



# NEWSLETTER

## AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

February 2007

Newsletter #1

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### Important Dates

April 15, 2007	Deadline to vote for change in Constitution and Bylaws
May 1 - July 1, 2007	Case Review Session Submission
May 1 - July 1, 2007	Clinical Chemistry Review Session Submission
June 1, 2007	Deadline for Scientific Abstract submission
Sept 25, 26, 27, 2007	ACVP Examination
November 10, 2007	Pre Conference Workshop for the Annual ASVCP/ACVP Meeting
November 10-14, 2007	Annual ASVCP/ACVP Meeting, Savannah, Georgia
November 11, 2007	ASVCP Annual Business Meeting, Savannah, Georgia

## President's Message

Spring (almost) Greetings, Colleagues!

I hope this newsletter finds you well and feeling in good financial standing (see last paragraph). I must admit that notification of the need for my contribution to this newsletter took me by surprise. It seems as if the Tucson meeting was just last week, but this may be because Fort Collins has been buried in snow for 60 days! It is time to report the continuing efforts of our Executive Board, Journal staff, and excellent committees and to look forward to our next meeting in Savannah, Georgia.

Speaking of our next meeting, there is important information in this newsletter regarding the program. Please see the initial call for scientific abstracts and for case review submissions. Also note that ASVCP is accepting submissions to the First Annual ASVCP Clinical Chemistry Review Session. Importantly, all submissions will be online, and the deadline will be the same for all types of presentations (June 1, 2007). Please also consider speaking at the ASVCP Session during the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum in the spring of 2008 (see Call for Speakers in this newsletter).

The Executive Board and the ASVCP committees have already been industrious in fulfilling their societal duties this year. The Executive Board is fleshing out a plan to conduct a Strategic Planning Process beginning this year. The goal of this project will be to clarify the Membership's vision for the future of the organization, its goals and to outline a plan to accomplish these goals. The ASVCP will officially participate in the next ACVP Pathologist Supply and Demand Survey to assess future employment demands for Clinical Pathologists. The committees continue their dedicated service to the ASVCP, and details of their progress can be seen in this issue of the newsletter. Notably, the Membership Committee has revamped our brochure, and has several outreach programs that are available to members. Also, the Program Committee, in collaboration with individual members and other committees, is working on another excellent program for our meeting in Georgia.

Donations to the ASVCP "Share the Future" fund will go a long way to enhancing the future of our society by funding trainee travel and eventually research and development. I have donated \$500 in 2007 to "prime the pump" and I would encourage you to contribute at any level.

Sincerely,

Christine Olver  
ASVCP President

## Call for Nominations for the 2007 ASVCP Election

The Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for three officers: First-Year Executive Board Member, President-elect and Treasurer. Nominees must be able to attend the ASVCP Executive Board meetings at the annual meeting and participate in telephone conferences and e-mail discussions.

The First Year Executive Board member participates in all decisions of the Executive Board, coordinates the annual Case Review Session, and serves as liaison to three standing committees. The term of service is two years, but traditionally the First Year Executive Board member continues on through to President-elect, President and Immediate Past-president. Thus, this is a 5 year commitment to the ASVCP. The President-elect serves on the Executive Board, coordinates the Scientific Session at the annual meeting, acts as liaison to several standing committees, 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. The Treasurer serves on the Executive Board, is the custodian of all properties of the Society, signs legal documents, receives all fees, dues, and contributions as well as pays all debts of the Society. The Treasurer also works with the Management Company to monitor income and expenses, prepares financial reports, and oversees new member applications. The term of service is 4 years.

To make nominations please contact the chair of the Nominations Committee:

Judy Radin  
Department of Veterinary Biosciences  
The Ohio State University  
1925 Coffey Road  
Columbus, OH 43210  
Email: [radin.1@osu.edu](mailto:radin.1@osu.edu)  
Phone: 614-292-4266  
Fax: 614-292-6473

## Call for Nominations for the ASVCP Lifetime Achievement Award

The Awards Nominating Committee is requesting nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award, to be presented at the annual ASVCP meeting in Savannah, GA, November 10-14, 2007. The ASVCP Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes members of the ASVCP who have contributed to the advancement of the field of veterinary clinical pathology through their research and teaching, and through their work on behalf of the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Nominations should include at least 5 letters of support from ASVCP members and rationale why this particular member is worthy of this award.

To make a nomination, please contact the chair of the nominating committee. The deadline for receipt of nomination materials is July 1, 2007:

Judy Radin  
Department of Veterinary Biosciences  
The Ohio State University  
1925 Coffey Road  
Columbus, OH 43210  
Email: [radin.1@osu.edu](mailto:radin.1@osu.edu)  
Phone: 614-292-4266  
Fax: 614-292-6473

## **Initial Call for 2007 ASVCP/ACVP Meeting Abstracts Clinical Pathology Scientific Sessions**

The Clinical Pathology Scientific Sessions were a resounding success in 2006—start planning now to submit your abstract for the 2007 meeting in lovely Savannah, Georgia.

The annual concurrent meeting of the ASVCP and the ACVP will be held November 10-14, 2007 in Savannah, Georgia. There will be a combined ASVCP/ACVP Clinical Pathology Scientific Session for everyone that has an interest in clinical pathology. This will be a great opportunity to present experimental or clinical research data to colleagues. Submissions from all aspects of the profession are encouraged, including academic, diagnostic, investigative, and toxicologic clinical pathology. The format will be similar to that of the 2006 annual meeting with 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, and trainees. Presenters are required to attend the meeting.

Now is the time for you to start planning your presentations! **The deadline for abstract submission is June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.** Online submission will be available through [www.asvcp.org](http://www.asvcp.org) later this spring. For questions or further information contact Holly Jordan at: [holly.l.jordan@gsk.com](mailto:holly.l.jordan@gsk.com) or (919) 483-4909.

## **ASVCP 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 attend 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 ineligible 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](http://www.asvcp.org)). Holly Jordan will coordinate the combined ASVCP/ ACVP Clinical Pathology Scientific Session of this meeting. Please direct your inquiries for this session to [holly.l.jordan@gsk.com](mailto:holly.l.jordan@gsk.com) or call (919) 483-4909.

## **Call for Annual ASVCP Case Review Session Submissions Call for Slides and Cases**

Submissions are requested for the 2007 ASVCP Case Review Session. Materials that may be submitted include hematology, cytology or surgical pathology slides, electron photomicrographs and interesting clinical chemistry or hematology cases. This is a popular and interactive opportunity to share cases and experiences among attendees.

### **Type of Material Requested**

Cases should be classic examples or unique or unusual representations of diseases, clinical cases, or research data with a clinical pathologic focus. Cases may represent any species. Stained, cover-slipped glass slides are preferred, but in certain cases, digital images will be considered. Surgical biopsies should be from lesions that would be examined cytologically and ideally the submission should include a cytologic preparation. Analytic problems that are associated with instrumentation, assay conditions, statistical analysis or specimen handling are also welcome; please consider the new ASVCP Clinical Chemistry Review Session for longer and/or more detailed presentations.

**Case Submission:****Materials Needed**

Eighty (80) glass slides are needed for each case. The submitter must check all glass slides to assure their quality. Please do not attach adhesive labels to the glass slides. If digital images are submitted, send only one image. For surgical biopsy cases, submit one glass slide and if the case is accepted, the submitter will supply 80 copies of the stained specimen. For clinical chemistry or hematology cases, laboratory data including reference intervals for your laboratory should be submitted.

**Electronic Submission and Printed Materials**

**Cases MUST be submitted using the online forms posted at the ASVCP website. (<http://www.asvcp.org>).** Two files will be submitted electronically:

- 1) The first file is the Case History to be distributed with data prior to the meeting and should include contributors, signalment, concise history and clinical findings. Please only include pertinent laboratory data and summarized this if possible. Reference intervals for the laboratory data must be provided. **The submitter is encouraged to also provide questions to be answered at the case review session.** It is hoped that these questions will inspire participants to review and investigate the data before the meeting.
- 2) The second file is the Case Summary, which has information to be distributed at the meeting and should include the information on the first file, plus diagnosis, discussion (including answers to the question that were provided) with images and references.

**Digital Images**

The submitter **MUST** also include 2-3 digital images as indicated on the Summary form. The images should be 1024 X 768 pixels in a JPEG format with compression set on high quality; images must clearly show cytologic features of the lesion. A figure legend should accompany the images. **Inclusion of digital images is required as part of the submission process.**

The goal of this session is to stimulate discussion. Presentation of common laboratory abnormalities that are not related to the case is unnecessary as is a lecture or literature review with each case.

**When and Where to Submit:**

The deadline for receipt of submission of ALL cases materials is **July 1, 2007**. Slides with a cover letter indicating CONTRIBUTOR NAME(S), INSTITUTION, SPECIMEN, and E-MAIL ADDRESS must be sent to the address given below and received by this date. Submitters will be notified of the results of the selection process by August 15, 2007. It is anticipated that approximately 20 cases will be selected for presentation, depending on the complexity of the cases. **Be sure to include your E-mail address with your submission.**

**Inquires and Case submission should be sent to:**

Dr. Joanne B. Messick  
Purdue University  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Comparative Pathobiology  
725 Harrison Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2027  
Phone: (765) 496-1748  
Fax: (765) 494-9830  
E-mail: [jmessic@purdue.edu](mailto:jmessic@purdue.edu)

## NEW THIS YEAR!!!

### Call for Submissions - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual ASVCP Clinical Chemistry Review Session

**Type of Materials Requested:**

Submissions are requested for the inaugural ASVCP Clinical Chemistry Review Session. Materials that may be submitted should focus on the interpretation of chemistry data, including but not limited to the routine serum chemistry panel. Ancillary clinical pathology and other data as needed for the presentation of the case is appropriate. Cases may represent any species and an interactive presentation style is encouraged. The cases should be challenging and solvable based on information provided. Results of toxicology studies, cases involving the interpretation of quality control materials or validation studies as well as individual clinical case presentations will be considered for this session.

**Case Submission:**

**Cases MUST be submitted using the online forms posted at the ASVCP website (<http://www.asvcp.org>).** Reference intervals for the laboratory data should be provided. Two files will be submitted. The first file is the Clinical Chemistry History to be distributed with data prior to the meeting and should include contributors, signalment, concise history and clinical findings. **The submitter is also encouraged to also provide questions to be answered at the case review session.** It is hoped that these questions will inspire participants to review and investigate the data before the meeting. The second file is the Clinical Chemistry Summary to be distributed at the meeting and should include the information on the first file, plus diagnosis, discussion (including answers to the questions that were provided) and references.

**When and Where to Submit:**

The deadline for submission of cases is **July 1, 2007**. Submitters will be notified of the results of the selection process by August 15, 2007. It is anticipated that 2-4 cases will be selected for presentation, depending on the complexity of the cases. **Be sure to include your E-mail address with your submission.**

**Inquires and Case submission should be sent to:**

Dr. Joanne B. Messick  
Purdue University  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Comparative Pathobiology  
725 Harrison Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2027  
Phone: (765) 496-1748  
Fax: (765) 494-9830  
E-mail: [jmessic@purdue.edu](mailto:jmessic@purdue.edu)

## Call for 2008 ACVIM Forum Speakers

The ASVCP arranges speakers for the ACVIM meeting each year. The speakers provide 8 hours of talks reflecting current knowledge and/or in-depth reviews of topics in veterinary clinical pathology. The 2008 ACVIM Forum will be held June 4 - 7, 2008 - San Antonio, TX. Please send suggestions for ASVCP speakers and topics for the 2008 ACVIM meeting to Melinda J. Wilkerson at [wilkerns@vet.k-state.edu](mailto:wilkerns@vet.k-state.edu).

## ASVCP Committee Updates

### Veterinary Laboratory Professionals Committee

With the arrival of 2007, the VLP committee has already begun working on the next annual meeting. It will be held at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center and the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa, Savannah, Georgia. It is scheduled for November 10-14, 2007. Since we took a good look at hematology analyzers at the 2006 meeting, we thought we should cover the chemistry analyzers this year. To this point we have Roche Diagnostics and Olympus each scheduled to give 1.5 hour presentations on their newest instruments. Dr. Schenck from Michigan State University has agreed to speak for 1.5 hours on the laboratory assessment of calcium disorders with an emphasis on ionized calcium.

Last year we omitted the Round Table discussions from our agenda. Afterwards we realized how much we valued those conversations and have included one in the 2007 schedule.

In other VLP news, the VLP listserver has been successfully moved from UC Davis to the University of Wisconsin.

--Submitted by Lisa Shipp

### **Program Committee**

Members: Bruce LeRoy (Chair), Holly Jordan (Executive Board liaison), Judy Radin, Sue Tornquist, Christine Olver, Joanne Messick, Sharon Dial, Denis Olexson, Kirsten Barnhart, Leslie Sharkey, Jan Andrews, Stephanie Corn.

The Program committee is busy planning another high-quality program for our November meeting in one of my favorite places, Savannah, Georgia. I am honored to have our meeting in one of Georgia's most entertaining and enjoyable cities and look forward to having our Society experience Southern hospitality and fun first-hand!

Before moving on to my update of how the Savannah meeting is shaping up, I would first like to thank my fellow committee members and Ms. Jane Shepherd from the Rees Group for all their help in assembling such an excellent meeting in Tucson. Being Program committee chair is a daunting proposition, but the support and contributions from the committee members really makes it a quite enjoyable endeavor. Additionally, the hard work and guidance that Jane provides in service to our Society simply cannot be overstated. Our committee is very grateful for her efforts to help us put on a national meeting we can all be proud of.

Currently, ongoing preparations for the Savannah meeting include a Pre-Meeting Workshop on clinical pathology of the laboratory rodent. I am grateful for the leadership roles that Kirsten Barnhart and Holly Jordan have taken in assembling an impressive lineup of highly qualified speakers in this topic, many of whom are members of our Society. Our Educational Symposium this year will focus on the molecular diagnosis of infectious disease. Jan Andrews is spearheading this symposium and has already obtained commitments from two widely-respected experts in this field, Ed Breitschwerdt from North Carolina State and Mike Lappin from Colorado State. I appreciate Jan's efforts towards finding excellent speakers for this topic. Similarly, other members of the committee are also working on presentations for the Clinical Pathology Specialty Group and Veterinary Laboratory Professionals sessions. Additionally, this year we will have a Mystery Clinical Chemistry case session that will be led by Joanne Messick. Further details about this new initiative are included in this newsletter. As always, our committee will continue striving to assemble a fun, educational meeting that includes cutting-edge topics in veterinary clinical pathology and appeals to as many members of our Society

as possible. We always appreciate specific topic or speaker recommendations from our membership, which can be emailed to [bleroy@vet.uga.edu](mailto:bleroy@vet.uga.edu).

In closing, the committee and I are dedicated to maintaining a high level of excellence for our annual meeting. I appreciate the support of all the committee members as we continue to work through the year, because assembling a successful meeting is truly a team effort.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce LeRoy, Chair, Program Committee

### **Membership Committee**

The Membership Committee has been working hard the past year, and I would like to extend a sincere thanks to all our members: Robin Allison, Mehrdad Ameri, Anne Barger, Alexander Biondo, Andrea Bohn, Rick De Francisco, Pete Fernandes, Laurie Heeb, Daniel Maciera, Luis Nunez-Ochoa, Fonzie Quance-Fitch, and Cheryl Swenson.

Among our recent accomplishments is the successful completion of updated ASVCP brochures, which have been printed in a light sage green. These brochures, along with our booth, will be sent to the SAVMA, to be held at North Carolina State University in March. Approximately 1600 students are participating, and they will find a brochure and membership application in their registration kits. In addition, Dr. Dennis DeNicola has generously agreed to use our "What is a Clinical Pathologist" power point presentation to promote the ASVCP at the beginning of his lecture to the SAVMA attendees. This presentation is available from our homepage for any of our members to use. If you are involved in a speaking engagement, to students or colleagues, and would like brochures to hand out, please contact the Rees Group to have some mailed to you. The brochure will hopefully soon be available online for download if you wish to print off a few for any reason.

Our student seminars continue to be a success. Student seminars can be sponsored up to \$150 to pay for food for students. Popular formats have included a Jeopardy-style quiz which the Membership committee can provide to you, or a clinical pathology topic of faculty choosing. The Jeopardy-style quizzes can be easily customized, or you can use one of the three versions generously donated by Anne Barger. Assistance in how to obtain donated prizes such as textbooks can also be provided by this committee. If interested in hosting a seminar, please contact me ([krimerp@uga.edu](mailto:krimerp@uga.edu)).

In an effort to increase contact with other veterinary groups, we are attempting to initiate mutually beneficial cooperation with other veterinary groups. As an example, we recently were able to have our website homepage added to the AAVLD organizational links page (<http://www.aavld.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=35761>) and we are pursuing

similar efforts with the North American Veterinary Technicians Association, Veterinary Cancer Society, and other groups. If you have ideas as to how to increase our membership by facilitating contact with other peer groups please let us know or join the committee! If you are a member of other groups and are willing and able to help set up or take down/ship our booth from meetings, please let us know. In particular, ASVCP members attending the VCS, AAVLD or ACVIM meetings are asked to assist in establishing our presence by assembling our booth, dismantling the booth, or arranging for shipment of the booth.

Other ongoing projects include the creation of a one-page hematology atlas, sponsored by Heska and created by Glade Weiser, personalized e-mailed letters of invitations to other research scientists and veterinarians, increased cooperation with VIN, and the dissemination of promotional materials to our members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula Krimer, Chair, Membership Committee

### **ASVCP Quality Assurance and Standards Committee**

The QA&S met by teleconference on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Ten new members joined the nine returning veterans. Kristen Friedrichs tirelessly chairs the committee and Joann Messick graciously represents the EB. We discussed our charge for 2007 and allocated responsibilities to the membership. In addition to revisions in the Guidelines, the immunoassay QC section will be expanded and blood typing QC will be added. We discussed potential topics for the 2009 Pre-meeting Workshop which will be hosted by our committee. Rebecca Davies, Jim Matthews and Shannon Pederson formed a subcommittee to address the topic of QC within private veterinary practices.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kirsten Friedrichs, Chair, Quality Assurance and Standards Committee

## **Cast Your Vote!!**

During a review of our Constitution and Bylaws, we discovered a conflict in the wording for life membership as a result of the change in our fiscal year to the current October 1-September 30th cycle. Life membership is granted at the annual business meeting. In the past, the annual business meeting occurred prior to the start of the fiscal year and exemption from dues started with the fiscal year on January 1. Under the current wording, this exemption would be delayed until October 1. The following change in the bylaws has been proposed so that the exemption for paying dues for a newly conferred Life Member can begin with the membership year, which still runs from January 1-

December 31. The proposed change is indicated in underlined italics. In article 2, section 1 of the bylaws:

*“Life members shall be exempt from payment of dues beginning the fiscal year after being granted life membership.”*

Will be changed to the following:

“Life members shall be exempt from payment of dues beginning the membership year after being granted life membership.”

If you would like to refer to the entire document in order to make your decision as to whether you wish to support the proposed amendment, a copy of our Constitution and Bylaws is available in the 2006 Membership Directory or from the ASVCP National Office (info@asvcp.org, phone 608-443-2479, Fax 608-443-2474, or by paper mail at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, Wisconsin 53718).

An electronic ballot will be available on the ASVCP website, www.asvcp.org. We ask that you complete the ballot below by March 31, 2007.

Thank you in advance for participating by completing and returning your ballot.

## Executive Board News

Hello to all. There are a few things of note since the last newsletter, and I'm sure that there will be more to come in the future. The Executive Board (EB) has had some very active correspondence, mostly by e-mail, but we also held our first teleconference of the year in January. Here are a few of the highlights that have emerged. Last December, we started discussing the need, interest, and feasibility of undergoing a Strategic Planning Process for the society. Discussions have continued, and the board has recently approved moving forward on this project. You will be hearing more about this in the near future. On another note, the ACVP is planning a second “ACVP Pathologist Supply and Demand Survey” to determine the continuing need for pathologists, and the ASVCP will officially participate in the survey.

Another new and exciting development that appears in an earlier section is the “First Annual ASVCP Clinical Chemistry Review Session,” which will be held next November during the ASVCP/ACVP Annual Meeting in Savannah. If any of you have an interesting chemistry case that you feel warrants good, invigorating discussion, please consider submitting it. You can find more information on page 7 of this newsletter.

Also for the upcoming meeting, we are planning on offering a certain number of Travel Grants and are in the process of finalizing the application process. Much more information will be available in the next newsletter and on the listserv. Stay tuned!

As a reminder, members of the society need to vote on a change in the Constitution and Bylaws, which is described in more detail in the previous section on page 11 under "Cast Your Vote!!" This will be available electronically very shortly.

On a final note, a big change occurred on February 1, 2007 when the Rees Group took over management of the ASVCP and VLP listserves. John Hoffman is the new List Manager, and if there are any questions about the listserve, you can contact him at [jhofmann@asvcp.org](mailto:jhofmann@asvcp.org). Although many of us already have, we should all give Mike Scott a **HUGE THANK YOU** for all his hard work and dedication to the listserve while under his custody.

### New members

We have voted to accept the membership applications of Audrey Baldessari, Kimberly Caruso, Pierre Hebert, Louis David Hopper, Bryan Noble, José Antonio Ruiz Remolina, Kenneth Schafer, Graham Stock, Dilini Thilakarathne, Kristen Todhunter, Dana B Walker, and Susan Wojcik.

A hearty welcome to our newest members!

Please see the minutes of the 2006 Executive Board Meeting and of the 2006 Annual Business Meeting, which follow, for more information regarding Executive Board actions and Society business.

## 2006 Executive Board Meeting Minutes

December 1-2, 2006, Tucson, Arizona

**Present:** President Judy Radin, President-elect Christine Olver, Immediate Past-president Sue Tornquist, Secretary Marlyn Whitney, Treasurer Sonjia Shelly, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Executive Board Member Melinda Wilkerson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Executive Board Member Holly Jordan, Incoming 1<sup>st</sup> Year Executive Board Member Joanne Messick, Incoming Secretary Karen Russell, Executive Director Susan Rees.

### Call to Order

President Judy Radin called the meeting to order at 2:47 pm MST on December 1, 2006.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Year Executive Board Member's Report – Melinda Wilkerson

M. Wilkerson reported that the case review session process went well. For the first time, no 2x2 slides were accepted; digital images were required. An electronic submission form with a standardized format worked well for most submitters, though a few did not follow it. For the first time, the submission form contained a copyright statement. All submitters signed it without any apparent concerns. Despite the fact that submission of a CD was requested, few were sent. Some submissions contained large files, which caused such submissions to be "bounced". Those submitters that sent CDs eliminated this problem. Those that had trouble sending large files via email were asked to upload them to an FTP site. J. Messick suggested that in future years submitters should be advised to expect confirmation of the submission within a specified time, and to call if confirmation has not been received by that time. S. Rees indicated that TRG would like to become host for the ASVCP website, which would solve many electronic submission problems. Because 35 cases were submitted for 20 places, some cases had to be rejected. A rubric devised by C. Olver during her service as 1<sup>st</sup> Year EB Member was used, but accept/reject decision making was still somewhat difficult. M. Wilkerson recommended that sets be mailed in October for 2007.

She brought 100 CDs containing the cases and answers to the meeting. Extra CDs are still given away free. All 80 slide sets were sold, 56 within the US and 24 to International locations. The slide set order form should be available in other places in addition to the one in the August newsletter. M. Wilkerson asked if the EB had any concerns about senior pathologists submitting cases vs. submissions by trainees. No concerns were expressed. J. Radin wondered if the case discussion session allows sufficient time for discussion of chemistry cases and suggested we consider adding an additional session to the conference for in-depth discussion of chemistry cases. During discussion it was generally agreed that such a session would have to occur in the evening, would need to be approximately 2 hours long, and would need to be limited to 2-3 cases that were circulated ahead of time. C. Olver suggested some food be available. It was agreed that scheduling conflicts with important ACVP functions must be avoided. A slot concurrent with the neuropathology mystery slide session was suggested as a possibility. J. Radin suggested that the same person should be able to handle plans for the regular case review session and the putative new chemistry case discussion session. She recommended that J. Messick discuss scheduling issues with Jane Shepard of TRG as well as with the Program Committee, look at possible costs, and see if such a session is feasible. If so, it could possibly be instituted in 2007 or 2008.

**ACTION ITEM:** J. Messick will explore the feasibility of a Clinical Chemistry Case Discussion session for the annual meeting.

S. Shelly asked if there were outstanding expenses for the 2006 Case Review session and M. Wilkerson replied that there was approximately \$1,200 of outstanding expenses, mostly for CDs and shipping costs.

As Liaison to the Quality Assurance and Standards Committee, M. Wilkerson reported that the committee worked very hard on the ASVCP Pre-meeting workshop and that they are continuing to work on standardized guidelines for laboratory testing procedures. As Liaison to the Regulatory Affairs Committee, she reported that that committee has a teleconference each month and that they have continued working with STP (Society of Toxicologic Pathology) on various matters. As Liaison to the Education Committee, she reported that that committee has put together residency training guidelines for hematology and that they continue to work on other training guidelines. She reminded the EB of a proposal the Education Committee has written for an Education Award. J. Radin indicated that the proposal would be discussed later.

#### **President-elect's Report – Christine Olver**

C. Olver said that the feedback she solicited from the 2005 meeting in Boston was generally positive. There were some unfavorable comments regarding the half-day of free time that has been worked into the schedule. S. Tornquist reminded the EB that a survey of the membership was conducted before instituting the half-day off, with an approximate 50/50 split of those in favor vs. those against, and with the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals being mostly very much in favor of it. C. Olver suggested repeating the survey now that the policy has been tried for 2 years, and got general support from the EB for doing this.

C. Olver brought up the issue of coordination of the clinical pathology session of the ACVIM Forum. She reminded us that the sessions should have a general theme, should be cutting-edge, and should be small animal oriented. She feels it is a problem that the clinical pathology session overlaps with some of the clinical studies presentations, but we cannot do anything about this. She feels the 2006 sessions went well. Few evaluations were returned, but they were good. She mentioned that ACVIM has a time-line that should be closely adhered to in planning the sessions. The approval of the ACVIM Program Chair should be sought prior to confirming suggested speakers and topics.

As Liaison to the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals Committee, C. Olver reported that that committee did its usual good job. As liaison to the Electronic Communication and Technology Committee, she reported that that committee continues to struggle to determine and achieve its purpose and objectives. They seem unaware that they should identify projects for themselves as well as helping other committees who need their expertise. Communication problems between the committee and the EB continue, with some fault to be placed on both sides. J. Messick pointed out that the ECT Committee needs to seek approval of its Charter, which will better define its role.

**ACTION ITEM:** H. Jordan will contact the ECT Committee and instigate a meeting with them for the purpose of defining what the committee should do. They will be asked to submit a charter.

**ACTION ITEM:** C. Olver will write charges for the ETC Committee ASAP.

Management of the ASVCP Listserv is to be transferred to TRG. The ECT Committee was asked to identify a Listserv moderator to oversee content and make sure policy is followed, but none has been named as of yet. It was suggested that this request be repeated. C. Olver has been moderating messages in the meantime and is willing to continue until a moderator is found. S. Shelly pointed out that the moderator does not necessarily need to be a pathologist. It could be, for example, a non-pathologist member of the VLP group. S. Rees reported that she has been unable to contact Listserv Manager Mike Scott in order to get the information needed to transfer management of the Listserv to TRG. She will continue her efforts. There was some discussion of the advisability of establishing a Publications Committee that could provide oversight of both the Listserv and the website. J. Radin said that the website should be regularly reviewed and updated, and new content should be created. A timetable for updates needs to be created and followed. S. Rees suggested adding podcasts, blogs, and other items. It would be very appropriate for the ECT Committee to assist in this. The ECT Committee should have members who serve as contacts for each of the other standing committees. It was generally agreed that the Secretary can serve as an effective gatekeeper for website content. The "Duties of the Secretary" document needs to be revised to include a timeline for reviewing and updating the website, as well as other tasks necessary to maintain it.

**ACTION ITEM:** New Secretary Karen Russell will develop a timeline for her use in monitoring the website and seeing to it that necessary updates are done.

C. Olver mentioned that the President-elect is Chair of ASVCP Scientific Sessions 1 and 2 and should follow a timeline in planning the program.

**ACTION ITEM:** C. Olver will send H. Jordan a timeline for planning ASVCP Scientific Sessions 1 and 2.

#### **Immediate Past-president's Report – Sue Tornquist**

S. Tornquist reminded us that the Immediate Past-president is responsible for nominating new officers and serves as Chair of other nominating committees. She reminded that both a new 1<sup>st</sup> Year EB Member and a new Treasurer will need to be elected in 2007. Her nominating committee for the 2006 election was made up of Eric Schultze, Anne Barger and Dave Fischer. They nominated 2 candidates for 1<sup>st</sup> Year EB Member and 2 for Secretary. She reported that 13 competitors submitted papers for this year's Young Investigator Award (YIA). For judges, she appointed Tracy Stokol, Armando Irizarry and Sharon Dial. The presentations were divided among the 2 ASVCP scientific sessions. The winner will be announced at the beginning of the Case Review session. C. Olver suggested that there needs to be a means of confirming to the manuscript submitter that he or she has been entered into the YIA competition.

S. Tornquist reported that her nominating committee for the Lifetime Achievement Award (LAA) was Rose Raskin, Doug Weiss and Pete MacWilliams. The committee received 4 nominations for the award, and the required letters of recommendation were received for 3 of the nominees. Maxine Benjamin was selected as the recipient. She will attend the meeting and accept the award; she has declined the \$750 for expenses. Mary Anna Thrall will give a presentation on Dr. Benjamin's accomplishments. Information regarding the 2 candidates that were not selected will be passed on to J. Radin for use next year.

S. Tornquist suggested that C. Olver approach someone in the DACC (Division of Animal Clinical Chemistry of the American Association of Clinical Chemists) to see if they are interested in holding a meeting in conjunction with our meeting in Savannah in 2007. J. Messick reminded her that, if the DACC is interested, they will need to have someone from their organization work with the ASVCP Program Committee to make sure that our program has content that will appeal to them. S. Tornquist said that action should be taken in a timely manner so that a room block and meeting room can be scheduled if the DACC should desire to meet in conjunction with us.

**ACTION ITEM:** C. Olver will contact someone in the DACC to determine if they would like to hold a meeting in conjunction with our meeting in Savannah in 2007.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Sonjia Shelly**

S. Shelly listed new applicants for membership: Karen Jackson, Roberto Guzman, Benito Soto Bianco, Tricia M. Bisby, Sara Connolly, Amy Miller, Kari Velguth, Matthew Lee Williams and Marjorie J. Williams.

**MOTION:** S. Shelly moved that the new members be approved. M. Whitney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

S. Shelly discussed the balance sheets, which had been previously distributed to the EB. The Society took in approximately \$40,000 more than anticipated, averting an anticipated financial shortfall. The increased income was mostly due to increased membership numbers and increased corporate contributions. In addition, publication of the journal did not cost as much as expected, partly due to the fact that no supplemental abstract issue was published this year. During a previous teleconference, the EB considered whether a larger proportion of our membership dues should be allocated to the journal subscription. S. Shelly reported that she discussed this with journal Editor-in-Chief Mary Christopher, who feels it costs approximately \$65/member/year to publish the journal. S. Shelly thinks it is probably closer to \$75/member. M. Christopher does not expect page numbers for the journal to be substantially higher for 2007 than they were for 2006. S. Shelly indicated that Nick Carmichael (ESVCP Treasurer) mentioned at one of the ESVCP meetings that their membership should expect their journal subscription rate to go up, so they should be prepared for the increase.

**MOTION:** M. Whitney moved that the amount of dues allocated for the journal subscription be increased from the current \$45 to \$65 for both ASVCP and ESVCP members. M. Wilkerson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Radin asked S. Shelly to go over the proposed budget for 2007 and to address how good the committees were about getting their budgets submitted. S. Shelly indicated that she had not received any committee budget requests, but had just projected committee budgets based on the 2006 amounts. J. Radin suggested that the committee budget submission process should occur in August, to facilitate having as accurate a projected overall

budget as possible by the time of the EB meeting. S. Shelly suggested that one problem with this plan is that the committees often make their budget projections when they meet during the annual conference to make plans for the coming year. J. Radin said we should work toward having each committee chair include in his or her report at the annual EB meeting include a synopsis of what they did during the past year, what they spent doing it, and what they want in their budget for the coming year. It was decided that the committees need a form to use in making their budget reports/requests.

**ACTION ITEM:** S. Shelly will develop a form that the committees will use to make their budget reports.

H. Jordan asked S. Shelly if the journal budget projection still seems accurate, and S. Shelly indicated that it does. S. Shelly recommended that the budget not be approved until after the joint meeting of the committee chairs. Also, Mary Christopher is considering changing to a different publishing company for the journal, and this may affect the projected journal costs. It was decided that budget approval should be postponed until the January 2007 EB teleconference.

#### **ACVP Council Liaison's Report – Bob Hall**

ACVP Council Liaison Bob Hall arrived to update the EB on matters that concern the Society. He brought up the previously expressed desire of the European College of Veterinary Pathology (ECVP) to hold joint meetings with the ACVP in the future. While little progress has been made regarding this proposal thus far, ACVP Council wishes to ensure that the needs of ASVCP are considered in their deliberations. The ECVP President will meet with Council on December 4 and there may be more news on the issue after that. Carl Alden will be the new Editor of *Veterinary Pathology*. The ACVP Strategic Plan will have some effects on the certifying examination and on training programs. There is an ACVP Task Force on Training Programs that is headed by Linda Munson, and ASVCP should seek involvement in that. J. Radin suggested that the task force should liaison with our Education Committee. B. Hall also said that ACVP has a Strategic Partnership Task Force which will be looking at the ACVP/ASVCP/STP partnership as a model for other possible partnerships. He said there is also a Complementary Resources Task Force that will be concerned with the training of para-professionals that we should be aware of. He suggested that the ASVCP relationship with VLP could be used as a model. The ASVCP should have input into all of these task forces. B. Hall indicated that L. Munson will put out a list of the various task

forces and their members sometime following the conference. B. Hall asked that the EB include Mary Anna Thrall (ACVP President-elect) on all communications during the coming year.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Year Executive Board Member's Report – Holly Jordan**

H. Jordan reported that speakers are lined up for the 2007 ACVIM Forum. She said that ACVIM asked that each speaker present for at least 2 hours.

H. Jordan reported that Committee Chair Paula Krimer has worked hard with her Membership Committee and that some new ideas have been generated. She said that the Program Committee has suggested laboratory animal clinical pathology as a topic for our 2007 meeting. She reported that the Mike Fry and his Development Committee have been very successful; they had consistent meetings and got many contributions. S. Shelly interjected that the Development Committee got \$35,000 of contributions for 2006, which really helped the financial situation of the Society. She also said that TRG was instrumental in assisting the Development Committee with its endeavors.

### **Secretary's Report – Marlyn Whitney**

M. Whitney reported that the year went relatively smoothly. She re-visited the topic of a need to keep the website better updated and said that having the Secretary develop a timeline for this should be a great help. There was general agreement that the Secretary is an appropriate gatekeeper for items to be posted on the website. It was agreed that it would be appropriate to add items of historical interest to the website, and suggested that the President might consider issuing charges to the Historian related to this. M. Whitney asked about progress on the brochure that the Membership Committee was working on and it was realized that we need to make sure that the suggested changes have been made and then approve the brochure.

The meeting was adjourned for dinner at 6:30 pm.

Following dinner, there was an informal brainstorming session. S. Rees noted that the ACVP will be conducting a survey of "need vs. supply" of veterinary pathologists, which will update a similar survey which was done several years ago. ACVP wants ASVCP input on the survey questions, and may expect ASVCP to contribute towards the cost of the survey, which will be approximately \$20,000. There was some discussion of how the survey might help ASVCP. It may be well to try to determine if there is a shortage of technologists in the veterinary pathology and clinical pathology areas. C. Olver asked if the Society should consider funding research related to assay development, as there are few other sources of such funding. S. Shelly suggested that the ASVCP should have a Strategic Planning Committee to develop a Strategic Plan similar to that of the ACVP. S. Rees indicated that the ACVP Strategic Plan has been extremely successful and has been used as a model for other organizations. She indicated that development of a good plan requires someone from outside the organization to help guide the process, preferably a planning professional. This will cost money, but as in the case of ACVP, can provide benefits that offset the costs.

The meeting was adjourned for the evening at approximately 8 pm MST.

The meeting was re-convened at 8:16 am MST on December 2, 2006.

### **President's Report**

J. Radin summarized the EB's activities over the past year and mentioned that issues still needing consideration include possible revisions to policy regarding Life Member status. She pointed out that our Constitution and Bylaws do not define retirement very closely. She suggested leaving the Constitution itself alone, but to offer an interpretation of retirement and Life Member status that is separate and which can be posted to the ASVCP website and/or sent via letter to members applying for Life Member status. This is similar to the approach that the ACVP has taken in conferring its "Emeritus Member" status. J. Radin suggested an interpretation statement as follows: "Lifetime membership is available to members who have retired from their professional activities and have been a member in good standing of the society for a minimum of 20 consecutive years. The Executive board interprets Lifetime membership to be appropriate for those members who have retired from the practice of clinical pathology/laboratory medicine and are no longer earning a living, performing the tasks or receiving compensation for pathology or laboratory medicine related activities. Retirement may have many varied meanings, and it is possible for an individual to retire from a career at one institution and work in another or continue to consult. The Executive Board does not consider such individuals to be retired for the purposes of Lifetime Membership."

Applicants for Life Member status would be asked by the Treasurer to submit a signed statement confirming that they meet the interpretation.

**MOTION:** S. Tornquist moved to accept J. Radin's definition of lifetime membership. M. Whitney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Radin said that the Bylaws should be amended. The Bylaws state that Life Member status is to be granted at the next annual business meeting following application, and that members granted Life Member status, "shall be exempt from payment of dues beginning the *fiscal* year after being granted life membership" (italics indicates problematic language). Because the fiscal year has recently been changed to begin on October 1 rather than January 1, the successful Life Member applicant would still need to pay dues for an additional year. So that applicants approved for Life Member status at the annual meeting can benefit from the dues waiver at the beginning of the next dues cycle (January 1), J. Radin suggested that the Bylaws be amended to read (italics reflects change), "shall be exempt from payment of dues beginning the *membership* year after being granted life membership." An amendment to the Bylaws being deemed necessary, 3 members of the EB signed a proposal that the amendment be made. As required by the Constitution, members will be notified of the proposed amendment, be given time to participate in discussion, and then the amendment will be voted on by the membership sometime early in 2007. C. Olver wondered if the ASVCP should consider requiring Life Members to pay for the journal (*Veterinary Clinical Pathology*) subscription, much as ACVP requires its Emeritus Members to pay for an optional subscription to *Veterinary Pathology*. J. Radin pointed out that this would require an amendment to our Constitution. S. Rees stated that some Life Members have requested that they no longer be sent the journal, as they no longer read it. M. Whitney suggested that the letter giving the interpretation of what constitutes requirements for life membership could also state that the subscription to the journal for Life Members will be in electronic form unless the Life Member elects to also receive paper copies at the current member rate.

**ACTION ITEM:** S. Shelly will send a letter to applicants for Life Member status stating the requirements and asking for confirmation that they are met.

**ACTION ITEM:** J. Radin will send the text of the approved interpretation statement to S. Shelly for use in the letter.

J. Radin next brought up the issue of on-line membership renewal. Currently, members can access a renewal form online and print it out, but cannot complete renewal electronically. S. Rees explained that, in order to allow online-renewal, TRG can become the host for the ASVCP website. Then the member database can be moved online to the "Members Only" section of the ASVCP website. The Society will need to obtain a security certificate costing approximately \$180 per year. There also will be a \$150 one-time fee to establish a merchant account. There also will be an approximately \$20/month gateway fee and a transaction charge for each electronic renewal. It will cost approximately \$0.60 for each electronic membership renewal to cover the gateway and transaction fees. If a decision is made to transfer web hosting to TRG and arrange for on-line renewal, it will take approximately 3 months to get everything in place. Thus, it will not affect 2007 renewals, which will continue to be done in the current manner. S. Tornquist asked how the ASVCP's relationship with VIN (Veterinary Information Network, which currently houses the member database) would be affected by the above actions. S. Rees suggested that the relationship should not be altered, except that separate unique member passwords might be needed for the "Members Only" section of our website as well as for VIN. Since TRG also manages ACVP, renewal of ACVP and ASVCP memberships could be linked. Further discussion was postponed until the portion of the EB meeting intended to decide whether TRG will become the host for the ASVCP website.

S. Tornquist reminded the EB that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding cost-sharing between ACVP and ASVCP for the annual conference will come up for renewal in 2008, when H. Jordan will be President. J. Radin recommended continuing quarterly EB teleconferences.

#### **Quality Assurance and Standards Committee Report – Melinda Wilkerson in place of Committee Chair Kristen Friedrichs**

Kristen Friedrichs being unable to attend the meeting, M. Wilkerson, committee liaison, gave a report. She said that 18 members have expressed interest in being on the committee. The committee met 2 times by teleconference during the year. Most committee action was focused on the 2006 ASVCP Pre-meeting Workshop,

which was produced by the QAS Committee and has approximately 70 attendees. They also worked on QC guidelines for posting to the ASVCP website. The committee plans to produce a booklet containing all the QC guidelines, once they have all been completed. They, working with the Development Committee, will seek sponsorship to produce the booklet. Currently work is being done on guidelines for exotic species, as well as guidelines for fecal analysis, immunoassays, blood typing, and other procedures. The committee also worked on formulating ideas for future pre-meeting workshops. They plan to write a newsletter article relating to QAS. They also want to promote the use of good QC measures in private veterinary practices. They have proposed a budget of approximately \$500 for 2007, for teleconferencing, food for a meeting at the annual conference, etc. Although there were some complications regarding travel allotments for this year's Pre-meeting workshop speaker, overall costs remained within allowable limits. J. Radin said that the Program Committee plans to produce the 2007 ASVCP Pre-meeting Workshop, with a tentative topic of rodent biochemistry. The Regulatory Affairs Committee needs to be informed that it will be responsible for the Pre-meeting Workshop in 2008, and the QAS Committee will likely be responsible again in 2009. S. Rees brought up the problem that some PMWS registrants could not get to the workshop due to weather-related travel problems, and asked if their registration fees should be refunded. It was decided to ask ACVP what their refund policy is regarding workshops, and to formulate a similar policy.

#### **Development Committee Report – Committee Chair Mike Fry**

M. Fry gave a summary of giving thus far for 2006. At least one corporate pledge from past years was not renewed for 2006 and at least one corporate pledge is still outstanding; these will be followed up on. The committee plans to expand the Share the Future (STF) Campaign, originally designed mainly for individual giving, to incorporate some corporate giving as well. Shering Plough gave \$1,000 to the STF campaign that was intended to stimulate employee giving. The committee will try to identify a sponsor for the case review session; the sponsor's name can be put on the CDs and other recognition can be given. He asked everyone on the EB to

use their contacts to solicit support for relevant projects. The STF Campaign income is intended mainly to support meeting travel for veterinary students and residents, small research grants, and funding for student pathology club and SAVMA speakers. A pot of approximately \$12,000 per year is needed to support what the committee would like for the funds to do. S. Radin cautioned that corporate giving to the STF campaign should not be promoted to the point where it decreases the amount corporations donate toward the Society's general funds. M. Fry pointed out that any giving can be earmarked and that contributions are tax-deductible. C. Olver proposed having a road race as a fund-raiser at the 2007 conference.

**ACTION ITEM:** C. Olver will check with Jane Shepard, meeting planner at TRG, to see if there will be a suitable area for a running race at the 2007 meeting venue in Savannah.

S. Rees suggested having a fund-raising dinner at Paula Deen's restaurant in Savannah. H. Jordan asked if it will be possible to fund some activities for 2007 to make the benefits of the STF campaign more visible, and much discussion ensued, with many recommendations and suggestions voiced. It was suggested that perhaps one travel scholarship, one research grant, one pathology club speaker and one SAVMA speaker could be funded for 2007. J. Radin iterated that a review process will need to be devised if a research grant is to be awarded and suggested that only the other activities be awarded for 2007. J. Radin asked M. Fry's opinion as to who should devise the criteria for the various grants. S. Rees suggested that travel grants should be given to those with posters or presentations at the meeting and that entry into competition for such grants should be part of the abstract submission process by way of a click box on the submission form. M. Fry suggested two criteria: need and the quality of the presentation. The EB will need to come up with a process for selecting awardees. S. Tornquist suggested that there could be a lottery among all who will present. M. Fry wondered if submitters could be asked if they get any institutional support to attend meetings. J. Radin said there needs to be a committee to review the scientific merit of submitted abstracts. It was suggested that the abstract and case selection process already accomplishes that end. S. Tornquist recommended a lottery among those presenters with a need for financial support. J. Radin proposed funding 1 case presenter and one submitter of either a poster or platform presentation, and suggested that the President-elect and 1<sup>st</sup> Year EB member could review need and make the selection. M. Fry suggested funding 4 travel grants of \$500 each. He said the Development Committee can work on ways to support the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals. J. Radin suggested that the VLP Committee should come up with ways in which the STF funds could support them. Perhaps one travel grant could be designated to support travel for a resident presenting in the VLP program. A total of 4 travel grants, 2 to support travel for case

presenters and 2 to support presenters in the scientific program could be awarded to residents. Criteria for awards will need to be published along with the calls for submission of abstracts and cases. S. Shelly suggested a 5<sup>th</sup> grant to support the VLP, allowing the VLP to come up with criteria for the award. J. Radin suggested that travel for technologists should be added to the objectives for use of STF funds. M. Fry suggested that, in order to maintain focus objectives should not be added to the STF campaign. He suggested that VLP support should come from general funds, and that the VLP should devise a fundraiser to provide funds for support. Ultimately, no firm decisions were made.

#### **Regulatory Affairs Committee Report – Denise Bounous in place of Committee Chair Laura Boone**

L. Boone was unable to attend the conference and sent D. Bounous, committee member, to give the committee report. D. Bounous indicated that much was accomplished over the year in cooperation with the STP. She said that a draft document on hepatotoxicity assessment written in response to the EMEA (European Medicines Association, somewhat analogous to the FDA in the US) will be ready at the end of the year. A collaborative effort to write recommendations on bone marrow evaluation in pre-clinical studies is planned. Jeff McCartney will lead that effort, which will include both anatomic and clinical pathologists. Ellen Evans is preparing a draft paper on indicators of immunotoxicity. Following EB review, the immunotoxicity manuscript will be submitted for publication in *Toxicologic Pathology*. D. Bounous indicated that she, J. McCartney, Pat Cusick, Anne Provencher-Bolliger and others will devise an on-line questionnaire regarding how those involved in pre-clinical and safety studies evaluate and report the clinical pathology data. The responses will be used to draft a best-practices document and will eventually be a publication. This project will most likely not be completed until sometime in 2007. The resulting manuscript will be published in an as-yet un-chosen journal. Anne Provencher-Bolliger was mentioned as an excellent contact between the RAC and the ESVCP/ECVCP. The committee did well on meeting most of its 2006 charges. It did not produce a newsletter article, due to focus on other matters considered more pressing. C. Olver reminded D. Bounous that the committee should start working on the 2008 Pre-meeting Workshop (PMWS) now,

and recommended that the committee communicate with the Program Committee to have some input on the 2007 rodent-oriented PMWS. The committee proposes a budget of \$500 for 2007. Discussion turned to EB approval of the response that the RAC (in conjunction with the STP and others) wrote in response to the EMEA document on hepatotoxicity. J. Radin suggested some minor changes to the text.

**MOTION:** C. Olver moved to accept the EMEA response as presented by Laura Boone. S. Tornquist seconded. Following some discussion, the motion was withdrawn. The EB members will send comments to M. Wilkerson, who will forward them to L. Boone, who will revise the response. Then it will be approved by the EB.

#### **The Rees Group Report – Susan Rees, ASVCP Executive Director**

S. Rees reported that TRG worked closely with the Treasurer, the Development and Program Committees, and the Journal Editor. The Share the Future appeal that was included with an issue of *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* got a good response. Electronic voting was a success, doubling the rate of voting over recent years. Issues with the US Postal Service in Madison have still not been resolved, so mailing the journal at bulk prices still has not been achieved. A recent change of personnel at the PO may help, as may changes in personnel at Allen Press. The request for bulk rate mailing will be resubmitted in 2007.

The issue of contract renewal was brought forward. The new contract will include journal-related duties, such as handling institutional and individual subscriptions. Membership in the Society has increased, increasing management costs somewhat. Working with the Development Committee has brought benefits. S. Rees asked if the ASVCP contract should be in sync with the ACVP contract (5 year cycle of approval), and there was agreement that this is desirable. The contract incorporates a 2.5% increase in fees per year. New projects requiring a significant increase in work can be added to the contract at any time. Website support can be put into the contract with no significant increase in contracted costs. There will be some hard costs, which will come out of ASVCP operating funds. S. Rees will continue as Executive Director if the contract is renewed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon, for a luncheon meeting with ACVP Council, and resumed at approximately 12:45 pm MST.

**Program Committee Report – Bruce LeRoy, Committee Chair**

B. LeRoy was asked how helpful he thinks it is to the Pre-meeting Workshop (PMWS) presenter(s) for members to submit questions for discussion prior to the workshops. No firm conclusion was reached. B. LeRoy reported that K. Friedrichs did an excellent job in putting the 2006 PMWS together, with the help of Kirstin Barnhart as liaison between the Program Committee and the QAS Committee on the project. The focus for the clinical pathology program of the 2007 conference will be the molecular diagnosis of infectious disease, and there will be close interaction with the ASVP Program Committee on this. The VLP did a good job with their 2006 program, as usual. Suggested meeting topics passed along to ACVP include “dancing with journals”, and tumor tissue banking. B. LeRoy suggested putting a synopsis of what the Program Committee does on the website, as a guide to current and potential committee members. J. Radin supported the idea of establishing an SOP for the Program Committee and suggested descriptions of all standing committees be placed on the website. B. LeRoy thanked J. Shepard of TRG for her vital help in meeting organization. J. Radin informed B. LeRoy regarding a possible joint meeting of the ACVP/ECVP in the future and asked him to have his committee comment on the effects this will have on the ASVCP meeting.

**Education Committee Report – Leslie Sharkey, Committee Chair and Sharon Dial, Incoming Chair**

L. Sharkey brought up the issue of the Education Award proposal that her committee devised and submitted for EB consideration. All ASVCP members will be eligible for nomination for the award. Changes previously suggested by the EB have been made. She said that she and S. Dial will write an SOP for choosing awardees and will advertise the award. She said the Development Committee has suggested some possible sponsors for the award, which will be relatively small. It was decided that the Education Committee will make the final decision on awardees and then notify the EB for final approval. The Education Committee will also determine an appropriate place in the conference schedule to present the award.

L. Sharkey indicated that IDEXX would prefer to be the entity that issues invitations to the IDEXX-sponsored Trainee Reception. Discussion centered on the need to keep the reception focused on the opportunity for trainees

to interact with the major ASVCP conference speakers, which was the event's original intent. Recruitment is permitted, but the Education Committee should issue the invitations to the trainees via the TRG. IDEXX can include an insert if they desire, and can bring company literature to the reception.

The Education Committee continues to work on training guidelines. There was some discussion as to whether it is desirable to write guidelines for general pathology. J. Messick suggested that ACVP Council be approached to see if they have objections to our Education Committee writing guidelines for training in general pathology. L. Sharkey suggested that the guidelines could be written as training guidelines for mechanisms of disease, and the EB agreed with this approach. The training guidelines will not be focused entirely on board preparation. K. Russell mentioned that there is an ACVP Training Coordinator. J. Messick asked if we should ask for input from anatomic and toxicologic pathologists in our guidelines. Several potential advisors were mentioned. No firm decisions were made.

**ACTION ITEM:** L. Sharkey will communicate the EB's opinions regarding the trainee reception to Roberta Relford of IDEXX.

**Additional Discussion of Management Group and Other Issues** (S. Rees asked to step out prior to motions) S. Rees said that “Academic OneFile”, a newly-created index of academic journals, wants to add *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* to its list of journals and she was asked to investigate what the benefits and possible costs to the ASCVP would be.

It was brought out that, if TRG takes over ASVCP website management as well as Listserv management, there will be no cost for maintaining the ASVCP Listserv.

**MOTION:** H. Jordan moved to accept the base contract proposal submitted by TRG and K. Russell seconded. The motion passed unanimously. It was decided that the contract will be for a 5 year term, to correspond with the contract between TRG and ACVP.

**MOTION:** C. Olver moved to have TRG manage the ASVCP website. S. Shelly seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** M. Whitney moved to approve the Education Committee's proposal for an ASVCP Education Award. C. Olver seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Membership Committee Report – H. Jordan in place of Committee Chair Paula Krimer**

H. Jordan, committee liaison presented the committee report as Chair Paula Krimer was unable to attend the conference. Only one student seminar was sponsored in 2006 and this needs to be gotten back on track. The membership brochure needs to be finalized.

**ACTION ITEM:** Final changes to the brochure will be implemented and S. Rees will put the membership brochure on the website. The PowerPoint presentations developed by the Membership Committee can also be placed on the website, as well as the Jeopardy game that has been developed for use in student recruitment.

C. Olver noted that the project to produce a laminated notebook page of blood cells for use as a student give-away is still in progress, due to printing problems (color reproduction).

P. Krimer thinks that other professional veterinary groups are a good source of new ASVCP members. C. Olver suggested possible liaisons with groups such as ACVIM and the Veterinary Cancer Society. The AAVLD was also mentioned. The Membership Committee is encouraged to forge liaisons. P. Krimer has also indicated it might be useful to liaison with ACVP recruitment efforts. Robin Allison has initiated communication with a national veterinary technology association. M. Christopher has provided a list of 120 international people who are potential ASVCP members. P. Krimer wants to send a letter to lapsed members to encourage them to rejoin.

**Journal Report – Mary Christopher, *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* Editor-in-chief**

M. Christopher summarized her previously submitted written report. There have been some editorial changes. Pat McManus is now the Hematology/Immunology Section Editor and Maxey Wellman is the Cytology/Surgical Pathology Section Editor. There will be a meeting of the Editorial Board on December 3.

There have been some staffing changes at Allen Press, which caused more work for the journal editors. Many of the problems now seem to have been solved by placement of a better contact person on the Allen Press side, Sharon Kindall. The impact factor has once again increased, to .795. *VCP* ranks 50<sup>th</sup> out of 129 science publications. Submissions to the journal have increased, with a concurrent increase in rejections. A necessary increase in the number of pages per issue (to 496 for 2006) has increased costs, but increasing the page content has thus far been used rather than the more expensive alternative of increasing the number of issues per year. Page numbers are projected to be level for 2007. There was no separate abstract issue for 2006, because abstracts were not received from ESVCP in time to put one together. The ASVCP meeting abstracts appeared in the regular September issue, and the ESVCP ones will be in the December issue. As far as development issues are concerned, M. Christopher favors reduced subscription rates for anatomic pathologist ACVP members who are not ASVCP members. Perhaps ACVP could offer an option of a reduced-cost subscription to *VCP* on their renewal form. S. Shelly says that ACVP Council will want a formal request if they are to consider doing this. The relationship with VIN is going well, though VIN cannot do everything that other web publishers might be able to do, for example, get full text articles from PubMed. M. Christopher suggested that both *VCP* and *Veterinary Pathology* could be published under one umbrella, though they should NOT be combined into a single journal in her opinion. J. Radin informed M. Christopher about the EB decision to increase the amount of ASVCP and ESVCP member dues that are allocated to the journal subscription. The special rate given to ACVP members should be somewhat higher than the amount allocated from ASVCP or ESVCP membership, so as not to discourage membership in these organizations. M. Christopher suggested slowly increasing the institutional subscription rate, about 10% per year. Since she has been *VCP* Editor-in-chief for nearly 10 years (2007 is her anniversary year), she may want to retire from the position and it is time for the EB to develop a procedure to evaluate and choose a new Editor-in-chief. She suggested forming a Publications Committee to handle issues such as this. M. Christopher thinks it is time to move toward a professional publisher rather than continuing to self-publish. Part of the reason for this is that authors expect amenities such as on-line submission, etc. Journal income would probably increase. Advertising might increase. Library penetration could increase; a *VCP* subscription could be packaged with other journal subscriptions for a slightly reduced rate. Preparation of articles

for Medline would be simplified. In line with these thoughts, M. Christopher has solicited proposals from 3 publishers: Blackwell, Elsevier, and Allen Press. She has gotten the proposals back from these 3, but has not yet had time to evaluate all of them completely. Thus far, it appears that Blackwell might be able to provide a good partnership. With them, ASVCP would maintain copyright. Blackwell would be responsible for finances. Online submission and tracking of manuscripts would be possible, as would online publication and promotion of advertising. They would charge \$45-65 per Society member to publish the journal. Our current relationship with VIN as our on-line publisher (a relationship that is up for renewal in December) has been mentioned to Blackwell and Elsevier, and it is possible that some continued arrangement with VIN might be possible. It is advisable to speak with the editors of journals currently being published by the 3 companies to see how happy they are with the services. M. Christopher is willing to stay on in some capacity to facilitate the move to professional publishing even if she decides to retire as Editor-in-chief. J. Radin asked for opinions on how to proceed. M. Christopher recommended that she and Associate Editor Karen Young could serve on a committee of 5-6 people who would review the publishing proposals; members of the Membership and Development Committees should also serve on the committee. S. Shelly and S. Rees brought up the issue of giving notice to Allen Press, and M. Christopher suggested that movement to professional publishing would likely not be feasible until 2008. S. Rees asked if the recent purchase of Blackwell Publishing by John Wiley and Sons Publishing would have an effect on Blackwell's proposal and M. Christopher thought that it would not. This needs to be explored. J. Messick asked about the potential effect on the cost of color plates. M. Christopher responded that the cost should go down, but would probably go down even if we maintain our current arrangement with Allen Press, since changes in publishing processes are making this a moot point. Blackwell might elect to publish VCP as a color journal and eliminate the charge for color plates.

The EB meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm MST.

Respectfully submitted by Marlyn S. Whitney, ASVCP Secretary

## 2006 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2006, Tucson, Arizona

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Judy Radin at 4:38 pm MST.

**Current Officers Present:** President Judy Radin, President-elect Christine Olver, Immediate Past President Sue Tornquist, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Executive Board Member Holly Jordan, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Executive Board Member Melinda Wilkerson, Secretary Marlyn Whitney, and Treasurer Sonjia Shelly.

**Announcements:** Presentation of the 2006 ASVCP Young Investigator Award will occur at the beginning of the Case Review session. The ASVCP Reception begins at 5:15 on December 4, and the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented at the reception.

**Approval of Minutes:** Sharon Dial moved that the minutes of the 2005 Annual Business Meeting be approved. Christine Olver seconded the motion and the motion passed.

### Committee Reports:

#### Development Committee – Committee Chair Mike Fry

M. Fry recognized and thanked his current committee members. He welcomed Mindy Wilkerson (EBL Liaison) and Lindsay Tomlinson as new committee members for 2007, and asked that others who are interested in joining the committee contact him. He summarized the year's activities, emphasizing that the committee worked closely with the Rees Group. Several conference calls were held, including one with other ASVCP Committee Chairs in June. Some corporate giving has been added to the Share the Future Campaign (SFC), which originally was an effort to obtain donations from individual members. A mailing to solicit donations to the SFC went out in July, with a follow-up email from J. Radin. A solicitation also went out with one issue of *Veterinary Clinical Pathology*.

Total corporate giving (including some outstanding pledges) for 2006 stands at \$28,000, vs. \$24,500 in 2005. Merck and Pfizer are Platinum Corporate Sponsors (\$3,000 or more), AniLytics, IDEXX, MPI Research and

Novartis gave at the Gold level (\$1,500-2,999) and Abaxis, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Eli Lilly and Company, GlaxoSmithKline, Inc., and Schering Plough Research Institute gave at the Silver level (< \$1,500).

The total amount brought in by the SFC through October 31 is \$6,175. This includes a gift from Schering-Plough. Members Jeanne George and Harold Tvedten were recognized for having given \$1,000 or more. The objectives of the SFC have been reviewed and it appears that approximately \$12,000 per year will be needed to fund all of them. Objectives include funding conference travel grants for residents and veterinary students, funding small research grants for graduate students, and sponsorship of clinical pathology speakers at the SCAVMA Symposium and at meetings of student pathology clubs. It is envisioned that approximately \$2,000-5,000 of the necessary money will come from individual donors and the remainder from corporate donors.

The committee's challenge for 2007 will be to retain current sponsors, to obtain new donors, to grow the SFC holdings, to add event sponsors, to identify means of supporting the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals group, and to coordinate with the Program Committee in regard to fundraising activities in support of the 2007 ASVCP Pre-meeting Workshop.

All levels of giving by corporations and individuals are needed and appreciated and all members were encouraged to give at least \$25.

#### Education Committee – Committee Chair Leslie Sharkey

L. Sharkey welcomed Sharon Dial as the incoming Chair of the committee and thanked her committee members for their work. She welcomed new committee members Casey LeBlanc, Deanna Schaefer, and Kelley Penraat. She thanked IDEXX for continuing funding for the Trainee Reception. She thanked Mark Johnson and Nanabanyin Ghartey-Tagoe for updating the training site portion of the ASVCP website. She thanked Sharon Dial,

Denise Bounous and Nancy Everds for leading the 2006 Teaching Clinical Pathology session on "Clinical Pathology Residency Training for Careers in Industry." The topic for the 2007 Teaching Clinical Pathology session will be a comparison of the various veterinary schools' core didactic blocks in clinical pathology. *Veterinary Pathology* will have a special issue on education and ASVCP members will have access to it. The Hematology training guidelines have been completed, and the manuscript will be published in *Veterinary Clinical Pathology*, where it is currently in press. Sharon Dial and Beverly Kidney are preparing to write guidelines for cytology and surgical pathology training. The committee has proposed and the Executive Board has approved an Education Award. Details for selection of awardees will now be worked out and nominations for the award will be sought from the membership via the newsletter, listserv and journal. Non-pathologist members who are involved in teaching are eligible for the award. The award will likely be presented for the first time at the 2007 meeting. The committee is working with the Development Committee to obtain sponsors for the award, which is intended more as a means of recognition than as a major monetary award.

#### Electronic Communication and Technology Committee

No committee representative was present to make a report.

Membership Committee – Committee Member Mehrdad Ameri for Committee Chair Paula Krimer  
Chair P. Krimer was unable to attend. M. Ameri reported that the committee has 17 members, including 3 who are new. The committee has created a new ASVCP brochure. They revised a list of membership benefits for the website. They created 2 short PowerPoint presentations which can be used by members for recruitment. One explains what a veterinary clinical pathologist is and does. The second one consists of a few slides which can be incorporated into continuing education and other presentations given by members. The latter one will soon be available for download from the website. Some members have already used it and gotten positive responses. The membership was asked to contact P. Krimer for information on how to attain money for student outreach activities. A template for a clinical pathology Jeopardy game (developed and donated by Anne Barger) can be used at student meetings and will be made available. Additional questions and answers for the game will be solicited from the membership in the near future. Laminated notebook pages containing blood cell images are nearing completion and will be distributed to faculty to be used as a veterinary student give-away item. The committee is trying to develop more formal liaisons with groups such as the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the Veterinary Cancer Society, partially as a potential means of increasing membership.

Program Committee – Committee Chair Bruce LeRoy

B. LeRoy thanked members for all program suggestions. He thanked his committee and welcomed new members Jan Andrews and Stephanie Corn. Additional committee members are needed. He thanked Jane Shepard, Director of Meetings with the Rees Group for her invaluable help. Up until now, the ASVCP Pre-meeting workshop (PMWS) has been put on by the Regulatory Affairs and the Quality Assurance and Standards committees, in rotation. For 2007, the Program committee will be responsible for the PMWS. It will be handled by a subgroup of the committee, led by Kirstin Barnhart. The topic will be the clinical pathology of laboratory rodents. Suggestions for speakers and specific topics are welcome. The 2006 PMWS seemed to go well, and feedback from those who attended is needed and will be put to good use. In particular, it would be good to know if members like the opportunity to submit questions ahead of time that are to be addressed by the workshop presenter(s). Kristen Friedrichs of the QAS Committee did an excellent job in putting together the 2006 PMWS. The 2006 educational symposium seems to be going well thus far. A suggested main topic for 2007 is the molecular diagnosis of infectious diseases, including quality control for such testing procedures. Suggestions for speakers are welcome. Scientific Sessions 1 and 2 for 2007 are in the planning stages. The Veterinary Laboratory Professionals group had their own budget and put together their own program for 2006, and the process went well.

B. LeRoy sits in on the ACVP Education Committee meetings and reported that the Chair of that committee wants to closely coordinate the Plenary sessions of ASVCP and ACVP. The evolution of disease is a topic considered for 2007. Input is welcome, including suggestions for speakers. Eric Schultze asked if additional committees could be involved in putting on the PMWS. Anne Provencher suggested that ESVCP/ECVCP participation might be appropriate. The cost of the PMWS to non-DVM ASVCP members may need to be addressed. B. LeRoy said that his committee will discuss these issues further.

Quality Assurance and Standards Committee – Liaison Melinda Wilkerson for Chair Kristin Friedrichs

M. Wilkerson gave the committee report, as K. Friedrichs was unable to attend the conference. In addition to its work to produce the 2006 PMWS, the committee continues to work on written guidelines for QA/QC for all aspects of veterinary clinical pathology laboratory testing procedures.

Regulatory Affairs Committee – Committee Liaison Melinda Wilkerson for Chair Laura Boone

M. Wilkerson gave the report, as L. Boone was unable to attend the conference. The committee held monthly teleconferences and was very active. In cooperation with the ACVP and the STP, a response was written to a draft of an EMEA (European Medicines Agency, roughly analogous to the FDA in the U.S.) position paper on hepatotoxicity. The committee works closely with the STP (Society of Toxicologic Pathology) and is building liaisons with other groups. In cooperation with STP, the committee is working on a position paper regarding bone marrow evaluation in pre-clinical studies. Anne Provencher Bolliger is an invaluable member who provides connections to ESVCP and ECVCP. Additional committee members are needed. The committee will be responsible for the 2008 PMWS.

Veterinary Laboratory Professionals Committee – Committee Chair Dennis Olexson

D. Olexson reported that the VLP has been a standing committee since 2003 and he thanked the committee members. The committee incorporates a steering committee, which is vital to its function. Rick DeFrancisco will be the next VLP Committee Chair. New active committee members are needed. The VLP group currently has approximately 100 active members overall. The VLP Committee developed the 2006 VLP educational program in conjunction with the Program Committee and promoted the 2006 PMWS. Sponsorships of VLP activities are needed and are being sought. The committee seeks to continue providing at least 7 PACE credits at the annual meeting. Efforts have been made to determine how many conference registrants come specifically for the VLP portion of the program. This year's sessions have had attendance of approximately 75-80. A budget of approximately \$3,000 will be submitted for 2007. The committee will seek to increase its membership and to increase attendance at the annual meeting. Lisa Shipp will continue to provide VLP reports for the ASVCP Newsletter. D. Olexson recognized the following for their support: Sysmex, Fedex, IDEXX, Oxford Scientific, Diagnostic Products Corporation and the Atlantic Veterinary College. Special thanks were given to Linda Vap for her efforts.

J. Radin thanked all the Committee Chairs and their committee members for their hard work and asked for a round of applause. Hearty applause ensued.

**Veterinary Clinical Pathology Journal Report** – Editor-in-chief Mary Christopher

M. Christopher recognized Associate Editor Karen Young for her work on the journal. The manuscript submission rate remains high and stable. The rejection rate has increased along with the submission rate, reflecting an ability to be more selective about what is published. There has been an increase in original research manuscripts. Manuscripts come from many countries. The Hematology/Immunology section had the most submissions in 2006. The dog is the top species represented in manuscripts. Many manuscripts are currently pending, though turn-around time remains reasonable because the time for review has decreased. Manuscripts spend the most time in “in press” status. M. Christopher thanked the reviewers and the Editorial board. The impact factor for 2005 (last year available) was 0.795, compared to 0.662 in 2004, an approximate 20% increase. *VCP* is currently ranked 50<sup>th</sup> among 129 veterinary journals. For the time being, increased numbers of pages per issue can be used to accommodate increased manuscript publication. A move to 6 issues per year will likely be necessary at some point to decrease “in press” time. Contributions to the Laboratory Medicine: Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow feature are appreciated. The relationship with the Veterinary Information Network for online publishing of the journal has been working well. M. Christopher thanked her staff member Sharron O’Neill, as well as Dan Balch and Sharon Kindall at Allen Press, Glenna Gobar for Medline indexing, the VIN staff, and the Rees Group staff (who handled business management for the journal) for their excellent work on behalf of the journal. She then recognized and thanked the Section Editors: Pat McManus for Hematology/Immunology, Asger Jensen for Clinical Chemistry, Maxey Wellman for Cytology/Surgical Pathology and Jean-Pierre Braun for Quality Assurance/Instrumentation. In response to a query from the floor, she explained that the impact factor is used as one indicator of the general quality of a journal. It is sometimes used by people making decisions about where to publish. She recommended that those with other questions about impact factors read a related article that she wrote for *VCP* a few years ago.

**Overview of ACVP/STP Coalition for Veterinary Pathology Fellows** – Gary Cockerell

Coalition Director G. Cockerell gave a progress report covering the 2 years that have passed since the coalition was formed. The purpose is to solicit and allocate funding for the training of anatomic and clinical pathologists. The first request for applications was issued in the summer of 2005. Seventeen applications were submitted and 6 anatomic pathology training positions were funded. The funded fellows began their programs in the summer of 2006. The second RFA went out for the summer and fall of 2006. There were 34 applications submitted and 7 positions were funded (4 for veterinary anatomic residency training, 1 for clinical pathology residency training, and 2 for PhD training in anatomic pathology). The new fellows will begin their positions no later than the summer of 2007. A list of sponsors and of the programs that have been awarded funding was reviewed. To date, more than 3 million dollars have been committed toward a total of 13 positions. Applications have been excellent. Tom Monticello was recognized as being responsible for obtaining funding from Merck for the clinical pathology training position. Funding for more clinical pathology positions is one of the goals of the coalition. The second RFA resulted in 13 applications for the one funded clinical pathology position. For more information, G. Cockerell can be contacted at [gcockerell@vetpathcoalition.org](mailto:gcockerell@vetpathcoalition.org). One also may contact Reid Patterson at [reidpatterson@comcast.net](mailto:reidpatterson@comcast.net) or Susan Rees at [srees@reesgroupinc.com](mailto:srees@reesgroupinc.com).

Or, go to the coalition website: [www.vetpathcoalition.org](http://www.vetpathcoalition.org).

**Secretary’s Report** – Marlyn Whitney

M. Whitney reported that the major change affecting the Secretary in 2006 was a move toward accomplishing more of the Society’s business by electronic means. The move to electronic balloting greatly increased voting in the 2006 officer election. It is hoped that electronic membership renewal will be made possible in the near future. She thanked her fellow Executive Board members, Susan Rees and the rest of the staff at TRG and all that have contributed to the Newsletter during her 4 years as Secretary.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Sonjia Shelly

S. Shelly reviewed the fiscal year of October 1, 2006 – September 31, 2006. Income was \$169,544 and expenses totaled \$143,881, for a net increase of \$25,663. A shortfall had been projected, but increased member dues and increased contributions helped avert it. Assets stand at \$238,017 with liabilities of \$42,500. The point has been reached where Share the Future campaign funds can begin to be used to fund travel grants and other objectives. The staff at TRG was thanked for their help.

**ESVCP/ECVCP Update** – Anne Provencher Bolliger

The European College of Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ECVCP) now has 64 diplomates. Members must now pass a certifying exam for membership. A challenge of the organization is to strengthen training programs and the examination committee. The 3<sup>rd</sup> certifying examination was administered in September of 2006. The organization's charter was submitted in November of 2006 to the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS) for final approbation. The College's Laboratory Standards Committee has approved 5 laboratories and additional programs are under review. Its Education Committee has approved 5 residency programs and additional programs are under review. The European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathologists (ESVCP) currently has more than 100 members (veterinarians and non-veterinarians). It held its Annual Congress in Cambridge, UK, in September of 2006. Also in 2006, ESVCP Day was held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in conjunction with a meeting of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ECVIM). There was a full day of presentations involving clinical and toxicologic pathology. In 2007, the ESVCP's main annual congress will be held in conjunction with the ECVIM annual congress on September 12-15 in Budapest, Hungary. For more information, go to [www.acvimcongress.org](http://www.acvimcongress.org). ASVCP was thanked for its support of ESVCP and ECVCP/

**Induction of New Members**

Those who have been accepted as members of the Society since the 2005 Annual Business Meeting were recognized.

**New Business**

J. Radin said that the Executive Board has recommended an amendment to our Bylaws regarding Life Member status. Our fiscal year has been changed from January 1 – December 31 to October 1 – September 30. Article I, Section 4 states that Life Member status is granted to qualified applicants by the Executive Board during the Annual Business Meeting. Article II, Section 1 of our Bylaws currently states, "Life members shall be exempt from

payment of annual dues beginning the *fiscal* year after being granted life membership." This needs to be amended to read, "...beginning the *membership* year after being granted life membership." This will allow new Life Members to have their dues waived for the next dues cycle (membership year), which begins on January 1. The entire membership will be notified of the proposed amendment and be given some time to correspond with the Executive Board prior to being asked to vote whether to adopt it. J. Radin asked if there was other new business. None was brought forth.

**Induction of Officers**

J. Radin inducted the officers for 2006-2007: Karen Russell as new Secretary, Joanne Messick as new 1<sup>st</sup> Year Executive Board Member, Melinda Wilkerson as 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Executive Board Member, Holly Jordan as President-elect, Sonjia Shelly continuing as Treasurer and Christine Olver as President. She stated that she will serve for one more year on the EB as Immediate Past President.

Newly-inducted President Christine Olver thanked J. Radin for her service as President and presented her with a commemorative gavel as well as other tokens of thanks. Retiring Executive Board members Sue Tornquist and Marlyn Whitney were thanked for their service and presented with gifts.

**Adjournment**

C. Olver adjourned the meeting at 6:20 pm MST.

Respectfully submitted by Marlyn S. Whitney, ASVCP Secretary

## Announcements

**ASVCP NATIONAL OFFICE:** Members can contact the ASVCP National Office at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; Phone 608-443-2479; Fax 608-443-2474 or 608-443-2478; E-mail: [info@asvcp.org](mailto:info@asvcp.org).

**Electronic Newsletters:** Effective with ASVCP Newsletter #1 for 2004, paper copies of the newsletters are no longer mailed to all ASVCP members. Those members who have provided the Society with an e-mail address will receive an e-mail containing a link to the newsletter as soon as each issue is posted to the ASVCP website. The newsletters are posted in PDF format. If you have any problems accessing the newsletter electronically, please contact the ASVCP National Office ([info@asvcp.org](mailto:info@asvcp.org)) or Secretary Karen Russell ([krussell@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:krussell@cvm.tamu.edu)). Those members without e-mail access will continue to receive paper copies of the newsletter.

**Change of Address:** Please send any changes in mailing address or electronic mail address to the ASVCP National Office at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; Email: [info@asvcp.org](mailto:info@asvcp.org); FAX 608-443-2474 or 608-443-2478.

**ASVCP Newsletter and/ or Website Submissions:** If you have any material of interest to post in the newsletter or on the ASVCP website ([www.asvcp.org](http://www.asvcp.org)), please contact the ASVCP Secretary, Karen Russell, at Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, Mail Stop 4467, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 7784304467; Email: [krussell@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:krussell@cvm.tamu.edu), or contact the ASVCP National Office at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; Email: [info@asvcp.org](mailto:info@asvcp.org).

**ASVCP Membership Application:** Member application forms are available at the ASVCP website ([www.asvcp.org](http://www.asvcp.org)), by contacting ASVCP Secretary Karen Russell at [krussell@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:krussell@cvm.tamu.edu), or by contacting the ASVCP National office at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; phone 608-443-2479; Email: [info@asvcp.org](mailto:info@asvcp.org).

**Proteomics Interest Group:** Several members of the ASVCP and the ESVCP are taking the first steps towards forming a proteomics interest group. We would like to investigate proteomics as a diagnostic and research tool in veterinary medicine, and to share ideas, technologies, resources and expertise. If you are interested in belonging to this group, please write Christine Olver at [colver@colostate.edu](mailto:colver@colostate.edu).

## Upcoming Meetings

**Division of Animal Clinical Chemistry, AACC Spring Meeting.** April 20, 2007, Bridgewater, NJ. Animal Models of Human Disease. [www.aacc.org](http://www.aacc.org)

**American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum:** The 2007 ACVIM Forum will be held June 6-9, 2007 in Seattle, WA. For more information, go to [www.ACVIM.org](http://www.ACVIM.org).

**Society of Toxicologic Pathology 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium:** June 10-14, 2007, Westin Rio Mar, Rio Grande Puerto Pico. Theme: Toxicologic Pathology and Novel Technologies. For complete meeting information, see [www.toxpath.org](http://www.toxpath.org).

**American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:** October 18-24, 2007, Reno, NV. [www.aavld.org](http://www.aavld.org)

## Job Opportunities

### **Merck & Co. Inc.**

#### **Veterinary Pathologists/Department of Safety Assessment**

Merck & Co., Inc. is a global research-driven pharmaceutical company dedicated to putting patients first. Established in 1891, Merck discovers, develops, manufactures and markets vaccines and medicines to address unmet medical needs. The company devotes extensive efforts to increase access to medicines through far-reaching programs that not only donate Merck medicines but help deliver them to the people who need them. Merck also publishes unbiased health information as a not-for-profit service. For more information, visit [www.merck.com](http://www.merck.com).

At Merck's Safety Assessment department we are pursuing new and innovative methods of drug discovery and development. As a part of these efforts we are designing comprehensive studies and adopting innovative solutions to investigate mechanisms of toxicologic pathology to better evaluate drug development candidates. We are seeking Veterinary Pathologists who are interested in joining a growing department to design preclinical toxicity studies on novel drug candidates, serve as study pathologist, and interpret postmortem data to assess potential human risk. In addition, opportunities exist to lead and actively participate in the drug discovery and development process as Compound Manager for therapeutic programs.

- \*\* Most of our work is internal – very little travel for scientist.
- \*\* Opportunity to learn 25 years of studies and diagnostic activities.
- \*\* We encourage our scientist to publish papers.

#### Qualifications

The Department of Safety Assessment is located in a scenic suburban environment in eastern Pennsylvania approximately 25 miles Northwest of Philadelphia.

Individuals with a D.V.M./Ph.D. and ACVP board-eligibility or certification in anatomic pathology are encouraged to apply. These positions which will be available periodically require working in a multidisciplinary department whose objective is to fully characterize the toxicity of new drugs and to determine the relevance of these findings for human clinical studies.

In return for your considerable skills, we offer an excellent salary and comprehensive benefits program, including tuition reimbursement and one of the best 401(k) plans in the nation, as well as opportunities for personal growth. We are an equal opportunity employer, M/F/D/V. Please visit our careersite, [www.merck.com](http://www.merck.com) and submit your resume for consideration against opportunity SCI002753.

Posted 04 January, 2007

## VETERINARY PATHOLOGIST

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, located on the Caribbean island of Saint Kitts in the West Indies, invites applications for a full-time faculty position in Veterinary Pathology.

The RUSVM program consists of seven semesters of preclinical studies on the island of St. Kitts, and one year of clinical training at one of 22 veterinary teaching hospitals in the United States. The primary focus of Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine is the education of students whose goal is to practice veterinary medicine in the United States. The pathology position is a part of the preclinical program.

RUSVM is developing a focused, sustainable research program. Pathology is a key component of research. This pathology position is expected to contribute to the research disease investigation team on the island and in the region.

Reporting to the Dean for Faculty and Academic Programs, responsibilities will include: assisting in a team-taught course environment including lectures, laboratory instruction, and student evaluation in Pathology and Introduction to Clinics courses; participating in academic programs and carrying out duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Dean including, but not limited to, teaching, continuous improvement in the educational program in pathology and research. Some measures of research outputs are peer reviewed articles and competitive grants. Will also participate in faculty meetings, work on assigned committees, and be available to meet with individual students as appropriate.

Requirements: DVM or equivalent degree (Diplomate status in American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) or European College of Veterinary Pathologists (ECVP) is preferred, but individuals eligible for the ACVP or ECVP Certification Examination will be considered); primary interest in and focus on teaching veterinary students; excellent interpersonal and communication skills; demonstrated ability to work with others in a collegial team atmosphere. Expertise in pathology and teaching experience in the U.S., Canada or the United Kingdom or equivalent are desirable.

Professorial rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Salary range is highly competitive and US citizens may qualify for the foreign earned income tax exclusion. Relocation assistance to and from St Kitts, deferred pension program, medical and evacuation insurance, five weeks of paid annual leave, and professional development are included. Please send letter of intent outlining your experience, interest and qualifications, curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information of three professional references. Applications will be acknowledged and reviewed upon receipt. The search will continue until a suitable candidate is found. Please mail application to David DeYoung, Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine, Ross University, Box 334 Basseterre, St Kitts, West Indies. For further information, please contact the Dean's office at 869-465-1080, fax 869-466-5206, or e-mail: [ddeyoung@rossu.edu.kn](mailto:ddeyoung@rossu.edu.kn). Ross University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.