the members of the region. It was noted that it can be difficult to find people willing to run for office and the appointed committee helps to facilitate filling the ballot. The change to the Bylaws does not prevent polling the regional membership for nominees.

The proposed Bylaws amendments will be reviewed and voted on by the House of Delegates at the next meeting on October 16, 2006.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM by Donal O'Toole.

MINUTES OF THE AAVLD SECOND HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING

Minneapolis Hilton, Minneapolis, MN, Monday, October 16, 2006, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Call to Order: President Donal O'Toole called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

Roll Call: Secretary/Treasurer Ardans called the roll of delegates from the states and provinces. With 36 state and provincial representatives present, a quorum for business was declared.

Passing of Gavel: President O'Toole passed the gavel to President-elect Powers who presented President O'Toole with a plaque for distinguished service to AAVLD.

President's Report: President Powers expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve as the AAVLD President and assist in strengthening the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

MOU Signing: President Powers along with Drs. Donal O'Toole, Grant Maxie and Barb Martin, John Clifford, and Beth Lautner from USDA signed the Memorandum of Understanding between AAVLD and USDA.

Standing Committee Reports

1. Strategic Planning Committee: Dr. Dave Zeman, chair, reported that the Strategic Planning Committee met on Sunday, October 25, 2006. The committee reviewed the strategic plan and will present items to the Executive Committee for action at the February meeting.
2. Dr. Dave Steffen presented the following revised Bylaw amendments and resolutions for consideration.

Bylaws

Article VIII Committees

Section 9 AAVLD Foundation

OLD

It shall be the duty of this committee to be responsible for the development, investment and disbursement of AAVLD Foundation funds. The committee shall consist of twelve (12) members appointed by the President for a three (3) year term.

NEW

It shall be the duty of this committee to be responsible for the development, investment and disbursement of AAVLD Foundation funds. The committee shall consist of at least twelve (12) members appointed by the President for a three (3) year term.

RATIONALE

Currently the Foundation committee consists of fifteen (15) members and it is not necessary to limit membership to twelve.

A motion to approve the second reading of the proposed bylaw, article VIII, section 9 was made (Byrum), seconded (Harrison) and approved unanimously.

Bylaws

Article IX Membership and Dues

Section 9 Subsection A

OLD

Dues are payable on the first day of each fiscal year. Members who are three (3) months in arrears in payment of annual dues shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association.

NEW

Dues are payable on October 1. Members who are three (3) months in arrears in payment of annual dues shall be dropped from the rolls of the Association.

RATIONALE

This change will bring the bylaws in line with current practices and allow the membership rolls to be updated as of January 1 (the beginning of the membership year).

A motion to approve the second reading of the proposed bylaw, article IX, section 9, subsection A was made (Maxie), seconded (O'Toole) and approved unanimously.

Bylaws

Article V The Executive Board

Section 1

OLD

Each regional representative to the Executive Board shall be elected by the membership of the respective region. A list of nominees shall be prepared by a committee appointed by the President and shall consist of the incumbent regional representative and two (2) additional members from the same region.

NEW

Each regional representative to the Executive Board shall be elected by the membership of the respective region. A list of nominees shall be prepared by a committee appointed by the President. The committee shall consist of three (3) members from the same region.

RATIONALE

The current arrangement is unsatisfactory as the incumbent is being asked to select a competitor.

A motion to approve the second reading of the proposed bylaw, article V, section 1 was made (Maxie), seconded (Pace) and approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION #1

WHEREAS: The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for CWD is approved and licensed for free-roaming mule deer, white tailed deer and elk. Ample data indicate that there is essentially equal sensitivity and specificity of ELISA compared to immunohistochemistry (IHC). ELISA can be done with faster turnaround times, is more efficient for the laboratory, and requires fewer personnel than IHC. ELISA positives can be confirmed by IHC and laboratory personnel are experienced in identifying the obex and lymph node tissue to ensure proper tissue submission. Expedient laboratory results are needed for producers to move animals and product, to verify CWD disease-free status, and for proper disposal of potentially CWD-positive animals.

RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the AAVLD request that USDA VS approve ELISA testing for use on cervids in the alternative livestock industry.

A motion to approve the proposed resolution was made (Powers), seconded (O'Toole) and approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2

WHEREAS: The AAVLD as of 2006 now incorporates World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) guidelines in the accreditation process.

RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the AAVLD requests that USDA/NVSL formally recognize and notify WOAH that the AAVLD accreditation process is consistent with the WOAH (OIE) Guidelines for Quality Management in Veterinary Testing Laboratories, Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and, as such, meets WOAH requirements.

A motion to approve the proposed resolution was made (O'Toole), seconded (Layton) and approved unanimously.

MOTION

WHEREAS: The last time dues for membership of the AAVLD were last increased was in 2002.

WHEREAS: Expenses for the organization have increased, such as Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation going online as of January 2007, hiring of a new conference coordinator, participation in Member Clicks, and office expenses.

A motion to increase AAVLD dues to \$115 for regular member for the 2008 membership year was made (Layton), seconded (O'Toole) and approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION #3

SOURCE: Joint USAHA/AAVLD Committee on Animal Health Emergency Management (CAEM)

SUBJECT MATTER: USAHA Support of funding for a demonstration project to implement the proposed National Agriculture and Food – Continuity of Business All Hazard Plan (NA&F/COBP)

DATE: October 14, 2006

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

If future outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), other foreign animal diseases or destructive biological incursions are not quickly controlled and/or eradicated, there will be very serious negative impacts to the United States livestock, food and agricultural industries, as well as to the general economy of the nation, including transportation, travel, food processing, distribution and tourism.

Homeland Security Presidential Directive #9 (HSPD #9) establishes national policy to defend the agriculture and food system against terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. The Food and Agriculture Sector Coordinating Council (FASCC) and Government Coordinating Council (GCC) organized by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is in the process of considering an expanded version of a proposed National Agriculture and Food Continuity of Business Plan (NA&F/COBP) developed by the Animal Production Sub council of FASCC. This expanded version of the original NA&F/COBP is intended to apply the policy directives embodied in HSPD #9 across the entire food and agriculture sector through the creation of Ag&Food Continuity of Business Council's (A&F/COBC's) that would operate within each FEMA Region. The Councils would bring the public and private sectors at all levels together at the regional level to address the recommendations contained in HSPD#9, so as to take full advantage of the FEMA infrastructure support system in the event of a major agriculture or food emergency.

A national demonstration project is being proposed to gain understanding and support for implementation of this all hazards type regional approach to emergency preparedness and response utilizing FMD as an emergency disease template. The overall demonstration project would provide funding for cooperative agreements administered through APHIS to organize several regional projects to demonstrate the feasibility of organizing A&F/COBC's and provide direction and guidance for broader future implementation of this approach to emergency management.

RESOLUTION:

The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) urges the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to provide adequate funding through Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of USDA for State Animal Health Officials to develop regional demonstration projects to implement the recommendations contained in Homeland Security Presidential Directive #9 under the proposed National Agriculture and Food/Continuity of Business Plan (NA&F/COBP) being considered by the Food and Agriculture Sector Coordinating Council (FASCC) of DHS.

A motion to approve the proposed resolution was made (Taylor), seconded (Miguel) and approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION #4

SOURCE: Joint USAHA/AAVLD Committee on Animal Health Emergency Management (CAEM)

SUBJECT MATTER: Routine and Emergency Disposal of Animal Carcasses and Animal Parts to Prevent Environmental Contamination from Specified Risk Materials

DATE: October 14, 2006

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Animal agriculture is facing a crisis regarding the disposal of animal parts and carcasses. Two issues have exacerbated this problem. Governmental actions to help prevent Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) diseases now require the removal of certain "specified risk materials" (SRM) from animal feeds. Acceptable alternative uses for SRM have not yet been identified; therefore, proper disposal is – at a minimum – a short-term responsibility and likely is an ongoing need. In addition, proper disposal of carcasses is a priority when losses occur during emergencies, e. g., including, but not limited to, hurricanes, floods, droughts, other disasters and sacrifices made as a part of dealing with a foreign animal disease incident. Lacking a plan to properly deal with disposal issues poses potential public and animal health and environmental risks unless a national animal disposal strategy is developed and implemented.

RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that AAVLD supports the development of a national coordinated carcass and SRM disposal / utilization plan and guidance that will enable states to better prepare to address routine and emergency livestock disposal needs while protecting both public health and the environment.

Be it also resolved that AAVLD seeks the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to take a leadership role in this effort. The effort should, at a minimum, bring together federal agencies who have jurisdiction over animal feed (FDA), disposal of solid wastes (EPA), animal health and food (meat) safety (APHIS and FSIS), transportation (DOT) and conservation programs (NRCS) with State Departments of Agriculture, State Veterinarians, the livestock commodity industry, the rendering industry and other appropriate stakeholders.

A motion to approve the proposed resolution was made (Hoerr), seconded (Layton) and approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m. by President Powers.

AAVLD COMMITTEE REPORTS – 2006 MEETING

The AAVLD Committee reports are available on the AAVLD website at www.aavld.org. They can be found on the member only section under committees. Go to Annual Committee Reports and click on 2006. A Table of contents will link to the individual committee reports within the document.

Direct connection: http://data.memberclicks.com/site/aavld/Committee_Reports_2006.pdf

LAUNCH OF JVDI ONLINE

Dear AAVLD Collegues,

I am very pleased to announce the successful launch of the *Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation* (JVDI) online today. The URL is <http://www.jvdi.org>. The site is being produced in conjunction with Stanford University's HighWire Press.

The JVDI online contains the full text, including all figures and tables, of issues beginning with the September 2006 issue. The full text is searchable by keyword, and the cited references include hyperlinks to Medline and to the online full text of many other frequently-cited journals. Abstracts and full-text PDF files are available beginning for Volume 1, Issue 1 (January 1989) to Volume 18, Issue 4 (July 2006).

The journal will be available on a free trial basis until 28 February, 2007. After the free trial period, access to the full text of articles will be available to all paid-up individual and institutional subscribers. All other access (e.g., to Abstracts, eTOCs, searching, Instructions to Authors) will remain freely available. Non-subscribers will be able to pay for online access to individual articles using a credit card.

I encourage you, on your first visit to the site, to sign the guestbook. This will take only a minute or two, and will give us helpful information about who the online readers are, and how they are connecting to us. In addition, I would appreciate comments, critiques, questions, or suggestions from you; these can be sent via the Feedback button found on all pages of the site or by sending e-mail to feedback@jvdi.org. Feedback from readers will help us decide what new features would be most valuable for the site, and how well it is working for its readers.

Jeremiah T. Saliki, Editor,
Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation



E.P. POPE AWARD - 2006

The AAVLD's highest honor, the **EP Pope Award** was presented to **Dr. David Zeman** (left), by Dr. Gary Osweiler, Awards Committee chair, at the joint AAVLD and USAHA President's Dinner. The E.P. Pope Award is given to an AAVLD member who has made noteworthy contributions to the Association and to implementation and recognition of the specialty of veterinary diagnostic laboratory medicine.

AAVLD LIFE MEMBER AWARDS

Life memberships were awarded to **Dr. Leon Thacker**, Purdue University and **Dr. Bill Quinn**, Bozeman, Montana.

AAVLD BEST GRADUATE STUDENT/RESIDENT PRESENTATION AND POSTER AWARDS

BEST PRESENTATION - T.C. Anderson, University of Florida

TC Anderson, JM Katz, EPJ Gibbs, and PC Crawford

Canine Influenza Virus Agglutination of Avian and Mammalian Red Blood Cells

BEST POSTER - Ikki Mitsui, Purdue University

I Mitsui, LP Jackson, LL Couetil, TL Lin, and JA Ramos-Vara

Hypertrichosis in a horse with alimentary T-cell lymphoma and pituitary involvement

BEST JOURNAL OF VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC INVESTIGATION PAPERS

Full Manuscript – **Timothy Baszler**, Washington State University

TV Baszler, M Kiupel, ES Williams, BV Thomsen, T Gidlewski, DL Montgomery, KI O'Rourke, and SM Hall. "Comparison of two automated immunohistochemical procedures for the diagnosis of scrapie in domestic sheep and chronic wasting disease in North American white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*)". J Vet Diagn Invest 2006 18: 147-155.

Brief Communication – **Saikat Boliar**, University of Kentucky, Lexington

S Boliar, W Stanislawek, and TM Chambers. "Inability of kaolin treatment to remove nonspecific inhibitors from equine serum for the hemagglutination inhibition test against equine H7N7 influenza virus". J Vet Diagn Invest 2006 18: 264-267.

AAVLD TRAVEL TRAINEE AWARDEES – 2006

These are awarded based on competitive applications from eligible graduate students. This year four awards were given.

AAVLD Foundation awards:

Dr. Victoriya Volkova, Mississippi State University, presentation: Interrelationship of *Salmonella* status of broiler flocks at sequential time points through the production continuum.

Dr. Mehrdad Ameri, Kansas State University, presentation: Comparison of two commercial radial immunodiffusion assays for detection of bovine IgG in newborn calves.

AAVLD Pathology Committee Awards:

Dr. Pamela Mouser, Purdue University, presentation Fatal ricin toxicosis in a puppy confirmed by liquid chromatography/Mass spectrometry

Dr. Dinesh Singh Bangari, Purdue University, poster Acute disseminated Toxoplasmosis in American Red Squirrels.

PIONEERS IN VIROLOGY AWARD PRESENTED TO DR. LEROY COGGINS

The Virology Committee of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) takes great pride in honoring Dr. Leroy Coggins as the recipient of the 2006 Pioneers in Virology Award.

Dr. Coggins received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Oklahoma State University in 1957. In July of that year he entered the U.S. Army

to fulfill his commitment to the military and became a First Lieutenant in the Veterinary Corp. It was while at Fort Detrick that Dr. Coggins was first introduced to virology research by Dr. Bill Hinshaw, one of the early leaders in Veterinary Virology.

In 1959 Dr. Coggins started his graduate program at Cornell University under the direction of Drs. Dorsey Bruner

and James A. Baker. Dr. Baker was very interested in the relationship between bovine virus diarrhea (BVD) and hog cholera (HC) viruses and wanted Dr. Coggins to help him investigate the possibility that BVD virus could protect pigs against hog cholera infection. At that time Dr. Baker's veterinary virus research institute was one of few veterinary

Continued on page 19

Continued from page 18

laboratories using tissue culture. Dr. James Gillespie had introduced tissue culture technique into the laboratory and had found a BVD virus that produced a cytopathic effect in bovine kidney tissue culture. Using animal protection tests, Dr. Coggins' research showed that when BVD virus was given to pigs it induced cross-protection against certain strains of hog cholera virus. This finding suggested that BVD virus could be used as a vaccine against hog cholera, which would be much safer than the virus-serum vaccine procedure commonly used at that time.

Following his Ph.D., Dr. Coggins accepted a position with the United States Department of Agriculture in Kenya, East Africa during which time he conducted research on African swine fever (ASF). Over the period of five years he was able to expand knowledge of the pathogenesis of African swine fever virus and demonstrated that the agar gel immunodiffusion (AGID) test could be used in the serologic diagnosis of African swine fever in pigs. He showed that specific viral antigen could be demonstrated in the spleen, lymph nodes, and other organs of acutely infected pigs.

When Dr. Coggins returned to the United States in 1968 he was recruited by Cornell University to conduct research on equine infectious anemia (EIA) in horses. Many of the dairy farms in upper New York State

had been converted to horse breeding farms and large numbers of horses had been assembled. As a result, major outbreaks of equine infectious anemia were occurring causing major losses for the racing industry.

Dr. Coggins had thought because of the similarities of the growth of ASF virus that the agar gel immunodiffusion test may detect EIA antigen and/or antibody in the infected horse. After about a year of studying the disease, Dr. Coggins was able to find viral antigen in the spleen of an acutely infected horse using serum from a horse that had recovered from an acute EIA infection. By using an agar gel immunodiffusion test, similar to the one used for African swine fever, Dr. Coggins demonstrated that all the horses which had been infected with EIA had EIA antibody in their serum. Thus it became clear that the AGID test could be used for the diagnosis of Equine Infectious Anemia in the horse. The test, which became known as the Coggins Test, rapidly became a very popular test because it was inexpensive, accurate and rapid to perform. Up until that time diagnosis of EIA required the inoculation of blood from a suspect horse into a susceptible horse which was then observed for 90 days for clinical disease. The Coggins Test was eagerly used by veterinarians to eliminate EIA infected herds, and in 1973 was recognized as the official test by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Coggins Test has been used by veterinarians around the world to diagnose and develop control programs for EIA infection. It was used early on by Standardbred horse farms to eliminate EIA infection. It was used by the Hong Kong Jockey Club to eliminate EIA from that country. The test has allowed the United States to reduce EIA infection from about 6% in 1970 to less than 0.1% of horses today.

Awards which Dr. Coggins has received include: the Harness Racing Meritorious Achievement Award, 1970; American Association of Equine Practitioner's Research Award, 1972; Alexander Humboldt Senior Scientist Award, 1976; and Distinguished Alumnus Award, Oklahoma State University, 1978. In 2000 The Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases, 81st Annual Meeting was dedicated to Dr. Coggins.

Dr. Coggins became Professor of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University in 1972 and moved to North Carolina State Veterinary College as Head of the Department of Microbiology, Pathology and Parasitology in 1980. He has published over 50 scientific publications. He retired as Professor Emeritus, College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University, in 1994 and lives in Cary, NC. He served as President of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association in 1995.

Virology Committee, AAVLD
Minneapolis, MN, October 13, 2006

COLLINS RECEIVES AASV HOWARD DUNNE MEMORIAL AWARD

Kansas City, Missouri (March 6, 2006) – Dr. James E. Collins was awarded the Howard Dunne Memorial Award by the American Association of Swine Veterinarians. The award, presented at the association's annual meeting in Kansas City, recognizes an AASV member who has made important contributions and provided outstanding service to the association and the swine industry.

Dr. Collins is a professor and director of the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, one of the nation's busiest, processing more than 1.3 million samples annually.

"I am truly honored to receive this recognition and want to express my sincere gratitude for the years of mentoring, support and leadership provided to me by AASV members," Dr. Collins said.

Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Minnesota in 1986, he was an assistant professor at South Dakota

State University, from 1982 to 1986, and a resident/instructor at Michigan State University from 1979 to 1982. Dr. Collins was a private practitioner in Appleton, Wisconsin, for a year after receiving his veterinary degree.

Dr. Collins has served the U.S. pork industry through his pioneering research on porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, and was recognized for those efforts by the U.S. Animal Health Association in 1992. From 1995 to 1997, he was chair of the AASV's subcommittee on porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome. He has led a number of leadership positions in the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, the North Central Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, and the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association. An accomplished author, Dr. Collins has written 192 articles and book chapters for peer-reviewed journals and non-peer-reviewed

publications on swine and bovine infectious diseases.

Dr. Collins was named Veterinarian of the Year in 2005 from the Minnesota VMA. Other awards include the Mark of Excellence from the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine in 1993, and the Distinguished Faculty Award in 1995 from the Minnesota VMA. Active in his community, Dr. Collins has served as a volunteer for the White Bear Lake public schools and Edina public schools. In 1989, he received a Certificate of Recognition for his volunteer work by former Minnesota Governor Rudy Perpich.

Dr. Collins received his veterinary degree in 1978 from the University of Minnesota and MS and PhD degrees in veterinary pathology from Michigan State University. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists.

2006 APHIS ADMINISTRATOR'S AWARD PRESENTED TO TERRY MCELWAIN AND WILLIE REED

Each year APHIS recognizes one individual from outside the Federal government who has made outstanding contributions to the field of animal health in the United States. The award is a special one - it recognizes service that is above and beyond expectations. This year is unique because we are recognizing the contributions of two people. Although we appreciate the contributions that each of these individuals have made over the years independently, they have both truly exhibited the characteristics that this award was created to honor.

- Both recipients have worked tirelessly to promote an understanding and appreciation of the importance of veterinary diagnostics.
- Both recipients have dedicated their careers to furthering the quality of veterinary education and veterinary diagnostic services at their respective institutions.
- Both recipients have recognized the importance of AAVLD, and have not only provided their talents and voices in support of the organization – but have given the organization their leadership and direction as well.
- Both recipients have been invaluable advocates for the partnering of State and Federal resources to achieve common goals for animal health and veterinary diagnostics.
- Both recipients have worked diligently for causes and efforts that they personally believe in and support. They have spent innumerable hours beyond the scope of their daily tasks to foster advances in the quality of science and to develop the human relationships that enable collaborative efforts to occur.
- Both recipients brought their individual skills, gifts, and perspectives to the table with USDA on many occasions over the years, and their persistence

and talents are deeply appreciated.

Most importantly, both recipients have epitomized the meaning of this award – service above and beyond expectations.

The fact that the 2006 APHIS Administrator's Award is being presented for the first time to **two** recipients is not meant to detract from the appreciation of each set of individual contributions. It is simply an indication that the caliber of contributions from both individuals was such that we were unable to recommend that the award be given to one recipient over the other. Therefore, it is with great honor that I present the 2006 APHIS Administrator's Award to Dr. Terry McElwain **and** Dr. Willie Reed.

Dr. Reed obtained his doctorate degree in veterinary medicine from Tuskegee University in 1978. In 1982, he received a PhD in veterinary pathology from Purdue University. He's a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and a Charter Diplomate of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians.

He remained at Purdue from 1982 to 1990 and served in various capacities including Assistant Professor of Veterinary Pathology, Chief of Avian Diseases, Associate Professor of Avian Pathology, Assistant Director of the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, and Professor of Veterinary Pathology. In 1990, Dr Reed joined Michigan State University as director of the Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory. He was the Acting Chairperson of the Department of Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation from 1997 to 2001 and, since 2001, has served as the Chairperson. During his time at Michigan State University, he recognized the need for a new laboratory and worked for over a decade to secure state interest and funds to build the Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health that was dedicated in 2004. He recently accepted the position of Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University.

Throughout his career, Dr. Reed has been involved in numerous State and National Committees. He's been very active in both AVMA and AAVLD. He was the President of AAVLD in 2003. He served on the Steering Committees of National Animal Health Laboratory Network and the Food Emergency Response Network. He was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to the Invasive Species Advisory Committee, and he received the Alumnus Award from the Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Association in 2003.

Dr. McElwain received his DVM in 1980 from Kansas State University. He completed an anatomic pathology residency in the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and an NIH postdoctoral fellowship in pathology at Washington State University. He was awarded a Ph.D. in 1986. Dr. McElwain is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists. He holds an academic appointment as full Professor of Pathology in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology at Washington State. From 1993-2001, Dr. McElwain served as the Director of Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. Since 2001, he has served as the Executive Director. In 1995, he was appointed Director of the Animal Health Research Center and Coordinator of the Agricultural Animal Health Program for the College of Veterinary Medicine. He served as Interim Dean in the College of Veterinary Medicine from 1997-1999.

Dr. McElwain is a Past President of the AAVLD, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. He served on the National Animal Health Laboratory Network Steering Committee, and is co-Chair of the NAHLN Methods Technical Working Group. Dr. McElwain was an external advisor to CDC for development of the Global Microbial Threats Strategy, and is the liaison between AAVLD and the Centers for Disease Control Laboratory Response Network for Bioterrorism. He

Continued on page 21

Continued from page 20

worked closely with CDC in establishing policies and procedures for animal sample submission and laboratory diagnosis during the monkeypox outbreak in 2003, and he has been involved in veterinary diagnostic laboratory preparedness for intentional or accidental introduction of exotic and emerging diseases, including most recently influenza virus. Dr. McElwain was a panel member for the National Academy of Sciences study "Assessing the Nation's Framework for Addressing Animal Diseases." Dr. McElwain was awarded the Outstanding Alumnus Award by the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University in 2006.

It is apparent that the qualifications and involvement mentioned above warrant the award, but our appreciation for

vision with anyone who will listen! In recent years, both Dr. McElwain and Dr. Reed have been instrumental in collaborating with USDA to develop and implement the NAHLN. Their passion has been instrumental in developing the NAHLN into a **TRUE state and federal partnership to safeguard animal health**. Their passion has helped turn the NAHLN dream into a reality.



2006 APHIS Administrator's Award: Ron DeHaven (center) presented the awards to Terry McElwain (center left) and Willie Reed (center right) pictured here with their wives Karen McElwain (far left) and Dorothy Reed (far right)

these two men goes much further than that. A list of achievements does not capture the key element: Dr. McElwain and Dr. Reed are passionate about veterinary diagnostics, and each will take every opportunity to share their

The dedication, pride, and integrity that each of you demonstrates everyday reflects positively on the laboratories you direct, your states, AAVLD, USAHA, and animal agriculture in this country. Dr. Reed and Dr. McElwain, it is a great pleasure for me to present you with the 2006 APHIS Administrator's award.

PEARSON RECEIVES IOWA STATE'S TOP ALUMNI RECOGNITION

AMES, Iowa – Dr. James Pearson of Ames, Iowa, was named the 2006 recipient of the Stange Award for Meritorious Service. The award is the highest honor given to alumni of Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. It was presented during special ceremonies held by the university and the college on Oct. 20.

The Stange Award for Meritorious Service in Veterinary Medicine is named in memory of a long-time alumnus in recognition of outstanding professional achievements in veterinary education, research, government service, or private practice.

In accepting the award, Dr. Pearson said, "I am very pleased and honored to be the recipient of the Stange award, one of the most prestigious awards given by Iowa State University and the College of Veterinary Medicine. There are so many very qualified alumni of the ISU Veterinary College; I am awed and amazed to have been selected!"

"The honor would not have been possible without the support and mentoring provided my colleagues at the National Veterinary Services Laboratories, the World

Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the College of Veterinary Medicine, and my family. This mentoring provided the opportunity to help develop veterinary expertise from Ames, Iowa, to Ploufrargon, France; Pretoria, South Africa; Bangkok, Thailand; and Harbin, China."

Dr. Pearson is an international consultant representing the Office International des Epizooties (OIE), the World Organization for Animal Health; and the consultant technical editor for the organization's *Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*. He has represented the organization as a technical expert to the People's Republic of China and at meetings on the control of biological weapons, and on the standards for shipping infectious agents. Pearson is a consultant on a project to establish veterinary diagnostic laboratories and animal health programs in Georgia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. As a consultant to the United Nation's Food and Agricultural Organization, he conducted site visits to Vietnam to review the biosafety of a new avian influenza laboratory.

From 1999 to 2002, Pearson was head of the Scientific and Technical Department of the OIE and from 1990 to 1999 was vice president of the Standards Commission of the OIE in Paris, France. Pearson was on the staff of the USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa, from 1970-1999, and served as the NVSL director from 1996 to 1999. He worked in the Diagnostic Virology Laboratory as section head and laboratory chief from 1970 to 1996. He practiced in Fort Madison, Iowa, from 1966 to 1968.

Dr. Pearson is the recipient of the E.P. Pope Award for Excellence from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians and 11 USDA service awards. In 2005, he received the OIE Gold Medal Award for his lifelong work in the field of veterinary medicine, his contributions to international animal health programs, and his work with the OIE.

Dr. Pearson is a 1966 graduate of the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

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DIAGNOSTIC BACTERIOLOGY CASE PRESENTATIONS

Saturday, October 20, 2007, Reno, NV, 3:30-6:00 pm

Come and join an interesting and informative discussion group. We need your case presentations in order to make this gathering a success. All presentations are informal - yours will be welcome! Send title of presentation to Dr. Karen Post at karen.post@ncmail.net or phone 919-733-3986 or fax 919-733-0454 by **September 1, 2007**.

SATURDAY DIAGNOSTIC PATHOLOGY SLIDE SEMINAR

October 20, 2007, 3:30-6:00 PM

Anatomic and clinical pathologists are invited to submit cases for the Diagnostic Pathology Slide Seminar at the 2007 AAVLD meeting in Reno, NV. Necropsy, surgical pathology, or cytology cases that are challenging or emerging disease entities are solicited. Graduate students and residents are encouraged to present.

Presentations are 5 minutes in length, with another 3 minutes for discussion. Abstracts should be submitted electronically to Dr. A. Liggett by July 31, 2007. Cases are reviewed as submitted; case submission will close early if presentation slots (16) are filled.

Presenters of accepted abstracts must supply a set of 60 H&E glass slides for necropsy and surgical pathology cases. Cytology cases should consist of as many glass slides as are available and if less than 60 slides then a series of high quality digital images that are representative of the case. The slide materials should be submitted to conference coordinator A. Liggett by **September 14, 2007** to allow for distribution and review of slides by attendees before the meeting. Presenters are entitled to a set of slides at no charge. Sponsoring laboratories of presenters are also entitled to a set of slides. The additional slide sets will be available, on a first come-first serve basis, for a \$50 donation to the Pathology travel fund of the AAVLD Foundation.

Conference coordinators: Dr. Alan Liggett, University of Georgia, Tifton Veterinary Diagnostic and Investigational Laboratory, 43 Brighton Rd, PO Box 1389, Tifton, GA 31793; email: aliggett@uga.edu; phone:229-386-3340 and Dr. Gayle Johnson, University of Missouri-Columbia, Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, PO Box 6023, Columbia, MO, 63205; email:johsongc@missouri.edu; 573-882-1411.

THE INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY INFORMATION SERVICE - IVIS

The IVIS website (www.ivis.org) is an on-line veterinary library where veterinarians and veterinary students can consult veterinary textbooks and proceedings. Access to this on-line library is FREE to veterinarians and students. There are no pay-per-view fees or other hidden charges. The IVIS is a not-for-profit organization that provides on-line veterinary information to veterinarians worldwide. Our goal is to provide easier access to up-to-date clinical information to veterinarians and students. The IVIS library includes over 50 ebooks and proceedings. Books are written by top experts and cover many topics in veterinary medicine in companion, equine and food animal species.

With over 175,000 subscribers worldwide, over 5,000 new members per month and approximately 9,000 visits per day, the IVIS readership is likely the largest, fastest growing and most active on-line Veterinary Community in the world.

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Peter Daels, DVM PhD Dipl ECAR & ACT. [Peter.Daels@ivis.org]

Vice President of the IVIS Board

CALL FOR PAPERS

50th Annual AAVLD Meeting, October 18 –24, 2007
John Asuaga's Nugget Hotel, Reno, Nevada

Deadline for Abstracts: JUNE 15, 2007

Papers and posters are solicited on laboratory procedures, techniques, and research that apply to the activities of veterinary laboratory diagnosticians. Papers and posters from all diagnostic laboratory disciplines and animal species are needed for a well-balanced program. Investigative case reports are appropriate and encouraged. Presentations are limited to 15 minutes (12 minutes presentation, 3 minutes questions). The AAVLD Program Committee will review abstracts. Corresponding authors will be notified of acceptance by July 15, 2007.

Submit abstracts **on-line** through www.aavld.org, select Annual meeting then select Call for papers: Abstracts/Posters. Then Create a login from this link making sure you answer all required questions. Log on to the system, complete the abstract form and Upload your abstract (in Word 6.0 or newer or Word Perfect 6.1 or newer). Abstracts must not exceed one page. Format the body of the abstract with one-inch margins using Times New Roman 11-point font. Center and bold the title. Center authors' names below the title with first and last names. Include authors' addresses on the line below their names. Abstracts must be accurate and complete. Statements such as "results to be discussed" are not acceptable. Previous Proceedings (available at www.aavld.org) should be examined for style - a style change for 2007 is boldfacing of the significant finding or conclusion of your work. If appropriate, the abstract may be structured with subheadings, e.g., Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions/Relevance.

If you are unable to submit your abstract on-line, please follow above formatting and send as an e-mail attachment to the Program chair.

When submitting your abstract, please provide the following information:

- Do you plan to use an LCD computer presentation?
- Is the submission to be considered for graduate student/resident competition?
- Do you desire an oral presentation, poster, or either?
- Which disciplinary session you prefer (microbiology, toxicology, anatomic pathology, clinical pathology, virology, bacteriology, molecular diagnostics, food safety, epidemiology, or avian/aquatic)?
- The name, address, phone, fax, and e-mail address of the corresponding author.

AAVLD Foundation Trainee (Graduate Student or Resident) Awards of \$500 are given for the best poster and the best presentation. Graduate student/Resident presentations/posters **MUST** be indicated as such on the abstract to qualify. The purpose of these awards is to encourage students to develop excellence in their diagnostic discipline and presentation skills (verbal, written, organizational). As such, the majority of the work (scientific and preparatory) should be done by the student, with the guidance of mentors and collaborators.

Abstracts are submitted electronically to the scientific Program chair: Dr. Grant Maxie, University of Guelph. For enquiries and questions contact Dr. Maxie by phone at 519-824-4120 ext 54544 or email gmaxie@lsd.uoguelph.ca.

Publication of Proceedings: Manuscripts are encouraged for all papers and posters selected for presentation at the annual meeting. Those accepted by the editor after scientific peer review will be published as refereed journal articles in the *Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation*. Guidelines for format and style of manuscripts can be found in the journal and on the AAVLD WEB site (www.jvdi.org). Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts to the editor for processing prior to the meeting, if possible.

AAVLD TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARD

The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians is soliciting applications for Trainee Travel Awards. These \$500 awards are open to applicants from all training programs in diagnostic medicine to help defray the cost of travel and lodging to the Annual AAVLD meeting. These awards are also intended to encourage students to develop excellence in their diagnostic discipline and presentation skills (verbal, written, organizational). As such, the majority of the work (scientific and preparatory) should be done by the student, with the guidance of mentors and collaborators. The successful applicant must be primary author of a platform or poster presentation in the scientific session of AAVLD and must submit: 1) copy of the abstract to be presented; 2) a one to two page letter stating the candidate's role in the work and the significance of the work to veterinary diagnostic medicine, and 3) a one to two page biographical data sheet. Note abstracts must also be submitted separately for the Scientific Program to Dr. Grant Maxie, Program chair. **The deadline for receipt of all application materials is June 9th, 2007.** Applicants who do not submit complete applications before the deadline or whose applications do not adhere to the above guidelines will not be considered.

The application materials must be emailed to: Dr. Donal O'Toole, dot@uwyo.edu. Any questions contact Dr. O'Toole at 307-742-6638.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF VETERINARY LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICIANS TRAINEE TRAVELAWARD

Deadline for Applications: Friday, June 9th, 2007

Trainee Travel Award

To promote the attendance of trainees in all disciplines of diagnostic medicine, the AAVLD is offering competitive \$500 Travel Awards to offset travel expenses to the Annual AAVLD Meeting in Reno, Nevada.

Please specify your discipline (select one): Bacteriology ___ Epidemiology ___ Immunology ___

Molecular Diagnostics ___ Pathology ___ Toxicology ___ Virology ___

Other (write in) _____

Candidate name: _____

Position: _____ No. of years in position: _____

Department: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Abstract Title (attach copy of abstract) : _____

Include letter stating trainee's contribution to the work to be presented and significance of work to veterinary diagnostic medicine
Include 1-2 page biographical datasheet

2007 MEETING MARKS AAVLD 50TH ANNUAL MEETING

The 2007 meeting will be the 50th annual meeting of AAVLD and there is interest in commemorating this event. Anyone with ideas, suggestions or a passion for history should contact the program chair Grant Maxie gmaxie@lsd.uoguelph.ca or Co-chair David Steffen dsteffen@unlnotes.unl.edu

TREK AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DIAGNOSTIC VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGY

Supported by Trek Diagnostic system, the prestigious Trek award for excellence in diagnostic veterinary microbiology (bacteriology) recognizes distinguished scientist (s) for research accomplishments in the field that result in new scientific findings that have application for the betterment of veterinary medicine.

Eligibility Criteria

Nominees must be person who has been recognized by their peers for significant contributions to the field of veterinary microbiology

Award

A cash prize of \$750, and a certificate/plaque is awarded.

The award is granted at the discretion of award selection committee and may not be awarded every year. Winners will be announced on the AAVLD web site and in the annual AAVLD bacteriology subcommittee meeting.

Nominations

All nomination materials must be submitted electronically to dtewari@state.pa.us

Nominations must be received by March 1st. Nominations will be considered without updating for three years. Nomination materials will not be returned. Self-nominations will not be accepted. Nominations must consist of the following:

- * Letter of Nomination. Describe the nominee's research accomplishments and how they form the foundation for application and development in the research area
- * Curriculum vitae. Including a list of nominee's publications.
- * Two letters of support. Letters of support must come from persons, other than the nominator, who are familiar with the nominee's qualifications and accomplishments. No more than one of the three letters may be from the nominee's institution, nor from the same institution.

How to Submit Nominations

- * Email the letter of nomination
- * Email nominee's CV.
- * Ask two supporters to email their letters.
- * Email all materials to dtewari@state.pa.us

FUTURE MEETINGS

April 17, 2006, annual meeting of the **International Society of Veterinary Dermatologists** will be held on the island of Kauai and is organized in conjunction with the North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum (April 18-21). The deadline for submission is **December 15, 2006**. To prepare and submit an abstract, please refer to "guidelines for authors" on our website (www.isvd.org). Please submit the abstract electronically to Verena Affolter (vkaffolter@ucdavis.edu).

October 18-24, 2007, 50th **Annual Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians** and 111th annual meeting of USAHA will be held at John Asuaga's Nugget, Reno, NV. Call for abstracts submit online by June 15, 2007. For more information see www.aavld.org Annual Meeting

November 18- 21, 2007, **World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians 2007: Preparing for the Animal Health Challenges of the Future** at the Crown Promenade, Melbourne, Australia. This Conference is being hosted by Australian Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) and the CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory. Held in conjunction with the Office Internationale des Epizooties (OIE, World Organisation for Animal Health). Call for abstracts – **submit online by July 1, 2007**. For more information see: <http://www.wavld2007.com/>

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Exhibitors and sponsors are vital to the financial and scientific success of our annual meeting by providing funding to offset the meeting costs and most of all providing attendees the latest information on their upcoming and current product lines. Their support over the years has allowed the meeting to grow and kept the registration fees relatively low. We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to all these companies for their continued support.

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982 Keynote Circle #6, Cleveland, OH 44131 (Ph: 216-351-8735; Fax: 216-485-1163; Web Site: www.trekds.com)

VADDS

79 N. Franklin Turnpike, Suite 103, Ramsey, NJ 07432 (Ph: 201-934-7127; Fax: 201-236-1891; Web Site: www.vetstar.com)

Ventana Medical Systems, Inc.

1910 Innovation Park Dr., Tucson, AZ 85737 (Ph: 800-227-2155; Fax: 949-768-6663; Web Site: www.ventanamed.com)

Veterinary Laboratories Agency

QA Unit, College Road, Sutton Bonnington, Leicestershire, UNITED KINGDOM LE12 5RB (Ph: +44 01509 670 607; Fax: +44 01509 670 206)

VMRD, Inc.

4641 Pullman-Albion Rd., Pullman, WA 99163 (Ph: 509-334-5815; Fax: 509-332-5356; Web Site: www.vmr.com)

Waste Reduction by Waste Reduction, Inc.

2910-D Fortune Circle West, Indianapolis, IN 46241 (Ph: 317-484-4200; Fax: 317-484-4201; Web Site: www.wr2.net)

Whatman, Inc.

200 Park Ave., Suite 210, Florham Park, NJ 07932 (Ph: 973-245-8300; Fax: 973-245-8326; Web Site: www.whatman.com)

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Full Job descriptions and Close dates are available at www.AAVLD.org under Jobs and Meetings - Positions

ALABAMA - Veterinary Anatomic Pathologist
Dr. Eva Sartin
Department of Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
Auburn University, AL 36849-5519
334-844-4539
sartiea@auburn.edu

ALABAMA - Veterinary Clinical Pathologist
Dr. Mary K. Boudreaux
Department of Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
Auburn University, AL 36849-5519
334-844-4539
boudrmk@auburn.edu

CALIFORNIA - Anatomic Veterinary Pathology
Dr. Hailu Kinde, DVM, MPVM,
CAHFS San Bernardino Branch
105 W. Central Ave
San Bernardino, CA 92408
909-383-4287
hkinde@ucdavis.edu

CALIFORNIA - Disease Research Scientist. San Diego County
619-531-5120
www.sdcounty.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA - Veterinary Medical Officer
Dr. Katie Wetherall
Animal Health Branch
California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street, A107
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-651-9165
kwetherall@cdfa.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA - Veterinary Pathologist
For qualification requirements and application, please visit <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hr>

CALIFORNIA – Virologist
Dr. Alex Ardans
CAHFS Davis
School of Veterinary Medicine
University of California
Davis, CA 95616

CANADA - Anatomic Pathologist
Dr. Al Perry
Veterinary Pathologist and Laboratory Manager
4840 Wascana Parkway
Regina SK S4S 7J6
306-787-6459
aperry@agr.gov.sk.ca

CANADA - Assistant or Associate Professor - Veterinary Anatomic Pathology - 2 Positions
Dr. John Prescott, Chair
Department of Pathobiology
University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario, CANADA N1G 2W1
prescott@ovc.uoguelph.ca

CONNECTICUT - Residency or Combined Residency/PhD in Veterinary Anatomic Pathology
H. J. Van Kruiningen, Department Head
Pathobiology and Veterinary Science
61 North Eagleville Road
Storrs, CT 06269-3089
herbert.vankruiningen@uconn.edu

GEORGIA - Combined Veterinary Clinical Microbiology Residency and PhD Training
Dr. Liliana Jaso-Friedmann, Graduate Coordinator
Department of Infectious Diseases
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Georgia
501 DW Brooks Drive
Athens, GA 30602
cmj4@uga.edu

GEORGIA - Temporary Position in Anatomic Veterinary Pathology
And

GEORGIA – Comparative Pathologist
Dr. Elizabeth Howerth, Acting Head
Department of Pathology
College of Veterinary Medicine
The University of Georgia
501 D.W. Brooks Drive
Athens, GA 30602-7388
706-542-5833
ehowerth@vet.uga.edu

ILLINOIS - Zoological Pathology Program Residency Training
Dr. Karen Terio, Chair
Zoo Resident Search Committee
LUMC Bldg 101 Rm 0745
2160 S First Ave
Maywood, IL 60153
708-216-1185
kterio@lumc.edu

INDIANA - Tenure Track or Clinical Track Avian Diagnostician
Dr. Leon Thacker, Director
Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
406 South University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2065
thackerL@purdue.edu

IOWA - Clinician, Senior Clinician, or Tenure Track Faculty - Diagnostic Pathology
Jerry Greenfield, Admin Specialist
Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine
2630 Vet Med Building
Ames, Iowa
515-294-1950
bhjanke@iastate.edu

IOWA - Molecular Virologist
Novartis Animal Health US, Inc.
Attn: Human Resources
1447 140th Street
Larchwood, IA 51241
www.novartis.com

IOWA - Senior Research Scientist
Novartis Animal Health US, Inc.
Attn: Human Resources
1447 140th Street
Larchwood, IA 51241
www.novartis.com

KANSAS - Residency in Veterinary Clinical Pathology
Dr. S.L. Stockham
Department of Diagnostic Medicine/
Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
Manhattan, KS 66506
stockham@vet.k-state.edu

KANSAS - Residency, Anatomical Pathology
Dr. Derek Mosier
Dept. of Diagnostic Medicine/
Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506.
785-532-4410
dmosier@vet.ksu.edu

KENTUCKY - Assistant/Associate Professor in Clinical Veterinary Diagnostic Toxicology
Dr. Neil Williams, Chair Search Committee
Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center
P.O. Box 14125
Lexington, KY 40512

KENTUCKY - Chair Department of Veterinary Science and Director of the Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center
Veterinary Science Search
S-129 Agricultural Science North
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546
859-257-1546
jboling@uky.edu
ncox@uky.edu

LOUISIANA - Assistant/Associate/Full Professor (Clinical Specialist/Veterinary Pathologist)
Dr. Dan Paulsen, Chair
Pathologist Search Committee
Department of Pathobiological Sciences
School of Veterinary Medicine
Louisiana State University
Ref: Log #0807
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

MAINE - Research Scientist, IDEXX
<http://jobs.idexx.com/idexx/NC.asp?ID=2264>

MAINE - Research Scientist, IDEXX
<http://jobs.idexx.com/idexx/NC.asp?ID=2290>

MICHIGAN - Analytical Chemist/
Toxicologist
Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health
4125 Beaumont Road
Lansing, MI 48910-8104
517-353-0635
rumbelha@dcpah.msu.edu

MICHIGAN - Veterinary Pathologist
Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health
P.O. Box 30076
Lansing, MI 48909-7576

MINNESOTA - Veterinary Anatomic Pathologist
<http://employment.umn.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=54208>
Department of Veterinary Population Medicine
University of Minnesota
225 Veterinary Teaching Hospital
1365 Gortner Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
612-625-8175
obrie004@umn.edu

MINNESOTA - Veterinary Anatomic Pathologist
<http://employment.umn.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=56225>
Department of Veterinary Population Medicine
225 Veterinary Teaching Hospital
1365 Gortner Ave
St. Paul, MN 55108
612-625-7717
carls099@umn.edu

MISSISSIPPI - Pathobiology/Population Medicine Department Head
Dr. Robert Cooper
Associate Dean and Chair of Search Committee
College of Veterinary Medicine
P. O. Box 6100
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-1131

MISSOURI - Anatomic Veterinary Pathologist
Dr. Gayle Johnson
Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory
P.O. Box 6023
Columbia, MO, 65205
JohnsonGC@Missouri.edu

NEBRASKA - Immunologist
<http://employment.unl.edu>
Requisition #060559

NEBRASKA - Veterinary Pathologist
<http://employment.unl.edu>
Requisition #060560

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Associate Veterinarian , Mixed practice
LAF101@gmail.com

NEW YORK - Academic Anatomic Veterinary Diagnostic Pathologist
Dr. Sean P. McDonough
Search Committee Chair
c/o Ms. Sue Hawk
Department of Biomedical Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine
Cornell University, T8004
Veterinary Research Tower, Box 17
Ithaca, NY 14853-6401
607-253-4299
spm13@cornell.edu

NORTH CAROLINA - Director, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories
Rollins Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
1031 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1031.
919-733-3986

NORTH CAROLINA - Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostician - 2 positions
Rollins Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
1031 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1031
919-733-3986

OHIO - Director, Analytical Toxicology Laboratory
Dr. Beverly Byrum, Lab Director
Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab
Ohio Department of Agriculture
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
614-728-6220
Byrum@mail.agri.state.oh.us

OHIO - Veterinary Pathologist
Dr. Beverly Byrum, Lab Director
Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab
Ohio Department of Agriculture
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
614-728-6220
byrum@mail.agri.state.oh.us

OREGON - Assistant/Associate Professor,
Anatomic Pathology
Dr. Rob Bildfell
C/o Tammy Jennings
OSU-College of Veterinary Medicine
101 Magruder Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-4802
541-737-6965
Tammy.Jennings@oregonstate.edu

TENNESSEE - Veterinary Diagnostic
Pathologist
Dr. Ron Wilson
C. E. Kord Animal Disease Laboratory
P.O. Box 40627
Melrose Station, Nashville, TN, 37204
615-837-5125
ron.wilson@state.tn.us

TEXAS - Combined Clinical Microbiology
Residence & MS/PhD Training in
Veterinary Microbiology
Dr. Melissa Libal
Department of Pathobiology
MS 4467
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-4467
mlibal@cvm.tamu.edu
www.cvm.tamu.edu

WASHINGTON - Assistant/Associate
Professor of Veterinary Pathology
Dr. Kathleen Potter
c/o Ms. Sue Zumwalt
College of Veterinary Medicine
Washington State University
P.O. Box 647040
Pullman, WA 99164-7040

WASHINGTON - Combined Residency/
PhD Training in Diagnostic Microbiology
J. Lindsay Oaks
Department of Veterinary Microbiology
and Pathology
Washington State University
PO Box 647040
Pullman, WA 99164-7040
509-335-6044.

WASHINGTON - Tenure Track Faculty
Position - Infectious Diseases
Dr. Stephen Hines
c/o Ms. Sue Zumwalt
College of Veterinary Medicine
Washington State University
P.O. Box 647040
Pullman, WA 99164-7040
www.vetmed.wsu.edu/employment/

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Postdoctoral
Training in Zoo Animal Pathology
Dr. Tabitha Viner
Department of Pathology
Smithsonian National Zoological Park
3001 Connecticut Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
VinerT@si.edu

WISCONSIN - Zoo Pathology Training/
Residency
Dr. R.D. Schultz, Professor and Chair
Department of Pathobiological Sciences
School of Veterinary Medicine
University of Wisconsin - Madison
2015 Linden Drive West
Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1102
608-263-9888

USDA NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (NAHSS) STEERING COMMITTEE- INPUT SOUGHT

The National Animal Health Surveillance System Steering Committee meets regularly to receive updates on USDA surveillance activities, and to provide input to the various units involved, especially the National Surveillance Unit (NSU), on the different industries' priorities related to surveillance. Francois Elvinger and Sharon Hietala are the diagnostic and academic community representatives on this committee. They provide comments on specific surveillance programs using diagnostic laboratory data or services.

Examples of the type of input provided include:

- a. questions about standards for sampling, testing, or reporting that are being used for national surveillance;
- b. comments on the technical appropriateness of selected surveillance tests;
- c. concerns about how laboratory data might be collected, analyzed, or presented for national surveillance programs;
- d. questions about how representative sampling might be carried out in a National Program that targets specific regions or populations based on information available at a diagnostic laboratory.

Input from AAVLD members is most welcome and AAVLD representatives will pass along questions, concerns, suggestions and comments. Please contact Francois Elvinger at elvinger@vt.edu and Sharon Hietala at skhietala@ucdavis.edu.

AAVLD FOUNDATION DONATION FORM



The AAVLD Foundation is a non-profit foundation, which aims to raise funds for the advancement of veterinary diagnostics through scholarship programs, guest lectures, seminars, awards and research programs. Contributions to the Foundation are tax-exempt (501(c)(3))

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