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EDITORIAL

The highlight of this newsletter is our **Annual Meeting in Maastricht in August 2012**. As a participant of the meeting you will have a new experience of attending a College meeting **in conjunction with** an eminent international scientific conference, **the International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE)**. Please have a look at the topics and speakers of our conference presented in this issue of the newsletter. You'll see that we have put together an exciting programme that will also attract non-members and thus broaden the scope of discussions and scientific exchange.



Participants of our annual meeting 2012 in Maastricht, please be aware that the ECVPH conference is just one track of the ISVEE meeting, which you don't want to miss! It is of particular importance that you join the AGM (Thursday, 23.08.2012, 12:00) so that you can take stock of relevant College matters. We shall have elections for two positions and I will report on some interesting EBVS news (see below for further details).

By the way, several Residents and Diplomats have reported that the Joint ECVPH/ISVEE venue has been an additional incentive for participation. A systematic analysis of feedback from participants will follow. Your comments regarding options for organising ECVPH conferences are appreciated even if you cannot participate this year.

On behalf of the Council, I wish everybody a productive and/or relaxing summer period and I am looking forward to meeting you in Maastricht!

Matthias Greiner
President ECVPH

July 2012



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Annual Meeting 2012: Maastricht, The Netherlands August 23-24, 2012

As earlier announced this year's conference will take place at the Maastricht Congress Centre in conjunction with the **13th ISVEE Conference, 2012 - International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics in Maastricht, the Netherlands**, from August 23-24 2012.

Our ECVPH two-day meeting is just one of up to six parallel tracks of the ISVEE conference which will take place 20-24 August 2012. Please find more information about the ISVEE meeting at www.isvee13.org.

The Annual Meeting of the College held in conjunction with the International Society for Veterinary



Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE) will provide an excellent opportunity for both Residents and

Diplomates to meet their peer colleagues from all over the world. Although PM specialists particular might feel attracted by ISVEE, the conference will definitely also cover plenty of FS topics.

At our ECVPH Conference 2012 you will hear about risk assessment methodology in the public health framework, the aftermath of the EHEC outbreak, the FAO approach to food security and food safety, the future of meat inspection in the EU and transatlantic comparison of risk assessment practices. The talks will be mainly presented by Diplomates of the ECVPH.



Prof. Arie Havelaar, RIVM / University Utrecht will talk on **"QMRA - a framework for assessing Microbiological public health risks"**. The talk will highlight the need for objective and science-based approaches for quantifying public health burden of microbiological hazards. Quantitative microbiological risk assessment (QMRA)

will be demonstrated as suitable methodological framework for this task as illustrated by examples.



Prof. Dr. Dr. Andreas Hensel, BfR – Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, Germany will speak on **"The EHEC outbreak in Germany 2011"** and his talk will be complemented by **Dr. Hubert Deluyker**, EFSA, who will share his thoughts on **"Investigations of the EHEC outbreak 2012 on the international level"**. Both

speakers have personally contributed significantly to the EHEC outbreak investigations on national and international level, respectively. The session is organised as a workshop and sufficient time is allocated to allow a lively discussions with the audience.



Dr. Katinka de Balogh, FAO, will then talk on **"Food security – food safety, focussing on low income countries"**, highlighting challenges of the veterinary profession and in particular the joint responsibility of the food science and population medicine in this area.



Prof. Dr. Sava Buncic, Novi Sad, Serbia will present **"Future challenges and changes in the meat inspection system in the EU"**. This topic again is a cross-cutting issue for the food science and population medicine subarea. The talk will indicate future directions of food

hygiene in Europe.



Prof. Dr. Jordi Serratos, EFSA - FDA/USA as last speaker of our conference will endeavour to outline a **"Transatlantic comparison of risk assessment"**. As EFSA Liaison Officer at FDA Risk governance for improving public health, he may share first-hand



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experience with the audience on an interesting and maybe delicate issue.

The programme also includes a **residents' session** on Thursday morning (23. Aug. 2012) for residents to present their research projects relating to any poster abstracts submitted before the 15. July 2012 for the ECVPH Conference (only!). From these abstracts a selection will be made for **oral presentations** for the residents' session.

Further detailed information is available at our website <http://www.ecvph.org> incl. guidance for further technical advice to the website of the ISVEE Conference. The Registration fee amounting to Euro 230,- includes participation in the programme and workshop, coffee-tea for Thursday and Friday, Thursday and Friday lunch.

Diplomates are also reminded and should note that since 2010 attendance of the AGM at least once in 3 (!) consecutive years is compulsory. The status of Diplomates not complying with this requirement will be set to "non-practicing"/inactive!

Make sure you don't miss the AGM 2012 when moving between parallel sessions!

We very much look forward to welcoming and meeting you in Maastricht next month!

Matthias Greiner, *President*

Nominations of candidates for Elections to the ECVPH Council

Due to the change of Office a call for nominations has been launched by June 25th, last for the following posts in the Council:

- **Treasurer** (term of office 5 years)
- **Ordinary** member (term of office 3 years)

Due to the current composition of the council, new members from the Food Science sub-specialty are especially welcome. Be herewith reminded that the **Deadline** for nominations is **July 22, 2012**. Nomination forms can be downloaded by registered

members from the ECVPH web site www.ecvph.org after LOGIN

Please note that only active Members in good standing can be nominated.

Katharina Stärk, *Chair Nomination Committee*

Educational issues - Residencies

The **education committee** is currently busy evaluating again six new submitted residency programs and 15 annual progress reports. As always we will give our constructive feed back to the residents and their supervisors within the foreseen time frame. Our group of residents is steadily growing to almost 50 persons at this moment. Yet some of the residents have been on the list for a long time and seem inactive. Maybe some residents decided to stop their residency program but have not informed us of this, others just forget to send in their progress reports.

To avoid difficulties at the end of the residency training period we are currently contacting those residents to urgently send in their annual progress reports or to be finally removed from the residency list. The **next deadline for submission of new residency programs and annual progress reports is 1st December 2012.**

Jeroen Dewulf, *Council member & Chair of the Education Committee*

Examinations

After an appeal by letter in the autumn of last year, several Diplomates have volunteered to participate in examination of residents and to participate in the Credentials Committee. This has significantly increased the pool of people we can involve in the activities.

The four residents **Salome Dürr, Anna Fahrion, Ana Mateus and Urs Zimmerli** all from the sub-specialty Population Medicine successfully completed the residency programme by passing the Qualifying Examination on 3. July 2012 in Brussels – Congratulations!

Three Residents, two from the sub-specialty Population Medicine and one from the sub-specialty



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Food Science, will be sitting the second session of this year's exam to be concluded with its oral part on 9. October 2012, again in Brussels.

Ed van Klink, *Chair of the Exam Committee*

ECVPH residents' activities

ECVPH Residents' workshop in Copenhagen, 10th-11th May, 2012 on meat inspection.

In May 2012, eight residents (Florence Ayrat, Julie Baré, Peter Damborg, Torben Nielsen, Christina Nathues, Carole Peroz, Angelika Schoster and Franziska Wohlfender) of the ECVPH worked together in the beautiful city of Copenhagen on a joint Residents' Project (jRP) concerning pig abattoirs. After a morning dedicated to several presentations on meat inspection in pig slaughterhouses (traditional meat inspection and the ways to modernize it, welfare assessment during meat inspection, etc.), the eight residents worked on a questionnaire entitled "Hygiene practices to reduce faecal contamination of pig carcasses across Europe" aiming to describe the hygiene management systems in pig slaughterhouses in different European countries.

After a pilot testing of the questionnaire during the visit of a Danish slaughterhouse, each resident returned home with homework. An improved version of the questionnaire is currently under revision by several experts.

To expand the number of countries covered in this project, all ECVPH residents were contacted and invited to participate. We would like to thank the residents - and diplomates - who have kindly proposed their help. If you wish to participate, it's still time to let us know by sending an email to Carole Peroz (carole.peroz@oniris-nantes.fr) and/or Torben Nielsen (Torben.Nielsen@nottingham.ac.uk). The tasks of volunteers are (i) to recruit at least 5 abattoirs in their country to participate in the project; (ii) to translate the questionnaire if a native speaking version is not available yet; (iii) to send the abattoir inspection services a link to the questionnaire or to make appointments to visit the abattoir in person, and (iv) to ensure completion of the questionnaire by the

abattoirs. ECVPH residents who volunteer in this jRP will be acknowledged accordingly.

This jRP will be presented during the residents' session at the annual ECVPH meeting (ISVEE conference) that will take place in Maastricht, The Netherlands, 23rd-24th August 2012. The results will follow later.

All participating residents would also like to thank Lis Alban, Liza Rosenbaum Nielsen and the Danish Agriculture & Food Council for their help in organising this residents' meeting and the ECVPH for providing such an opportunity and for financial support.

Carole Peroz, *Residents speaker*

NEWS from



From the annual meeting held in April 20-21, 2012. the following key outcomes may be pointed out:

The issue of **legal recognition of EBVS titles** is unresolved. EBVS will make another attempt to work much more closely with the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) to achieve any progress in recognition of EU titles. It has been mentioned that Specialists make up <1% of FVE membership and that this may explain diverging interests of EBVS and FVE. EBVS will seek direct communication with country's competent authorities.

EBVS accepts nominations for a **Special Award for Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in the Cause of Specialisation**.

The **EBVS auditors reported irregularities** associated with the transfer from the previous administrative secretary to the Treasurer, who has left the Board. A new Treasurer has been elected. External independent and professional assistance will be sought. There were also some significant issues with respect to payment for non-practicing members. [As ECVPH representatives, we reassure our membership that we are seeking clarification of refunds for fees previously paid - Matthias Greiner, President, and Tim Parkin, Secretary]. The EBVS board voted against the (otherwise) compulsory annual increase in EBVS member fees.



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EBVS pointed out there exists an option for **non-EBVS recognised Diplomates to be residency supervisors**, which may help to promote for example Eastern European involvement.

Copy from EBVS Policies and Procedures 2011, p.10 ff:
G. Policy on the use of non-EBVS recognised Diplomates as residency programme

Supervisors - EBVS recognises that, in some non-European countries or areas, the training and examinations of specialists is equivalent to that provided by EBVS affiliated Colleges. It also recognises that in some European countries there are nationally recognised specialists who could contribute to training.

A. As co-supervisors of a Residency. In circumstances where there are insufficient European Diplomates, if a College so wishes, a non-EBVS recognised Diplomate may co-supervise a European Residency programme under the following circumstances:

1. There is an adequate European connection for the Resident to have a satisfactory reason to wish to obtain a European Diploma (for example, intends to work in Europe);

2. That the Committee of the College responsible for the residency programmes approves the CV of the non-EBVS recognised specialist who is supervising the programme. The minimal requirement will be:

i. The person's training, and expertise, in the area in which they are supervising should be equivalent to a European Diplomate, and they should also have contributed to the discipline in terms of publications, presentations, etc.

ii. That the person passes the College's re-validation process.

iii. That the Committee of the College responsible for the residency programmes approves the training programme and ensures that it conforms to the requirements of the College for a specified residency programme in a designated training institute.

iv. That the programme is co-supervised by a European Diplomate (i.e. they do not have to provide day to day direct supervision but will monitor the progress of the candidate to ensure that the training is of an adequate standard throughout)

After 5 years both the training programme and the supervisors will be re-evaluated.

For each residency programme the ultimate goal should be that a European Diplomate would become the programme director and direct supervisor.

Matthias Greiner, *President* & Tim Parkin, *Secretary*

John Daniel Collins

***16. November 1938 - 25. April 2012**

It is with great sadness that we wish to inform you of the death of a stalwart of ECVPH and SVEPM, Professor Dan Collins, University College Dublin (UCD).

Dan was a past president of SVEPM (1998/99) and a founder member of ECVPH. Indeed, Dan played a key role in having population medicine integrated into ECVPH as a subspecialty. This epitomises the man, as he was always a key mover and shaker. Another example of this was his motivation in relocating the UCD Veterinary Faculty to a new green field site with state of the art facilities. Even in retirement, Dan was still active and chaired the EFSA Biological Hazards Panel and was a Board member of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.

Above all, his openness and typical Irish manner meant that he could talk to anyone and set up an instant rapport, with always a word of fatherly advice to hand if the need arose. A true gentleman and scholar.

**We have lost a great member of the profession.
We have lost a great man.**

Obituary by EFSA in Memoriam Professor John Daniel Collins:
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/e1061.htm?emt=1>

How to CONTACT the College

<http://www.ecvph.org>

All correspondence with the College is directed via the Secretary: Tim.Parkin@glasgow.ac.uk
To contact the Documenting Secretariat please mail to:
Andreas.Wunsch@bglld.gv.at

In order to secure the proper and timely submission of messages please get reminded to notify and update ECVPH with any changes in your affiliation/contact details !