

**AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGISTS BOARD OF
GOVERNORS' MEETING**

**Plaza Room of the Ramada Congress Hotel
Chicago, Illinois**

10:00 AM, Sunday, November 7, 1999

MINUTES

Attendance: Board members: Drs. C.A. Baldwin, B.W. Fenwick, T. Bowersock, S.A. Dee, R.L. Jones, and M.A. Kennedy. Also present were: L.N.D. Potgieter, R.W. Fulton, C.S. Hayhow, J. Storz, L.D. Pearson, D.S. McVey, M.M. Chengappa, E.L. Thacker, R.W. Loan, S.B. Kleiboeker, D.L. Reynolds, D.L. Grooms, S.C. Olsen.

1. **Call to Order.** Dr Sandy Baldwin called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes.** Previously distributed minutes were approved (Fenwick, Kennedy).
3. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report.**
 - a. **Financial Report.** The ACVM balance sheet was reviewed (balance as of 11/5/98 was \$24,320.06). The cash flow report from 1/1/98 to 11/5/99 was presented (income of \$12,310 and expenses of \$4723). \$6,350 was donated by industry for the symposium. Projected expenses include the banquet (approximately \$1200), speaker expenses (about \$2500), Ramada Congress Hotel (about \$3800), Roosevelt University examination expenses (\$500), student awards (about \$600), and office expenses (about \$500).
 - b. **Dues status.** A summary of the dues status of all members was presented to the board. Dues from about 14 members are still owing.
 - c. **Request for Emeritus Status.** The board did not receive requests for emeritus status since the last meeting.
 - d. **Deceased.** George Lambert (12/2/99) and R.A.Packer.

A motion to accept the report was made and passed (Jones, Bowersock).

4. **Committees and Representative Reports.**
 - a. **Examinations Committee.** Dr. R.L. Jones, Chair of the Examination Committee reported on the results of part I and part II examinations. The Board of Governors approved 11 of 11 applicants as candidates for Part I Examination during the July board meeting. Nine of the 11 sat for Part I Examination. In addition, two candidates approved in previous years (retakes) took the examination. Seven of 11 passed the latter examination. Part II Examinations were administered on November 6, 1999 at Roosevelt University in Chicago. Four candidates sat for Bacteriology/Mycology, three for Virology and two for Immunology. The Committee recommended that four of four pass Bacteriology/Mycology, two of three pass Virology

and one of two pass immunology. As a result there will be six new diplomates (five certified in one specialty and one in two specialties).

The Committee met at 8:00 a.m. on November 7, 1999 and discussed the quality of examinations and reviewed questions for addition to the examinations. The Committee proposed to digitize the slide library for Part II examination and store all images in digital form on a master CD. Future editions of Part II examinations will be produced in presentation software and projected using a computer and single projector. There will be an initial labor cost for scanning the library of kodachrome slides, but maintenance costs will be significantly reduced. Preparing, transporting, administering and updating the examination will be simplified. The Committee requested spending authorization of financial support of up to \$1,200 for this one-time conversion.

The Committee discussed a proposed definition of "veterinary microbiology" and recommended approval of the proposed amendment (see new business). This definition would provide better guidance for evaluation of the credentials of applicants.

Motion was made and approved to accept the report (Jones, Fenwick). The Board approved the pass/fail recommendation by the committee unanimously and this action grants certification to the following:

Danielle Daignault	Bacteriology
Mary DeBey	Bacteriology
Daniel J. Keil	Bacteriology
Brenda Love	Bacteriology
Mark Z. Plavsic	Virology
Amelia Woolums	Virology, Immunology

- b. **Continuing Education and Program Committee.** Dr Terry Bowersock encouraged attendance at the symposium entitled "The Role of Innate Immune Responses in Controlling Pathogens and Influencing the Adaptive Immune Response" at the 1999 CRWAD meeting in Chicago. The speakers scheduled should be very well received. The symposium in July at the AVMA meeting will be on "Challenges to the Development of New Generation Vaccines – Meeting the Needs of Practitioners, Clients, and Patients". Specific topics include new vaccine technologies, vaccine risk assessment, clinical efficacy of vaccines and meeting challenges of getting new products registered. The speakers are being recruited.

Dr. Potgieter mentioned that Dr Peter Doherty, the only veterinarian ever to win a Nobel Prize, had agreed to speak at the next symposium at CRWAD meeting in Chicago (November, 2000). Motion to accept the report was made and accepted (Dee, Kennedy).

- c. **Nominating Committee.** Dr. L.D. Pearson reported that he had approached several members to serve on the Board of Governors. Four had agreed to be nominated. They are Drs. Bruce Charlton, Laurel Gershwin, Donald L. Reynolds and Eileen Thacker. The Secretary/Treasurer will request condensed curriculum vitae from Dr Pearson to include with the ballot in the March newsletter. Additional nominations can still be made under three signatures of members in good standing until February 15, 2000. A motion to accept the report was made and approved (Fenwick, Kennedy).

- d. **Honorary Diplomate Nominating Committee.** No report. Drs. Baldwin and Potgieter will contact the Chair, Dr Harold Lupton. Nominee names and vitae will be circulated to the Board of Governors for approval before a ballot is sent out to members in March, 2000.
- e. **Continuing Education Funding Committee.** Dr. Larry Arp, Chairperson of the committee was not present. Dr. Potgieter mentioned that collections were up this year. Donors are Pfizer, Boehringer Ingleheim, Schering-Plough Animal Health, Imtech, Fisher, Roche, Fort Dodge, Pharmacia and Upjohn, Grand Laboratories, Elanco Animal Health, and VMRD. Contributions totaled \$6350.00. Dr McVey emphasized that since industry budgets are established early in the year the fund raising initiative should be started soon after the November meeting. Dr Potgieter pointed out that this was attempted last year but that the CRWAD symposium program was not set until March. This year the program should be set by the end of November.
- f. **Graduate Student Awards Committee.** Dr Kapil, Chairman of the Committee, was not present and had informed the Board that he would not be able to attend CRWAD meeting this year. Dr Steve Olsen agreed to coordinate the activities of the Committee at the 1999 CRWAD meeting.
- g. **American Board on Veterinary Specialties.** Dr Potgieter detailed the annual report made to ABVS by the secretary/treasurer. It included demographics on ACVM membership and summaries of candidate performance for the past six years. As of September 29, 1999, ACVM had 157 active members, 79 emeritus members and 32 honorary members. A motion to accept the report was made and approved (Bowersock, Dee).
- h. **Council on Biological and Therapeutical Agents.** Dr Don Reynolds thanked the endorsement by ACVM for his candidacy on the Council. He indicated that the council would be dealing with two major issues, antimicrobial resistance and vaccine issues. The antimicrobial issue may be one of the biggest issue in veterinary medicine today. The potential of losing the availability of certain drugs to veterinary medicine exists. Controversial vaccine issues involve duration of immunity and route of administration.
- i. **Ad Hoc Recruitment Committee.**
Dr. Brad Fenwick reported that discussions have taken place with members of the AVMA Committee on Research concerning the difficulty in interesting veterinarians (particularly recent gradates) in pursuing advanced academic training and Board Certification. The result has been an increasingly critical shortage of adequately trained veterinarians to fill current and future needs in academic, governmental, and industrial positions. The Committee is sympathetic with this issue and has discussed various potential actions, including commissioning a study. It was noted that a portion of the recently released AVMA Manpower Study discusses this issue in some depth. It is hoped that special efforts will be made to emphasise the fundamental importance of veterinarians in nearly all areas of biomedical research. The long term goal is to provide the type of funding supported that will encourage prospective students to consider

graduate training and board certification. In the future, it may be necessary for the ACVM to take a stronger official position on this subject.

5. Old Business.

- a. **Proposal for Infectious Disease Specialty.** Drs Brad Fenwick presented information on a potential mechanism for including a clinically-orientated subspecialty in infectious diseases. Over the past several months discussions have taken place with the Officers and members of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine concerning some form of specialty recognition in the rather diffuse area of infectious diseases. At our previous meetings we have discussed this as a means by which ACVM might be more widely recognized, to have our collective expertise utilized better, as well as increasing the number of individuals seeking membership in ACVM.

The ACVIM has a small infectious disease interest group (approx. 25 people) that meets at their annual meeting. Discussions have taken place with Drs. Ed Breitschwerdt, Mike Lappin, Craig Greene, and Russel Greene who belong to this group. Dr. Breitschwerdt is the current Chairperson of the ACVIM Board and Dr Greene chairs the infectious disease interest group. It is a pleasure to report that there is considerable interest in cooperating with ACVM. However, there is resistance to the idea of an infectious disease subspecialty. Mostly, this is relates to the work involved in creating, administering, and maintaining an examination. The current concept is to form a veterinary infectious disease society, perhaps similar to the "Infectious Diseases Society of America". This might be a branch of the IDS or be an independent organization. This would be formed with the endorsement of the ACVM and the ACVIM. Membership as a "Fellow" would likely require evidence of expertise and perhaps, Board Certification in the ACVM or ACVIM (or some other College). Drs. Breitschwerdt and Lappin will discuss this at the November meeting of the ACVIM Board. While this idea may not directly result in increasing ACVM membership, it may create the exposure we are looking for, which in time could have this effect.

It was also suggested that because ACVM does not have its own meeting, that we might be interested in holding a simultaneous meeting with ACVIM (or have a section in the meeting) which focuses on Infectious Diseases.

Dr Fenwick proposed that ACVM be on record in support of the formation of a Veterinary Infectious Disease Society which was approved after being seconded by Dr. Dee.

- b. **Approval of New Member and Chair of the Continuing Education Funding Committee.** Dr Baldwin requested nominations for this committee from the floor. Dr. Terry Bowersock volunteered to work on the committee. Dr Baldwin proposed that Dr Larry Arp be asked to serve as Chairman for the next cycle of this Committee and that Dr Bowersock be added to the committee. The proposal was unanimously approved by the Board.
- c. **Web Site Link with Controlled Release Society.** Dr. Bowersock proposed that ACVM link its web site with that of the Controlled Release Society (seconded by Dr Scott Dee).

This discipline relates to the controlled release of pharmaceuticals and biologicals in vivo. The proposal was unanimously approved.

- d. **Membership Poll on Meeting Preference.** Dr Potgieter reported on a limited response on meeting preference by ACVM membership. The order of preference for meetings was as follows:

- CRWAD (24 responses)
- AVMA (18 responses)
- AAVLD (14 responses)
- ASM (3 responses)
- Various others

6. **New Business.**

Dr Robert L. Jones submitted, over three valid signatures, a proposal to make a constitutional change to Article V, Section 3 and Section 6. The proposal was seconded by Dr Brad Fenwick and was unanimously adopted by the Board of Governors. It reads as follows (new text underlined and ~~deleted text marked through with overstrike~~):

~~Section 3. The candidate shall have knowledge of infectious disease (including the zoonoses) of animals with emphasis in etiology, pathogenesis, transmission, immunity, diagnosis, prevention and control. Knowledge of the subject should not be limited to the pathogenic microbial agents as seen in the laboratory, but the candidate will be expected to be familiar with the ecological relationships of microbes to animals and humans as well as methods for disease prevention and control. This implies familiarity with current literature and a knowledge of modern laboratory techniques in veterinary microbiology and mastery of veterinary microbiology which includes the disciplines of bacteriology, mycology, virology and immunology as they apply to veterinary medical science. The science of microorganisms includes knowledge of the molecular biology, structure, function, propagation and biological and ecological relationships of microbes and prions with animals, plants, humans, other microbes and the environment. Immunology includes knowledge of the components and functions of host defense mechanisms in both antigen-specific and non-specific responses, and applications of immunological processes in laboratory assays. Veterinary medical science includes knowledge of the etiology, pathogenesis, transmission, immunity/resistance, diagnosis, therapeutics, prevention and control of diseases of animals and zoonotic diseases as applied in the practice of teaching, research, clinical veterinary medicine, comparative medicine, or public health. Therefore, knowledge of veterinary microbiology is not to be narrowly defined as related only to microbial agents of disease in non-human animals or the laboratory characteristics of microbes and is expected to include current literature and modern laboratory techniques.~~

Section 6.

(1) *In addition to having earned the DVM degree, the applicant must satisfy one of the following conditions:*

(a) *The Standard Route.* Have earned the Ph.D. degree with major emphasis in veterinary microbiology and the thesis was in an area directly related to veterinary microbiology (as defined in Article V, Section 3) ~~Veterinary microbiology is defined as including veterinary bacteriology, mycology, immunology, virology, molecular biology, public health or comparative medicine.~~

(b) *Alternate Route 1.* Have earned the Master's degree with major emphasis in veterinary microbiology (as defined in Article V, Section 3 above) and have sufficient additional experience relevant to veterinary microbiology (as defined above) to equate with a candidate who has completed a Ph.D. Experience relevant to veterinary microbiology may be obtained through ~~is defined as including~~ teaching, research or service that concentrates on veterinary microbiology (as defined in Article V, Section 3) ~~bacteriology, mycology, immunology, virology, molecular biology, public health or comparative medicine.~~ The experience should, in the opinion of the Examinations Committee, be sufficient to make the candidate proficient in the practice of veterinary microbiology (as defined above) and an expert in at least one of the subspecialties: bacteriology/mycology, immunology, or virology. Examples of acceptable experience are: (i) fulltime practice in a diagnostic laboratory run by a university, state, or commercial organization; or (ii) full time practice in research in a university, state, not-for-profit, federal or commercial organization; or (iii) full time teaching at the undergraduate (baccalaureate) and graduate levels in a university (most of the courses taught should be in veterinary microbiology. At least one course each year should be at the graduate level. Teaching at non-degree institutions does not qualify); or (iv) obtaining a grade of at least a "B average" or a "Pass" in courses which, in the opinion of the Examinations Committee were directly related to veterinary microbiology as described above, or (v) ~~and~~ any combination of the above.

(c) *Alternate Route 2.* Subsequent to earning the DVM, VMD, or equivalent professional degree, have sufficient professional experience (as defined in Article V, Section 6 (1) (b) above) relevant to veterinary microbiology (as defined in Article V, Section 3 above), with increasing responsibility over this period to equate with a candidate who qualifies by the standard route.

7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 p.m.