President’s Message - Gary Anderson

I consider it a privilege to serve as your president, and I will do my best to maintain your trust, address issues pertinent to you and the overall organization, and follow through on strategies and initiatives that will assure the future viability and stability of diagnostic medicine and the AAVLD. We have an outstanding history of dedicated, committed and visionary leadership – my goal is to not mess that up!

Many of you participated in our annual meeting in October, and it appears to have been another successful one. It is always a very busy time with concurrent scientific session, many committee meetings, and the plenary presentations. The annual meetings would not be possible without your active and dedicated participation, the investment of exhibitors and sponsors, and attention to meeting planning and details by key individuals. We must give special thanks to AAVLD and USAHA “staffers” who spent a lot of time throughout the year and then long hours during the meeting to make sure our experience in San Diego was positive and beneficial. I realize we probably will not catch everyone, but my short list of essential people who deserve kudos includes: Vanessa Garrison, Jackie Cassarly, and Sharon Hein (AAVLD) and Ben Richey, Linda Ragland and Kelly Janicek (USAHA). They did a great job for us!  Read more....

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

- **October Executive Board** minutes and attachments
- **October House of Delegates** minutes and two resolutions
- **August Lab Directors – NVSL** Conference Call Minutes
- **2009 Annual meeting materials**: conference proceedings (abstract book far right), 2009 exhibitor directory (bottom left) and diagnostic pathology slide session abstracts (mid left).
- **Position statement** page: USDA response to AAVLD letters on NAHLN toxicology funding support and Avian Influenza surveillance reduction and restructuring. The AVMA letter to the House and Senate in support of the Veterinary Services Investment Act (VSIA) where AAVLD is listed as a supporting organization.
- The Accreditation committee has posted 9 new documents on the **accreditation docs for members only** webpage: a two-page AAVLD overview for auditees; a one-page Comparison of AAVLD and ISO 17025 accreditation standards; and the new 4.3 version of the AAVLD Requirements for accreditation and the 6 presentations from the Accreditation Symposium on October 6th in San Diego.
- **AAVLD committee minutes** and **Food Safety** committee presentations on "Food safety risks associated with antimicrobial resistance", Fedora-Cray, USDA-ARS and a 2008 FSIS presentation on FERN chemical defense as well as 14 **Parasitology** committee presentations can be found under the members only Committee tab. The table of contents for the minutes file takes you to each committee. The presentations are under the specific committee names under Communications section.
Follow links in left column or above in this newsletter. If you click on a link for a members only item in this newsletter, the first time you will see a note stating: **You do not have permission to view this page.** To the right of this notice is a Login button. You only need to login once then all other members only page links in the newsletter will go direct to the page.

### AAVLD Awarded - 2009

**EP Pope Award** - Dr. Sharon Hietala
**Distinguished Service Award** - Barbara Martin, NAHLN coordinator
**Trek Microbiology Award** - Dr. Hailu Kinde
**Pioneer in Virology Award** - Dr. Charles Kanitz
**Walker Best Student Bacteriology Presentation Award** - Dr. Ailam Lim
  - Differential Gene Expression Study of bTB-Positive Cattle and bTB Test- False Positive Cattle in Michigan, Ailam Lim, Steve Bolin

**Foundation Best Student Oral Presentation** – Dr. Jonathan Arzt
  - The Early Pathogenesis of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Cattle after Aerosol Inoculation
  - Jonathan Arzt, Juan Pacheco, Luis Rodriguez

**Foundation Best Student Poster** – Dr. Lifang Yan
  - Application of a Real-Time Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction and an Antigen Capture Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay to Detect Animals Infected with Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus. Lifang Yan, Shuping Zhang, Lanny Pace, Floyd Wilson, Michael Zhang

**AAVLD/ACVP Best Diagnostic Pathology Student Presentation** - Dr. Janildo Reis
  - In Situ Kinetics and Distribution of the Vesicular Stomatitis Virus during Early Infection in Cattle Inoculated via Scarification and Black Flies. Janildo Reis, Luis Rodriguez, Danny Mead, George Smoliga, Paul Smith, Corrie Brown


**AAVLD Lifetime Members 2009**: Sharon Hietala, Ron Lewis, Gary Osweiler

The AAVLD Foundation funded 5 travel awards in 2009 plus one award co-funded with the Pathology committee. Funding for up to 7 travel awards are anticipated on 2010. Travel awardees were listed in August Newsletter. All 2009 awardees can be found on the website under [Awardees](#).

### AAVLD membership survey summary

A two page summary of the AAVLD membership survey findings is posted under News for Members ([click here](#)). The survey results indicate that JVDI, annual meeting and accreditation activities were highly valued by members. Areas that are not fully effective or well-recognized by the membership included “...efforts to liaison with government and industry partners, having a meaningful voice in legislative and funding processes, and being recognized for critical public services...” The survey suggested that “...AAVLD has not yet found an effective means of communicating important issues and needs to the individual membership, or for engaging and utilizing the individual member’s willingness, in either time or dollars, to support these activities.” The findings from this survey will be used by the Executive Board to direct efforts to improve as an association.

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

The Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation (JVDI) was cited as one of the benefits that AAVLD members highly valued. The editor, Jerry Saliki, is again asking for reviewers for manuscripts. This process is critical to continuing to provide a quality journal with a short review turnaround. For
maximum efficiency by the editorial staff, you can register as a reviewer on the JVDI website and list up to 5 specialty areas. If you are already a reviewer and receive requests to review manuscripts that are outside your area of expertise, you can update your profile via the edit profile button after you login. Visit the website at www.jvdi.org to register as a reviewer or update your profile. JVDI also encourages submission of review articles – contact Dr. Jerry Saliki via editorial@jvdi.org with review article and author suggestions on topics you would like to read about or topics you would like to write.

Veterinary Services Vision 2015 Initiative
Veterinary Services held a stakeholders meeting with brainstorming breakout sessions for their Vision 2015 initiative in San Diego. For more information on the Vision 2015 initiative and future activities visit their website. They encourage comments and suggestions to be sent to Vs2015@aphis.usda.gov.