



NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

February 2002

Newsletter #1

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Important Dates

| | |
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| June 3, 2002 | ASVCP/ACVP Annual Meeting Abstracts due |
| December 8-11, 2002 | Annual ASVCP/ACVP Meeting, New Orleans, LA |

President's Message- Standing Committees 2001-2002

Colleagues,

As 2002 begins, I am looking forward to an exciting year for the ASVCP. The work of our organization moves forward through our network of committees. Strong, organized committees and excellent communication skills are the lifeblood of any working organization. It is my responsibility as President to appoint all committees and give them their yearly charge. In this message, I am pleased to share with you the membership of the ASVCP standing committees for 2001-2002 and to provide you with a brief overview of each committee's charge. A detailed charge that included short- and long-term goals has been communicated to each committee in previous messages.

Starting this year, all standing ASVCP committees will begin to follow the structure modeled by the Education Committee. Each Committee Chair will serve 3-5 years at the discretion of the President. The Committee Chair will identify and groom the new Chair for 1 year prior to vacating his/her position. Committee members will serve a minimum of 3 years with an approximately 25% turnover in committee members each year.

In future President's Messages I will communicate with the membership regarding the *ad hoc* committees of the society, special interest groups, and the need for constitutional reform.

Eric Schultze

President, ASVCP

Program Committee 2001-2002: Betsy Welles, Chair (Outgoing), William Reagan (EBL*), Harold Tvedten, Susan Tornquist, Betty Thompson, Linda Vap, Joanne Messick, (Incoming Chair), Karyn Bird, Linda Werner, John Harvey, Denise Bounous

*EBL = Executive Board Liaison

The Program Committee aids the Executive Board and ACVP in planning for the concurrent meeting format. In the first two years, this committee successfully coordinated the concurrent meetings in Amelia Island, Florida, and Salt Lake City, Utah, which included well-organized programs and exemplary invited speakers. A recent survey of ASVCP membership indicated overwhelming support for the concurrent meeting format. Congratulations to Betsy Welles and her committee for their excellent work!

President's Charge for 2001-2002

1. Plan the concurrent ASVCP/ACVP meetings in New Orleans, Louisiana, which equal or exceed the concurrent meetings of 2000 and 2001 in quality, value, interest, and comfort for our membership.
2. Facilitate a seamless transition of Chairs from Betsy Welles to Joanne Messick.
3. Current Chair, Betsy Welles, will continue to function as the sole point of communication for ASVCP meeting planning and interactions with the Rees group, although she will seek input of the other committee members, and delegate certain duties.
4. The committee will work closely with the QAS Committee to organize an effective workshop for the meeting in New Orleans.
5. **Important long term goal:** Begin a transition from planning the meetings on a yearly basis to a longer-term strategy (ie., planning themes, workshops, obtaining speakers, etc. 2-3 years in advance.)

Education Committee 2001-2002: Mary Christopher, Chair, Susan Tornquist (EBL*), Karyn Bird, Armando Irizarry, Patricia McManus, Lois Roth, Holly Bender, Leslie Sharkey, Steve Stockham, Tracy Stokol, Kathy Curtis

The Education Committee performs many services for the Society including organizing the “Teaching Clinical Pathology – A Forum for Discussion,” planning the Trainee “Meet the Expert” Reception at the annual meeting, developing guidelines for clinical pathology trainees in the areas of hematology and clinical chemistry, and expanding and refining informational web pages. In general, this group promotes discussion and exchanges regarding course materials, curricula, innovative teaching formats and methodology, teaching resources and other aspects of clinical pathology teaching as well as develops ideas and resources that promote veterinary clinical pathology education and expand learning opportunities in clinical pathology.

President’s Charge for 2001-2002

1. Plan the “Teaching Clinical Pathology—a Forum for Discussion” and Clinical Pathology Trainee “Meet the Expert” Reception for the ASVCP meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, that will equal or exceed the concurrent meetings of 2000 and 2001 in quality, value, and interest for our membership.
2. Within one year, prepare a manuscript for publication in *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* that includes objective data concerning the growth, decline, and/or any alterations in residency training/graduate education programs in veterinary clinical pathology.
3. Within one year, complete work on the residency training guidelines for clinical chemistry and hematology, and submit them for publication in a suitable forum.
4. Devise and promote new methods/technology and agreements to share educational materials between institutions involved in veterinary clinical pathology education.
5. Seek and incorporate input from previously nontraditional sources (private diagnostic laboratories, pharmaceutical industry, and pathologists in private practice) for education materials.

Regulatory Affairs Committee 2001-2002: Bob Hall, Chair, Susan Tornquist (EBL*), Nancy Everds, Pat Cusick, Ellen Evans, Glenn Elliott, Laura Boone, Daniela Ennulat, David Honor, Vince Meador, Pat Benson

Many of our members are employed in the pharmaceutical, Ag-Chem and food industries, and private diagnostic laboratories. It is imperative that the membership be advised of current and impending legislation/regulations that may affect our daily business. We need knowledgeable, assertive individuals to advise us of the issues, form consensus opinions, and respond appropriately to these agencies on behalf of the ASVCP. This is the responsibility of the ASVCP Regulatory Affairs Committee. The Executive Board encourages this committee to develop a higher profile, more assertive voice with more influence and to provide more information to the growing membership in industry and diagnostic laboratories.

President’s Charge for 2001-2002

1. Continue to survey government regulatory agencies, pharmaceutical industry, national and international committees, meetings, and oral and written communication for issues affecting our membership. Keep the Executive Board informed of the issues and their impact on our membership.

2. Within one year, prepare one manuscript for publication in *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* or related journal that describes objective data on issues affecting the clinical pathologists and medical technologists employed in industry and private diagnostic laboratories. Alternatively, write an editorial for these journals discussing the more current issues and give the recommendations of this committee.
3. Increase oral and written communication with special interest groups in related organizations including STP, ACVP, SOT, AAVLD, and AACC.

Quality Assurance and Standards Committee 2001-2002: Laurie O'Rourke, Co-chair, Kathy Freeman, Co-chair (Outgoing), Susan Tornquist (EBL*), Scott Moroff, Sally Lester, John Lumsden, Karen Russell, Gail Walter, Ellen Ziemer, Jane Wardrop, Joyce Knoll, Carolyn Haines

The Quality Assurance and Standards (QAS) Committee has worked diligently to develop recommendations and checklists regarding QAS for laboratories performing testing of animal samples. The committee developed position papers for the ASVCP regarding QAS, feasibility studies of accreditation, and has begun outreach to organizations interested in accreditation. This committee has accomplished much in the short term of its existence.

President's Charge for 2001-2002

1. Work closely with the Program Committee Chair, Betsy Welles, to develop an effective workshop for the next meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.
2. Continue to develop guidelines for minimum requirements of QAS in veterinary clinical pathology in the form of a flexible "living document" that can be updated as necessary.
3. Monitor the actions and activities of related scientific groups relative to the possibility of developing guidelines for accreditation and will keep the Executive Board advised of developments and make recommendations for the future.
4. In order to assure a constant supply of new energy and ideas the Co-chairs of this committee will begin a scheduled rotation/retirement. Co-chair Kathy Freeman will serve this year and then immediately rotate off the committee. Laurie O'Rourke will remain as a single Chair for up to an additional 2 years during which time she will identify and groom a successor to guide the committee into the future.

Development Committee 2001-2002: Frances Clemo, Chair, Harold Tvedten (EBL*), Michael Fry, Roberta Relford, Karyn Bird, Mike Scott, Dave Fisher, Phyllis Fisher, Ellen Willet

The Development Committee is responsible for all fund raising activities and coordination of those efforts. Members of this committee identify potential donors and solicit financial contributions so that the society may fulfill its many missions and functions. Contributions to the society may be given for general support or designated for specific purposes such as sponsoring speakers or the trainee reception at the annual meeting. The Chair monitors all correspondence and works closely with the Treasurer. The 2nd Year Executive Board Member acts as a liaison with the Executive Board. Karyn Bird is the liaison with the Program Committee. It is essential for the Development Committee and the Program Committee to have excellent communication and share information quickly. This year the

number of members was increased to help decrease some of the workload on the Chair and to help identify additional potential resources for funding. The Executive Board is very grateful for the diligence, organization, and determination of the members of this committee. The continued sustained giving from various corporate sponsors is testimony to the success of the committee.

President's Charge for 2001-2002

1. Continue to reach out to the ACVP External Finance Committee in order to discuss the coordination of solicitation of donations from sponsors for the annual meeting between the ASVCP and the ACVP.
2. Increase the total contributions to the ASVCP by 25% this coming year.

Membership Committee 2001-2002: Tracy Stokol, Chair, Harold Tvedten (EBL*), Christine Olver, Julie Stickle, Andy Torrance, Shelley Burton, Mary Jo Burkhard, Bill Vernau, Ty McSherry, Karen Young, Phil Solter, Nate Collins, Laura Keener

The objectives of the ASVCP Membership Committee are 1) to raise the international profile of the society through positive communication of the society's members, its functions, and clinical pathology as a specialty, and 2) to increase the membership by making applications available to interested individuals. With this charge the committee has been expanded and invigorated to serve the membership more effectively. The Executive Board is confident that the committee will prosper and develop new methods to expand the membership and raise the profile of our society on an international basis.

President's Charge for 2001-2002

1. Increase "awareness" (raise the profile) of the ASVCP internationally.
2. Grow the membership by 25% in 2 years.
3. Increase the number of membership applications from participants in the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals special interest group.
4. Increase the number of membership applications from appropriate but previously untapped sources including veterinary students, veterinary practitioners, trainees in clinical pathology and morphologic pathology, veterinary technicians, etc. via targeted mailings, internet, journal advertisement, speaking engagements, etc. Create new opportunities to raise the profile of the society and invite membership from interested parties.

Call For Nominations

The Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for three officers: First-Year Executive Board Member, Secretary and President-elect. Nominees must be able to attend at the ASVCP 2002 Executive Board meeting.

The First Year Executive Board member participates in all decisions of the Board, and participates in the annual meeting by coordinating the Slide Review Session. The term of

service is one year. The Secretary edits the newsletter, oversees the website, and records the minutes of business proceedings. The Secretary serves a two-year term that can be renewed once. The President-elect serves on the Executive Board, coordinates the Scientific Session at the annual meeting and becomes the President at the end of the President's term of office, or if the president is unable to fulfill the duties of the office.

Please send your nominations to:

Dr. Jeanne W. George
VM:PMI
1126 Haring Hall
UC-Davis, Davis CA 95616

Initial Call for Abstracts

The next concurrent meeting of the ASVCP and the ACVP will be held December 8-11, 2002, in New Orleans, LA. There will be a combined ASVCP /ACVP Clinical Pathology Scientific Session for everyone that has interest in clinical pathology. The format will be similar to that of the 2001 annual meeting. This will be a great opportunity to present experimental or clinical research data to colleagues and we will have both oral platform and poster presentations. The final decision regarding presentation format is at the discretion of the program committee. We encourage participation by a wide variety of individuals including faculty, senior scientists, diagnostic veterinary pathologists/clinical pathologists, trainees and many others. Presenters are required to register for the meeting. Now is the time for you to start planning your presentations!!! The deadline for abstract submission will be June 3rd, 2002.

A.S.V.C.P. Young Investigator Award

The ASVCP will present a \$500 award to the resident or graduate student whose platform presentation is judged best among the competing presentations. Eligibility requirements include a degree in veterinary medicine and enrollment in a residency or graduate program in pathology/clinical pathology or a related discipline. The oral presentation must describe original work of the competitor involving clinical or experimental research that relates to clinical pathology. Presenters are required to register for the meeting. Award selection will be based on the scientific content, abstract composition, clarity of presentation and ability to answer questions. Each trainee may submit only one presentation in this competition.

ACVP Young Investigator Award

If you are a trainee and have a poster presentation, you can submit it for consideration in the ACVP Young Investigator Award. [Any abstract submitted for the ACVP Young Investigator Award is not eligible for the ASVCP Young Investigator Award.]

SUBMITTING YOUR ABSTRACTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Detailed instructions that explain how to submit an abstract and how to enroll in the ASVCP or ACVP Young Investigator Award competition will follow in the next newsletter and will then be posted on the ASVCP website (www.asvcp.org). Bill Reagan will coordinate the combined ASVCP/ ACVP Clinical Pathology Scientific Session of the meeting. Please direct your inquiries for this session to Bill at the following address:

Pfizer Global Research and Development
Groton Laboratories
Eastern Point Road 8274/1203
Groton, CT 06340
Phone: 860-715-2650
FAX: 860-441-1197
E-mail: william_j_reagan@groton.pfizer.com

Patron List

The Society gratefully acknowledges the following Patrons for their financial support in 2001:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Abbott Laboratories | Instem LSS |
| Amgen | Merck Research Laboratories |
| AniLytics, Inc | MPI Research |
| Antech Diagnostics | Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation |
| Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Inc | Pfizer Central Research Division |
| Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation | Pharmacia Corporation |
| Covance Laboratories | Primedica Worcester, Inc |
| Eli Lilly and Company | Procter and Gamble |
| Genentech, Inc | Schering-Plough Research Institute |
| Gilead Sciences | SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals |
| Glaxo Wellcome, Inc | Wyeth-Ayerst Research |
| IDEXX Laboratories, Inc | |

VLP Update

In 2001 the Veterinary Laboratory Professional's group conducted a survey of the crossmatch procedures currently used at the participating laboratories. An informative roundtable session took place at the annual ASVCP/ACVP meeting in Salt Lake City to discuss the crossmatch protocols now being used and how to come up with a standardized procedure. From all of the discussions, it was determined that further split comparisons need to be performed at several different schools to try and identify the best overall procedure.

The accompanying table lists the schools that participated in the survey and their responses. The main differences between laboratories have to do with the grading of the reactions, temperature and time of incubation, and the use of plasma vs serum .

We hope the survey/summary will be of help to all laboratories performing crossmatches. Our ultimate goal is to come up with a standardized procedure that we can all use.

2001 Treasurer's Report

ASVCP Financial Report

January 1- December 31, 2001

Revenues

| | | |
|--|-----------|------------------|
| Member dues | \$ | 27,475.00 |
| Patrons, Meeting sponsors | | 16,000.00 |
| 2001 Slide Set revenue | | 3,670.00 |
| <i>Vet Clin Path</i> subscriptions | | 12,226.50 |
| <i>Vet Clin Path</i> class., color, rental | | 4,512.50 |
| Interest | | 2,832.56 |
| ACVP/Talley reimbursement | | 5,894.00 |
| Total | \$ | 72,610.56 |

Expenses

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2000 Meeting | \$ | 4,260.63 |
| 2001 Meeting | | 1,162.61 |
| 2001 Slide Set | | 182.94 |
| Bank & credit card fees | | 976.97 |
| Membership Committee | | 1,068.70 |
| Newsletter, Directory | | 2,678.92 |
| Postage, office supplies, phone | | 3,614.28 |
| <i>Vet Clin Path</i> , vol 29, #4 | | 4,621.32 |
| <i>Vet Clin Path</i> , vol 30, #1-3 | | 26,387.84 |
| Total | \$ | 44,954.21 |

Net income \$ 27,656.35

Assets on Hand

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Bank One checking account | \$ | 32,560.98 |
| Wells Fargo checking account | \$ | 10,000.00 |
| Vanguard money market account | \$ | 97,616.55 |

The Society experienced another good financial year, with a net income of almost \$28,000. This can be attributed to less than expected expenses for the first joint (ASVCP and ACVP) annual meeting in 2000, as well as the low expense of the 2001 Slide Set. In addition, there was an unexpected windfall of almost \$6,000, resulting from an audit of Talley Management's handling of finances for previous annual meetings. As a result, the cash reserves of the Society have increased, and are now in the range of 2 to 3 times our annual expenses, which could be considered the minimal level of cash reserves to maintain.

Transfer of the membership database and financial assets to the new Treasurer, Dr. Sonjia Shelly, is essentially completed. The final transfer of all checking account funds to the Well Fargo account will be completed in February. In addition, the subscription services for *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* has been transferred to the editor, Dr. Mary Christopher. An accountant is preparing an assurance report of the ASVCP finances for the last 4 years.

Submitted by Stephen Gaunt

ASVCP Executive Board News

The members of the ASVCP Executive Board correspond regularly during the year via electronic mail and telephone conferences to accomplish the Society's business. Some motions that were seconded and passed during these communications in 2001 included: (1) increasing the subscription rate for *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* (VCP) to institutions \$75 USA/ \$85 non-USA, individuals \$65 USA/ \$75 non-USA; (2) changing the name of the *Veterinary Laboratory Managers* group to *Veterinary Laboratory Professionals*; (3) authorizing a one time professional compilation of the books prior to transferring the books to a new treasurer; (4) spending up to \$250 to apply for PACE accreditation for the 2001 annual meeting; (5) renting the ASVCP mailing list on a case by case basis which must be approved by the Executive Board; and (6) sending the guidelines from the Quality Assurance and Standards (QAS) Committee on Clinical Chemistry, Hematology, Cytology, and RIA forward to Mary Christopher for eventual publication. Other decisions included: (1) forming an adhoc committee to evaluate the ASVCP Constitution and Bylaws; (2) forming an ad hoc committee to investigate having professional management support for various ASVCP activities; (3) simplifying the advertising rate for VCP to classified ads less than 1/2 page \$125, classified ads greater than 1/2 page \$150, display ads <1/2 page \$200, display ads >1/2 page, <1 page \$300, display ads > 1 page \$400; and color ads additional \$400; (4) establishing the following liasons : (a) First year Board Member: QAS Committee, Regulatory Affairs Committee; (b) Second Year Executive Board Member: Membership Committee, Development Committee; (c) President-Elect: Program Committee, VLP, Parliamentarian for Executive Board; (d) Secretary: Webmaster; (e) Treasurer: VLP; (f) President: ACVP, outside agencies; and (g) Past-President: Nomination Committee; (5) declining to be directly involved in or help to finance the ACVP supply and demand survey; (6) spending up to \$1500 for the trainee luncheon at the 2001 annual ACVP/ ASVCP meeting; (7) and offering a life-time achievement award to honor pioneers in veterinary clinical pathology. The Executive Board has already been very active this year and 2002 promises to be exciting. Motions that were seconded and approved since the Executive Board meeting in Salt Lake City included: (1) renting the mailing list to the *Comparative Clinical Pathology Journal*; (2) continuing to hold joint annual meetings with ACVP for 3 more years (1003-2005); and (3) authorizing the QAS Committee to organize a workshop at the 2002 annual meeting and invite James Westgard as speaker.

Announcements

ASVCP Mailing List Rental. In 2001, the ASVCP Executive Board approved rental of the ASVCP mailing list on a case by case basis to be approved by the Executive Board. If you do not want your mailing information included in these rentals, please notify ASVCP Treasurer Sonjia Shelly (PO Box 395, Davis, CA, 95617-0395, sonjia-shelly@idexx.com).

Address Changes. Remember to send any address changes to Sonjia Shelly at the address listed above.

Summary of 2001 Executive Board (EB) Meeting 12/1/01

Present: Past-president Claire Andreasen, President Jeanne George, President-elect Eric Schultze, Board Member Bill Reagan, Board Member Harold Tvedten, Board Member-elect Sue Tornquist, Treasurer Steve Gaunt, Treasurer-elect Sonjia Shelly, and Secretary Jenny Thomas.

The meeting was called to order by Jeanne George at 8:00AM.

MOTION: The motion to approve the minutes from the 2000 Executive Board (EB) Meeting, Annual Business Meeting, April and September teleconferences, and summary of email EB votes was seconded and approved.

President-elect

Eric summarized the follow-up list of suggested improvements and changes from the 2000 meeting. He requested that Bill do the same thing for the 2001 meeting.

Eric reported that the ASVCP is listed in the AVMA directory under Specialty Organizations but not under Allied Groups because the ASVCP is not a certifying organization. Jeanne stated that clinical pathology is not listed as a specialty in the AVMA directory. Bill reported that he discussed listing clinical pathology as a discipline code with Karl Weiss from the AVMA. The AVMA is considering this change but it will involve a major change in their data base. It will not be done this year but may occur in the future. Bill will continue to follow this in 2002. Jeanne stated that the ACVP found out that the AVMA overview board for specialties has no record that they ever recognized clinical pathology as a specialty. The ACVP Council was supposed to discuss this issue at their September meeting; however, that meeting was canceled due to the bombings on 9/11/01.

The 2001 ACVIM Forum went well. The ACVIM realigned their Program Committee and Jane Armstrong, the ACVIM representative, was very pleasant to work. Eric wrote letters to all ASVCP presenters as well as their department chairs recognizing their contribution. He recommended that this continue in subsequent years.

A new role for the President-elect in 2001 was to act as liaison to the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals (VLP). Eric reported that the VLP is a very self-directed and enthusiastic group. They correspond regularly via email, contribute to the ASVCP newsletter, and have good leadership. The need to publicize the meeting better to industry or to schools that do not currently send representatives to the VLP meeting was discussed.

The fact that PACE credits (required in some states for licensure) are now offered should help increase attendance. Eric will talk to Jane Shepherd, meeting coordinator from the Rees Group, about wider distribution of annual meeting information/ schedule and better advertisement of the meeting in general.

Other new duties for the President-elect in 2001 were to serve as Parliamentarian and as liaison to the Committee on Constitutional Reform (CCR). The ASVCP Constitution and Bylaws are out of date and contain numerous conflicts. CCR members include Jan Krehbiel, Gary Kociba, and Rose Raskin. During the past year, they met several times via email and teleconference. The first thing that needs to occur is to change how the Constitution and Bylaws are amended. Should this amendment pass, the CCR will work on revising the entire Constitution and Bylaws. A first draft of the revised Constitution and Bylaws was distributed to EB members in November for review and comments.

Eric reported that role of the President-elect in planning the annual meeting has simplified because the chair of the Program Committee takes care of the mechanics of the meeting (e.g., meeting rooms, schedule, food, etc.). The President-elect is only responsible for scheduling speakers for the scientific sessions of the combined ACVP/ASVCP meeting. This year Jaime Modiano will be the invited keynote speaker for the ASVCP Scientific Session. The general theme of the meeting is cytology. There will be 5 competitors for the ASVCP Young Investigator Award. There were a few problems with abstract submissions this year because of a delay in getting the website functional due to the switch in management companies. Talley Management would not release the old website so the Rees Group had to design the website from scratch. Eric commented that Jane Shepherd from the Rees Group was extremely good to work with and kept the ASVCP well-informed. Due to a problem this year, Eric recommended that a statement be included in the call for abstracts stating that everyone who presents at the meeting is expected to register for the meeting.

Jeanne mentioned that ASVCP patrons were listed on the meeting page of the ACVP website this year along with ACVP patrons. The exhibitors were also listed on the ACVP website.

Steve Gaunt reported that he received a reimbursement from ACVP in 2001 for almost \$6000 resulting from an audit of Talley Management. He was not sure where this reimbursement actually came from because Talley Management has always been very slow at providing meeting cost information to the ASVCP. There was approximately a \$1700 loss at the 2000 meeting. This amount was significantly less than at previous meetings so the concurrent format appears to be beneficial to the ASVCP. The ASVCP portion of meeting costs and revenues is calculated based upon the number of ASVCP attendees relative to the number of ACVP attendees. The ASVCP also gets a share of the revenue from the exhibitors, something new in 2000. Participation by VLP members should help encourage more exhibitors to attend. Last year Talley Management had difficulty keeping track of attendance of ASVCP versus ACVP members so that will need to be watched in the future. The ASVCP will also have to look at the split carefully and to make sure that funds from meeting patrons are correctly shared between the ASVCP and ACVP. The ASVCP should continue to do well using the combined format provided that ACVP member attendance remains strong. Attendance for 2001 looks good based upon pre-registration figures. The attendance at the 1999 and 2000 meetings was also very good while attendance at the 1997 and 1998 meetings was poor.

The need to present a program of interest to VLP members while keeping the VLP an integrated part of the ASVCP was discussed. Harold reported that the newly formed European Society for Veterinary Pathology (ESVCP) is meeting opposition from European veterinary pathologists. It is good that anatomic and clinical pathologists in the US work well together.

Program Committee

Betsy Welles reported Eric Schultze was in charge of arranging speakers for the scientific session of the ASVCP/ACVP annual meeting, Bill Reagan was in charge of arranging speakers for the ACVIM Forum, and Harold Tvedten was in charge of the annual Slide Review Session. Eighty slides sets appear to be currently enough for members to purchase. There used to be a set of slides available at the meeting for members to review. This has not been done at recent meetings. There is no archive file of slide sets kept. The possibility of making available a spreadsheet listing the cases and diagnoses over the past years was discussed. This could possibly be linked to digital images made available on a CD Rom and/or placed on the ASVCP website. The costs of making and distributing the slide sets and summaries need to be reevaluated. The sale of the slide sets is not designed to make money but should not cost the ASVCP any money. In recent years, the sale of the slide sets generated a slight profit that was used to help defray the cost of the meeting. Some cost is associated with mailing the case summaries and the possibility of sending those electronically was discussed. The 2001 Slide Review summary will be placed on the ASVCP website as a pdf file.

Mary Christopher was in charge of the Teaching Clinical Pathology session this year and the topic was teaching clinical pathology to residents in other specialties. Betsy helped organize the trainee and speaker reception. The Education Symposium for 2001 will be on cytology. Invited speakers include Victor Perman, Tim Lumsden, John Wojcieszyn, and Rose Raskin. The ASVCP will present its first lifetime achievement award at the end of the Education Symposium to Victor Perman.

Betsy reported that she attended the April ACVP meeting in Salt Lake City to visit the meeting facilities. Although useful, she questioned whether it could have been handled with a conference call. ACVP paid Betsy's airfare and hotel room but requested that the ASVCP pay expenses in future years. The EB deferred further discussion on this topic until the lunch time meeting with ACVP Council.

ASVCP invited speakers receive an honorarium of \$250 per presentation plus airfare, lodging, travel and food. Invited speakers for the VLP meeting receive a \$50 honorarium.

In previous years, Talley management ordered food and beverages for the meeting and sent ASVCP a bill. Last year was the first time that the ASVCP had any input. This year, Betsy worked closely with Jane Shepherd from the Rees Group to order food. No group was identified to sponsor the trainee luncheon this year so the ASVCP will absorb the costs.

Betsy was told that computer generated presentations for the annual meeting would not be supported by either the ASVCP or the ACVP because of costs (depends on the meeting venue) and issues of quality of projection and compatibility with presenters' programs. All presenters at the ASVCP sessions were told that they would have to bring their own LCD projector and computer if they wanted to use computer projection. The second week in November Betsy was told that the ACVP was providing LCD projectors for some invited speakers. The issues of computer presentations and inadequate communication with the ACVP Standing Education Committee will be discussed with the ACVP Council during the lunch time meeting. The ACVIM may be a good resource because they are currently switching to computer presentations for their annual forum.

The upcoming year will be Betsy's third and final year as chair of the Program Committee. The EB discussed the need to find someone to work with Betsy this year with the goal of taking over as chair after the 2002 annual meeting. The EB thanked Betsy for all her hard work during the past year. Betsy voiced support for having the Program Committee being in charge of running the annual meeting, thus freeing up the EB to run the ASVCP.

Veterinary Clinical Pathology (VCP)

Mary Christopher reported that manuscript submissions were up 18% during the past year (most journals only experience a 3% increase). The page numbers for recent issues were increased to keep turnaround time low. During the next year, Mary hopes to move toward electronic submissions and reviews. The average time for manuscript review in 2001 was 55 days. Manuscripts remained with authors for an additional 65 days, a time period Mary would like to see shortened. The number of "What's Your Diagnosis?" articles has been decreased to only 1-2 per issue. This was done because these type of manuscripts are not looked upon favorably by Medline. Mary suggested "What's Your Diagnosis?" articles could be handled by placing them on the VCP website then publishing them as a supplement. The increased number of pages allows the journal to be bound in a way that permits printing of the journal name, volume and issue on the spine.

The average length of the *VCP* in 2001 was 56 pages per issue with a cost of approximately \$8650 per issue. The cost does not reflect journal income such as fees for advertising, subscriptions, color pictures, and *ESVCP*. The actual cost per member dues is actually decreasing. There will be an increased cost associated with the *VCP* due to production of pdf files. There were also increased costs associated with using Allen Press copyediting services.

There were some communication difficulties with the *ESVCP*. Last year *VCP* became the official journal of the *ESVCP* and all *ESVCP* members were supposed to have a fee for the journal included in their dues. Instead, the journal fee was offered to *ESVCP* members as an option. Mary will work on correcting this issue next year.

Walter Hoffman will be retiring as Clinical Chemistry Section Editor. Asger Lundorff Jensen from Denmark will be taking over as the new Section Editor in December 2001. Mary is working out the details of sending articles to him electronically.

VCP published the *ESVCP* meeting abstracts in the September issue following their annual meeting. It was not possible to publish them prior to the meeting due to their late submission deadline. The *ASVCP* abstracts were published in the same issue preceding the *ASVCP/ACVP* annual meeting.

Another Medline review will take place in February 2002. It is very competitive and dependent on the overall quality of the manuscripts. Having the journal available on the website will increase journal visibility and may increase submissions.

The *VCP* website prototype was reviewed by the EB in May. It has been revised and updated and is available on line for everyone to review. All issues for 2001 will be available on line. Mary suggested that the pdfs for the full manuscripts be password protected for *ASVCP* members and *VCP* subscribers for 2-3 years. All manuscripts older than that will be available to anyone. Journals vary widely from offering all manuscripts free to everyone to being much more restrictive. The length of password restriction also varies, though most journals have a 2-3 year of password protection. "What's Your Diagnosis?" articles, editorials, book reviews, etc. will not be password protected.

MOTION: A motion to password protect the pdf files on all journal articles on the website for 3 years to *ASVCP* members and journal subscribers only was seconded. Following discussion about how password protection would work and clarification of the fact that abstracts will not be password protected, the motion was passed.

VCP rents space from Cedant web host for \$120 per year for a defined amount of space and activity on their server. *VCP* is currently using approximately 10% of that space but will likely outgrow this space due to the number of images and the large size of files. At that time, we may need to increase the amount of rental space or find a new web host. Although the web host offers a search engine, it does not work well so the site does not currently have a search engine. Mary is planning on waiting to see how the Medline review goes before deciding what to do about developing a search engine.

Mary requested input about the ease of opening pdf files. Right now *VCP* publishes using high resolution TIFF files which are then placed on the website. This may slow the ability of people to load and open the files. She will look into the possibility of saving the images in some other form.

With Asger serving as a Section Editor, Mary does not see any need to keep an European affiliate as a Section Editor. Due to lack of manuscript submissions, Mary will discuss the possibility of eliminating the Toxicology Section Editor position at the *VCP* Section Editor meeting.

Mary discussed the business management of *VCP*. Right now she shares responsibilities (e.g. advertising invoicing, maintenance of subscriber lists, postage and mailing issues, etc) with the *ASVCP* Treasurer that would generally be handled by a journal's business office. Mary suggested consolidation of all journal business issues in one location such as an editorial office. Responsibilities handled by this office would include management of subscriber lists, communication with Allen Press, postage and mailing, invoicing, renewal of domain name, and tracking the effectiveness of mailouts and complimentary memberships. Mary recommended that the *ASVCP* provide the funds to hire a student assistant to man the business office.

MOTION: A motion to provide the *VCP* editorial office with \$3,000 per year for labor and supplies was seconded and approved. The funds will be transferred to an account at UCD and Mary will provide an itemized budget to the EB at the next annual meeting. This would alleviate the need to find an *ASVCP* member to be in charge of advertising for *VCP*.

Mary stated that she and members of the Education Committee had some difficulties getting items posted on the *ASVCP* website. She suggested that the EB consider moving the *ASVCP* website to the same web host as the *VCP* website and have the person hired to work in the *VCP* editorial office maintain both the *VCP* and *ASVCP* websites. This would also allow the *ASVCP* Secretary to directly edit and add documents to website. Mary will send Jenny Thomas information to allow her to try the web host file manager system to determine if it will work for the *ASVCP* website.

Mary suggested forming an ASVCP Publications Committee. Mary has received several documents from Quality Assurance and Standards Committee for eventual publication. However, this type of work is beyond what is normally done by the Section Editors. There may be other documents that the ASVCP may want to have published as well that could be handled by this committee.

Mary questioned whether the free posting of job advertisements on the ASVCP listserve is in conflict with the fee that the ASVCP charges for advertising in the newsletter, on the website, and in *VCP*. The listserve manager has not formally reported to the EB in the past. It was suggested that in future years the listserve manager should report to the EB about listserve policing, how many members and nonmembers are subscribers, and what type of messages are being sent. Mary stated that she would like to be able to send an announcement via email to all members about the online *VCP*. The possibility of having an information type listserve that includes all ASVCP members was discussed.

Education Committee

Mary reported that the Teaching Clinical Pathology session and the Meet the Expert Reception will be offered at the annual meeting. Education Committee members will meet and discuss the goals of the reception.

The ASVCP website contains a listing of all clinical pathology training programs throughout the country that was last updated in 2000. It will be updated within the next few months by someone on the Education Committee.

The Committee has not done anything with the Clinical Chemistry Training Guidelines.

The ACVP is working on the possibility of making portions of the board examination material available after people have taken the exam. The Education Committee will stay tuned into these discussions because one of the goals of the Committee is to offer board review sessions at the annual meeting. There is now an ACVP Training Coordinators Committee whose has been charged with making "mock" board exam materials available to training programs.

Holly Bender from Virginia Tech has received a \$1.5 million grant from the Department of Education to develop an online program to teach diagnostic reasoning to students in clinical pathology courses. There are 3 partner institutions (UCD, University of WI, and Guelph) that will test these programs in their classrooms and evaluate their effectiveness. As Chair of the Education Committee, Mary will work as the Committee liaison to make sure that the program Holly is developing will eventually be available to all institutions and to identify faculty from other schools to author tutorials. Jeanne wrote a letter of support on behalf of the ASVCP stating that the annual meeting would be an appropriate venue to present the information generated as a result of the grant.

Second Year Board Member

Bill Reagan reported that he organized the 2002 ACVIM Forum. There will be 4 speakers: John Christian on RBC destruction in sickness and health; Dina Andrews on the importance of erythrocytes in thrombosis and procoagulant activity; Mary Boudreaux on the biologic and molecular characterization of coagulation and platelet disorders in dogs; and Jane Wardrop on the determination of activated platelets and development of antithrombotic/anticoagulant drugs. There has been a switch in recent years from presentations that are basic reviews to more advanced/ state of the art presentations. The ACVIM now wants each of the two 4 hours session to have a unifying theme. Ideally, those ASVCP members who present at ACVIM could present similar topics at the ASVCP meeting.

Bill served as liaison for the Membership Committee. The ASVCP display was presented at the annual ASVCP/ACVP meeting, the ACVIM Forum, and SCAVMA symposium. The total expenses were approximately \$900. Approximately 1/3 of all ASVCP member applicants in 2001 were linked to brochures from the Membership Committee. The value of showing the display at all of these meetings was discussed. The SCAVMA display is very important because it helps expose veterinary students to clinical pathology. The cost of exhibiting at the ACVIM Forum was approximately \$600 and the value of exhibiting there was discussed. The cost is dependent on where the meeting is held and varies from year to year. The ACVIM already offers the ASVCP the booth space for free so all costs are associated with union fees, table rental, shipping to the site, etc.

Bill also served as liaison to the Development Committee. The authorization of funds to hire someone to work in the *VCP* editorial office eliminates the need to find someone to handle *VCP* advertising. Frances Clemo, chair of the Development Committee, had difficulty communication with the ACVP External Finance Committee about coordination of meeting sponsors and patrons. This issue will be brought up to the ACVP Council.

Bill is still working with the AVMA to try to get clinical pathology listed in the discipline code.

Treasurer

Steve Gaunt reported that Judith Spurling applied for lifetime membership and she meets all the requirements listed in the Constitution and Bylaws.

MOTION: The motion to accept Judith Spurling's application for lifetime membership was seconded and approved.

There were 40 new applicants to the ASVCP. Fifteen applied using the Membership Committee form, 21 used forms from the newsletter, and 4 used forms from the ASVCP website. There are a total of 408 paid members in 2001 versus 399 in 2000. The numbers of people who drop their memberships are similar to the number of new members so total membership numbers are holding fairly steady.

Membership dues have been holding steady and were \$27,475 for 2001. Patron numbers and donations were very good at \$16,000. Revenue from the sale of the 2001 slide set was \$3,670. *VCP* subscriptions (primarily to institutions) totaled \$9,391.50. Funds from *VCP* (classified ads, color plate fees, rental of ASVCP mailing list) yielded \$4,512.50. Interest on the money market was \$2,272.76. ACVP reimbursement was \$5,894. The total revenue as of 11/26/01 was \$69,215.76. There is some additional expected revenue from *VCP* subscriptions to ESVCP members (approximately \$2500) and journal advertisements (approximately \$800).

Expenses for 2001 (as of 11/26/01) include 2000 meeting costs (\$4260.63), 2001 meeting costs (\$457.29 as of 11/26/02), and 2001 slide set costs (0). Costs for *VCP* publication have been increasing, averaging approximately \$9000 per issue for the last 2 issues. Costs for issue #4 2000 were \$4,621.32 while costs for issues 1-3 2001 were \$25,836.82. Bank and credit card fees were \$770.65. Membership Committee costs were \$2,678.92, newsletter/directory costs were \$2,678.92, and postage/office supplies/telephone costs were \$3,362.68. Total expenses to date were \$43,046.77. The net income as of 11/26/01 was \$26,168.99. This income is very good, partially due to the lower 2000 meeting costs associated with the combined ACVP/ASVCP annual meeting. The ASVCP has \$128,871.76 in reserve. A general rule of thumb is that organizations should maintain a reserve fund that is 2-3 times their annual operating expenses. The ASVCP has approximately 2 times the operating expenses in reserve.

Steve has met with an accountant regarding examination of the ASVCP books. It will cost approximately \$1,800 (\$600 for the current year and \$400 for each preceding year) for an "attestation" report and not a full audit. The accountant will look at all income and expenses, evaluate the bookkeeping practices, and make recommendations about how to change or improve them. The issue of how often to authorize this external review was discussed. The current Constitution and Bylaws state that the books will be evaluated by another ASVCP member yearly at the annual meeting. Possible changes will need to be addressed by the Constitutional Review Committee. Whether or not external reviews will be done in the future will be decided after the EB has an opportunity to review this report. Steve will keep the books through the end of the year for tax purposes.

First Year Executive Board Member

Harold Tvedten reported that submissions for the annual slide review session were low and the first year EB member in 2002 needs to be more active in recruiting submissions. In order to increase discussion and audience participation in the slide review session, he requested that each speaker ask an important question about their case submission.

Harold served as EB liaison to the Quality Assurance and Standards Committee. His main involvement was to encourage organization of a continuing education session on QA/QC, possibly a 2 day meeting that allows participants to actually work with raw laboratory data and have a speaker discuss how to analyze the data. Possible topics include establishment of reference intervals or laboratory testing validation procedures. One concern was the possibility of losing money on such a meeting. Similar CE

meeting have been successfully offered by the ASVCP in the past (e.g., Avian Hematology session in Guelph). The possibility of offering a workshop on validation of new procedures at the 2002 annual meeting was extensively discussed. Such a workshop needs to be more than just lectures and should offer hands on work, possibly having participants bring their own lap tops to analyze data. The session could overlap with the VLP sessions.

Secretary

Jenny Thomas reported that the newsletter went out smoothly in 2001. There did not seem to be any significant mailing delays that were experienced the previous year. She continued to mail the newsletter through the University non-profit mailing system rather than obtaining a non-profit mailing permit for the ASVCP itself due to convenience. She continued to have the newsletters printed using Texas A&M University (TAMU) services because the cost was still significantly lower than it would have been using other local printing companies. The newsletter content and mailing schedules were similar to other years. The addition of abbreviated teleconference minutes summarizing the actions decided upon by the board was discussed.

The directory was mailed in August to members along with newsletter #3. It was scheduled to go out in April with newsletter #2; however, there were delays associated with updating the membership list for 2001. The directory was printed at a local printing service because it was significantly less than what was quoted by TAMU.

The website continued to be maintained by Lisa Holeman at Purdue University. Jenny had no difficulty getting information posted in a timely manner; however, as already discussed, there were some problems expressed by the Education Committee. Jenny agreed to explore the possibility of having the ASVCP website at the same web host site as the VCP website. The possibility of having members chose the option of receiving their newsletter electronically using pdf files instead of receiving printed copies by mail was discussed. If members chose this option, it would save the ASVCP significant mailing costs. This could easily be done if the ASVCP sets up an information only listserve that includes all members. Jenny will explore this option with Mike Scott, the listserve manager.

Jenny decided to not send out brochures this year to all members and recommended that the brochure be made available upon request or along with the display at meetings.

Immediate Past-President

Claire Andreasen reported that Bill Reagan was elected as Second Year Board Member by special election mailed ballot and the results were announced in ASVCP Newsletter #1, 2001. In the annual election, Bill was elected President-elect, Sue Tornquist was elected First Year Board Member, and Sonjia Shelly was elected Treasurer. Claire stated that it is difficult to find people willing to run for office or to serve on the nominating committee. The need to encourage people who recently finished residency and/or graduate programs to participate was discussed.

The survey on the 2000 annual meeting was designed by Iowa State University and student workers were used to tally the results. Overall, the responses were very favorable for the concurrent meeting format because it saved people both time and money.

Claire worked with the ACVP to complete a joint press release about the annual meeting in JAVMA and AJVR.

Claire wrote notes to ASVCP committee members thanking them for their hard work during the past year and sent them follow-up communications about EB decisions and proposals. She also sent a cover letter that outlined the evaluation form to all competitors for the ASVCP Young Investigator Award.

Membership Committee

Paula Perkins, chair, was unable to attend so the EB discussed her submitted annual report. The EB debated the value of exhibiting the ASVCP display at the ACVP/ASVCP meeting, ACVIM Forum, and SCAVMA symposium. The goal is to increase the visibility of the ASVCP and clinical pathology as a specialty. The possibility of advertising the annual meeting in other journals or magazines was discussed. Increased membership by medical technologists/ technicians is one area of possible growth expansion. ASVCP members should be encouraged to make their own laboratories aware of the ASVCP and what is offered at the annual meeting. Increasing visibility by sending the display to other meetings

like the American Society of Clinical Chemistry was discussed. Bill agreed to explore these options further.

Paula Perkins has resigned and the EB discussed possible replacements. Bill will talk to potential people; however, the ASVCP President is responsible for appointing a replacement. Since the display is already developed, this is not a time intensive commitment. Payment of the costs associated with the meeting costs for the display can be difficult because most want to be paid by credit card. Sonjia Shelly agreed to look into getting a credit card for the ASVCP.

Quality Assurance and Standards (QAS) Committee

Laurie O'Rourke reported that there were difficulties in electronic communication among committee members during the past year. The question of whether the committee is too large was discussed.

The first 4 guidelines (Chemistry, Hematology/ Coagulation, RIA, and the Role of the Veterinary Clinical Pathologists) are ready to be published in 2002. Tim Lumsden revised the guidelines on reference intervals (including references) and a copy was sent to EB members for review. The QAS Committee would like to put an updated listing of what programs are available for proficiency testing on the ASVCP website with links. A similar table could be placed into the ASVCP newsletter.

Two QAS Committee members (Sally Lester & Kathy Freeman) gave presentations in 2001 on QA/QC. Veterinarians are not learning QA/QC at the University level. ASVCP members need to be encouraged to do a better job of raising QA/QC awareness among veterinary students and residents and to set up proper QA/QC in our own laboratories. Laurie believes that the ASVCP should take a leadership role in confronting the veterinary profession with the paucity of working knowledge and understanding of QA/QC. The Committee would like to help to sponsor a QA/QC workshop at the 2002 annual meeting. It will need to be a "hands on" workshop where active problem solving is involved. Problem data sets could be sent out to participants in advance. The EB suggested starting with the topic of validation of new testing procedures. Laurie, Harold, Betsy Welles and Sue Tornquist will meet to start working on the workshop.

Possible new guideline areas for the QAS committee to address in 2002 include urinalysis, ELISA, proficiency testing, establishing a QA program, validation, agglutination tests, etc. Input was requested from the EB. Eric volunteered to get suggestions from the EB to Laurie. The guideline on in hospital testing is in a rough draft form and needs further editing next year.

The QAS Committee feels that the ASVCP needs to readdress the role of the ASVCP and its guidelines in the accreditation process. Although the ASVCP should not be an accrediting organization, the Committee would like to see the Society take an active role to provide consultation and expertise in the use and interpretation of the guidelines (possibly by forming a collaboration with some group that is accrediting).

Veterinary Laboratory Professionals (VLP)

Ellen Willet (chair) and Betty Thompson (co-chair) reported that they had 7 speakers for their portion of the meeting. Three were invited speakers from the main ASVCP meeting on the topic of cytology and cytochemistry. There were 4 other speakers in the areas of *Haemobartonella*, protein measurement, lymphocyte morphology/ lymphoproliferative disorders, and standard operating procedures. There will be 3 roundtable discussions in the areas of after hour laboratory policies, sendout procedures and crossmatching procedures. These 3 topics were distributed on the VLP listserve for discussion and comments. The possibility of publishing some of this roundtable material in the newsletter and on the ASVCP website was discussed.

The name of the group was changed from Veterinary Laboratory Managers to VLP to encourage membership by laboratory professionals other than managers. The VLP is a special interest group within the ASVCP and, as such, can be listed among the committees in the annual directory.

Lisa Shipp from the VLP made the arrangements to allow PACE credits to be offered for attendance at the annual meeting. These credits are required in some states for relicensure of medical technologists.

The VLP listserve is very active. The EB discussed whether or not the VLP needs to maintain a separate listserve when they could take part in the ASVCP listserve. However, less than 25% of all VLP members are ASVCP members.

The EB reported the intention to offer a QA/QC workshop that would be of interest to many in the VLP group. The need to coordinate the QA/QC session with the VLP program to prevent conflicts was discussed. Suggestions of potential presenters for the workshop were requested from the VLP. Ellen mentioned the need to keep the meeting compact to minimize time away from the laboratories.

The ASVCP agreed to pay for PACE accreditation for 2001. Hopefully this will stimulate attendance at the VLP meeting. The need to distribute the program schedule for the annual meeting in a timely manner was discussed. The EB asked that someone from the VLP serve on the Membership Committee to help determine where to advertise the Society in order to reach more technologists.

The VLP thanked the ASVCP for their support. The EB commended the VLP for their enthusiasm and for their newsletter submissions.

Rees Group

There were 580 people pre-registered for the meeting. This does not include on-site registrants. This is very good attendance considering the September 11 bombings. The on-line registration worked well for the Rees Group. The EB commended Jane Shepherd and thanked her for all of her help.

The issue of the use of LCD projection at the annual meeting was discussed. The ASVCP will continue to work with the ACVP Standing Education Committee to resolve the issue for next year.

The possibility of expanding the number of exhibitors for next year was discussed. Jane will check into the space available at the meeting site in New Orleans. The Rees Group is locked into the meetings sites contracted by Talley Management for the next 2 years. Jane stated that it would be helpful if the ASVCP would contact companies about exhibiting at the meeting. The Rees Group requested an organizational profile from the ASVCP to hand out to potential exhibitors that describes the makeup of the membership and what products and services would be of interest to them. They will send an example of what they are looking for to Eric. Ways to get the information needed for such a profile might include posting a series of questions on the website or in the renewal form.

In response to a question by the EB, the Rees Group expressed an interest in providing management services for the ASVCP. The overall goals of the ASVCP as listed in the Constitution were discussed. There is a need to improve communication such as managing websites and listserves, to increase the visibility of veterinary clinical pathology and to make professionals that work with animals aware of what the ASVCP can offer in terms of training and experience. The Rees Group asked what services the ASVCP are not currently offered that should be. Currently all management of the Society is done on a volunteer basis. The Rees Group asked the EB to identify what tasks the Society would like to have done professionally to free members up to better accomplish the goals of the Society. They offer website and listserve maintenance, newsletter and journal publication aid, meeting planning services, membership renewal services, etc. However, the cost will depend on the number of services requested. They suggested sending more information to members electronically in lieu of sending out newsletter or sending out the newsletter electronically instead of via mail. They also suggested sending out membership renewals electronically and allowing payment of dues via a website using credit cards. They suggested 2 websites (ASAnet.org and IAAMAC) to get information on how to create a rfp (request for proposal) to use to look for a management company.

The issue of having microscopes available to look at slides during the meeting was discussed. The Rees Group said that there are microscopes available in the exhibition hall for attendees to use. The possibility of having some double headed scopes set up in the speaker ready room for attendees to use to view mystery slides was discussed. In the past, Olympus has made microscopes available for use during the meeting.

The Rees Group was asked to tell the EB what they need from the ASVCP. The EB asked that the Rees Group try to have a single person be in charge of helping to plan future ASVCP meetings.

Development Committee

Jeanne summarized the report submitted by Frances Clemo who was unable to attend. Difficulties with communication about patrons and meeting sponsorship between the ASVCP and the ACVP External Finance Committee were discussed with the ACVP Council during the lunch time meeting earlier in the day. The ACVP Council agreed to address the problem.

The need to find a person to handling advertising was eliminated by the agreement to provide Mary Christopher sufficient funds to hire someone to manage a *VCP* editorial office.

Karyn Bird has agreed to coordinate fundraising activities between the Program and Development Committees. This may allow targeting donors based upon the topics being presented at the annual meeting. There should be a uniform ACVP/ ASVCP packet sent to potential contributors regarding the sponsorship of sections of the combined meeting. Raised funds should then be shared between the ACVP and ASVCP. Jeanne volunteered to follow through on this issue with the ACVP Council.

There was a request for new members on the Development Committee. There is nothing formal in the Constitution and Bylaws about the length of service on committees. Ideally, the time of service should be limited to 3-4 years. This works well on those committees with large numbers of members but may not work well for the smaller committees. Committee membership needs to be better documented. Eric volunteered to contact all committee chairs to generate a list of members and of the duration of service of each member.

President

Jeanne George reported that most of the issues listed in her annual report were discussed earlier during the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM.

**ASVCP Annual Business Meeting
December 2, 2001 Salt Lake City, UT**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 PM by ASVCP President Jeanne George.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2000

Motion: The motion to approve the minutes from the 2000 annual ASVCP business meeting was seconded and approved by voice vote of the members present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jeanne announced that there were no pending votes or issues from the 2000 annual meeting.

The following is a summary of some of the work accomplished during the last year: (1) the Executive Board (EB) met via teleconference in April and September and corresponded regularly via email (note: the newsletter will include a short synopsis of the teleconference calls and report the results of any motions voted upon via email in early 2002); (2) the EB met for a full day in Salt Lake City prior to the beginning of the 2001 annual meeting; (3) the EB approved rental of the ASVCP mailing list on a case by case base and the list was rented once during 2001 (note: next year's ASVCP membership renewal form will include a box to check for any member who does not want to be included on the mailing list); (4) the concurrent ACVP/ ASVCP annual meeting appears to be working well and this year's pre registration is greater than the pre-registration for the 2000 meeting; (5) the complete results of the meeting survey for the 2000 annual meeting are available on the ASVCP website (www.asvcp.org) on the announcement page as a printable pdf file; overall the results were very favorable for continuing the concurrent meeting format; and (6) the Veterinary Laboratory Managers group was designated as a special interest group within the ASVCP and changed their name to Veterinary Laboratory Professionals.

Members were encouraged to consider volunteering to serve on one of the ASVCP Committees.

The meeting agenda was changed from that listed in the Constitution and Bylaws to have the induction of new members and the presentation of the ASVCP Young Investigator Award occur at the beginning of the meeting. Jeanne asked for any objections from the floor and there were none.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

The first ASVCP Life-Time Award was presented to Victor Perman earlier during the day. The ASVCP Young Investigator Award was presented to Michael Fry from the University of California by Immediate Past-President Claire Andreasen for his talk entitled "Defective Platelet Collagen Signalling in a Thoroughbred Filly." There were a total of 5 competitors this year and the scoring was very close. All presentations were excellent and the presenters were commended. The criteria for the award selection had been sent to the competitors prior to meeting.

INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

There were 40 applicants for new members who included: Tanvir Advani, Abbe D. Ames, Nathan Bailiff, Michael Bieraugel, Ugo Bonfanti, Candace Carter, Kimberly Caruso, Elizabeth Cienava, Kelly S. Crowdis, Debbie Cunningham, Emma Dewhurst, Karen Dolce, Amanda Fales-Williams, Christina Fernandes, Sam J Harbo, Kim M. Iverson, Sue Jaensch, Elizabeth Jay, Shannon M. Jones, CJ Jordan, Tarja Juopperi, Jill C. Lang, Mehrdad Ameri Mahabadi, Thomas March, Shelley Mehlenbacher, Elizabeth Mills, Marielle Odin, Sebastien Overvelde, Sean Dietrich Owens, Reema Patel, Vanessa Preast, Gerardo Federico Quiroz-Rocha, Heather Leigh Tarpley, Katherine A. Thigpin, Betty Thompson, Leanne Twomey, Dana Walker, Sandy Weltan, Laurence Whiteley, and Karen Zaks.

Motion: The motion to approve membership of the 40 applicants was seconded and approved by voice vote of the attending members.

The single applicant for lifetime membership, Judith Spurling, was approved by the EB on 12/1/01.

SECRETARY REPORT

Jenny Thomas reported that the newsletter went out as scheduled last year. In general, issue #4 goes out in December. Issues #1-3 go out in February, April, and August. The newsletter is also available on the publication page of the ASVCP website as a printable pdf file. The membership was reminded to send any address changes to the ASVCP Treasurer to assure that they continue to receive their newsletters. Members were asked to submit items of interest (e.g., meeting announcements) to the Secretary to include in future newsletters.

The website is still hosted at Purdue University thanks to Dennis DeNicola and to Lisa Holeman (who updates the website as needed). Members were reminded to visit the website regularly for updates and new information. Members were also encouraged to submit items of interest to the Secretary to be posted on the website.

The possibility of sending out newsletters to members as a pdf file was discussed. This would be contingent on setting up an ASVCP listserv that could send out information items to all members separate from the discussion listserv that is currently available.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Steve Gaunt reported that the financial status of the ASVCP is very good. Revenue for 1/1/01-11/26/01 was as follows: (1) member dues: \$27,475; (2) patrons/ meeting sponsors: \$16,000 (would be \$22,000 if December 2000 was included); (3) 2001 Slide set: \$3,670; (4) *Veterinary Clinical Pathology (VCP)* subscriptions: \$9,391.50; (5) *VCP* ads/ color plates/ rental list: \$4,512.50; (6) interest: \$2,272.76; and (6) non-recurring ACVP reimbursement based upon audit of Talley Management: \$5,894. Expenses for the same time period were as follows: (1) 2000 annual meeting: \$4,260.63; (2) 2001 annual meeting to date: \$457.83; (3) 2001 Slide set to date: \$0; (4) bank and credit card fees: \$770.65; (5) Membership Committee costs: \$1,058.46; (6) newsletter/ directory costs: \$2,678.93; (7) postage/ office supplies/ phone: \$3,362.68; (7) *VCP* vol. 29 #4: \$4,621.32; and (8) *VCP* vol 30 #1-3: \$25,836.82. Total meeting costs for the 2000 Annual Meeting in Amelia was approximately \$5000 including the costs listed above and approximately \$1000 paid in the previous fiscal year. This sum was much less than in previous years when meeting costs were usually between \$8,000 and \$10,000.

Assets on hand were approximately \$140,000 (\$41,633.42 in a checking account and \$97,056.75 in a money market account). The need to keep these reserve funds was discussed. For example, if meeting

attendance was poor, the ASVCP would have to absorb any losses. General recommendations are that groups such as the ASVCP should have 3 times the annual budget held in reserve.

During the upcoming month Steve will be transitioning the office over to the incoming Treasurer Sonja Shelly. The ASVCP books will be examined by an external accountant firm. This will help reassure patrons who are donating to the ASVCP that the funds are being properly spent, help maintain our non profit status, and provide recommendations to better handle the ASVCP books and record keeping.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee

Paula Perkins (chairperson) recognized the other committee members: Bill Reagan and Christine Olver. During the last year, the ASVCP display was sent the following meetings (cost listed in parentheses): ACVIM forum (\$613.00), SCAVMA Symposium (\$190.40), and ASVCP/ACVP Annual Meeting (\$105.06). Paula was queried as to whether the ACVIM display generated any new members but that information was not known. Suggestions for other venues to send the display were requested.

A breakdown of 35 of the new ASVCP applicants was as follows: (1) 4 used forms from the ASVCP website; (2) 18 used forms from the ASVCP newsletter; (3) 12 used forms from Membership Committee displays; and (4) 1 came from a complementary journal. Suggestions regarding other ways to encourage new membership was requested.

Paula announced that she will be resigning from the Committee. Volunteers to join the Membership Committee were requested.

Regulatory Affairs

Bob Hall reported that the Regulatory Affairs Committee deals with issues that affect people working in the Pharmaceutical, Ag-Chem or food industries. At last year's meeting, Bob reported that the Committee was concerned that the FDA was going to reissue Red Book II. That did not occur in the past year. Another concern expressed at last year's meeting was that the EPA would issue a definition of what constitutes adverse effects. That also did not occur.

In April 2001, the FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at Cedar issued a draft guidance for immunotoxicology evaluation of investigational new drugs. Glenn Elliott was chair of a committee from the Society of Toxicologic Pathology that wrote a very detailed response to that guidance.

The current members of the committee include Ahmad Deldar, Glenn Elliott, Kent Gossett, Pete McWilliams and Roger Wells. The membership will probably change during the upcoming year.

Development Committee

Bill Reagan reported for Frances Clemo (chair) who was not able to attend. Other committee members included Karyn Bird and Phyllis Fisher (liaison to VLP). There were 21 donors that contributed over \$20,000 during the past year. This included 2 new sponsors. There was a lot of consolidation during the past year leaving fewer companies to approach for donations. The ASVCP thanked the following patrons who contributed during the past year: Abbott Laboratories, Amgen, AniLytics, Inc., Antech Diagnostics, Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation, Covance, Eli Lilly and Company, Genentech, Inc., Gilead Sciences, GlaxoSmithKline (Glaxo Wellcome Inc.), Instem Life Science Systems, Merck Research Laboratories, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Pfizer Inc., Pharmacia Corporation, Primedica Inc., Procter & Gamble Company, Schering-Plough Research Institute, GlaxoSmithKline (SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals), and Wyeth-Ayerst Research.

There is no longer any need to identify someone to help with advertising in the *VCP* journal. Karyn Bird will spearhead fund raising for the annual meeting. This will need to be coordinated with the ACVP.

The Committee is looking for volunteers.

Quality Assurance and Standards Committee (QAS)

Laurie O'Rourke (co-chair) acknowledged Committee members: Pat Benson, Ellen Evans, Sue Gallagher, Jim Klaassen, Sally Lester, Tim Lumsden, Larry McGill, Scott Moroff, Loretta Moore, Karen Russell, Linda Vap, Gail Walter, Ellen Ziemer and Kathy Freeman (co-chair).

Last year the Committee finished the first 4 guidelines on Chemistry, Coagulation, Hematology, Radioimmunoassay. They are currently working with Mary Christopher to get the guidelines in a final form for publication. The guideline on the Role of the Veterinary Clinical Pathologist will also be published in the upcoming year. The guideline on Reference Intervals was revised this past year by Tim Lumsden and will include references.

The Committee will update a chart on programs available for laboratory proficiency testing. This will be published on the ASVCP website and also in an upcoming newsletter.

Next year the committee will complete the Reference Interval guidelines as well as the guidelines on In-Hospital Testing. They would also like to write guidelines on new topics. Laurie gave the EB a list of suggested topics on 12/1/01 and is waiting for feedback. Laurie will be working with the ASVCP Program Committee to plan a "hands-on" QA/QC workshop for next year's meeting. A suggestion from the floor was to invite Westgard to speak. Laurie reported that will be discussed; however, Westgard is very expensive speaker.

Laurie discussed the need for the ASVCP to consider providing expertise and guidance on the QAS guidelines to other groups that may try to implement them as part of an accreditation process. ASVCP cannot become an accrediting organization itself.

Veterinary Laboratory Professionals

Ellen Willett reported that they changed the name from Veterinary Laboratory Managers to VLP in order to make it more inclusive and to encourage wider involvement. This is the 7th year the VLP is meeting with the ASVCP. They will have 7 speakers from the ASVCP (Drs. Wojcieszyn, Lumsden & Modiano will be speaking on the ASVCP meeting topic of cytology; other topics will include Haemobartonella, Proteins, Lymphocyte Morphology and SOPs). There will be 3 roundtable discussions (after hours coverage, laboratory send outs, and crossmatching procedures). Information on one of the roundtable discussions was published in the newsletter last year. This was the first year that the VLP contributed regularly to the newsletter. This will continue during the next year.

Ellen thanked her co-chair Betty Thompson from UCD. Betty will be chair next year. There will be approximately 25 people from the VLP attending the meeting. This is the first year that PACE accreditation will be provided for attendance at the meeting. Documentation of continuing education credits is required by some states for continued accreditation for Medical Technology. This effort was spearheaded by Lisa Shipp. The need to encourage membership by technicians/ technologists who work in industry position was discussed.

Ellen thanked the ASVCP for their support and thanked those members presenting at the meeting.

Education Committee

Mary Christopher (chair) acknowledged committee members including Karyn Bird, Armando Irizzary, Pat McManus, Lois Roth, Eric Schultze (outgoing member), Denise Bounous (outgoing member), Leslie Sharkey, Sonjia Shelly, Steve Stockham, Tracy Stokol, and Sue Tornquist.

The goals of the Education Committee are to: (1) promote discussion and exchange of course materials, instructional formats, curriculum, innovative teaching formats, etc.; (2) sponsor the "Teaching Clinical Pathology" session at the annual meeting (hosted this year by Pat McManus and Leslie Sharkey and covering how to train residents in non-clinical pathology training programs); (3) facilitate social and scientific interaction among trainees (such as hosting the Meet the Expert Reception where trainees meet speakers from the Education Symposium; this year's reception was coordinated by Armando Irizzary and Sue Tornquist with help from Betsy Welles); and (4) develop a website of training programs in clinical pathology (currently on the Education page of the ASVCP website). The list of training programs was last updated in 2000 and will be updated in 2002 by a yet to be identified member of the Education Committee. ASVCP members were asked to review the website and send any corrections or changes to a member of the Education Committee.

Veterinary Clinical Pathology Journal

Mary Christopher reported that submissions to the journal were up 18% last year (most journals expect to experience a 3% increase). The binding was changed because the average page number per issue has

increased from 36-40 pages to 56. This makes it a more archivable specimen. Mary requested feedback on the appearance of the journal. The journal will likely change to having a structure abstract next year.

The turnaround time for the journal is good thanks to the hard work by Sections Editors (Karen Young: Hematology/ Immunology; Rick Cowell: Cytology/ Surgical Pathology; Wally Hoffman: Clinical Chemistry; Patrick Cussick: Toxicology/ Laboratory Standards). Author revisions are requested to be returned in a timely manner. In press time is limited by the fact that the journal is published on a quarterly basis. In the future, *VCP* will only publish 1-2 "What's Your Diagnosis" articles per issue. One important reason for that change is that *VCP* will be reviewed by Medline in 2002 and Medline does not recognize the value of "What's Your Diagnosis" type articles. There is a current backlog of "What's Your Diagnosis" articles. Creative ways to deal with these articles may include publishing them on the website prior to publishing them in the journal.

The *VCP* website (www.vetclinpathjournal.org) is now available. A prototype of the website was sent to EB members and a few other people for input earlier this year. Changes were made based upon comments received. The website includes subscription information, advertising information, recent issues, and extensive index of authors and manuscripts. It does not have a search engine yet. The EB agreed on 12/1/01 to provide Mary with funds to hire someone to help work on the journal website. Mary asked for comments or suggestion from the membership on the website.

Wally Hoffman has retired as Section Editor. Asger Jensen has agreed to be the new Section Editor. As the journal moves toward electronic transfer of articles and paperwork, it should become easier to include colleagues who live farther away in the review process.

The plan is to make all abstracts available to everyone who visits the ASVCP website. The abstracts will include contact information on the authors as well as a link to a pdf of the full manuscript. Allen press currently makes the pdf files for a nominal fee. Full pdf files will be accessible only to ASVCP/ ESVCP members or journal subscribers for a period of 3 years. Pdf files on manuscripts older than 3 years will be accessible to anyone. All "What's Your Diagnosis" articles, editorials, and book reviews will be available to everyone. The pdf files are currently made using publication quality high resolution TIFF files. These are very large files that may be slow for some people to access. Mary will be working with Allen Press to save those files as some type of lower resolution files. She will also be looking at having full text available in html/ xml formats. There was extensive discussion from the floor about the advantages (e.g., increased subscriptions and revenue) and disadvantages (e.g., decreased visibility, inconvenience) of only allowing members/ subscribers access to the pdf files from recent full length manuscripts. The EB voted on 12/1/01 to have the manuscripts password protected for members and subscribers only for 3 years. *VCP* is listed and abstracts are available already via VIN (Veterinary Information Network). Mary will let VIN know that the *VCP* website is available.

Program Committee

Betsy Welles reported that the 2000 annual meeting survey was completed. The survey was overwhelmingly favorable for the concurrent meeting format. Responses were equivocal regarding wanting an afternoon free and wanting a resort vs. convention location. This year the ACVP chose to have Monday afternoon off. This would have forced the ASVCP to have an evening session so the Program Committee chose to forego the afternoon off. Betsy asked for any feedback about having an afternoon free next year.

Next year's topic for the Education Symposium will be hemoparasites. Speaker suggestions were requested. The proposed QA/QC workshop was discussed. The ACVP defines a workshop as a session held outside the regular meeting times that requires an additional charge. The ACVP was not in favor of offering the QA/QC as a workshop but did suggest offering it as a special interest session in the evening or offering it before the annual meeting. Input from the membership was requested.

The trainee-speaker reception was well attended with approximately 33 people taking part.

The issue of computer presentations will be discussed with the ACVP Standing Education Committee during the upcoming year. The main concern is cost. Betsy was not aware until the beginning of November that the ACVP was allowing computer presentations at the current meeting if people brought their own equipment.

NEW BUSINESS**Constitutional Amendment**

The proposed amendment addresses how the Constitution and Bylaws will be amended, changing the amending process to an all mail-in ballot versus the current combined mail-in ballot and vote at the annual meeting. All ASVCP members were sent via mail a ballot more than 30 days prior to the annual meeting. A paper ballot was distributed to meeting attendees. Those who previously voted by mail were asked to not vote again. Jeanne asked for any discussion from the floor prior to the actual voting. [Results of the voting were announced in Newsletter #4, 2001] This amendment will be the first of a series of amendments. An ad hoc committee consisting of Rose Raskin, Jan Krehbiel, Gary Kociba and Eric Schultze extensively reviewed the current Constitution and Bylaws during the past year and found numerous inconsistencies, duplications, etc. that need to be addressed in the future.

VCP Feedback

Mary Christopher asked attendees for informal feedback about whether to have the pdf files of manuscripts on the VCP website password protected for 3 years and how many would chose to only get the journal on line instead of receiving a hard copy. The majority did not want the website password protected and would want to receive an actual journal and not just on line manuscripts.

Executive Board Members

Jeanne introduced the Board members for the past year: Jenny Thomas (Secretary), Steve Gaunt (Treasurer), Eric Schultze (President-Elect), Bill Reagan (Second Year Board Member), Harold Tvedten (First Year Board Member). The Immediate Past-President was Claire Andreasen.

The newly elected members for the upcoming year were introduced: Sue Tornquist (First Year Board Member) and Sonjia Shelly (Treasurer).

Jeanne thanked Steve for his hard work during the past 4 years and presented to him a placque of appreciation. She introduced Eric as the new President for the upcoming year. Eric thanked Jeanne for her years of dedicated service and presented her with a placque of appreciation.

MOTION: The motion to adjourn was seconded and approved by a voice vote at 6:05PM.

Job Opportunities

Assistant or Associate Professor of Veterinary Clinical Pathology. The Department of Veterinary Pathology at Iowa State University has a tenure track, 12 months, full time appointment with a proposed starting date of July 1, 2002. The majority assignments of this position are to participate in clinical pathology services, teach professional and graduate student courses, and participate in independent or collaborative scholarly activities. The incumbent should have a record of training in diagnostic clinical pathology and excellent communication skills. Research focus areas within the department include: cellular and molecular pathology, infectious diseases relevant to foodborne pathogens and/or production animals, mucosal and innate immunity, protozoal pathogenesis and host response, and comparative clinical pathology. Research areas within the college include, but are not limited to: molecular virology, cellular immunology, and neuroscience. A strong collaborative environment is present on campus of Iowa State University, at the National Animal Disease Center, and the College of Medicine at the University of Iowa for scholarly activity in basic and applied research, and educational research. Required qualifications for an assistant professor include DVM (or equivalent) and Ph.D. degrees. Required qualifications for an associate professor include DVM (or equivalent) and Ph.D. degrees plus teaching and/or research experience resulting in substantial scholarship (examples include publications, peer recognitions, and grantsmanship). Board eligibility or board certification by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists is preferred. Salary is negotiable. To guarantee consideration, applications must be received by April 1, 2002. Interested applicants should submit a letter stating career goals, a curriculum vitae, and names and addresses of three references to: Dr. Claire Andreasen, Chair, Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-1250, Phone 515-294-0877; fax 515-294-5423; email candreas@iastate.edu

Training Opportunities

Residency/Graduate Training in Veterinary Clinical Pathology. The Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, Department of Veterinary Pathobiology at the University of Missouri is offering a residency/graduate training position in veterinary clinical pathology. The program is designed to fulfill training requirements and eligibility for board certification by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists. The laboratory is certified by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, with excellent diagnostic support in bacteriology, virology, serology, toxicology, and anatomical pathology. Training will emphasize interpretative skills in the areas of hematology, clinical chemistry, cytology and surgical pathology. The resident will provide consultation for the veterinary teaching hospital and referring clinicians, be involved in teaching of third and fourth year veterinary students and participate in rounds and seminars. A DVM or equivalent degree is prerequisite. Candidates should possess a strong academic record, evidence of interest and commitment to pathology, and must be able to

communicate with clients effectively. The trainee will be enrolled in graduate school and will pursue the MS degree in Veterinary Pathobiology. Typically, training is accomplished in 3 years. Some individuals continue research training leading to a PhD degree in the area of Pathobiology. The position is available immediately and is benefit eligible. The closing date will remain open until a suitable candidate is identified. Inquiries or applications (to include a letter of intent stating goals and interests, *curriculum vitae*, academic transcripts, GRE scores, and names of three references) should be addressed to the Chair of the Clinical Pathology Resident Search Committee, UMC Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, P.O. Box 6023, Columbia, MO 65205; phone 573-882-6811; FAX 573-884-7544; e-mail: hegstadg@missouri.edu. The University of Missouri is an Equal Opportunity—Affirmative Action Employer. To request ADA accommodations; please contact our ADA coordinator at 573-884-7278 (email at hensonl@missouri.edu).