Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

It is one year since the election of the new Board in Cape Town and a lot of progress has been made for a better future for our profession through telephone conferences, scientific events and physical meetings involving the EXCOM and the Council.

A priority is Veterinary education, and the WVA wants to complement the OIE day-1 competences with basic curriculum guidelines for veterinarians in private and non-governmental positions. In order to promote this important activity, the WVA with the Thailand Veterinary medical
association are planning a conference on this topic from 2nd to 4th May 2013 in Bangkok.

The WVA, through well educated veterinarians, aims to strengthen the veterinary profession and increase the quality of services they provide and to assure and promote animal health, public health and animal welfare at global level.

On the other side, the ad-hoc WVA working group looking at the WVA Constitution and By-laws, under the inspired chairmanship of Dr. René A. Carlson, has made excellent progress. After the first meeting in our headquarters in Brussels, the group held a second physical meeting in August in Paris.

The draft revised Constitution and By-laws will be ready to be presented to the EXCOM and Council meeting in January in Taipei and - if agreed by Council & EXCOM - for adoption at the WVC in Prague.

Animal Welfare is with animal health, another interesting pillar of the profession. The WVA EXCOM focused about the role veterinarians play every day in enhancing the welfare of animals. Many of these contributions are taken for granted or go unnoticed and should be better recognized and highlighted. EXCOM welcomes the development of tools for the education of animal welfare such as WSPA’s “Concepts in Animal Welfare; an Animal Welfare Syllabus”.

Last August the EXCOM held its meeting in the Sunny San Diego during the AVMA annual convention and I had the honour to represent WVA at the AVMA House of Delegates where I was warmly welcomed by President René Carlson. In my speech, I underlined the importance of collaboration and leadership in the veterinary profession.

I complimented Dr Carlson for her enormous engagement and enthusiasm, and congratulated AVMA with its leading role in the veterinary world.

WVA is working to be closer with its members and many events are scheduled including the BVA Congress in Liverpool, Asian Pacific veterinary conference in Bangkok, the 23rd PANVET Congress in Colombia, the Third Chinese Veterinary Medical Congress in Suzhou, China, the global conference on Animal Welfare in Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, the Kerala scientific veterinary congress in India and the German veterinary congress in Hannover. WVA as always, is following these events to better promote the future of our profession.

Last week, the world celebrated the World Rabies Day on the 28th of September, and promoted the mass vaccination of dogs in order to try to eliminate the disease and to prevent tragic human cases.

Every year, an estimated 55,000 people die from rabies, 95 percent of them in Asia and Africa. Rabies is a viral disease that affects the nervous system, often transmitted by infected dogs. Rabies also kills farm animals. In Latin America, for example, hundreds of thousands of livestock die every year from rabies contracted from vampire bats. Livestock deaths from rabies occur throughout the world, but often go unreported. Successful projects in the world, show that rabies can be controlled by combating the virus in animals, before it can be transmitted to humans. A great, but not impossible, challenge for veterinarians.

The WVA and the international organisations stressed this critical situation during the last global conference on rabies last year in Seoul and proposed scientific and technical solutions focused on mass vaccination of dogs. After eradication of rinderpest and efforts towards FMD, we should stop the disaster called rabies.

Good Luck.

Dr. Faouzi Kechrid
President
World Veterinary Association
Dear colleagues,

World Veterinary Congress is the most important event for the global veterinary community.

We understand its organization in Prague as the utmost privilege for the Czech veterinary profession. Our profession enjoys fairly high social credit; and Czech veterinarians are backed by the tradition of Vienna veterinary school; the third oldest worldwide. From these roots comes also Brno Veterinary University with its 95th anniversary in front of us.

Brno Veterinary University supports WVC 2013 Scientific Program by participation of its staff on WVC Scientific Program streams design and set up.

Our University in Brno might also be interesting destination for colleagues coming to WVC. Modernized campus concentrating the whole education process into one location, teaching rooms, info center with its library and archives, clinical facilities with all high tech equipment, research labs, surgeries and post-op care units with 24 hours emergency care, all these are to be open to invite interested Congress participants.

International renowned of Brno Veterinary University with its bi-lingual teaching, exchange programs with a number of European and American veterinary schools, systematically developing mobility program for students, all this brings our University into the prominent upper third group of European veterinary schools.

Looking forward to meeting you in September 2013

Prof. MVDr. Vladimír Večerek, CSc., MBA, Brno Veterinary University Rector
Dear colleagues,
we would like to invite you to the 31st World Veterinary Congress that will take place next year in Prague. Each year is very important for the World Veterinary Association (WVA), but the year 2013 is a special year, the WVA will celebrate 150th anniversary in Prague with us.

Scientific Programme
Eleven Sections
Canine and Feline Medicine
Canine and Feline Surgery
Equine Medicine and Surgery
Exotic Animals Medicine
Bovine Medicine
Porcine Medicine
Aquatic Medicine
Poultry Medicine
Animal Welfare
Food Hygiene
Epidemiology
World Summit
and much more...

Call for Abstracts
The on-line abstract submission form is available www.wvc2013.com/en/call-for-abstrac
You can submit your abstract(s) by March 31, 2013

Registration
The on-line registration will be open on January 1, 2013.

Accommodation
Lots of hotels of various categories at reduced rates will be available for participants of WVC 2013. The list of hotels may be found at: www.wvc2013.com/en/accommodation/list-of-hotel

Social Events
A variety of trips, tours and excursions will be organized, please see <a href="http://www.wvc2013.com/en/social-events-and-tours/tours">HERE</a>
To get an idea what to expect in Prague you can watch some videos www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dXOgjkWhKQ
You may participate at Opening Ceremony, Welcome Cocktail, Congress dinners and/or 1st World Veterinary Golf Championship. For more information click www.wvc2013.com/en/social-events-and-tours/social-events

Contact
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Dr. Douglas G. Aspros was installed as president of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) during the Association’s 149th Annual Convention in San Diego.

“In looking forward to celebrating the AVMA’s 150th birthday next year, which to me represents the birth of the modern veterinary profession in America. But I know that with the rising cost of education and other changes facing the profession, there is a lot of work to do. I’m excited to be leading AVMA in a time of both triumph and turmoil,” says Dr. Aspros. “We’re still a close knit profession, and it’ll be great to have an opportunity to visit friends—old and new—across the country and around the world during my year as AVMA president.”

Dr. Aspros spoke before the AVMA House of Delegates (HOD) about some of the challenges that he felt the profession faces that he’d like to address during his presidency. Not only are veterinary student loans increasing (on average over $140,000 for new graduates from veterinary schools) but the profession is being challenged by competition from websites and online pharmacies. He also voiced support for the AVMA’s efforts to increase diversity in the veterinary profession.

Dr. Aspros, a companion-animal practitioner from Pound Ridge, N.Y., is a 1975 graduate of Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Aspros was elected to the AVMA Executive Board in 2006 as a representative of veterinarians in New York, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont and spent two years as the AVMA Executive Board vice chair. Prior to his term on the Executive Board, Dr. Aspros served six years on the AVMA Council on Education, which included serving as the council’s chair.

In 1985, Dr. Aspros became the first veterinarian in New York to be appointed to the Westchester County Board of Health. He has served as president of the board, elected by his peers, since 1994, directing initiatives addressing emerging threats and core public health programs.

He has also been active in local and state veterinary organizations, serving as president, treasurer, and two-term board member of the New York State Veterinary Medical Society (NYSVMS), and served as president of the Westchester-Rockland Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. Aspros has also received a number of professional awards. He received the National Association of Local Boards of Health Award in 2004, the NYSVMS honored him as 2000 Veterinarian of the Year, and he was honored as Northeast Region Practitioner of the Year in 1999 by the American Animal Hospital Association.

The AVMA, founded in 1863, is one of the oldest and largest veterinary medical organizations in the world, with more than 82,500 member veterinarians worldwide engaged in a wide variety of professional activities and dedicated to the art and science of veterinary medicine.

Source: https://www.avma.org/News/PressRoom/Pages/Aspros-release.aspx
Dr. Leon Russell receives World Veterinary Association Honorary Membership

Leon Russell, DVM, MPH, Ph.D. of Texas A&M University, has received World Veterinary Association Honorary Membership at the American Veterinary Medical Association’s (AVMA) annual convention.

The AVMA honored some of the nation’s top veterinarians during an awards ceremony at the association’s Annual Convention in San Diego, Calif. Each recipient has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of both animals and people around the country and the globe. These individuals represent the very best in all areas of veterinary medicine, from education and public service to research and private practice.

Dr. Russell received his DVM degree from the University of Missouri, his Masters of Public Health from Tulane University and his Ph.D. in Microbiology from Texas A&M University.

He was invited to join the faculty at Texas A&M to start an epidemiology course for veterinary students and has been there ever since, now as a professor in several disciplines. Dr. Russell has dedicated his life to teaching and researching important issues in public health, epidemiology, medical mycology zoonotic diseases – in particular rabies – and food toxicology. As an internationally recognized expert in public health, he has traveled the globe listening to and working with colleagues to preserve and advance the role of veterinarians in protecting animal, public and environmental health.

Throughout his career, Dr. Russell has been active in local, national and international organized veterinary medicine.

In 1984, Dr. Russell was elected president of the Texas Veterinary Medical Association and, in 1993, president of AVMA. He became one of the two North American councilors to the World Veterinary Association (WVA) and served on the WVA Veterinary Education Committee.
In 2002, Dr. Russell was elected to serve as WVA vice-president and in 2005 he became the first American veterinarian elected president of the WVA. As president, he paid special attention to promoting increased WVA participation with other international organizations such as the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Codex Alimentarius Commission. In the past year, he has remained an integral member of the WVA Executive Committee during his tenure as immediate past president.

**Update revision WVA Constitution and By-Laws**

The ad-hoc WVA working group looking at the WVA Constitution and By-laws, under the inspired chairmanship of Dr. René A. Carlson, is making excellent progress.

The group held a second physical meeting end August in Paris. The draft revised Constitution and By-laws will be ready to be presented to the Excom and Council meeting in January in Taipei and - if agreed by Council and Excom - for adoption at the WVC in Prague.

**WVA representation at AVMA in San Diego**

Sunny San Diego, place to the annual convention of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), offered a great opportunity for combining meetings, lectures, seminars and numerous network events.

WVA president Faouzi Kechrid represented WVA in the AVMA House of Delegates where he was warmly welcomed by AVMA President René Carlson. In his speech Dr Kechrid underlined the importance of collaboration and leadership in the veterinary profession. He complimented Dr Carlson for her enormous engagement and enthusiasm, and congratulated AVMA with its leading role in the veterinary world.

WVA Past President Leon Russell, who had not been able to travel to last meeting of the Presidents Assembly, received the WVA honorary membership certificate from WVA’s Immediate Past President Tjeerd Jorna.
WVA holds productive meeting in San Diego

The WVA Excom held an intensive and fruitful meeting in San Diego.

The group focused mainly on two topics, namely Veterinary Education Twinning Projects and developing guidelines for a model veterinary core curriculum, which aims to support setting up proper veterinary education programs. The WG planned to have the Guidelines ready before the next OIE General Session in May 2013.


**Education:** WVA wants to complement the OIE day-1 competences with basic curriculum guidelines for veterinarians in private and non-governmental positions. WVA planned a conference on this topic 2nd – 4th May 2013 in Bangkok.

Further to the recent publication on the competencies of graduating veterinarians (Day 1 graduates) the OIE ad hoc working group, chaired by R. DeHaven from AVMA and attended by Tjeerd Jorna met on 24th and 25th July 2012.

**Animal Welfare:** Excom spoke about the role veterinarians play every day in enhancing the welfare of animals. Many of these contributions are taken for granted or go unnoticed and should be better recognized and highlighted. Excom welcomes the development of tools for the education of animal welfare such as the WSPA’s “Concepts in Animal Welfare; an Animal Welfare Syllabus”.

Veterinary Well-being, collaboration with the World Medical Association and internal matters.

The WVA Excom and Council meetings will be held in January 2013, in connection with the meeting of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations (FAVA) in Taipei. In addition, EXCOM and Council have regular teleconferences.

Professor Brian Perry Receives the Trevor Blackburn Award

Professor Brian Perry has received the **Trevor Blackburn Award** in recognition of his outstanding contributions to animal health and welfare in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the impact of his work in fostering the integration of veterinary epidemiology with agricultural economics, and his personal commitment to poverty alleviation by tackling diseases of global significance.

Since graduating from the University of Edinburgh Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in 1969, Professor Perry has had a strong interest in, and commitment to, tropical veterinary medicine. His career has spanned a wide range of activities from rinderpest control in Ethiopia to global animal health.

The announcement came during the Awards Ceremony at the British Veterinary Association’s Annual Congress in Liverpool.
Described by a colleague as ‘one of the giants of British overseas veterinary work whose contributions are immense’, Brian Perry’s particular interests lie in the role of livestock in development, and how disease control strategies can be designed to achieve maximum impact in terms of growth, development and poverty reduction.

For 20 years he led multi-disciplinary programmes at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi. He is an Honorary Professor at the University of Edinburgh, a Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford, and an Honorary Professor in the University of Pretoria, South Africa. He also chairs the Scientific Advisory Board of ‘Afrique One’, a Wellcome Trust funded consortium of 11 African universities and research institutes adopting a One Health approach. A prolific author of scientific articles and books, Professor Perry is regularly invited to present his work in forums across the world.

In 2002 Brian Perry was appointed OBE for services to veterinary science in developing countries, and in 2004 became the first veterinarian to receive the International Outstanding Scientist Award from the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

On learning that he was to receive the Trevor Blackburn Award, Professor Perry said:

"I am indeed deeply honoured and privileged to be awarded the Trevor Blackburn Award for 2012 by the BVA Overseas Group; I am very proud of my 43 year membership of the BVA, and value highly the leadership role played by the organisation in framing policy and standards in animal health and welfare. Very many thanks indeed for this recognition of British veterinary contributions to sustainable and inclusive economic development in emergent nations of the world."

This Award was instigated in 2006 by the BVA’s Overseas Group in memory of Mr J Trevor Blackburn, President of the BVA 1984-85, the Commonwealth Veterinary Association 1988-91 and the World Veterinary Association 1991-95.

In so doing, the Group was mindful of the countless numbers of British veterinary surgeons who have served overseas, especially in the Tropics, over the last two centuries. Many of those in the earlier days were in the colonial service or, later, worked with government departments or aid organisations in newly independent countries. All contributed to the control of livestock disease and the raising of standards of animal and human health. The situation today is rather different. British veterinary surgeons do live and work overseas but many are “volunteers” and often sacrifice much in order to contribute to animal health and environmental needs in other, less fortunate, parts of the world. Often their altruism does not receive the acclaim it deserves.

The Trevor Blackburn Award, named after a colleague who believed passionately that the profession still has so much to offer, provides an opportunity to recognise some of these people.

This year’s Award comprises a certificate and a painting from Jamaica entitled ‘Bananas to Market’ which symbolises the importance of animals to the livelihoods of millions of people around the world.
News from the BVA Congress

BVA Congress 2012 was held under the theme ‘Delivering a healthy future’ at the Merseyside Maritime Museum in Liverpool on 28th – 29th September.

Outstanding Contribution Award for Professor Bob Michell

Professor A R (Bob) Michell is the recipient of the British Veterinary Association’s prestigious Chiron Award.

The award, which marks outstanding contributions to veterinary science or for outstanding services to the profession, judged in either case as being of a calibre commanding international or inter-professional recognition, was presented to Professor Michell during the Awards Ceremony at the BVA’s Annual Congress in Liverpool.

Professor Michell currently holds a Personal Chair in Comparative Medicine from the University of London. His recent research focuses on oral rehydration, renal disease and hypertension in humans and animals.

Over a long and distinguished career Bob Michell has made a truly outstanding contribution to both veterinary and human medical science. His research is recognised internationally and, as an acknowledged leader in comparative medicine in this country, he has achieved significant inter-professional acclaim and is an inspirational figure within his chosen profession.

BVA Congress moves to London Vet Show next year

From 2013 the British Veterinary Association’s annual Congress will take place at the London Vet Show. The partnership between BVA and the Vet Show will be announced by outgoing BVA President Carl Padgett as he welcomed delegates and guests to BVA Congress 2012 in Liverpool.

This move will bring together political debate and clinical CPD on a large scale and will ensure that the BVA can reach an even wider audience with its representative and educational services.
Prestigious Scientific Award for Professor Michael Thrusfield

Professor Michael Thrusfield is the recipient of the British Veterinary Association’s most prestigious scientific award for his immense contributions to the advancement of knowledge in veterinary science, especially epidemiology.

The Dalrymple-Champneys Cup and Medal, awarded to mark and recognise work of outstanding merit, were presented to Professor Thrusfield during the Awards Ceremony at the BVA’s Annual Congress in Liverpool.

Currently Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology at the University of Edinburgh, Michael Thrusfield has published the only general textbook on veterinary epidemiology - now in its third edition and 24th year, and available in five languages. It has proved to be an invaluable reference source for veterinary general practitioners, government veterinarians, agricultural economists and members of other disciplines interested in animal disease.

Welsh Vet Receives the John Bleby Cup

Ifan Lloyd is the winner of this year’s John Bleby Cup in recognition of his outstanding contribution to BVA Council.

Ifan has been a member of BVA Council since 2011 and, as the Welsh Regional Representative on Council, he has brought an inclusive approach to the role, upholding strong links with both North and South Wales members. He has demonstrated admirably how a Regional Representative can work well with the BVA Welsh Branch since the inception of the new Council structure. He has achieved this not only by his hard work and dedication in supporting BVA members in Wales, but also maintaining a constant presence on the BVA Community Platform, carefully gathering and representing all views and ensuring they are well represented at Council.
Travel Scholarships Awarded for Veterinary Research in the USA and Sri Lanka

Caroline Gillespie and Emily Jeanes are the joint winners of the Harry Steele-Bodger Memorial Scholarship travel award for 2012.

The announcement came during the Awards Ceremony at the British Veterinary Association’s Annual Congress in Liverpool.

Caroline examining a horse

On receiving the award Caroline said: “I was delighted to receive the Harry Steele-Bodger Award as it has enabled me to take a fantastic opportunity. I was excited to be able to experience equine medicine in the USA and explore my project idea which I would otherwise have found difficult to do. I am extremely grateful to the BVA and the Trustees of the Harry Steele-Bodger Fund.”

Emily on her project in Sri Lanka

Emily, who hopes her project will raise awareness of the risks and the ways in which the parasite can be controlled, commented: "I was completely over the moon when I received the Harry-Steele Bodger Award. The funding meant such a lot to me, and without it I would have really struggled to finance my project. I am so grateful to the BVA and the Harry Steele-Bodger Trustees for their help and support.”

Anna Frykors von Hekkel on her project in Sri Lanka

Anna said: “When I saw the heading ‘BVA Travel Grant’ in my in-box, my predominant feeling was one of nerves, and it did take me a few excruciating minutes to open the message. Finding out I had been awarded the grant, quite literally, made my month! It afforded me not only an extraordinary research project, but the opportunity to experience a beautiful country and an inspiring culture. For that I am very grateful.”
Welsh Vet becomes President of the British Veterinary Association

Peter Harlech Jones was elected President of the British Veterinary Association (BVA) for 2012/2013. The ceremony took place during the Annual General Meeting of the BVA at the close of its Annual Congress, held in the Merseyside Maritime Museum in Liverpool.

Mr Peter Jones

Mr Jones, an international consultant on veterinary medicines, was born and raised in North Wales where he attended the Sir Huw Owen School in Caernarfon. He qualified from the University of Liverpool Veterinary School in 1971. After several years in practice in Wales and London – plus a spell in Ontario, Canada – Peter joined the pharmaceutical industry and spent 20 years in the animal health business both in the UK and overseas working in the fields of research and development and also regulatory affairs.

In 1995 he was appointed the first head of the Veterinary Division at the newly created European Medicines Evaluation Agency (EMEA) in London, playing a leading role in the creation of the new European regulatory system and working at the centre of European institutions. His last post before semi-retirement in 2008 was as head of the global animal health industry association, the International Federation of Animal Health (IFAH).

Within the BVA Peter has served on the Veterinary Policy Group and as chair of the Medicines Group and is a former secretary and chairman of the Association of Veterinarians in Industry (AVI). He participates in the work of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) and acts as a consultant to GALVmed whose aim is to make livestock vaccines, diagnostics and medicines accessible to those in developing countries for whom livestock is a lifeline.

Commenting on his election, Mr Jones, said:

“My background is in pharma research and international regulatory affairs and I am confident that my experience will be useful as we anticipate the new EU Animal Health Law and medicines legislation. But I am driven to do much more for the veterinary profession than just in those fields.

“The word ‘value’ really began to resonate for me when I started thinking of my theme for the year ahead as President of BVA.

“In whatever role we play vets are adding value in so many areas of our professional lives to society at large in a huge and significant contribution to the public good. I firmly believe that we, as an association and as a profession, must use every opportunity to reinforce the message about the value we give in all aspects of our work, and to believe in ourselves.

“I want to see a greater appreciation for what we do and what we contribute, and BVA will lead from the front.

“Looking ahead it will be a busy year for all of us. But I am confident that we have the teams in place – through our committees and council, our regional representatives, our divisions and beyond – to do our wonderful profession proud.

“I am certainly very proud to be standing here today and I am committed to working hard for all our members as their President.”

The BVA Officer Team for 2012/13 is Peter Harlech Jones (President), Carl Padgett (Past President), and Robin Hargreaves (President Elect).
Lancashire-Based Vet becomes President Elect of the British Veterinary Association

Small animal veterinary surgeon Robin Hargreaves was elected President Elect of the British Veterinary Association (BVA) for 2012/2013. The ceremony took place during the Annual General Meeting of the BVA at the close of its Annual Congress, held in the Merseyside Maritime Museum in Liverpool.

Mr Hargreaves, a director of a four-centre mixed practice in Colne, Lancashire, was born and raised on a hill farm in the Yorkshire Dales. Robin joined the BVA whilst a student at the University of Liverpool Veterinary School. He qualified in 1985 and joined a two-vet mixed practice in Shropshire before moving on to a spell at a small animal practice in Leeds before settling in Colne. He is a past president of the Lancashire Veterinary Association and a life member of the Veterinary Benevolent Fund (VBF).

Within the BVA, Robin has been a facilitator for recent graduate meetings in the North West and has been a member of the BVA’s Members’ Services Group (MSG) over the last four years, becoming chair in 2009.

Commenting on his election, Mr Hargreaves said:

“As a full time veterinary practitioner I am constantly reminded of the issues that have to be tackled daily in our fight to maintain and enhance animal welfare across all species.

“My career has been in the companion animal sector of mixed practice but I was born into the farming community and my family is still largely still involved in agriculture.

“I am honoured and excited to be elected to the officer team at the BVA and I hope I will be able to use a broad practical perspective to continue the, often unsung, work that the BVA continues to do in support of the veterinary profession.”

CVMA Member Awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

Dr. Michelle Lem (OVC 2001) has been awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for her work with Community Veterinary Outreach. Community Veterinary Outreach is a veterinary-based registered charity that provided pro bono preventive veterinary care for animals of the homeless and marginally housed.

Dr. Lem has recently completed post-graduate research in epidemiology studying the effects of pet ownership on street-involved youth. She is an active CVMA Member, who is involved with the Emerging Leaders Program and is a trained member of the Canadian Veterinary Reserve.
Report of the 40th International Congress of the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine

22nd – 25th August 2012 in Utrecht, Netherlands

The main themes of the congress were: History of Veterinary Associations; History of the WVA and free Communications by presentations and posters.

The organizing committee, chaired by Bert van der Weijden, DVM/PhD, and the scientific committee, chaired by Peter Koolmees, PhD, had composed a very attractive programme, scientific and social, for the more than 80 participants.

After the opening by Robert Back, DVM, Chair of the Netherlands Veterinary Society and the addresses by Ludo Hellebrekers, DVM/PhD, President of the Royal Netherlands veterinary Association; Anton Pijpers, DVM/PhD, Dean of the Veterinary Faculty of Utrecht and Wijnand Mijnhardt, Director Descartes Centre for the history and Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanitas of the University of Utrecht the first theme was presented.

In succession the history of the associations of England, Denmark, Swiss, Germany, North-America, Venezuela, Turkey, the Netherlands, Norway, Australia, Romania, Mexico, Egypt and the student associations of Korea, the Netherlands and Turkey; and the European Specialist Organization were presented. For me, as Past-President of the WVA, a very educational overview.

The organizers had invited me as a keynote speaker starting the second theme. My presentation was “The importance of the WVA for its members in Historical Perspective [1863-2012]”. The involvement in the history and the project for our 150th anniversary next year helped me to present an overview of the different periods in the history of WVA. Many other global oriented presentations followed, like the influence of war and politics; social exclusion and secrecy; One Health in History and Veterinarians and the endemic nature of Plague; the concise history of traditional Chinese veterinary medicine.

In more than 20 posters participants communicated to each other. Also the Netherlands Veterinary History Society and the WAHVM had their General Meetings. The WAHVM is in my opinion a very healthy organization and Co-President Susan Jones expresses that well.

It was a pleasure to meet this associate member of WVA and I wish them a good journey to the next WAHVM Congress in London in 2014.

Dr. Tjeerd Jorna
WVA Immediate Past President
The importance of the World Veterinary Association for its members in Historical Perspective [1863 – 2013]

Dr. Tjeerd Jorna

After the initiative by John Gamgee to organize a general meeting in Hamburg in 1863 to discuss to combat epizootic diseases and to elaborate common rules for import and export of cattle the first congresses were meetings between scientists and the first members were mostly scientific oriented associations. The exchange of knowledge and to show improvements in various parts of veterinary medicine and veterinary education/training were the main goals. To influence national authorities with proposals for disease control in veterinary law was a main task.

After the first real international congress in 1899, with participants from all over the World, was taken a decision of historical importance to establish a Permanent Committee [PC] in 1905 to organize the next congresses. After the First World War this PC went into decline and the revival in 1928 resulted in the next congress in London in 1930. Still again the main proposals were for all governments regarding the modern food control legislation.

In 1934 a real professional organization, the American Veterinary Medical Association [AVMA], organized the congress in New York and the relationship between veterinary science and public health were important topics. After that congress the associations were more involved for the organization needs money and asked for dues.

It was in the year 1953 that a Swedish proposal would lead to the founding of the WVA in 1959 as an association of national veterinary associations and international specialist associations as members. In 1954 the founding of “Intervet”, an alternative organization, that would involve the practising veterinarians and showed that till then the PC organized congresses for teachers and specialists, the proposal to found WVA was strengthened. The topics in the congresses became broader and a list of Diseases of Animals was completed. Also a catalogue of veterinary films was published.

In the same period the official relations were established with FAO [since 1955] and with WHO [since 1956] and already during many years a good relation with OIE existed. Main goals were to develop veterinary associations in developing countries and still this task is going on. To spread teaching material for veterinary education all over the globe and to organize veterinary congresses for continuing education for the profession in all disciplines.

The real professionalizing of the WVA was initiated by President Dr. J.T. Blackburn [1991-1995] and worked out by the next President Dr. Apostolos Rantsios [1995-1999] and implemented in the next years. Many position and policy papers were published. Also the Communication by internet directed by former President Dr. Jim Edwards could make the veterinarians easy involved in the work of WVA.

The last effort to modernize the WVA has been started under my presidency but is not yet finished. The modern problems are the differentiation in the kind of the associations, the lack of direct Communication and the lack of money in some of the continents to become a member.
On World Rabies Day, the FAO highlighted a control project in Bali. Rabies experts at WHO and around the world are highlighting dog vaccination programmes as the most effective way to reduce the risk of this disease.

Rabies is a viral disease that affects the nervous system, often transmitted by infected dogs. Rabies also kills farm animals. In Latin America, for example, hundreds of thousands of livestock die every year from rabies contracted from vampire bats. Livestock deaths from rabies occur throughout the world, but often go unreported.

A successful project in Bali, Indonesia, shows that rabies can be controlled by combating the virus in animals, before it can be transmitted to humans.

“While we waste time culling millions of dogs, because of our fear of rabies, thousands of people (many of them children), are dying horrific and painful deaths from this deadly disease”. Says Mike Baker, Chief Executive of WSPA, (World Society for the Protection of Animals). WSPA, who run the global Red Collar Campaign promoting a humane approach to tackling rabies, want governments to introduce mass dog vaccination schemes, which have been shown to be effective in helping stamp out this deadly, but wholly preventable, disease.
All leading organisations committed to controlling rabies, including the World Health Organisations, the World Organisation for Animal Health, the Pan American Health Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, agree that killing dogs doesn’t control canine rabies and therefore has no impact on reducing the incidence of rabies in humans.

The OIE has donated 50,000 rabies vaccines to Lao PDR through its Regional Vaccine Bank for Asia supported by the European Union’s regional cooperation programme on Highly Pathogenic and Emerging and Re-emerging Disease in Asia (HPED). The vaccine bank is managed by the OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Bangkok.

“Today it is unacceptable that thousands of people and animals die of rabies each year while we have efficient control methods available; the Regional Vaccine Bank for Rabies was developed because dogs are responsible for more than 95% of human cases and vaccination is an effective way of controlling the disease at the source” OIE Director General, Dr Bernard Vallat commented. “This first delivery is definitely a milestone for OIE and for the European Union who supports our fight against the disease in the region,” he added.

However, culling dogs in response to the fear of rabies is needless, cruel and ineffective. Methods include poisoning, gassing, electrocution and even beating with iron bars. Every dog is killed in a painful way. It can take up to an hour or more for them to die in agony. WSPA’s alternative, mass vaccination is the only humane, effective and sustainable solution to stamping out rabies amongst both dogs and people.

WSPA is also marking World Rabies Day by celebrating the success of its Red Collar pilot projects in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh and Bali, Indonesia. They demonstrate that a mass vaccination approach combined with community education leads to a dramatic fall in both dog and human deaths. This builds on experience in Latin America where successful mass vaccination schemes have been run in response to rabies for nearly thirty years.

Every vaccinated dog is given a red collar to show they have been vaccinated and protected against rabies. These red-collared dogs are a visible symbol of the proactive measures being taken to defend the community from rabies without resorting to the cruel and unnecessary killing of dogs.

Vaccinating 70% of dogs in a community creates a barrier of immunised dogs. Unable to spread, rabies then becomes eliminated in the local dog population. When rabies is eliminated in dogs, it is eliminated in humans.

“Our Red Collar Campaign calls on national and local governments to stop killing 20 million dogs a year, too many of which are killed, because of our fear of rabies. It’s needless, cruel and ineffective. Through our Red Collar Campaign, we are committed to working with governments to introduce mass vaccination programmes; the only proven and humane way to wipe out rabies in communities.

“We are pleased to see the successes to date, where mass dog vaccination programmes have been introduced, but our vision is to have a world where no dog is needlessly killed in response to rabies. We want to see all countries with rabies running mass vaccination programmes until this deadly disease is stamped out.” said Mike Baker, Chief Executive of WSPA International.

More than 3 billion people (about half the world’s population) are living in countries or territories where dog rabies still exists. A conservative estimate shows that 55,000 people a year die from the disease, 95 percent of them in Asia and Africa. 99% become infected after being bitten by a rabid dog.
Working together to make rabies history

September 28, 2012 marked the sixth World Rabies Day. This annual event, led by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control, provides a unique platform for individuals and organisations to raise awareness and understanding about the importance of rabies prevention.

Commenting BVA President, Carl Padgett, said:

“Rabies remains of one of the most serious viral zoonoses presently encountered worldwide. Despite being 100% preventable, it is estimated that 55,000 people die worldwide from rabies each year, approximately one person every ten minutes.

“The BVA is extremely proud to support World Rabies Day. This campaign offers a tremendous opportunity to increase global awareness of this devastating, yet totally preventable, disease.”

Since the inaugural World Rabies Day campaign in 2007 more than 2000 events in 150 countries have helped to vaccinate 7.7 million animals, and an estimated 182 million people have learned about how to prevent the disease.

Dogs are the main reservoir for rabies in the Middle East, Africa and Asia and are responsible for the majority of human deaths worldwide. Children are often at greatest risk from rabies as they are more likely to be bitten by dogs, and are also more likely to be severely exposed through multiple bites in high-risk sites on the body.

Mr Padgett added:

“Dogs suffer abuse and persecution that stems from being the main source of rabies in people, as well as the agony of the disease itself. The risks posed by these mostly stray dogs are an issue that governments and societies deal with in a variety of ways, many of them regarded as inhumane.

“This major source of rabies in humans can be eliminated through ensuring adequate animal vaccination and control, educating those at risk, and enhancing access of those bitten to appropriate medical care. The veterinary profession has an important role to play in protecting domestic animals and the general public from rabies.

“World Rabies Day campaign is an excellent example of ‘One Health’ in action and we must all do everything we can to maintain the momentum created by this initiative to reduce the global burden of rabies. Together we can make rabies history!”

While most cases occur in Africa and Asia, the tragic case earlier this year of a woman who died from rabies in a London hospital after returning from a trip to India, highlights the importance of travellers heeding rabies advice if they are visiting rabies endemic areas. The BVA Overseas Group has produced some simple advice on reducing the risk of contracting the disease and gives guidance on vaccination and wound cleansing.

Louis Pasteur was responsible for the creation of the first vaccine against the rabies virus in 1885. He died in 1895 and World Rabies Day is held on the anniversary of his death, September 28.
Calendar of Events

EcoSummit 2012

30th September - 5th October, 2012

Antimicrobial resistance Symposium

RCVS

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

Import & keeping of exotic animals in EU World Animal Day

FVE

4th – 5th October, 2012
International Auditorium
Boulevard Roi Albert II 5, Brussels
Website: www.fve.org

Veterinary Hospital Managers Association

18th – 21st, 2012, in Vancouver
Website: www.vhma.org

PanVet 2012

XXIII Congreso Panamericano de Ciencias Veterinarias

24th to 27th, 2012
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia
Website: www.panvet2012.co/index.html

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

CbVMA 27th Biennial Conference

November 6th – 9th, 2012

Hyatt Regency, Port of Spain
“Building Bridges, Advancing Veterinary Medicine and Animal Welfare in the Caribbean.”
Email: secretary@cbvma.org
Website: www.cbvma.org/conference.html

International Union of Veterinary Cyclists Continuing Education Meeting

VetLectures

What does your pet need today?
November 9th - 11th, 2012
Solvang, California
Website: www.vetlectures.com

Kerala Veterinary Science Congress 2012

10th & 11th November, 2012
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India
Website: www.ivakerala.com

The London Vet Show

15th – 16th Nov 2012
Website: www.londonvetshow.co.uk

Human and Veterinary Vaccinology

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

World Animal Health Congress

27th – 28th November 2012
Kansas City, Missouri
Website: www.terrapinn.com/animalhealth
17th FAVA Congress 2013

![FAVA Congress 2013 Logo]

January 4th – 6th, 2013
The Grand Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan
Conference Theme: Asian Veterinarians for Global Health
Website: www.2013favacongress.com

4th International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance

![IMED Logo]

February 15th - 18th, 2013
Vienna, Austria
Website: http://imed.isid.org/

8th International Sheep Veterinary Congress

![Sheep Logo]

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

World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress

![WSAVA Logo]

6th – 7th March 2013
Auckland, New Zealand
Website: www.wsva2013.org

Africa Vet Experience course

![Africa Vet Experience Logo]

24th March – 4th April 2013
Website: www.facebook.com/africavetexperience

1st International Conference on Avian, Herpetological and Exotic Mammal Medicine

![ICARE Logo]

April 20th – 26th, 2013
Wiesbaden, Germany
Website: www.icare2013.eu

2013

Medical Library Association Annual Meeting

![Medical Library Association Logo]

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

International Conference on Diseases of Zoo and Wild Animals 2013

![Zoo and Wild Animals Logo]

8th – 11th May 2013
Vienna, Austria
E-mail: 2013@zoovet-conference.org
Website: www.zoovet-conference.org

Africa Vet Experience course

![Africa Vet Experience Logo]

4th – 15th August 2013
Website: www.facebook.com/africavetexperience

Website: www.wvc2013.com/en/

2014

16th International Congress on Infectious Diseases

![ICID Logo]

2nd - 5th April 2014
Cape Town, South Africa
Website: www.isid.org/icid/

World Buiatrics Congress

![World Buiatrics Congress Logo]

27th July 2014 to 1st August 2014
Cairns Convention Centre
Australia
Website: http://wbc2014.com