Message from the WVA President

Dear Colleagues,

As a licensed veterinarian in the United States, I must renew my certificate for accreditation every three years to be able to do regulatory inspections for animal health, transport, and sale. US veterinarians are required to take either three (for Level 1) or six (for Level 2) courses every three years from a list of 27 approved supplemental training modules developed for the US Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA AHIS) in order to apply for renewal of our accreditation authority. This month I finished six online courses which covered information about the national poultry improvement plan, prudent use of antibiotics, animal welfare, and safe and humane transport of livestock and horses intended for slaughter. A strong veterinary statutory body and registration/licensing system that requires continuing education is imperative to assure competence within our profession and to retain the trust of the general public.

I tell you this because, even though I am retired from 34 years in private clinical practice, I want to remain current on the latest information and procedures to fully appreciate the immense responsibility we have as veterinarians to:

- animal health and welfare for horses, birds, companion animals, fish/birds/livestock raised for food or research, and wildlife;
- owners of those animals;
- our countries for protection from animal disease outbreaks; and
- overall global public health.

That is why improving veterinary education and continuing education worldwide are so important and a focused priority for the WVA. This year of 2016 highlights our WVA Year for Veterinary Education!

WVA revised its position papers on One Health and on Responsible Use of Antimicrobials.

On 20th July 2016, the WVA Council adopted the revised WVA positions One Health and on Responsible Use of Antimicrobials. The WVA would like to thank the WVA members for their comments received during the revision process and to the WVA Policy Committee and the WVA Working Groups on Zoonotic Diseases and Pharmaceutical Stewardship for their great work on these position statements. Click on the following links for the WVA Position on One Health and Responsible use of Antimicrobials.
WVA welcomes new experts to the WVA Advisory Groups to support the work of the WVA Working Groups on Veterinary Education and Pharmaceutical Stewardship.

On 20th July, the WVA Council approved the applications received by Drs Dennis Scott, Arturo Anadón, Bruno Naquet, Jennifer Wishnie and John Prescott to the AG on Pharmaceutical Stewardship and from Drs Denis Avignon, Francisco J. Trigo Tavera and Stephen Page to the AG on Veterinary Education. In addition, Dr Bonnie V. Beaver joined the AG on Animal Welfare.

The WVA Council points out that most of the AG experts are coming from Europe, North America and Oceania regions and there is a need for experts from Africa, Asia and Latin America to join the WVA Advisory Groups on Animal Welfare, Veterinary Education, Pharmaceutical Stewardship and Zoonotic Diseases.

WVA members associations from Africa, Asia and Latin America are encouraged to submit nominations to the WVA AGs. Please find hereafter the links to the Terms of Reference and Nomination Form for the Advisory Groups.

This is a great opportunity for WVA Constituent Members to have direct influence on drafting WVA policy statements and projects. WVA needs your expertise and welcome your participation.

The OIE 4th Global Conference on Veterinary Education was held in Bangkok, Thailand on 22-24 June 2016. Its purpose was to follow up on the implementation by VEs of an OIE recommended core curriculum to learn 11 specific and 8 advanced competencies for national veterinary services. WVA President addressed and informed the audience about the WVA’s current and future role to improve veterinary education around the world. WVA President presented information about the WVA Global Education Portal launched earlier this year after 18 months of preparation and loading with almost 1000 courses from over 85 respected institutions and individuals. It offers easy and free to access at www.worldvet.org or through one’s own veterinary association (if they are one of the 60 veterinary associations to take the portal to provide CPD for their own members). For more information on the OIE conference on Veterinary Education, click HERE.

The WVA/Merck Animal Health Scholarship program 2016 was just announced for students attending a recognized veterinary medical faculty anywhere in Latin America. This includes 10 scholarships of 5000 USD.
to supplement the expenses incurred while enrolled in a veterinary medical degree program. Merck Animal Health provides similar scholarships through other associations mostly in the North America and Europe and wanted to expand that program to other areas of the world as they see veterinary education as a significant step to improving veterinary capacity in areas of need. This scholarship program is administered by a WVA review committee composed of representatives from WVA members from the Latin America Region. More information regarding the WVA/Merck Animal Health Scholarship program 2016 can be found HERE.

2nd WVA/WMA Global Conference on One Health
Registration site is open now

The 2nd WVA/WMA Global Conference on One Health will be held in Kitakyushu City in the Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan on 10 and 11 November 2016. This will be an exceptional experience on the One Health Concept and Approach. Registration and program information is now open HERE. Kyushu, the most southwestern of Japan’s main islands, has a mostly subtropical climate. It’s known for its active volcanoes, beaches and natural hot springs.

33rd World Veterinary Congress – 3rd E-newsletter

Plan now to attend the 33rd World Veterinary Congress to be held August 28-31, 2017 in Incheon, Korea. WVA President visited Incheon in February and discovered a great venue in a wonderful city in a beautiful country with delicious food and amazing people. The scientific program will be exceptional with a theme of “One Health, One Wave” and new technologies for veterinary medicine. Check out HERE the 3rd e-newsletter of the WVC 2017 to learn more about the 33rd World Veterinary Congress.

Thank you for your membership. We need your expertise and participation for the world to hear our message about our role as veterinarians for the global public good. We need your input as Constituent Members or Observers for our discussions. Don’t be left out of the process!

Please forward this info-news to your individual members

WVA • Avenue de Tervueren 12 • 1040 Brussels • secretariat@worldvet.org
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