



Global Veterinary Seminar on Animal Welfare – Summary

Today, Animal Welfare matters to humans as well as to the animals themselves. Veterinarians are expected by society to look after AW. This leads to both challenges and opportunities for vets.

On 17-18th September 2013, the WVA together with the European Commission Services organized a Global Seminar on Animal Welfare. After two days of presentations and discussions on various Animal Welfare issues, Adroaldo J. Zanella, Professor of Animal Welfare from the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil drew the Seminar's conclusions. He highlighted the importance of the Seminar program to remind the societal expectations of veterinarians regarding animal welfare and the challenges and opportunities that the emerging science of animal welfare presents to veterinarians. He underlined common issues which were raised by the different speakers:

- Education, training and capacity building in animal welfare science should be promoted globally. It should be developed in a cultural sensitive way and include all stakeholders and interested parties.
- Collaborative interdisciplinary opportunities should be fostered to promote a generation of new knowledge and rapid dissemination of the information.
- Initiatives should be encouraged to promote veterinary engagement and visibility in animal welfare issues.
- We should make animal welfare resources, expertise and information available globally in order to promote sound policies and legislation to improve animal and human welfare; “one welfare”.
- We need to have available practical, robust and valid animal welfare indicators to meet the demands for the tasks that veterinarians are expected to carry out.

Last but not least, Professor Zanella underlined the importance to keep “alive” the debate between the organizations that contributed to this event (AVMA, EFSA, European Commission, FAO, FVE, OIE, WSPA, WVA and others). Many participants agreed with him and asked the WVA to continue and to develop further such a global discussions platform on Animal Welfare. After this seminar, the WVA and the European Commission representative agreed to organize a panel discussion via webinar session in mid-2014, in order to follow up the Global Veterinary Seminar on Animal Welfare.

The Animal Welfare Global Seminar presentations and abstracts can be found in the Library section under “others” or by clicking of the following links:



Session I: Preparing a Veterinary Toolbox to Make Animals Have a Life Worth Living

- [Temple Grandin](#): “How to set up and implement animal welfare auditing systems” (video)
- [David Fraser](#): “Understanding animal welfare: different philosophies, different scientific approaches”
- [Linda Keeling](#): “How to measure animal welfare both in a scientific and practical way?”
- [Gail Golab & Nancy De Briyne](#): “Development of the FVE and AVMA Model Curricula for Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law”

Session II: Companion Animals: “Cruelty with Kindness”

- [Paolo Dalla Villa](#): “EU perspective on companion animals' welfare policies”
- [Valerie Jonckheer-Sheehy](#): “How to maximize canine welfare in veterinary practices and in homes”
- [Gail Golab](#): “Reaching UP: an AVMA-AVMF Community Service Program”
- [Ruth De Vere](#): presented by Ellen Coombs: “Enhancing veterinary education through animal welfare”

Session III: Panel Discussion on Veterinary Leadership: “Are we the shepherd or the sheep?”

Session IV: Lab Animals: “Of Mice and Men”

- [Judy MacArthur Clark](#): “The 3Rs and animal welfare: conflict or the way forward?”
- Kelly Gouveia, “Research on mice welfare and handling” (presentation not available)
- [Patricia Turner](#): “Animal welfare and laboratory animal science”
- [Emily McIvor](#): “The relevance of legal frameworks governing use of animals in laboratories”

Session V: Aquaculture and Welfare: Something Fishy?

- [Sunil Kadri](#): “Welfare in Aquaculture: a different kettle of fish”
- [Bente Bergersen](#): “How can we ensure fish welfare in Europe?”
- [Fei Rongmei](#): “How to ensure fish welfare in the World’s biggest fish producing continent: Asia”
- [Chris Walster](#): “Optimal fish welfare: balancing societal opinions, industry Needs, and regulatory approaches”

Session VI: Welfare at Slaughter: “To Stun or Not to Stun”

- [Mohan Raj](#): “Assessing and improving animal welfare in the slaughterhouses”
- [Sira Abdul Rahman](#): “Role of Veterinary Services and Islamic religious authorities in improving animal welfare at slaughter”



- [Daniela Battaglia](#): “Developing capacities for animal welfare at slaughter – the FAO program of work”

Session VII: Welfare During Transport: “On the Hook or on the Hoof”

- [Leopoldo Stuardo Escobar](#): “Long distance transportation of animals in South America”
- [David Bayvel](#): “Long distance transport of farm animals for slaughter: scientific, ethical and economic considerations”
- [Sylvia D’Albenzio](#): “Vocational training on animal transport: focus on Control Posts”
- [Zeev Noga](#): “Working together to improve welfare during transport: guidelines for fitness of transport of adult bovines”