

## COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

The Council on Education met on September 19-21, 2010 and March 6-8, 2011 at AVMA Headquarters. The meetings were chaired by Dr. James Brace; Dr. Peter Conlon served as vice chair.

**Accreditation of Colleges**—Based on comprehensive site visit reports, classifications of accreditation were assigned to the University of Saskatchewan Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine. Based on information gathered during focused site visits conducted in January 2011, the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM) Facultad de Medicina Veterinaria y Zootecnia was granted full accreditation and the Western University of Health Sciences College of Veterinary Medicine was granted continued full accreditation. Annual interim reports from 37 colleges were reviewed and accepted. The list of accredited colleges of veterinary medicine is available on the AVMA website, [http://www.avma.org/education/cvea/colleges\\_accredited/colleges\\_accredited.asp](http://www.avma.org/education/cvea/colleges_accredited/colleges_accredited.asp).

The US colleges of veterinary medicine are classified as follows: 27 are assigned full accreditation and 1 is assigned limited accreditation. The classification of limited accreditation indicates that the college has met most, but not all, of the Standards established by the AVMA. Four Canadian colleges are classified as having full accreditation and one is assigned provisional accreditation. Eleven foreign colleges are assigned full accreditation.

**Foreign Veterinary Colleges**—The Council conducted a comprehensive site visit of the St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine April 16-21, 2011. The School's report of evaluation will be discussed during the fall 2011 COE meeting.

**Accreditation Standards**—During its annual review of four Standards, the Council discussed the Standards of Students, Admission, Faculty, and Curriculum. Following discussion, the Council determined that no changes were necessary to Standard 8, Faculty. Changes to Standard 6, Students; Standard 7, Admission; and Standard 9, Curriculum were recommended for clarity and approved by the Executive Board. The updated manual is available on the AVMA website: [http://www.avma.org/education/cvea/coe\\_pp.asp](http://www.avma.org/education/cvea/coe_pp.asp).

**American Board of Veterinary Specialties**—Based on American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS) review and acceptance of each specialty organization's 2010 annual or five-year in-depth reports, the Council submitted a recommendation to the Executive Board that AVMA recognition be granted to 21 veterinary specialty organizations.

The Council concurred with the recommendation submitted by the ABVS and recommended that the Executive Board grant provisional recognition to the Parasitology specialty under the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists (ACVM), a recognized veterinary specialty organization.

**Policy Review**—The COE periodically reviews those policies for which it has oversight responsibilities. The Council reviewed the AVMA policy on the Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education and recommended the following revision—

### **Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education**

The Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education, as approved by the AVMA Executive Board, is available from the AVMA Division of Education and Research. The document includes the "Standard Requirements of an Accredited College of Veterinary Medicine,"

and the policies and procedures by which the Council on Education functions and by which Accreditation is determined. Because of the size of the document and its availability from the Division of Education and Research, it is not reproduced here.

### **Fees**

The AVMA will charge each accredited US school/college of veterinary medicine an accreditation fee of \$10,000 (USD) every seven years, which is the length of a full accreditation cycle, to help defray accreditation expenses, beginning in 2006.

The COE reviewed the AVMA policy on Canadian Schools and recommended the following revision—

### **Canadian Schools**

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) selects a member of its National Examining Board (NEB) to serve a three-year term on the Council on Education. The CVMA provides one site-team member for all site visits for US and foreign veterinary colleges seeking accreditation. In evaluating Canadian colleges of veterinary medicine, two COE members and a provincial veterinary medical association member who are supported by the AVMA, plus three members of the NEB ~~and one CVMA member~~ who are supported by the CVMA form the site team. It should be understood that all expenses of the CVMA participants in veterinary school inspections (other than foreign college visits) and as members of the AVMA Council on Education are borne by the CVMA.

### **Fees**

The AVMA will charge each accredited Canadian school/college of veterinary medicine an accreditation fee of \$10,000 (USD) every seven years, which is the length of a full accreditation cycle, to help defray accreditation expenses, beginning in 2006.

The Council reviewed the AVMA policy on COE Travel and recommended the following revision to ensure accreditation decisions made by the accrediting body are completely independent of any parent member organization as required by the US Department of Education.

### **COE Travel Authorization for COE Site Teams to Foreign Accredited Schools**

Council on Education (COE) site teams are authorized to conduct site visits to foreign colleges that are accredited by the AVMA COE.

The Council reviewed the AVMA policy on Council and Committee Liaison Representatives to Other Groups and recommended the following revision—

### **Council and Committee Liaison Representations to Other Groups**

The Council on Education is authorized to appoint its members as liaison representatives for one-year terms, renewable to the end of the individual's term on the Council. This authorization applies to appointments made ~~in 1983 and beyond~~ for the ABVS American Board of Veterinary Specialties, CVTEA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities, and NBEC National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

The Council reviewed the AVMA policy on the Council on Education and recommended the title change for clarity. The issues stated in the second and third paragraphs of the current policy are addressed in the *Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education* making them redundant.

### **Council on Education**

Travel, food, and lodging expenses will be paid when it is necessary for a past member of the Council on Education to attend a meeting of the Council to present a college evaluation report that the past member has helped to prepare. This authorization is applicable only in exceptional cases when fewer than two current members of the Council who were on a particular review committee are available to present the committee report.

~~The AVMA supports the inclusion of instructional modules on chemical dependency awareness and prevention in the curriculums of colleges of veterinary medicine.~~

~~The AVMA Council on Education should encourage the nation's veterinary schools to place more emphasis on the recruitment of students with agricultural background who would be more likely to enter food animal practice upon graduation from veterinary school.~~

The Council also reviewed the AVMA policy on Educational Scholarships and Loans, American Veterinary Distributors Association (AVDA) Scholarship recommended rescission of the outdated policy.

### **Liaison Reports**

The Council received as information reports of Council members serving as liaisons to the American Board of Veterinary Specialties, the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities, National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, and the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates.

Liaison reports were also received from the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges, and the National Examining Board of Canada.

### **Summary of Council Recommendations and Executive Board Actions**

- That the Executive Board reaffirm the AVMA policy on the Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education as amended. **Approved**
- That the Executive Board amend the AVMA policy on Canadian Schools. **Approved**
- That the Executive Board reaffirm the AVMA policy on COE Travel as amended. **Approved**
- That the Executive Board amend the AVMA policy on Council and Committee Liaison Representations to Other Groups. **Approved**
- That the Executive Board amend the AVMA policy on the Council on Education. **Approved**
- That the Executive Board rescind the AVMA policy on EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS/American Veterinary Distributors Association (AVDA) Scholarship. **Approved**
- That the Executive Board approve travel for three COE members and one AVMA staff member to conduct a comprehensive site visit to the Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in St. Kitts, West Indies for the purpose of examining the School's program as a step toward accreditation. **Approved**
- That the Executive Board approve travel for three COE members and one AVMA staff member to conduct a comprehensive site visit to the St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine in Grenada, West Indies for the purpose of examining the School's program as a step toward accreditation. **Approved**
- That the AVMA Executive Board approve a change in accreditation Standard 6, Students. **Approved**
- That the AVMA Executive Board approve a change in accreditation Standard 7, Admission. **Approved**
- That the AVMA Executive Board approve a change in accreditation Standard 9, Curriculum.

**Approved**

- That the Parasitology specialty be granted provisional recognition under the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists (ACVM), a recognized veterinary specialty organization, based on ABVS review and acceptance of the Petition of Recognition submitted by the organizing committee of the new specialty group. **Approved**
- That the indicated level of AVMA recognition be granted for the following veterinary specialty organizations, based on ABVS review and acceptance of each organization's submitted reports.  
**Approved**