



NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

December 2002

Newsletter #4

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Important Dates

Feb. 15, 2003 Annual dues and address corrections due to Treasurer

President's Message

First I would like to say I am honored to serve as president of such a great organization. If you recall I came to the Executive Board as a second year member, when Dan Boon had to step down due to illness. Dan was a great asset to the ASVCP and is missed. I hope that I can serve the organization as well as he had in the past and was planning to in the future.

Prior to becoming a member of the ASVCP Membership committee and then subsequently the Executive Board, I had no idea what was involved in running this organization. I can tell you from my last several years with the organization it requires a tremendous amount of work from a lot of different people. It is amazing what has been accomplished over the years with just volunteers! If you have not done so, I encourage you to consider serving the Society by volunteering as a member of one of the committees. I think if you make it a priority, you will find it a fulfilling experience. If you have an interest in serving, please indicate this on your membership renewal form that will be coming in the mail soon.

Although we have accomplished many things as an all-volunteer organization, a special *ad hoc* committee on Management Support, composed of Don Meuten, Linda Werner, Phyllis Fischer, and Ellen Evans has recommended that the Society should now consider professional management.

The Executive Board also agrees that this is the best course of action and will be reviewing a contract from a management company to cover some limited services. There clearly will be a cost in doing this and in the short term will likely have a small negative financial impact on the Society. In the long run we feel that the management company will help the Society to increase membership and services, provide a more cost efficient annual meeting, and increase financial stability.

In review of the financial state of the Society, the Executive Board has decided to initiate an increase in dues for this upcoming year. The new dues are \$90 for members outside North America, \$80 for those in North America, and \$50 for graduate students, veterinary students, interns, and residents. Over the last several years we have continued to improve the services offered to our members. The journal is now available online and indexed in MEDLINE. The website has been expanded. The annual meeting continues to increase in scope and grows in attendance every year. Associated with these increased benefits are increases in costs. We have been able to maintain the same dues for the last 4 years, but with our rising annual expenses, we can no longer afford to maintain the dues at their current rate. Although the dues will be increased, the new rates are still a bargain, especially as the benefits of membership continue to grow.

I also want to take this time to thank the outgoing president, Eric Schultze. Eric has done a tremendous job this past year. In this newsletter his "State of Society Address" clearly outlines all that has been accomplished. One thing that I would like to highlight is that Eric has expanded the membership on all of the committees. In addition he has given them goals for the year. This has led to increased productivity from all of our committees. Eric has built a better foundation from which the ASVCP can grow further. Thank you, Eric, from the Executive Board and all members of the Society. I plan to continue your approach of giving a "President's Charge" and will do so in the upcoming newsletter.

For those of you who could not attend the most recent meeting, you missed an excellent one. The city of New Orleans was a great host city and the program was outstanding, including the pre-meeting workshop on quality control practices led by Dr. Westgard. A special recognition goes to our winner of the Young Investigator Award, Dr. Sean Owens, for his talk entitled, "Evaluation of a Rapid Agglutination Method for Detection of Equine Red Cell Surface Antigens (Ca and Aa) as Part of Pre-Transfusion Testing." Also I would like to thank Dr. Ed Breitschwerdt for his talks entitled "Comparative Medical Features of Canine and Human Bartonellosis" and "Co-infection with Multiple Tick-Transmitted Patho-gens." The Program Committee is already planning next year's meeting in Banff, Canada. The dates for the meeting are November 16-19th, 2003. Put these dates on your calendar and plan on attending. I promise you another fantastic meeting at an outstanding venue.

William J. Reagan
President, ASVCP

State of the Society

Colleagues,

We recently concluded the 37th annual meeting of the American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ASVCP). At this time, a review of the "State of the Society" is in order, especially for those of you who were unable to join us in New Orleans. The ASVCP is a strong and diverse group of professionals with interest in the laboratory diagnosis of health and disease of animals. We are truly an international organization that is growing steadily in membership. Our current membership totals 567 and our members are spread across six continents. In New Orleans we inducted 48 new members, our largest induction class in the history of the ASVCP.

This year was extremely productive for the ASVCP. Together the members of the Executive Board, Standing and *ad hoc* Committees, special interest groups, and numerous member volunteers have accomplished much on behalf of the Society. Below is an abbreviated summary of 10 key events and accomplishments of the ASVCP in 2002.

1. The Executive Board developed a new model for structure and function of all ASVCP standing committees. In this new model, Committee Chairs serve 3-5 years at the discretion of the President. The Committee Chair grooms the new Chair for 1 year prior to vacating his/her position. Committee members serve a minimum of 3 years. To assure a constant supply of energy and new ideas, there should be an approximately 25% turnover in committee members each year. Each committee was given a detailed charge that included a list of short and long terms goals. Progress on the charge of each committee was discussed at length with each Chair during the Executive Board meeting in New Orleans. In summary, all committees were extremely productive for the Society this year. Please refer to the official minutes of the business meeting (to appear in the next Newsletter) for details of each committee report.
2. A revised and enhanced Executive Board Liaison system for interactions with all standing Committees was instituted. This system of Liaisons speeds communication between Committees and the Executive Board members and helps Committee Chairs to efficiently identify human and financial resources. In addition, the systematic rotation of the Executive Board Liaisons serves an important function. The rotation familiarizes each of the Executive Board officers with individual committee structure and function prior to his/her term as President of the Society.
3. The *ad hoc* Committee on Constitutional Reform developed a revised Constitution and ByLaws that were distributed to all members for examination and voting. An opportunity for questions and discussion of the new documents occurred at the annual business meeting in New Orleans. Voting continues until January 15, 2003.
4. The *ad hoc* Committee on Management Support recommended that the Executive Board employ a professional management service to assist in daily operations of the Society. Four services were considered essential: 1) membership, 2) annual meeting, 3) national office administration, and 4) corporate development. Several services including newsletter support, journal support and website support were considered desirable but not essential at this time. These services can be added in the future, financial resources permitting. Incoming President Bill Reagan is interacting with Rees Management Group in contract negotiations to develop a set of services unique to the needs of ASVCP and affordable for our budget.
5. The ASVCP website was transferred from its original location at Purdue University to a new site under the direction of the Publications Editor Mary Christopher. This change was necessary to provide easier access to the site, permit multi-author use of the website, and enable our standing committees to further their endeavors via the website.
6. The ASVCP listserv was transferred from its original location at University of Missouri to Michigan State University. The revised listserv is limited to ASVCP members, ESCVP members, Veterinary Laboratory Professionals, and ASVCP applicants. The listserv has 467 subscribers and robust daily activity. Instructions for using the listserv were updated and appear on the ASVCP website.
7. The QAS Committee continued development of the "Living Guidelines for Quality Assurance and Standards in Veterinary Clinical Pathology." Several sections of the guidelines appear on

the new ASVCP website. Printed booklet copies of the guidelines will be produced when all sections are complete.

8. The first Quality Assurance and Standards Workshop was held at the annual meeting in New Orleans. Seventy-seven participants were treated to 8 hours of valuable information from internationally renowned expert in QAS Dr. James Westgard. Participants received two excellent reference books as part of the registration fee.
9. Our 3rd concurrent meeting with the American College of Veterinary Pathologists, held this year in New Orleans, was a tremendous success, smashing all previous attendance records. The ASVCP tradition of excellence in scientific sessions, educational symposia, Young Investigators Oral Platform Competition, Veterinary Laboratory Professional roundtable discussions and oral presentations, and our world renowned Case Review were continued and expanded.
10. *Veterinary Clinical Pathology*, the official journal of the ASVCP and ESVCP, was officially recognized in MEDLINE. Congratulations to our Editor-in-Chief Mary Christopher for continued accomplishments on behalf of the journal and our Society.

As we conclude another year in the life of the ASVCP, I thank and congratulate the members of the Executive Board, our Journal Editor, and Chairs and members of standing and *ad hoc* committees and special interest groups. I encourage all to continue a proactive stance in matters of the Society. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as ASVCP President.

Best wishes,
Eric Schultze
ASVCP Immediate Past President

Officers for 2002-2003

The ASVCP officers and Executive Board members for the upcoming year are as follows:

President
Bill Reagan

Secretary
Marlyn Whitney

President-Elect
Harold Tvedten

Treasurer
Sonjia Shelly

Second Year Executive Board Member
Sue Tornquist

Immediate Past-President
Eric Schultze

First Year Executive Board Member
Judy Radin

Membership Report

Forty eight new members were inducted into the ASVCP at the 2002 Business Meeting. Welcome to all!!!! This is a record number of new members. They are as follows:

Julie Armstrong
Tara P. Arndt
Susan M. Atkinson
Carrie Bonemer
Ann D. Bratthauer
Jennifer L. Brazzell
Athemia Louise Casimire
Ul Soo Choi
Peter Christopherson
Stephanie Corn
Elizabeth S. Cowgill
Kelly S. Crowdis
Ryan M. Dickinson
Aaron Ericsson
Heather Flaherty
Kristina Foster
Gabriela Garcia-Aguilar

Cornelia Gilroy
James Michael Hill
Jeremy Johnson
Paula Katavolos
Anne Katein
Sonya Keller
David E.B. Knudsen
Kurt Kreutzer
Jackie Kunzler
Annie Labrun
Joseph L. Mankowski
John Meyer
Thomas M. Monticello
Leslie Obert
Kelly Penraat
Ann Radovsky
Theresa Rizzi

Nicole Rosen
Lisa Shipp
Malcolm A. Silkstone
Cory Shay Sims
Bonnie L. Small
Karen St. Pierre
Cheryl Stockman
Regina Kiomi Takahira
Amy Valenciano
Heather Wamsley
Tamara Wills
Heather Workman
Brenda Yamamoto
Jennifer Yearly

In addition, John Lumsden, Willima E. Moore, and Keith A. Cagan were approved for ASVCP Lifetime Membership.

ASVCP Young Investigator Award

Congratulations to Dr. Dr Sean Owens, the recipient of the ASVCP Young Investigator Award for 2002. His presentation was entitled "Evaluation of a Rapid Agglutination Method for Detection of Equine Red Cell Surface Antigens (Ca and Aa) as Part of Pre-Transfusion Testing." There were a total of 5 competitors this year for the award and all presentations were informative and well-prepared. Thanks to all who were involved.

ASVCP Executive Board News

Since publication of the ASVCP Newsletter #3, 2002, the Board agreed by majority vote to: (1) allow ASVCP members to continue to place job advertisements on the listserv at no charge but to require non-ASVCP members who want to place an ad on the listserv to pay for the advertisement package that also includes placement of the ad in the ASVCP newsletter, on the ASVCP website and in *Veterinary Clinical Pathology*; (2) accept Boston and Tucson as sites respectively for the 2005 and 2006 annual ACVP/ASVCP meetings; (3) negotiate a tentative contract with the Rees Management Group; and (4) recognize Lisa Holeman for her help in maintaining the ASVCP website at Purdue University with a plaque and a monetary award. The Executive Board also met for over 9 hours in New Orleans on December 7. The minutes from that meeting will be included in ASVCP Newsletter #1, 2003.

ASVCP Committee Updates

Membership Committee: The membership committee consists of the following members: Tracy Stokol (chairperson), Julie Stickle, Andy Torrance, Shelley Burton, Bill Vernau, Sean Owens, Nate Collins, Harold Tvedten, Laura Keener, Paula Krimer (University of Georgia), Karen Hayes, Sharon Dial, Andrea Bohn and Susan Tornquist. Retiring members are Christine Olver, Mary Jo Burkhard, Ty McSherry, Karen Young, Phil Solter and William Reagan.

One of the main aims of the membership committee is to increase the number of people joining and remaining in the ASVCP. The following groups have been primarily targeted for recruitment by the committee: students, interns, residents, veterinary laboratory professionals and clinical pathologists located internationally. The membership committee feels strongly that personal interactions of clinical pathologists with potential future members are one of the strongest ways to boost membership to our organization. If you know of anyone (student, resident, veterinary laboratory professional) interested in clinical pathology, please consider increasing their awareness to the potential benefits of membership and encouraging them to join our society.

The membership committee met in New Orleans and came up with a 2003 agenda: 1) Promote ourselves to students and residents – the ASVCP executive board has agreed to sponsor senior student seminars at three universities on a trial basis. If successful, this will hopefully be offered nationwide and perhaps internationally; 2) Recruitment of ACVIM and VCS (Veterinary Cancer Society) members; 3) Establishing closer ties to ECVCP, DACC and VCS; 4) Improving benefits – mainly through on-line access to mystery slide cases, case of the month etc.

ASVCP members are encouraged to submit thoughts and ideas to any one of the committee's members.

Submitted by Tracy Stokol (Chairperson, Membership Committee)

Announcements

Membership Application: An updated membership application form is available as a printable pdf file on the ASVCP website (www.asvcp.org) under the "How To Join" section. Alternatively, please contact Marlyn Whitney (ASVCP Secretary; whitneym@missouri.edu) to receive a copy of the form.

Change of Address: Please send any changes in mailing address or electronic mail address to the ASVCP Treasurer, Sonjia Shelly at PO Box 395, Davis, CA 95617-0395, email: sonjia-shelly@idexx.com. All changes must be received by **February 15, 2003** to be included in the 2003 Membership Directory.

ASVCP Newsletter and/ or Website Submissions: If you have any material of interest to post in the newsletter or on the website (www.asvcp.org), please contact the ASVCP Secretary, Marlyn Whitney at D102 Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Lab, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211, email: whitneym@missouri.edu. The ASVCP website has undergone a recent overhaul thanks to Mary Christopher. Check it out if you have not visited the website recently.

2004 ACVIM Forum. The ASVCP arranges speaker(s) for the ACVIM meeting each year. The 2004 ACVIM meeting will be June 9-12, 2004 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Please send suggestions for ASVCP speakers and topics for the 2004 ACVIM meeting to Sue Tornquist at Susan.Tornquist@oregonstate.edu. The ASVCP is responsible for 8 hours of talks that should reflect current knowledge and/or in-depth reviews of topics in veterinary clinical pathology. Thanks for any suggestions or ideas. Submitted by Sue Tornquist.

2003 ACVIM Forum. Two of our ASVCP members (M. Renee Prater and Bernard Feldman) will present an 8 hour in-depth update on Hemostasis and Hemostasis Testing at the ACVIM annual meeting in Charlotte North Carolina on June 4-7, 2003. Submitted by Harold Tvedten.

Job Opportunities

Clinical Instructor in Veterinary Clinical Pathology. The Department of Veterinary Biosciences at The Ohio State University is seeking an instructor in clinical pathology. The position has a 70% service/teaching obligation with the remaining 30% available for other scholarly activity and would be ideal for someone wishing to gain additional diagnostic pathology experience with a wide variety of animal species. The appointment will be for a 1 year term renewable up to 3 years beginning Summer/Fall 2002. Service/teaching responsibilities include participation in the diagnostic pathology service for the Teaching Hospital, training of residents, and instruction of veterinary students. Remaining time can be spent in self-selected scholarly pursuits such as advanced training in a specialty interest area, research, or preparation for ACVP board certification. Clinical pathology instructors are provided excellent advanced training opportunities in clinical chemistry, cytology, hematology, immunology, surgical pathology, and molecular biology are directly involved in the teaching and diagnostic services of the clinical pathology laboratories. This program provides support services for the large caseload from the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, regional practitioners, and the Columbus Zoo. A DVM from an AVMA-accredited or equivalent institution and at least 2 years of clinical pathology residency training under a board certified veterinary clinical pathologist are required. Salary and generous benefits are highly competitive and consistent with the experience of the applicant. Interested individuals should submit a curriculum vitae, statement of career goals, and three letters of reference to Dr. Judy Radin, Department of Veterinary Biosciences, Ohio State University, 1925 Coffey Road, Columbus, OH 43210-1092. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a suitable applicant is selected. For more information, contact Dr. Radin at (614)292-4266, radin.1@osu.edu or visit the department website, www.vet.ohio-state.edu/docs. The Ohio State University is an AA/EOE.

Residency in Clinical Pathology. The Laboratory of Pathology and Toxicology, at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine, invites applications for a three-year residency position in Clinical Pathology, beginning July 1, 2003. This program is designed to prepare the candidate for certification by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists in the specialty of Clinical Pathology. The individual will train primarily in the Clinical Pathology Laboratory located in the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania on the Philadelphia campus. Members of the Clinical Pathology service regularly interact with the Anatomic Pathology, Medicine, and Oncology sections via rounds, seminars, and collaborative research projects. The Cytology and Biopsy service includes two board-certified Clinical Pathologists, four board-certified Anatomic Pathologists. To be eligible for the program the candidate must have graduated from a college or school of veterinary medicine accredited or approved by the AVMA, or possess a certificate issued by the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates, or be legally qualified to practice veterinary medicine in some state, province, territory or possession of the United States, Canada, or other country. Beginning annual salary level is \$27,000. Send a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, veterinary school/graduate school transcripts, and 3 letters of recommendation to: Dr. Patricia McManus, Laboratory of Pathology and Toxicology, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, 3800 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104; Phone: 215-573-9588; Fax: 215-898-0719, email: pmcmanus@vet.upenn.edu. All materials must be received by February 10, 2003. The University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. <http://www.vet.upenn.edu/>