Dear Distinguished colleagues and Estimated Friends,

The history of our organisation, the World Veterinary Association, goes back to 1863, when Dr Gamgee took the initiative to organize an International Veterinary Congress.

Six years later the first World Veterinary Congress was held. The appointment of a Permanent Committee then led to the establishment of the World Veterinary Association.
Much has changed since these early years and, however visionary our predecessors may have been, they could never have imagined our world of today. With all the medical and technological innovations, the massive international movements of animals and animal products, people travelling to the other end of the world within 24 hours and the enormous demand for animal proteins, are a few of such changes.

What has not changed over all these years is the relevance of animal health, disease prevention and control, food safety and food security. On the contrary, with the growing recognition of One Health issues and with increasing awareness of animal welfare, the importance of veterinary medicine has only grown.

More than ever, veterinary issues require a well coordinated, global approach, involving all stakeholders. With this in mind the World Veterinary Association is placing more and more emphasis on development of international policy. Our ultimate goal is to provide veterinary global leadership in the fields of Animal Health, Animal Welfare and Public Health.

Last year a revision of our structure and our decision making procedures was initiated. The objectives of this action include: raising our profile, increasing visibility, strengthening the internal cohesion, and implementing a more efficient decision making process.

First results from this on-going exercise became visible at the 2011 World Veterinary Congress in Cape Town (South Africa), where WVA successfully organised the formal closure of the World Veterinary Year Vet-2011.

On the same occasion in Cape Town WVA, together with OIE, FAO and WHO also organised a successful global summit on the use of antimicrobials.

Conclusions we have drawn for this summit are:
- Antimicrobials must never be a default for poor animal husbandry;
- Both animals and humans require treatment by making best use of certain actives from all available classes of antimicrobials;
- Responsible use of antimicrobials is pivotal for use in both humans and animals. Raising awareness and education on the responsible use of these medicinal products in both the veterinary and human sectors is essential on a global scale.
- Antimicrobials should only be used on prescription, made by a person under whose care the patient(s) are, who is qualified, licensed and accountable to the licensing body.

The second of the global summits is already in preparation. It will be held at the next World Veterinary Congress in September 2013 in Prague (Czech Republic).

The responsible use of antimicrobials was also the theme for the 2012 World Veterinary Day Award, an initiative of WVA and OIE. A large number of good quality applications from all over the world competed for this award, a clear indication of the positive effect that World Veterinary Day has on both education and awareness of the need to use antimicrobials responsibly.

I wish to use this opportunity to thank all participants for their excellent contributions, and to congratulate our colleagues from the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association as the prize winners. I am sure that this will encourage them to offer the profession a high quality WVC in 2015 in Istanbul.

The 20th May 2012 ceremony for the presentation of the WVD award during the OIE 80th General Session was a great success. This WVA initiative, and the
support of all the OIE delegates, engenders clear pride in the veterinary profession. With the Czech World Veterinary Congress booth promoting such a fantastic program we all look forward our next world event in September 2013.

I also would like to draw your attention to the position and policy papers WVA has developed on many issues varying from Animal Health and Welfare to One Health, Professional Ethics, Veterinary Education, and Environmental Health. They are all available on our website. Comments that might help us to improve these documents are certainly welcome.

Other initiatives currently in WVA’s pipeline are the organisation of a global conference on Veterinary Statutory Bodies and Veterinary Education. It goes without saying that a collaborative approach of WVA and OIE will provide synergy and more success for both organisations. The date and venue of this combined global conference has been discussed during the 2012 April meeting between WVA and OIE and further discussions are ongoing with the Government of Brazil and other partners.

For both topics, which are so closely linked together and which affect public as well as private interests, a balanced input from all partners is needed.

Regulators and official veterinarians, together with animal keepers and private veterinarians, are all part of one and the same system; the global system to assure the health and welfare of animals and people. This system will only be as strong as its weakest part. Together we have to join forces and move forward shoulder on shoulder.

Last month in Prague, the WVA was invited to the World Medical Association (WMA) Congress. A decision was made to establish a Memorandum of Understanding between the two world associations to strengthen the One Health Concept and the close collaboration to promote together awareness about antimicrobial resistance, the prudent use of antimicrobials together with control of zoonosis and food safety.

The World Veterinary Association much appreciates, and wishes to thank OIE, FAO, WHO and all international organizations and NGO’s for the collaboration and partnership.

Dear Colleagues, being 149 years young the World Veterinary Association is full of energy and commitment; commitment to the promotion of Animal Health, Animal Welfare and Public Health. In this spirit we look forward to working with you to face the current challenges and those that lie ahead.

Next year WVA will celebrate its 150th Anniversary in Prague. It will be my pleasure to welcome all of you at this occasion and to see more and more members joining WVA.

God Bless our Profession.

Dr. Faouzi Kechrid
President
World Veterinary Association
Prague World Veterinary Congress 2013 Promotion Campaign Continues

At the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) continued promotion of next World Veterinary Congress planned for 17th – 20th September 2013, in Prague, Czech Republic. Thousands of colleagues from around the globe could visit the Prague WVC stand in Birmingham ICC, and those interested have left their contacts for the draw of three lucky winners of free registration for Prague WVC 2013 www.wvc2013.com.

Dr. Zsolt Pinter, President of European Union of Veterinary practitioners drew out three names who will received free registration for the Prague World Veterinary Congress.
The First World Golf Championship in Prague

In September 2013, the Czech Republic hosts the World Veterinary Congress. Its local organiser, the Chamber of Veterinary Surgeons of Czech Republic plans a big variety of social events. One of them is to be the First World Golf Championship. “Golf tournament is only for participants of the World Veterinary Congress and is planned to start 14th September, just before the WVC itself.

Its winner will be announced at the Congress Closing Ceremony. How many greens will be used and which ones depends on the number of registered participants, however we are pre-booking quite a few excellent grounds in closer proximity to Prague”, said Karel Daniel from Czech Vet Chamber, on behalf of organisers.

Golf tournament is a new event to add to four days of a top class international veterinary congress, taking place from 17th to 20th September 2013. One of our colleagues will probably bring home not only up to date professional knowledge – but also the title World Veterinary Golf Champion.


Prague World Veterinary Congress 2013 Promoted at the OIE
World Veterinary Day 2012 has been a success again! More than 30 reports of excellent events were received. The OIE and the WVA are grateful for all the dedication of vets everywhere in the World showing the wish and efforts of the veterinary profession to control and prevent antimicrobial resistance.

Turkey was announced the winner at the General Session of OIE in Paris starting 20th May.

The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association together with the Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology Association Turkey were the joint winners.

The prize plus the 1000 USD cheque was presented by the WVA president Faouzi Kechrid at the opening ceremony of the 80th OIE General Session on Sunday the 20th May in Paris.

World Veterinary Day was instigated by the World Veterinary Association (WVA) in 2000 to be celebrated annually on the last Saturday of April.

In 2008 the WVA and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) agreed on the creation of the World Veterinary Day Award aimed at rewarding the most successful celebration of the veterinary profession by national veterinary associations, alone, or in cooperation with any other selected veterinary body.

Antimicrobials have revolutionised medical and veterinary practice since their introduction more than 60 years ago. Today they are essential tools for ensuring health and welfare of animals.

Loss of efficacy in antimicrobial treatment through resistance development is an ever-present risk to both animal as well as public health. Especially in the context of the growing global demand for noble proteins along with the crucial need for sufficient and safe production of animal products such as milk, eggs and meat, the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials in animals must be promoted.
That is why delivery of antimicrobials and treatment of animals should be done directly through well-trained veterinarians. WVA and OIE strongly advocate the reinforcement of the good governance of Veterinary Services - both in their public and private components – for better control in registration, import, distribution and on-farm use of antimicrobials.

All parties involved must work together to harmonize national and international antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes as well as implementing risk assessment measures.

WVA Conclusions from the Summit on Antimicrobials

These are the conclusions reached during the World Veterinary Association (WVA) Summit, an event organized with high-level support of both FAO, OIE and WHO during the World Veterinary Congress held 11th October 2011 in Cape Town, South Africa.

The occurrence of antimicrobial resistance is a truly global “One Health issue”, affecting the health and welfare of people and animals as well as the environment. Notwithstanding that there are big differences between countries in consumption and use practices, antimicrobial resistance exists everywhere and is a growing problem.

1. Both animals and humans require treatment with all available classes of antimicrobials. This has to be taken into consideration when considering and reaching agreement on the practical constraints which may be considered for the use of certain classes of antimicrobials.

2. Responsible use of antimicrobials is pivotal both for humans and animals. In the veterinary world and in the medical world the responsible use of antimicrobials must be promoted vigorously at all levels in their chain of use. Raising awareness and education on the responsible use of these medicinal products in both the veterinary and human sectors is essential on a global scale.

3. Antimicrobials should only be used on prescription prepared by persons who are qualified, licensed and accountable to their competent authority or statutory body. Prescriptions for veterinary use should be made by the veterinarian under whose care the animals exist. Clinical examination of the animals to be treated and accurate diagnosis must be done in accordance with standards for Good Veterinary Practice.

4. Uncontrolled/illegal distribution of antimicrobials must be prevented and violations severely punished. Enforcement of rules should be effective, rigorous and dissuasive.

5. Prevention is better than cure. Antimicrobials must never be a default for poor animal husbandry. Good husbandry and management conditions, hygiene measures and where possible vaccination – should be assured to minimize use of these products wherever and whenever possible.

6. Measures for controlling antimicrobial resistance should be risk based. Managing the risk of resistance must be firmly based on a scientific assessment of such a risk. Any approach for managing resistance based on a precautionary principle should be exceptional, and clear targets should be set and measures should be evaluated to ensure that the intended objectives are met. Further knowledge should be obtained through internationally coordinated collection of data on antimicrobial use and monitoring of resistance.

7. Prevention of antimicrobial resistance is a “public good”. Everybody is affected and responsible in working to keep antimicrobials effective. This needs strong commitment, global education and enough resources.

The WVA and OIE World Veterinary Day Award 2012 will award the person or organization making the most efforts to educate or prevent antimicrobial resistance.

The next WVA Summit will take place on 17th September 2013 during the World Veterinary Congress in Prague: see www.wvc2013.com
Interview with René A. Carlson, DVM
President, American Veterinary Medical Association

Q. What does the US veterinary profession expect from a global veterinary event like the World Veterinary Congress?
A. Knowledge and Networking. I attended my first World Veterinary Congress in October 2011 in Cape Town, South Africa. It was a marvelous event. The veterinary medical profession in the United States (and probably anywhere) has three basic priorities:
   1. To improve animal health
   2. To improve human health
   3. To advance the veterinary medical profession

Based on those three priorities, we look for science-based knowledge as it relates to improved animal health and public health. The quality of the continuing education programs is the primary reason veterinarians in the United States attend educational conferences, with networking opportunities second. What the World Veterinary Congress uniquely offers is continuing education programs that affect people and animals in areas across the globe and a world-class venue with people from all over the world with whom to network. There is no other opportunity like it!

Q. What do I see as the most important benefits coming from such a big professional gathering?
A. Knowledge and networking. As this world gets smaller and smaller due to the increased speed and opportunities for travel, we must consider the increasing likelihood of disease incidence occurring anywhere in the world at any time. The more we behave like “one profession” and emphasize the value of “One Health”, no matter where we live, the better we will all be prepared to prevent and/or manage such an event. It is all about knowledge and relationships, and the WVC allows us to gain that new knowledge and develop those relationships with people from around the world.

Q. How could the World Veterinary Congress be improved?
A. For general members the most important draw is the quality of the scientific programs. However the World Veterinary Congress offers a unique venue with social events for a recreational visit with family. What better opportunity for a family to have a world class vacation together than in a fabulous city along with professional meetings and the chance to meet people and see cultures from all over the world? A social event that is family friendly in a spectacular venue that highlights key elements of the particular city would be spectacular. In Prague might that be some type of event to experience Prague’s Square or the Charles Bridge?

If eventually the World Veterinary Association could in future provide additional efforts and have some consistent influence on “branding” of the conference, it may reach the next level for a consistently well-recognized and well-attended World Veterinary Congress under the “wings” of an even more recognized and visible World Veterinary Association.

Q. What is the most important function to showcase at the WVC, the scientific program or global political issues related to veterinary medicine?
A. The scientific program. Most members and veterinarians are most interested in the scientific programs, and that is what draws attendance. It must be fun and a high quality educational experience. The question then is… should the WVC also be a venue for members to have exposure and input into work of the WVA and its activities as the umbrella organization for global veterinary medicine? In the United States, most member engagement is done electronically or through direct communication with leadership or
member representatives to the AVMA. There is very little general member participation in the organizational leadership meetings at our national conference. However, since leadership usually attends the annual conference, it is a convenient time to hold the organizational meetings on policy and other professional issues.

Q. What other programs, social or otherwise, would potential participants from the United States prefer at the World Veterinary Congress?

A. Our most successful veterinary medical conventions have first-rate scientific programs, the latest technology in convention experiences, fun social and family experiences, and a great exhibit hall for seeing the newest developments in diagnostic equipment, treatment modalities, nutrition, and other related products to promote public education and marketing of the value of veterinary medical consultation and services.

---

Report from the Constitution & ByLaws Working Group

René Carlson, Chair of the Constitution & ByLaws Working Group, has reported to the WVA EXCOM that the Working Group met in Brussels at the WVA office on March 28-29, 2012. All members of the appointed working group were in attendance and included:

- Dr. René Carlson, Chair
- Dr. Khaled El Hichery (Tunisia) – representing N. Africa/Middle East
- Dr. Vincent Ng In Hooi (Malaysia) – representing East Asia and Oceania
- Dr. Clive Peter Marwick (South Africa) – representing Africa
- Dr. S. Abdul Rahman (India) – representing Associate Members (Commonwealth Veterinary Association)
- Dr. Bob Stevenson (Wales) – representing Europe
- Dr. Pat Turner (Canada) – representing North America
- Dr. Jan Vaarten – WVA Secretariat

Regrettably, there was no nomination submitted for a representative from Latin America.

The Chair started out with mentioning a book written by Glenn Tecker entitled “The Will to Govern Well” which describes the three characteristics of a well governed organization in the 21st century. The three characteristics to be achieved include being Knowledge-based (which comes from members), Trust (from communication, transparency, and integrity of process), and Nimbleness (the ability to respond in a timely manner). It is hoped that the work of this working group will help WVA governance achieve these qualities for the benefit of its members.

Our working group reviewed several documents as preparation and introduction to this meeting:

1. The Terms of Reference for the WG;
2. The letter and chart dated May 2011 with the Goals and Objectives intended by the original proposed changes to the Constitution and ByLaws;
3. The previously proposed amendments to the Constitution and ByLaws with the current documents;
4. A section of the February WVA Council minutes listing suggestions of “new ideas” to consider in our deliberations; and
5. The timeline adopted for the WG in which to complete its assignment.

We started our meeting with Immediate Past President Tjeerd Jorna addressing our meeting with a history of the issues that brought about their original proposal for C & BLs amendments. This provided great insight into the objectives hoped to be accomplished with this exercise. The WG very much appreciated the background information Dr. Jorna brought to the meeting.

We had lengthy discussions on many of the major issues directed to our attention in the Terms of Reference and Council suggestions, including:

- Possible combination of the Constitution and By-Laws into a single governance document that strictly defines the structure of the WVA, with a separate Policies and Procedures manual to clearly define
how the WVA functions in that structure;
- Definitions of member categories;
- Officers and EXCOM structure;
- Council representation;
- A possible name change for the Presidents’ Assembly;
- Clarification and streamlining of the election process; and
- Clarification of a transition process and timeline for adoption of the new governance documents should they be approved.

We discussed all of the topics listed above at length and arrived at good consensus on the major concepts. We chose to withhold our initial decisions from this report until a draft document could be written for further discussion by the working group and with input by past presidents as instructed by the Council.

We continued our deliberations by going through the current and previously proposed ByLaws document Chapter by Chapter to determine what must remain in the Constitutional document, and what could be reassigned to a Policies and Procedures (P & P) manual. This P & P manual would also include the WVA Congress Rules (which are being worked on by another group) and the Internal Procedures manual used by the EXCOM and Council. A subcommittee was assigned to work on a first draft of a governance document and P&P manual, minus the WVA Congress Rules.

We also discussed the importance of the integrity of elections and how we could streamline that process during the Assembly. It was felt a clearly defined and streamlined election process would bring increased value to the Assembly by allowing more time on the agenda for Knowledge-based items and increased Trust in the organization. A subcommittee was assigned to write a draft for an election process to meet those objectives which would be considered for inclusion into the P&P manual.

Timelines were established to continue our work:
- April 27th – 1st draft of a governance document for further comment and review by the assigned subcommittee
- May 11th – 2nd draft of a governance document for further comment and review by the entire WG
- May 18th – 1st draft of a document on the election process for further comment and review by the assigned subcommittee
- July 16th – Conference call to discuss the governance draft document and election process draft document for further comment and review by the entire WG. Input from past presidents would be solicited in the interim between this conference call and the next August meeting so we have a 1st draft for their review and have their input before our next in-person meeting.
- August 23rd -24th, 2012 – 2nd scheduled in-person meeting of the WG to further refine a final recommendation to the WVA EXCOM and Council by our deadline of December.

Before adjourning this first meeting, the WG reviewed the Terms of Reference and the May 2011 goals and objectives and felt satisfied that all areas were addressed. It was also understood that the WG was directed to get input from Past Presidents. The WG Chair will contact the most recent five past presidents for their input once draft documents are reviewed by the WG in July.

The Chair thanked all members for their commitment to travel, preparation, thoughtful consideration, and excellent participation at this first meeting. All members felt the time was well spent and much progress was made.

René A. Carlson, DVM
President, American Veterinary Medical Association
Chair of the WVA Constitution & ByLaws Working Group
WVA joins World Medical Association

The WVA Past President Dr Tjeerd Jorna was invited to the meeting of the Council of the World Medical Association (WMA), which was held in Prague on April 26th – 28th. The meeting was attended by more than 100 WMA Councillors coming from all corners of the world.

The presentation Dr Jorna gave about WVA was well received. He also used the opportunity to highlight the need for close cooperation between medical doctors and veterinarians for achieving the "One Health" objectives.

WVA and WMA are preparing a Memorandum of Understanding to underline the importance of their collaboration.

Report of the visit to the 191st Council Session of the World Medical Association [WMA]

More than 120 participants from 40 national associations and 20 participants from 7 observer organizations were present in the 191th Council Session of the WMA. As Past-President of WVA I was one of the observers and experienced a hearty welcome by WMA President Dr. Jose Luiz Gomes do Amaral from Brazil, the chairman of the Council Dr Mukesh Haikerwal from Australia and the Secretary General Dr Otmar Kloiber and many participants and observers like the Red Cross, the Junior Doctors and the European Doctors.

After the opening the plenary session was about Medical-ethical affairs. The most important issue was the donation of organs policy by a revision of the Declaration of Helsinki. A draft version will be sent out for public consultation. Other topics were the ethical organ procurement, palliative sedation and capital punishment. During the Friday afternoon part of the session many issues were discussed and one that took my interest was the resolution on human rights in regions with war, e.g. Syria.

The second part on the first day was about finances, the WMA strategic plan, next WMA meetings, new memberships. Constitution and Bylaws, Communication in the World Medical Journal and Awards. An introduction of the last ones was rejected. The next General Assembly of WMA is in Bangkok [10th -14th October 2012].

On the next day the Socio-Medical affairs Committee reported and discussed about health and environment, health and mercury product, the protection of health personnel in situations of violence, ethical implications of physicians strikes, electronic cigarettes, violence in the health sector, forced and coerced sterilisation, prioritisation of vaccination. A review of many 2002 policies was also discussed. Even situations in different countries were discussed like professional autonomy and self regulation in Turkey.
professional orders in West Africa, health care in danger in Brazil.
In the last morning session on Saturday I got the opportunity to speak and I gave a presentation about the WVA. What we are, what we do and what policies we publish.
About our WVC and World Veterinary Day. About Communication in the region to get closer contact with our members also about our relation with WHO, FAO and OIE and our policy in Antimicrobial Resistance.

The main paper I have offered the WMA is a Memorandum of Understanding between WVA and WMA to cooperate in the near future more directly to combat zoonotic diseases and to control Antimicrobial Resistance. The Memorandum is well received by the WMA board and the President-Elect Dr Cecil Wilson will come with WMA comments to finalize the MoU.

In my opinion a good start to a closer cooperation between two main organizations in the One Health Concept has been initiated.

Dr Tjeerd Jorna
Immediate Past-President

---

**Chinese Veterinary Medical Association wants to join the WVA**

During a recent visit to Beijing, WVA Past-President Dr Jim Edwards met with Dr Jia Youling, President of the CVMA. The two men first met more than 10 years ago when Dr Edwards was the President of the WVA.

Since that first meeting, the CVMA has wanted to join the WVA and the WVA has worked to enable that to happen. The problem has involved the WVA membership being based on “National Members” and the “One China” policy. The Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association has long been a member of the WVA and this has prevented China’s participation.

The WVA has been reviewing its Constitution and Bylaws. This was referred by the 2011 Presidents’ Assembly to a working group headed by Dr René A. Carlson, DVM, President of the AVMA. It is hoped that the revised Constitution and Bylaws will have membership criteria that will encourage and facilitate more veterinary associations and organizations, including the CVMA, to join the WVA and grow it into a larger global body.

Dr Jia and Dr Edwards also discussed how China could help the CVMA join the WVA. They discussed the proposal that the CVMA apply for membership of the WVA. It is hoped that this proposal will find acceptance within China and the WVA, and result in China becoming an active member of the WVA soon.

**China wants to host a World Veterinary Congress**

As the veterinary association of the World’s largest and most populous country, the CVMA is very keen to become an active member of the WVA. Their enthusiasm is reflected in their desire to hold a World Veterinary Congress in China in 2019. This is an exciting prospect for the global veterinary profession.
BVA Delighted at Veterinary Appointment to House of Lords

The British Veterinary Association has warmly welcomed the announcement that Professor Alexander (Sandy) Trees will become a Crossbench Peer in the House of Lords, following the recommendation of the House of Lords Appointments Commission.

Commenting on Professor Trees’ appointment, BVA President Carl Padgett said:

"The British Veterinary Association is absolutely delighted at Professor Trees’ appointment to the House of Lords. He will bring a wealth of experience and scientific expertise into the political arena, not only in the fields of animal health and welfare but also public health, where he has particular knowledge and experience.

“We are pleased that the value of veterinary input in legislative debate has been recognised by the Appointments Commission.

"We are also proud that Professor Trees will be formally opening this September's BVA Congress in Liverpool where he inspired two generations of vets through his teaching and research, and we look forward to working with him to deliver a healthy future for animals, vets and the country."

Professor Trees said:

“I am delighted and humbled to be appointed as a member of the House of Lords, not least as I will become only the second veterinary surgeon to be ennobled.

Professor Trees will become only the second veterinary surgeon to enter the House of Lords, joining Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior in Parliament's upper chamber.

The BVA is also pleased to announce that Professor Trees, who is currently Veterinary Editor in Chief of BVA Publications, will formally open BVA’s annual Congress in Liverpool on Friday 28 September under the theme of ‘Delivering a healthy future’.

Professor Trees has worked in general practice, industry and academia and his career spans Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He has produced over 140 scientific papers and is currently Chairman of the Board of the Moredun Research Institute in Edinburgh. He was formerly President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and Dean of Liverpool University Veterinary School.

Professor Trees will be introduced to the House of Lords at a future date as a non-party-political (Crossbench) Peer, at which point his formal title will be announced.
“The understanding of science in public policy has never been more important and I look forward to bringing my experience and knowledge to the House.

“In addition to my areas of expertise in veterinary science and public health, I have a personal and professional interest in the quality of science education amongst the public and in schools, in international development, and in conservation and natural history.

“I shall endeavour to be an advocate for science-based policy making and also for the veterinary profession. I believe that veterinary surgeons both in practice and academia could, and should, play a more prominent role in advising Parliament not only on animal health and welfare matters, but also on human healthcare.”

“I am delighted to hear that Professor Sandy Trees has been appointed to the House of Lords,” commented Dr Jerry Davies, President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

“I know that he will not only represent the profession on all matters of veterinary science, veterinary education, animal welfare and public health, but as a cross-bencher, he will also bring a breadth of experience to bear on issues outside the immediate interests of our profession.

"He is a well informed and articulate advocate, of whom the profession can be rightly proud.”

WVA meets OIE

OIE, on behalf of the competent authorities and WVA on behalf of the veterinary profession have many interests and objectives in common.

A very clear and topical issue is the availability and responsible use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine, theme of the 2011 global summit and for the 2012 World Veterinary Day Award, a WVA and OIE initiative. They also spoke about other ‘One Health’ issues like rabies prevention and avian influenza, standards for veterinary education and the role of veterinary statutory bodies.
One Health

OIE Global Conference on the Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents for Animals
International Solidarity to Fight against Antimicrobial Resistance
Paris (France) 13th – 15th March 2013

Antimicrobial agents are essential tools for protecting animal health and welfare. They also contribute to satisfying the increasing world demand for safe food of animal origin, such as milk, meat and eggs. To ensure sustainability of livestock production, the efficacy of antimicrobial agents must be preserved through their responsible and prudent use.

Antimicrobial resistance is a global human and animal health concern that is influenced by both human and non-human usages of antimicrobial agents. The human, animal and plant sectors therefore have a shared responsibility to minimise antimicrobial resistance selection pressures on human and non-human pathogens and to contain antimicrobial resistance illustrating the One Health approach.

The OIE has worked actively for more than a decade on veterinary products, including antimicrobial agents, and developed a strategy for its activities in this area. Given that antimicrobial resistance is often an animal and human health issue, the OIE works closely with all its Member Countries, as well as with international organisations such as WHO, FAO and the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Read more at:
www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Conferences_Events/docs/pdf/A_Anounce_AMR_Conference.pdf

International One Health & Public Health Leader Honored

James H. Steele, DVM, MPH, a renowned public health authority and One Health leader worldwide and an Honorary Member of the WVA, was honored by many on his 99th birthday April 3, 2012 in Houston, Texas (USA). On April 4, 2012, the 20th Annual James H. Steele Lecture series took place at the University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston.

Dr. Steele, a veterinarian, has been called the “father of veterinary public health” and founded the veterinary division of the Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta, GA (USA), now called the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He has advocated the One Health concept (then referred to as “One Medicine”) during much of the 20th century, long before it became fashionable.

In a recorded UTube message, Dr. Mirta Roses, a prominent physician and epidemiologist, www.paho.org/english/dd/pin/bio_dr_roses.htm and the Director of the Pan American Health Organizations (PAHO), heartily congratulated Dr. Steele for his monumental global public health accomplishments.

Please see http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXHOYGdg5-I
Practicing “One Health” for the Human Health Clinician

(Physicians, Osteopaths, Physician Associates, Nurse Practitioners, Other Human Health Care Providers)

What is One Health Practice?

The One Health clinical concept recognizes that the health care of humans and animals in a community benefits when there is collaboration and communication between human and animal health professionals.

Why should human and animal health care professionals collaborate?

More than 50% of households include at least one pet, and this percentage may be growing.
• Zoonotic infections: Animal contact can pose a risk of zoonotic infectious disease, and this risk increases if there are infants, elderly, or immune-compromised individuals in the household. Veterinarians are a source of expertise regarding zoonotic diseases; disease control in animals can help limit the patient’s exposure to infectious pathogens.
• Animal allergies: If humans are developing allergies to animals in the household, a consultation with a veterinarian may help identify alternatives to getting rid of the pet
• Human animal bond: humans can develop deep bonds with animals, and this can have therapeutic value and implications for medical care. For example, people may change their behavior for the better (such as tobacco cessation) if they recognize that such changes will also benefit their pets.
• Animals as sentinels: like the “canary in the coalmine”’, animals may show signs of exposure to a toxic or infectious hazard in the environment before humans, providing an “early warning” of environmental risk. Communication between human health care providers and veterinarians is necessary to share such information.

What are some potential benefits of a One Health Approach?

1. Improved diagnosis and prevention of infectious diseases transmitted between animals and people
2. Improved management of animal allergies
3. Improved psychosocial status of patients
4. Early detection of environmental health hazards
5. Improved patient satisfaction

What changes in practice are necessary?

The One Health approach can involve very simple and manageable changes in clinical practice.
1. Take a history of animal contact for your patients.
2. Consider consulting with a veterinarian on cases related to animal contact.
3. Encourage your patient to have their veterinarian contact you with questions about health issues that overlap between humans and animals.
4. Set up a meeting between local veterinarians and human health care providers to discuss possible cross-referrals and other collaborations.

References and website resources:
Human-Animal Medicine – Clinical Approaches to Zoonoses, Toxicants and other Shared Health Risks
Handbook For Zoonotic Diseases of Companion Animals -
CDC Healthy Pets Healthy People
www.cdc.gov/healthypets
One Health Initiative website
www.onehealthinitiative.com

Produced April 2012 by the One Health Initiative Autonomous pro bono Team:
• Laura H. Kahn, MD, MPH, MPP
• Bruce Kaplan, DVM
• Thomas P. Monath, MD
• Jack Woodall, PhD
• Lisa A. Conti, DVM, MPH
• with assistance from Peter M. Rabinowitz, MD, MPH
Recently Revised Animal Welfare and General Position Statements

Trapping of Fur-Bearing Animals – Animal Welfare Position Statement

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) accepts, in general, the use of trapping devices that are designed to cause rapid death or work on the principle of live capture that minimize pain, injury, and suffering. The CVMA supports the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) for specific fur-bearing species, as well as mandatory Canadian trapper educational programs, to advance humane trapping practices. The CVMA strongly supports continued development and improvement of humane traps for fur-bearing animals.

Vaccination Protocols for Dogs and Cats – General Position Statement

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) supports the use of vaccines by veterinarians to control and prevent infectious disease in dogs and cats. Vaccines play a very important role in preventive medicine and will continue to be a mainstay for animal health and for reducing the risk of human exposure to zoonotic disease.

Vaccination of dogs and cats is a veterinary medical procedure for which antigen selection and revaccination intervals need to be individualized for each patient. Veterinarians should ensure that pet owners are informed of and understand the risk factors associated with infectious disease, as well as possible risks associated with vaccination.

The decision to administer any particular antigen should be based on the risk of contracting the disease, and protocols may vary depending on what disease entities are prevalent in any given area.

Optimal revaccination intervals may differ for the various vaccines and antigens administered, and may vary from patient to patient to address their individual risk factors. Vaccination needs should be assessed regularly as part of a comprehensive preventive health care plan.

To read the full position statements, go to the CVMA website: http://canadianveterinarians.net/publications-informations-position.aspx.

NIAA’s President’s Award to Dr. James McKean

Dr. James McKeen, Iowa State University Swine Extension Veterinarian, was presented the National Institute for Animal Agriculture’s coveted President’s Award during the organization’s annual conference, March 27-28, in Denver. The President’s Award recognizes an NIAA committee or council chairman or vice chairman for exemplary leadership and dedication to the organization. “When NIAA established its Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade Council last year, Dr. McKeenan graciously answered our request to co-chair this important council,” states Scott Stuart, NIAA’s Managing Director. “A visionary with a brilliant mind, Dr. McKeenan encourages others to think beyond what is visible and challenging. His way of being liberates others so they feel free to express themselves and share their true thoughts, beliefs and ideas without fear of concern or ridicule. As a result, honest, in-depth discussions—where all angles of topics are on the table—pour forth.”

Dr. McKeenan, who has been Iowa State University Swine Extension Veterinarian for more than three decades, is a long-time member of NIAA and has been active in the organization on many fronts.
A New Global Alliance for a Safer, Fairer and More Sustainable Livestock Sector

In the face of a fast-growing, resource-hungry and commonly misunderstood livestock sector, it is clear that increased investment in the sector is essential to livelihoods, global health and the environment. To address livestock as a global public good, a strengthened alliance has been formed among key institutions charged with shaping and steering the global livestock agenda.

April 2012 - We, the representatives of global and regional institutions whose mandates cover livestock, met in Nairobi, Kenya, 12th-13th March 2012. We exchanged ideas, concerns, experiences and expertise with the aim of developing closer partnerships, a shared vision and more complementary programs for a global livestock agenda.

Our consultation came at an opportune time. Global production and consumption of meat, milk and eggs are growing fast, especially in developing countries, in the face of diminishing natural resources. Decision-makers and investors continue to under-appreciate the critical role that livestock play in the lives and livelihoods of the world's poorest people. The world remains alert to the risk of pandemics arising at the interface between people and animals.

We agreed that social equity, global health and the environment should be considered among the strategic 'pillars' of the global livestock agenda. There was also much concurrence on the issues and challenges facing the livestock sector and the ways to address them.

We are building this alliance to work in closer partnerships, with each organization bringing to bear its comparative advantage. Together we aim to be more effective in explaining to the world better why livestock are essential to the society and to the health and wellbeing of the poor and to show leadership in addressing the challenges and opportunities that livestock can bring.

We will do this by marshalling the best evidence to support our case; directly addressing the harm as well as benefits generated by livestock; learning from successes and failures to design and implement the most appropriate programs and policies; exploiting advances in our understanding of complex systems and powerful new technologies; and building on existing successful initiatives. We aim to develop strategic goals, and to create, and share publicly, a means to measure progress against these goals.

We invite our colleagues in other institutions, public and private, to join us.

African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
Association of Southeast Asian Nations
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
International Fund for Agricultural Development
International Livestock Research Institute
World Bank
World Organisation for Animal Health

WSPA welcomes new Chief Veterinary Adviser

Dr David Bayvel will be joining the organisation on 1 July as Chief Veterinary Adviser. His newly created position will be replacing the role held by Dr David Wilkins from 2004-2012. Dr Wilkins will continue his involvement with WSPA, working on several special projects.

Dr Bayvel is one of the world’s pre-eminent experts in the fields of animal welfare and veterinary science. His career, which has taken him around the world, spans more than four decades and includes posts in private and public sector organisations and veterinary practice promoting ethical care and treatment of animals. He recently retired from the position of Director of Animal Welfare at the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Dr Bayvel said, “I am honoured to join WSPA as its new Chief Veterinary Adviser. I have long admired WSPA’s measured approach to animal welfare and its commitment to improving the conditions for animals around the world. WSPA has a proven track record on the world stage of forging collaborations with other key international NGOs and governments to have a lasting positive impact for animals and their communities.”

Over the last two years, Dr Bayvel has received several prestigious awards and has been honoured by a number of international and national organisations, including the OIE. He was also awarded a Queen’s Service Order in the December 2011 Honours List.

Dr Bayvel has been actively involved with the OIE in addressing animal welfare issues at an international level. He chaired the 2001 OIE ad hoc expert group meeting on animal welfare and chaired the permanent OIE Animal Welfare Working Group from 2002-2012. He will now move to represent the International Coalition for Animal Welfare on this important OIE group.

Mike Baker, Chief Executive Officer at WSPA said, “We are thrilled that David Bayvel will be joining the WSPA family in such a key role. He brings with him a wealth of experience, which will be an invaluable asset to WSPA as we forge ahead in partnership with other key international stakeholders and the veterinary profession working towards a world where animal welfare matters and animal cruelty has ended.

“We also want to express our gratitude to David Wilkins for all his excellent work on behalf of WSPA over the years and for his continued support. We wish him well in all his future endeavours.”
PG Certificate, PG Diploma or MSc in Veterinary Education

‘Are you involved in Teaching and Training? Have you considered studying via Distance Learning for a PG Certificate, PG Diploma or MSc in Veterinary Education with the Royal Veterinary College, London?

Please visit: www.rvc.ac.uk/MScVetEd for further information or email mscvetedu@rvc.ac.uk

The MSc in Veterinary Education is a unique new programme specifically developed by the RVC, one of the leading Veterinary Schools in the UK. Utilising the extensive expertise and experience of educators at the LIVE Centre www.live.ac.uk (a centre specifically developed to promote educational excellence), the course will develop individuals as professional veterinary and para-veterinary educators. It can be done via distance learning or face-to-face.

The MSc in Veterinary Education is designed for educators and veterinary and para-veterinary professionals working in education and workplace-based training. The programme will develop individuals as reflective practitioners and will help them to offer an enhanced learning experience to anyone they teach or train.

For further information on the MSc in Veterinary Education courses please email: mscvetedu@rvc.ac.uk or via phone on 01707 666438

Africa Vet Experience

Looking for an exceptional clinical veterinary placement? Africa Vet Experience offers an unrivalled opportunity to improve your diagnostic and surgical skills in Malawi - 'the warm heart of Africa'. The highly practical course offers invaluable work experience with small animals, farm animals, equines and wildlife. The animals you can expect to work with include: dogs, cats, goats, chickens, pigs, donkeys and captive wild animals. The Africa Vet Experience programme is delivered by the Lilongwe Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (LSPCA), in partnership with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA, UK) and Worldwide Veterinary Service (WVS).

The Africa Vet Experience programme is centred around our community veterinary clinics, so you will be making a real contribution to the treatment of animals that would never otherwise see a vet. You will also spend time at the new LSPCA clinic and participate in veterinary work at the Lilongwe Wildlife Centre. There will be opportunities to experience Malawi's wildlife during an overnight stay in a national park and participate in the park's on-going veterinary programmes. Our in-depth lecture programme complements and supports the clinical work.

Places are limited on this course so please contact us to reserve your place by emailing: africavetexperience@gmail.com
Human and Veterinary Vaccinology

26th -30th November 2012
Oxford, UK

The Human and Veterinary Vaccinology course is a five-day Master’s level course designed to stand alone and cover all aspects of vaccinology.

The course includes contributions from 18 world-leading experts, including:

• Prof David Salisbury (Director of Immunisation, UK Department of Health)
• Dr Mike Whelan (Head of R & D, iQur Ltd)
• Dr Vasee Moorthy (Department of Immunization, Vaccines & Biologicals, World Health Organisation)
• Prof Andrew Pollard (Director, Oxford Vaccine Group, University of Oxford)
• Dr Laura Martin (Development Project Leader, Novartis Vaccines Institute for Global Health)
• Prof Adrian Hill (Director, Jenner Institute, University of Oxford)

Vaccinology is a cross-disciplinary subject and the most exciting developments in vaccinology have occurred when people from diverse research, business and medical backgrounds have used their skills to collectively tackle problems in vaccine design, manufacture and distribution.

Our course participants will therefore reflect the diversity of the subject and be from business, academic, clinical and veterinary backgrounds. The course will be of particular interest to research scientists, programme managers, clinical trial coordinators, nurses, physicians and veterinarians. The course will be accessible to people already working in the field or to those who wish to enter the field.

Web: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/C900-1
More details: vaccinology@conted.ox.ac.uk

How Public Health Degrees are Adapting to Health Challenges Posed by Climate Change

We usually think of climate change in relation to the soil, air, and oceans that make up our environment. The issues raised in this context are large-scale ones: how will the planet and its various elements react when the temperature of the earth rises?

An increasingly important consequence of climate change, however, is its impact on human health—the individual lives that will be affected by issues such as air quality, extreme weather conditions, and a rise in infectious diseases following a global increase in temperatures.

While scientists and politicians shift blame unto one another over climate change, public health officials are charged with understanding the widespread health issues required to understand how this complex set of problems will be handled.

Federation of the Asian Veterinary Associations

FAVA Congress is held by FAVA members taking turns every two years. The Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) takes pride in hosting the 17th FAVA Congress at the Grand Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan from January 4th to 7th, 2013.

Meanwhile, WVA and the 34th FAVA Council Meeting will be held at the same place in January 5th. The Councillors of the WVA and FAVA will meet for discussion.

The Congress will be held under the theme of “Asian Veterinarians for Global Health”. Many international speakers will deliver their practical experience and advanced information. The Organizing Committee is designing the best possible programs including animal welfare, transboundary animal diseases, zoonoses, public health, food safety, companion animal medicine, food animal medicine, pharmacology / toxicology, wild life animal medicine, laboratory animal medicine, veterinary education, etc.

Guest speakers invited to the Congress include Dr. John Carr (swine Production Medicine expert), Prof. Hiroshi Kida (Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine Hokkaido University, Japan), Prof. David Nixon Logue (School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Glasgow) and some other field professionals.

FAVA President Dr. Johnson Chiang expects the participants to freshen their knowledge and share experience with veterinarians across the Pacific Ocean and Asia.

In addition, the Organizing Committee welcomes individuals who are interested in sharing their most up-to-date research results and challenging animal disease related issues to submit abstracts for Oral & Poster sessions, where they will be shared and reviewed by participants around the world.

For more information, please see the website at: www.2013favacongress.com

Novice International Conference

Insights for online professional communities 4th-5th October 2012, Bucharest, Romania

NOVICE is the Network Of Veterinary ICT in Education, an EU funded Project which aims to investigate the use of Web 2.0 tools such as discussion boards in informal lifelong learning. The project has led to the development of a veterinary online community, www.noviceproject.eu.

The project will host a conference entitled 'Insights for online professional communities' on 4th-5th October 2012 at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Bucharest, Romania.

The conference aims to bring together members of any profession involved, or wishing to be involved, with their own online professional community. Though the NOVICE website focuses on the veterinary profession and veterinary education, the conference is open to all professions, such as General Practitioners, Medical Educators, Animal Care Assistants, and Pharmacists to name a few. Abstracts for short communications, poster presentations and workshops are invited before 1st June 2012.

Please visit the conference website for more information: www.novice-conference.com
Clinic in a Box!
Africa’s newest community veterinary clinic

Malawi in southern Africa is known as the ‘warm heart of Africa’. It is best known for Lake Malawi, the third largest and second deepest lake in Africa. Malawi is a ‘least developed country’ which means inevitably that as well as a very poor health service, there is also a severe lack of veterinary care available. Lilongwe Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (LSPCA) is trying to change that.

LSPCA is the first and only animal welfare organisation in Malawi and is working hard to improve the health and welfare of companion and farm animals. This is quite a challenge in a country with fewer than ten practising vets. LSPCA works closely with local communities, through delivering animal welfare education lessons in schools and providing free veterinary care in its mobile community veterinary clinics.

The clinics are warmly welcomed by the local community, often the LSPCA vet is the only vet that visits these areas and the weekly spay and neuter clinics become an entertaining spectacle for the local kids! Farm animal clinics are an opportunity to provide some preventative treatments, such as vaccinating chickens against the devastating Newcastle disease, which can quickly wipe out a whole village flock. The highly effective vaccine I2 is administered through one drop in the bird’s eye, so LSPCA has trained local co-ordinators to treat all the birds in their area.

The mobile clinics are fantastic for reaching into the heart of local communities and making veterinary services accessible. However, with no running water or electricity, high heat, humidity and dust and no diagnostic equipment available, the mobile clinic conditions are extremely rudimentary. This precludes more sophisticated operations and with no hospitalisation facilities, LSPCA could not take on patients needing intensive post-op care.

In 2011 LSPCA and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) in the UK launched ‘Clinic in a Box’ – a project...
to source veterinary equipment, medicines and consumables to set up the first fully equipped veterinary clinic in Malawi. The project was a great success. In March 2012 RSPCA packed an x-ray machine, blood machine, microscope, anaesthetic machine, surgical instruments, weighing scales, 2 theatre tables, surgical lights, autoclave, office furniture, computers, boxes and boxes of IV sets, dressings, swabs etc, 3 pallets of dog food, medicines and much more into a 20ft shipping container – a ‘Clinic in a Box’!

Two ships, a truck journey and 60 days later, it was a magical day when the container full of vital equipment arrived in Malawi! The new LSPCA clinic now has a fully operational theatre and consulting room and will treat animals from low-income communities for free, subsided by those who can afford to pay.

Last week the LSPCA’s programme director and vet, Dr Richard Ssuna took what is assumed to be the first ever x-ray of a pet animal in Malawi. The new clinic will enable LSPCA to improve the health and welfare of thousands of animals in the coming years and will be a fantastic learning environment for Malawian and international students to come and see practice.

Find out more about the Clinic in a Box project: [www.lilongweclinic.blogspot.com](http://www.lilongweclinic.blogspot.com) and check out LSPCA’s Facebook page [www.facebook.com/lspca](http://www.facebook.com/lspca) and website: [www.lilongwespca.org](http://www.lilongwespca.org)
Calendar of Events

World Biutriats Congress 2012
June 3rd – 7th, 2012
Lisbon, Portugal
Website: www.wbc-2012.com

FVE General Assembly Meeting
8th and 9th June, 2012
Hotel Novotel City,
Europaboulevard 10,
1083 AD Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Website: www.fve.org

FAO/OIE global conference on foot and mouth
disease control
27th - 29th June 2012
Bangkok, Thailand
Website: www.oie.int/eng/A_FMD2012/Background.html

Minding Animals Conference
4th – 6th July 2012
Utrecht University
The Netherlands
Website: www.mindinganimals.com

2012 CVMA Convention
July 11th - 14th, 2012
Montreal, Quebec
Website: http://members.cvma-acvm.org/8080/Newsletter_2010/Redirect.aspx?LinkID=836253333370

OIE Collaborating Centre for
Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis
22nd July – 1st August 2012
Understanding Animal Welfare: Foundations, Practice and Regulation
Massey University, New Zealand
Website: www.massey.ac.nz

Joint WDA EWDA conference
Convergence in wildlife health
22nd – 27th July 2012
Lyon, France
Website: http://wda2012.vetagro-sup.fr

International Congress on Animal Reproduction
Jul. 29th - Aug. 2nd, 2012
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Website: www.icar2012.com

AVMA Convention
3rd – 7th August 2012
San Diego
Website: www.avmaconvention.org/avma12/public/enter.aspx

1st International Conference on Dog Population Management
September 4th – 8th, 2012
York, UK
Website: https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/dogs2012/index.cfm

11th World Congress of Veterinary Anaesthesiology
24th to 26th September 2012
Cape Town, South Africa
Website: www.wcva2012.com

BVA Congress 2012
Delivering a healthy future
27th – 29th September
Maritime Museum
Liverpool, UK
Website: www.bva.co.uk/congress

EcoSummit 2012
30th September – 5th October, 2012

Antimicrobial resistance Symposium
2nd October 2012
London
‘Antimicrobial resistance in human and veterinary medicine – one health, one problem’
Website: www.rcvs.org.uk/amrsymposium

The Third Chinese Veterinary Conference
28th - 30th October, 2012
Suzhou, Jiangsu Province, China
Website: www.cvma.org.cn/eng/E58261A32666DF14.html
Third OIE global conference on animal welfare
6th – 8th November, 2012
Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Website: www.oie.int

Human and Veterinary Vaccinology

26th -30th November 2012
Oxford, UK
Website: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/C900-1

International Union of Veterinary Cyclists Continuing Education Meeting

VetLectures

November 9th - 11th, 2012
Solvang, California
Website: www.vetlectures.com

2013

8th International Sheep Veterinary Congress

18th – 22nd February 2013
“Connecting Science and Sheep”
Website: www.conference.intsheepvetassoc.org

World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress
6th – 7th March 2013
Auckland, New Zealand
Website: www.wsava2013.org

Medical Library Association Annual Meeting

May 3rd – 8th, 2013
Boston, MA, USA
Website: www.milanet.org/am/am2013/

31st World Veterinary Congress
15th Anniversary of the World Veterinary Association
Prague, Czech Republic, 17-20 September 2013
Website: www.wvc2013.com/en/