



e - NEWSLETTER

Edition 16/2012-2

EDITORIAL

Dear colleagues!

*The year 2012 has been a good experience for our College. In this issue, we report on the past **Annual Meeting held in Maastricht** in conjunction with the International Symposium on veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE). The evaluation indicates that a combination of Annual Meetings with other relevant conferences should be considered as one option for future meetings. This will enhance flexibility and even facilitate participation for some members. We also report on an interesting ECBHM /ECVPH 2012 **Joint Resident Workshop**. Considering the excellent activity level of our Residents, more interesting stuff is to be expected in the future.*

*Thanks to the efforts of our supervising Diplomats, the number of approved Residency programmes stands now at 45 with a number of 12 new programmes approved by the Education Committee since September 2011 (see **Education Committee** report). This reflects a sound development of the College. It is also noteworthy that we can welcome our first Diplomat by examination in the FS sub-speciality, who successfully passed the exam in parallel with one PM candidate. I congratulate both new Diplomats and want to thank all colleagues who contributed to this success as programme supervisors or directors! Please also note the important information regarding **Nominations** and meet our **New Treasurer** to whom you trust your member fees. Last but not least, I invite you to a virtual tour to **Torino**, the breath-taking venue of our next annual meeting.*

On behalf of the Council, I wish you a wonderful Christmas, a relaxing holiday and a Healthy New Year 2013!



Matthias Greiner
President

December 2012



e - NEWSLETTER

Edition 16/2012-2

Annual General Meeting and Conference 2012: Maastricht, NL – August 23-24, 2012

The annual meeting of the ECVPH was successfully held from August 23-24, 2012 in Maastricht, the Netherlands. Attracting more than 100 participants being diplomats and residents of the ECVPH the conference followed once more the format adopted in 2007 and was organized in the frame of the the 13th ISVEE Conference, 2012 - International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics.

An online questionnaire has been linked with the ECVPH website to inquire the level of satisfaction Diplomates may have regarding the performance and content of the Annual Scientific Conference. Detailed results are outlined in the article below. The presence of residents as having been remarkably increasing has been highlighted.

The "Roberto Chizzolini Memorial Poster Prize" was awarded to the Resident **Liny Keessen** from Utrecht/NL for her poster on "Clostridium difficile 078 in pigs, a threat for farmers, their relatives and employees"



The draft-minutes of the AGM will be posted on the ECVPH website for consideration by members and residents of the ECVPH.

Matthias Greiner, *President &*
Andreas Wunsch, *Documenting Secretary*

Summary on Conference feedback survey

In total 104 responses were received (from those 42 were FS, 62 were PM) of which 81 were Diplomates, 21 were Residents and 2 were "other".

Of 62 PM - 45 attended, 17 did not attend
Of 42 FS - 24 attended, 18 did not attend

Therefore of 69 who did attend:

- quality of scientific programme - 20% very good; 45% good; 28% OK; 4% poor

- quality of ECVPH posters - 12% very good; 52% good; 26% OK; 0% poor; 1% very poor
- how did holding the conference with ISVEE affect your ability/interest in ECVPH meeting:
OF FS diplomats - 13% Very increased my ability; 17% increased my ability; 67% made no difference; 4% very much reduced my ability
OF PM diplomats - 42% Very increased my ability; 31% increased my ability; 20% made no difference; 2% reduced my ability; 2% very much reduced my ability
- would you like ECVPH to be held with other future conferences?:
OF FS diplomats - 42% yes; 13% no; 46% depends on which other conference
OF PM diplomats - 56% yes; 7% no; 38% depends on which other conference

Annual Meeting and Conference 2013: Turin, Italy, 19-20 September 2013

As earlier announced the next annual meeting will be held in Turin Italy, September 19-20, 2013. The Meeting is being jointly organised by the diplomates of University of Turin/Dept. Veterinary Sciences (DVS) and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Piemonte, Liguria e Valle d'Aosta (IZS), Turin.



The proposed venue will be the Museo Regionale di Storia Naturale / Regional Museum of Natural Sciences (<http://www.regione.piemonte.it/museoscienze/ali/>). Conference facilities of the Museum (1 large room: 160 seats, 3 small rooms: 20-30 seats) are hosted in an historical building (17th century), centrally located, close to major hotels, shops and sites of interest downtown.



e - NEWSLETTER

Edition 16/2012-2



Before the Annual Meeting, ECVPH residents will have the opportunity to participate in a 3-days resident course to be held at the laboratories of the DVS-University Campus (in Grugliasco <http://veterinaria.campusnet.unito.it/>) and at IZS (<http://www.izsto.it/>)

Please mark this date in your calendar! The format of the conference will be adjusted according to the detailed feedback received from members the past year. The draft Programme and Registration will be made available from April 2013 onwards; details to be posted on the College web site <http://www.ecvph.org/meeting/ecvph-meetings/details/29-ecvph-agm-a-annual-scientific-conference-2013>

Diplomates are again reminded and should note that – according to the approved constitutional change in October 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.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in Torino!

Matthias Greiner, *President*

Daniele De Meneghi, *for AGM 2013 Local Organising Committee*

Educational issues: Residencies and Exam

Again the education committee has had another busy year:

- Between September 2011 and September 2012 we approved 12 new individual residency programs (4FS and 8 PM) of which one is an alternative residency program (FS).
- At this stage we have a total of 45 approved

ongoing residency programs and we anticipate to have no less than 5 residents that will take the exam either in June or October 2013.

- 11 new residency programme applications have been submitted at the last deadline 1st of December 2012 and are currently being assessed.
- The education committee also want to thank Kurt Houf who has served on the education committee and now leaves the committee due to his new task as treasurer of the college.

Jeroen Dewulf, *Chair of the Education Committee*

Examinations

The residents Annette Nigsch (PM) and Nicolas Korsak (FS) successfully completed the residency programme by passing the Qualifying Examination on 9. October 2012 in Brussels – Congratulations!

The **exam dates for 2013** have been fixed for both the written (30. April and 20. August 2013) and oral (2nd July and 8th October 2013) exams. Candidates for the 2nd term have to apply/submit their credentials before 1st of June 2013 latest!

Three Residents, one from the sub-speciality Population Medicine and two from the sub-specialty Food Science, have submitted their credentials to sit the first term of next year’s exam to be concluded with its oral part on 2. July 2013 in Brussels.

Ed van Klink, *Chair of the Exam Committee*

Diplomates due for re-evaluation in 2013 & compulsory submission of Exam questions

Re-evaluation is compulsory for all Diplomats who received their diploma in 2002 and 2007. A total of 19 active Diplomates are affected. The re-evaluation will be based on the self-declaration of activities during the past 5 years. Activities are classified into six categories and credit points can be collected for specified activities. A total of 100 credit points needs to be reached. The status of Diplomates who do not achieve this target, who do not apply for re-evaluation, or who submit incomplete or delayed files will be set to “non-practising”. As such, they will still have to pay the annual fees, but will not be allowed to



e - NEWSLETTER

Edition 16/2012-2

vote, hold office nor use their title as Diplomate. The college reserves the right to intervene against unwarranted use of the specialist Diplomate title.

The **deadline for the submission** of documents will be **April 1, 2013**. Detailed bylaws on the re-evaluation process, the necessary form and a template for an according Log-Book are available for download on the College website

In addition concerned members might get reminded, that during the Annual General Meeting, held in Notwill in Switzerland on October 7th 2010, it was decided that as of that year, Diplomates are **required to submit exam questions before being eligible for re-evaluation**. Each Diplomate is required to submit five multiple choice questions, one short answer question and one problem solving question. Without these, the Diplomate **will NOT be considered** for re-evaluation. Since it is compulsory to submit the re-evaluation form before the first of April 2013, Diplomates must make sure that the questions that are required to be submitted, are in well before that date. Members concerned are therefore urged to submit **exam questions before the 15th of March 2013**.

Tim Parkin, *Secretary*
Ed van Klink, *Chair of the Credentials Committee*

ECVPH residents' activities

ECBHM /ECVPH 2012 joint resident workshop, 13th to 15th February 2012

Herd health, economics and cheese fondue in Berne, Switzerland, Snow boots, gloves, a hat, thermal underwear... These are some of the things you would expect someone to be packing for a mid-week trip to Switzerland. Then why was I packing my laptop, articles, and pen and paper...?

Right, we were attending the 2012 Joint Residency Workshop of the European College of Bovine Health Management (ECBHM) and the European College of Veterinary Public Health (ECVPH) at the VetSuisse Faculty, University of Berne.

Under the guidance of Prof Mireille Meylan (ECBHM), Prof Marcus Doherr (ECVPH) and Prof Arcangelo Gentile (ECBHM), 18 ECBHM and 9 ECVPH residents from all over Europe discussed mastitis, bovine fertility

and the economical impact of diseases at the herd level, worked together on solving herd health related problem sets and savoured excellent home-made Swiss food at lunch time.



Introductory lectures on data management and description were presented by Dr Salome Dürr & Dr Anna Fahrion (ECVPH); on health indicators for dairy cattle and beef by Lies Beekhuis and Dr Michèle Bodmer (ECBHM) and on economics by invited guest lecturer Prof Henk Hogeveen (Wageningen & Utrecht Universities, NL) – sponsored by the Swiss Forum for Epidemiology and Animal Health (EpiForum).

There was a good balance of structured lectures, group discussion and last but not least socializing during the sponsored dinner (acknowledgements to the Swiss Association for Ruminant Health and Provet (Lyssach, Switzerland) and the obligatory cheese fondue in the old part of Berne!

Thanks everyone for a great time and see you again next year!

Arne Vanhoudt, *ECBHM resident, London, UK*
Sabine Mann, *ECBHM resident, Munich, Germany*
Anna Fahrion, *ECVPH resident, Bern, Switzerland*

Future workshops, residents meeting and training activities

The current "joint Residency Project" jRP (*Comparison of hygiene practices to reduce faecal contamination of pig carcasses across Europe*) is progressing since the project is in the process of sending the questionnaires to the slaughterhouses, some answers were already received. The Final analysis and conclusion is foreseen for spring 2013.

Topics for another jRP and some ideas for future workshops are currently collected and discussed within the continuously growing group of residents.

Carole Peroz and Christina Nathues, *Residents speakers*



e - NEWSLETTER

Edition 16/2012-2

Nominations for Council Members 2013

Due to the change of Office nominations are required for the following posts in the Council in 2013:

- Junior Vice President (term of office 2 years – automatically moving to the President position)
- 2 ordinary members (term of office 3 years)

Due to the current composition of the council, new female members and a candidates from PM are especially welcome. A call for nominations will be timely made in spring, the deadline may be set for early summer 2013. Thanks for keeping that in mind.

Katharina Stärk, *Chair Nomination Committee*

New treasurer and account

After the regular nomination **Kurt Houf**, Prof. for Food Hygiene at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Ghent and so far Ordinary member of the ECVPH Council since 2009, has been elected new treasurer of the ECVPH at the AGM in Maastricht on August 23, 2012. The Council is thanking Marcello Trevisani for his remarkable work over the last years and wishes Kurt Houf a successful handling with the Colleges' finances.

The account in Italy has meanwhile been closed and a new account had been open in Belgium subsequently. Please notice the following account details:

Account holder: Kurt HOUF, European College of Veterinary Public Health

Name of the bank: **BELFIUS**

IBAN: **BE24 0635 3494 5638**

BIC/SWIFT code: **GKCCBEBB**

For further payment instructions please see our website at <http://www.ecvph.org/payments>

Andreas Wunsch, *Documenting Secretary*

New ordinary Council member: Iva Steinhauserova

Also elected during the AGM in Maastricht Prof. Iva Steinhauserova works at the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Science in Brno, Czech Republic. Her present position is Head of Department of Meat Hygiene and Technology and additionally is the Vice-rector for education at the university as well.



Her professional specialization is aimed at food safety namely food-borne pathogens. She has published many articles focused on typing and sub-typing of *Campylobacter spp.*, *Listeria monocytogenes* and antibiotic resistance including influence of some technological processing on survival of foodborne pathogens.

Andreas Wunsch, *Documenting Secretary*

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@bgld.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 !

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2013!
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2013!