
ESVCP & ECVCP NEWSLETTER

European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology

European College of Veterinary Clinical Pathologists



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Notes from the Editor

Dear colleagues:

As you will read in Joy's greeting, 2006 saw stunning growth of the ESVCP in terms of annual meeting program content, with again numerous abstract submissions, and a case presentation session and further continuing education activities. With a New Year, it is a time to look forward to events such as the upcoming annual meeting in Budapest, but also to glance back at the Society's and College's many achievements. Peter O'Brien presents us with an extract from the ECVCP application for permanent recognition by the EBVS, 2006 survey results and an analysis of where the College currently stands. In addition, Anne Bolliger and Corinne Fournel-Fleury provide us an overview of the College's history. And there is more. This newsletter issue has been especially rich in submissions, and I want to thank the many participants who have contributed their efforts, and not shown offence to my persistent email reminders to get their material to me!

We've had a change in the treasurer, so PayPal payment is not yet set up. This should however be up shortly and members will soon receive a second email reminder to pay their 2007 dues with PayPal information. An ESVCP & ECVCP membership dues reminder with payment instructions is in this newsletter. Remember that it is VERY important for the Society and College to have dues in promptly to support the organisations' activities. Please pay promptly!

An editorial assistant would be welcome to assist Peter in the management and updating of the ESVCP and ECVCP website, <http://www.esvcp.org>. Please contact Peter O'Brien at pobmobuk@aol.com. We hope someone will step up to assist in this important task.

Happy New Year to all! Anne Lanevschi-Pietersma, anne.lanevschi-pietersma@astrazeneca.com

MESSAGE FROM THE ESVCP PRESIDENT

Greetings!

As 2006 drew to a close and a new year is just beginning, I want to take the opportunity to thank you all for making 2006 of the best years ever for ESVCP. Yes! I know that I said that last year but it is still true for this one as well.

First and foremost we must turn our thoughts to the 2007 meeting in Budapest with ECVIM –CA on September 12th to 15th. Tibor Gaal and Peter Vajdovich, as part of the local organizing committee, and our ESVCP reps. and organizers are doing a fantastic job. They have an exciting programme in progress. The pre-congress day on the 12th will be our Continuing Education Day with a Toxicologic Clinical Pathology Day in parallel. Anne (Provencher -Bolliger) is organizing that session with the sponsorship of Novartis and Roche. Our case session will be continued in the capable hands of Harold (Tvedten) assisted by Peter (Vajdovich) and I hope that ECVIM members will be interested in sending in clinical pathology oriented cases and attending the session. New topics will include bone metabolism, CSF analysis and neurological disease, all masterminded by Tibor (Gaal). Another date for the diary is May 1st, 2007. This will be a firm deadline for abstract receipt by the ECVIM – CA website. As the proceedings are joint as well as the congress, if you wish to receive reduced registration fees for the meeting, abstracts must conform to the guidelines and this deadline as well. We are also having joint sessions with ESVONC on leukaemia on the Thursday and Friday September 13th and 14th. First notices of the meeting are expected to be distributed in early 2007 (likely February). All social functions (as in Olsztyn with ESVP in 2004) will be joint, so we can look forward to a great week in the beautiful city of Budapest.

Secondly, we should consider and choose the venue for 2008 and perhaps for 2009 and 2010 meetings. As you know work on organizing for 2007 began in early 2006. For 2008, we have the options of Barcelona with ISACP (previously ISACB) who meet every other year, (2006 was in Turkey where we were represented by JP (Braun). Possibly a Greek island alternative which Zoe (Polizopoulis) and her colleagues are happy to offer as unfortunately our anticipated visit to Greece in 2007 was thwarted by circumstances beyond our control. The Scandinavians Asger (Jensen) and Stein (Thorensen) (Denmark and Norway) also have an interesting proposal for us. So please cast your votes.

For those of you who were not fortunate enough to be able to come to Cambridge in September, you missed an interesting scientific meeting in an incredibly efficiently run Moller Centre of Churchill College (University of Cambridge). Talk about oiled wheels - they were it ! - and always with a smile. Not only that, the weather was fantastic: only one short rainstorm with a rainbow at its end. Yes, the food was fabulous and the chefs excelled themselves. The congress dinner at Gonville and Caius College for which Heather (Holloway) was organizer, showcased our ancient colleges and English dining to perfection. Thanks to all our speakers who helped to make the scientific programme exciting and challenging and to our sponsors for enabling us to invite them. Special thanks to Kathy (Freeman), Ilse (Schwendenwein), Stein (Thorensen), Natalie (Bauer) and Martina (Becker) for the pre congress QC/QA day, and to Harold (Tvedten), Ted Valli, and Corinne (Fournel) Elizabeth (Villiers) for an interesting and challenging post congress workshop on

lymphoma classification. Also to Harold for organizing, preparing the CD for and running the case presentation session. Anne (Lanevschi-Pietersma) also organized a challenging session on continuing education for us, which was much appreciated by the participants. This year we received around 70 abstracts. Prizes were awarded at the congress dinner. These were Best Case presentation: Carlo Masserdotti (Italy); Best oral research presentation: Paul Mellor (UK); Best poster: MD Parra, F Tecles, L Soler, K Papisoulitis, C Trummel and JJ Ceron (Spain, UK and France); Best Tox Clin Path abstract: ME Perico, F Crivellente, and P Cristofori (Italy). Finalizing of the congress is still in progress. However, I am pleased to report that the deficit responsibility of ESVCP/ ECVCP from the 2005 Utrecht congress has finally been cleared.

The ESVCP day in ECVIM –CA in Amsterdam September 14th was also a great success with a full lecture room for all the talks on renal disease. Thanks go to JP (Braun) for organizing that day for us. Thanks also to Elspeth (Milne) for organizing and chairing the cytology session in ESVP in Edinburgh.

At the AGM, new officers were elected. Tibor Gaal is now hard at work as our vice president organizing Budapest 2007 for us. Thanks go to Carlo (Masserdotti) our outgoing VP. Heather Holloway has replaced Nick Carmichael as treasurer. Many thanks go to him for putting our finances on a firm footing and introducing user-friendly Paypal and an euro account. Which reminds me, the time to pay 2007 dues will soon be upon us. Please remember if you wish to receive all the journals for 2007 dues must be paid before 1 March 2007. Individual reminders will not be issued until it is too late!! Peter Graham continues his good work as our secretary for another term.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year, *Joy*

Background on ESVCP

The European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ESVCP, <http://www.esvcp.org>) was formed in Sept 1998 for the promotion of this discipline, and out of the need for well-educated clinical pathologists with certified experience for leading positions in commercial laboratories, industry, and veterinary schools. The Society is open to everybody, veterinarians and non-veterinarians alike, interested in one of the many areas of interest of Veterinary Clinical Pathology.

ESVCP Website: For information on constitution, membership, past and coming meetings, or to consult documents submitted to EBVS concerning application for specialty status and more, please visit <http://www.esvcp.org>, which will be the permanent domain name.

Interested in accessing a veterinary clinical pathology discussion forum?

This LISTSERV mailing list provides ASVCP and ESVCP members with access to over 500 colleagues interested in discussing and finding information on topics involving veterinary clinical pathology. To join the list, interested persons must request to be subscribed by writing an e-mail to John Hofmann jhofmann@asvcp.org ; please include full name, e-mail address, and organization in the body of the message.

Letter from the ECVCP President

Dear Colleagues,

NEW BOARD: This will be my last “Letter from the President”, because the new ECVCP board will soon be in place. Peter Vajdovich is leading the nomination committee in putting together the elections. Voting will be done electronically and he will contact you imminently. The current board will be stepping down, not due to lack of interest, but to give others a chance to take on leadership roles, and also to demonstrate to our colleagues in other disciplines that there are others who can lead the ECVCP progression. This being said, all board members will stay on as consultants to provide guidance to the new persons in their roles, and I will stay on as a voting member of the board in the office of “Past-President”. It has been a real pleasure working for the ECVCP and ESVCP on the boards, and most especially with the dedication and expertise of the leadership of the boards and all the various committees, as well with all the other diplomates and practitioners and supporters of veterinary clinical pathology.

APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT RECOGNITION: This year we are beginning the process of applying for permanent recognition from the EBVS. We have already put together the application and submitted it last November. This was essentially a progress report and rationalisation for why ECVCP should be recognised as a permanent college. Since the application is almost 100 pages with all the various appendices, only a 1 page abstract of it is attached below. This abstract contains a brief summary of the survey on vet clin path that was conducted last year. More will soon be published on the web site. I will attend the Spring EBVS meeting in Brussels to defend it. We have had guidance from our colleagues in ECVIM in putting this together (especially Mike Heritage, who has been a long term supporter of our college), and EBVS and ECVCP colleagues we have consulted with were comfortable in our submitting this. Based on my experience, seeing other colleges apply for permanent recognition, and our own experience with applying for provisional recognition, I expect that it may take a year or two before the application is accepted.

SURVEY ON CURRENT STATUS OF CLINPATH IN EUROPE: Also attached is a brief summary of the survey results that were recently obtained and submitted along with the EBVS application. This summary is extracted directly from the application. Ie section 3 – CURRENT STATUS OF EUROPEAN VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY.

THE WEBSITE: A few comments are relevant regarding the website. I have maintained this since Johannes Hirschberger stepped down as President of the ESVCP. This has not taken much effort, just adding information as requested a few times during the year and it only costs about a 100€ once or twice a year to cover costs. However, as the college and society grows it would be of value to broaden the scope and impact of the website. With this in mind, volunteers to assist and play leadership roles with this are being solicited and recruited. Please put your name forward if you are interested.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES: After 10 years at the University of Guelph, 10 years in the pharmaceutical industry, all working in clinical pathology, I have returned to academia and am now teaching, doing clinpath diagnostics and research at University College Dublin. I also will continue my active role with the ECVCP / ESVCP as Past President and on committees. We are looking for, and have reasonable funding for: 1) a 3 year residency in Veterinary Clinical Pathology, and 2) an experienced veterinary laboratory medical technologist to work in the diagnostic veterinary clinical

pathology lab. Please let me know if you are interested. Formal advertisements will be circulated imminently.

Best Regards, Peter

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Veterinary Science Centre
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Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland
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Telephone 00353 1 716 6048 (Fax 00353 1 716 6157)

**APPLICATION FOR DEFINITIVE RECOGNITION OF THE EUROPEAN
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY (ECVCP) AS A SPECIALITY
COLLEGE BY THE
EUROPEAN BOARD OF VETERINARY SPECIALISATION (EBVS)**

Summary:

Overview: As outlined below, the ECVCP has met and exceeded each and every one of its targets set for the provisional recognition period, a) having its 5 committees up and running (since the beginning), b) making 43 defacto diplomate appointments (a total of 52 were appointed), d) running 3 successful exams (12 candidates so far with 7 full passes), e) setting up training programmes and residencies (18 now in place and populated or planned), f) running annual conferences and 2 to 3 annual satellite meetings, g) establishing its specialty journal and electronic communication network with website and listserve. The ECVCP constitution and bylaws are based strictly on those of the EBVS and have remained unchanged with no plans for change excepting those changes that have been recommended by the EBVS as it changes its own constitution.

History: The provisional ECVCP arose out of the ESVCP after extensive research, survey, and widespread consultation across Europe and internationally. From this work, the ESVCP recognised that, based on EBVS criteria and precedence, there was sufficient need, critical mass of qualified practitioners and teachers of VCP, facilities, and training and employment opportunities to establish an independent ECVCP to oversee training and certification in VCP, and to develop this discipline. Furthermore, extensive research indicated an independent ECVCP would enhance the recognition and credibility of this speciality and accelerate its development. There is no real need of existing colleges to include VCP, nor substantive value in doing so. Establishment of VCP as a sub-speciality of an existing college may be inhibitory to the development of VCP and possibly the speciality of that college. Accordingly, an application documenting the above was presented to the EBVS along with a constitution and bylaws strictly based on those of the EBVS. Provisional recognition was awarded in 2002.

The Diplomates: Over the last 5 to 6 years, ECVCP has grown to a membership of 64, with an additional ~80 members of its affiliated society the ESVCP, from which further diplomates are

being trained (lists on page 38 and 73). ECVCP has certified diplomates in strict compliance with EBVS (and ECVCP) constitutional requirements in 3 full years of defacto recognition and by 3 exams (passed by 7 of 10 persons examined, although 2 persons needed to repeat the exam). Recent survey indicates that collectively, they have over 300 years of training, 1000 years experience, and 2000 publications, with medians of 5 years, 15 years, and 25 publications, respectively. They are based in 23 universities, 13 diagnostic companies, and 5 pharmaceutical and chemical industries. Median, annual caseloads are 8000 samples in academia and industry and 30,000 samples in diagnostic labs; with a collective total of 1 million cases annually. An assessment index of technology quality scored excellent for industry and large diagnostic labs, and for academic labs was excellent for one-third, good for one-quarter and satisfactory for about one-half. Median numbers of professional and support staff are, respectively, 2 and 5-6 for academic labs, highly variable for diagnostic labs, and, 1 and 6 for industry labs. 90% have significant teaching experience and 50% have stated willingness to provide lectures and host short-term training visits. They take continuing education for a median of 10 days per year. Additional accomplishments include: a) large, successful congresses with continuing education days, and 2 to 3 satellite conferences held each year, b) an extensive and readily-accessible electronic network (including website, journal, newsletter, and listserv) for communication and educational / scientific development, c) establishment of 18 training programmes (6 alternative) with certification of half of these, (Noteworthy in this regard is that there are 14 employment positions currently open or about to open for veterinary clinical pathologists in Europe), d) an established programme for standardising laboratory quality practices and, so far, half of accredited laboratories have training programmes, e) an EBVS-compliant strategy for continuing education (CE) and recertification; and f) strong collaborative and interactive relationships with the American counterpart (ASVCP), ECVIM-CA and ECVP, and with comparative clinical pathology societies (eg AECCP, ACCP, ISACB). Over 90% voted for an independent ECVCP.

The Future: A recent survey (2006) provides direction for the future major need of the ECVCP: residency and employment opportunities, more understanding of VCP relevance by the veterinary profession, compliance with lab standards, standardisation of undergraduate education in clinical pathology and further CE. Substantive progress for these requires regulatory acceptance of the specialty and regulatory designation of a governing and organising body. Whereas the ECVCP has made great progress here, there is still more to be made and this could be markedly facilitated by the EBVS. The single most potent catalyst for facilitating and accelerating the current development of VCP is full recognition of ECVCP as a veterinary speciality by the EBVS. This recognition would encourage sites where VCP activity is insufficient or unregulated (currently estimated at about 50%) to adopt consensus, quality practices. It would also empower education, exam, lab standards, and science committees to accelerate their progress and spread their influence. Additionally, this would empower ECVCP to more effectively recruit sponsorship of educational opportunities, positions, and advancement of the relevant science and technology.

3 – CURRENT STATUS OF EUROPEAN VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY- EBVS APPLICATION EXTRACT

3.1 Sites: A survey was made for all sites practising VCP that have been associated with the ECVCP. There were responses from 41 European sites in 15 countries, representing a 75% response rate: 23 universities, 13 diagnostic labs, and 5 pharmaceutical or chemical industries. Additionally 5 North American clinical pathology labs whose staff have been critically involved in the ECVCP, responded.

3.2 Staff: There were 65 responses with all but one from veterinary clinical pathologists. 95% of respondents were working full time as veterinary clinical pathologists. European responses reported 111 professionals and 289 support staff working in clinical pathology. At the Universities there was a median of 2 professionals and 5-6 support staff per site. In diagnostic companies the staffing was much more variable but also with a median of 2 professionals and 5 support staff. In industry, there were fewer professionals per lab, but more support staff (medians of 1 and 6, respectively).

3.3 Case Load: There was an annual median number of 8000 – 8500 cases / samples analysed by universities, 35000 cases / samples for diagnostic companies; and 8000 cases / samples by industry labs.

3.4 University Departmental Location: 73% of academic clinical pathology laboratories (16) were situated in Clinical Sciences department with the remainder in Pathology departments (6). One university indicated that clinical biochemistry and hematology were performed in Clinical Sciences and cytology performed in Pathology.

3.5 Residency and Job Opportunities: There were 13 positions open for veterinary clinical pathologists in 7 countries: 6 in academia, 1 in industry and 6 in diagnostic labs. There were 18 residencies currently in place or advertised in 12 countries.

3.6 Skills: Training, Experience, Publications and CE: The respondents claimed a total of approximately 300 years of training in which they identified institutions at which this was done and their mentors. Most of this training was apparently on-the-job. The median number of years was 5. The total amount of experience represented by this group was approximately 1000 years, with a median of 15 years. 88% indicated experience in teaching VCP and that they were regularly engaged in this to some extent. Respondents had published approximately 2000 manuscripts, with a median of 25 per person. The median number of days per year spent in continuing education was 10.

3.7 Technology Index: In order to assess the status of the technology of European labs, hematology analysers were assessed as these were considered to be the most constant of technologies within clinical pathology and could be clearly designated as excellent, good and satisfactory with respect to modernness, capability and throughput. All industry and large diagnostic labs had excellent technology. Technology of academic labs was excellent for one-third, good for one-quarter, and satisfactory for about one-half of labs.

3.8 Establish a Permanent and Independent ECVCP: Of the 65 respondents, 92% voted for a permanent, independent ECVCP, 6 % abstained from voting, and 1 respondent voted for VCP being a subspecialty of the ECVCP.

3.9 Comparison of Status of Veterinary Clinical Pathology in 2000 versus 2006

Participation in the 2000 survey was 50% greater than for the 2006 survey (99 vs 65 respondents), although the number of persons that were only peripherally (<30% time) involved in VCP was much less then (37 versus 1). Compared to 2000 there were more full-time (>60% time) clinical pathologists (61 vs 48) and these spent approximately 50% more time in clinical pathology. Only 43 veterinarians engaged in clinical pathology were considered to be eligible for diplomate status in 2000, whereas there are now 64 diplomates. Additionally, the 14 residency programmes in 2000 has grown to 18, of which 8 have been accredited and 7 are approaching this status. The proportion of respondents voting for an independent ECVCP increased from of 74% 69 voters to 92% of 66 voters.

4 - CHALLENGES PERCEIVED AND PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

Survey respondents were asked to address the question "What does ECVCP need to focus on?" and to provide any other input or comments (see appendix 10.2). Most respondents provided at least one recommendation. Statements that were made more than twice are indicated herein. Most could be clearly pooled into a few categories.

4.1 More Training and Vocational Positions

- **Training Positions:** The most consistent remarks were related to training and came from about half the respondents. Most stated that the number of training positions and residencies needed to be increased within Europe. A few comments requested that training opportunities be increased for the trainees, such as e-learning and an intensive course.
- **Vocational Opportunities:** Approximately 20% respondents indicated the need to develop employment opportunities. Specific areas identified by a few were veterinary practice and industry.

4.2 More Undergraduate and Continuing Education

- **Continuing Education:** Approximately 20% of recommendations were for increased continuing education of veterinary clinical pathologists. Half of these indicated the need for harmonisation in laboratory operating procedures and training approaches.
- **Standardise Undergraduate Education in Clinical Pathology:** Approximately 10% respondents indicated that there was a need to harmonise across universities the undergraduate training programme.

4.3 **Standardize Laboratory Quality:** Approximately 20% respondents indicated the need to standardize strategies for laboratory quality management across European labs.

4.4 **Develop Veterinary Profession's Understanding of Need for Clinical Pathologists:** The survey results at least partially addressed the questions it raised. The next most common remark after need for positions was from approximately one-quarter of respondents who indicated that the ECVCP should address the need for increased awareness and understanding of the role and need for veterinary clinical pathologists.

4.5 **Proposed Solutions to Challenges:** The above challenges to ECVCP have been identified from the beginning of its foundation, and that of the ESVCP, and are the basis for these organisations. Recognition of the relevance and importance of VCP has grown remarkably since their foundation, and this can be directly attributed to the activities of the various committees and the development of credibility of the ECVCP as a regulatory body for this veterinary speciality. The credibility of the ECVCP is based on a strong foundation of true expertise and experience, and additionally, to a large extent, to provisional recognition of the EBVS.

Committees for education, laboratory standards, and science are already in place whose remit clearly covers address of the major challenges identified above. They will prioritise their activities based on this information and fine-tune their specific strategies to make further progress. It is noteworthy that the current survey identified that ~90% had teaching experience and that ~50% were willing to provide lectures and host short term visits of trainees. This wide experience and willingness to assist with training is already being used in training programmes (especially the alternative) and should be a valuable resource for expanding current training opportunities.

However, for a) optimal development of all levels of educational programmes, b) compliant adoption of consensus standards for laboratory quality and practices, c) restriction of practice to specialists, and d) establishment of positions, these all require regulatory acceptance of the speciality and credible designation of a governing and organising body. Alternatively, awareness of needs is suboptimal, competing strategies develop, and standards are not perceived as needed nor adhered to. Whereas the ECVCP has made great progress here, there is still much more to be made and this could be greatly assisted by the EBVS.

The single most potent catalyst for facilitating and accelerating the development of VCP at this point in its development, and for addressing the above challenges, is full recognition of the ECVCP as a veterinary speciality by the EBVS. This recognition would empower the education, exam, laboratory standards, and science committees to accelerate their progress and more rapidly accomplish their remit. Additionally, this would empower ECVCP to more effectively recruit sponsorship of educational opportunities, positions, and advancement of the relevant science and technology.

From a simple conversation to a College

Anne Provencher Bolliger and Corinne Fournel-Fleury

Although most people believe that the origin of the College was the creation of the ESVCP, the initial activities that lead to the ECVCP took place earlier. As this past year marked the submission of the College's application for final approbation, we thought it might be interesting to recall and remember the events and steps that lead to this achievement.

In April 1995, at a cytology workshop in Zurich (CH), Corinne Fournel-Fleury and Anne Provencher Bolliger met for the first time. Anne had recently moved to Switzerland, after having completed her clinical pathology residency program at Michigan State University (USA) and Corinne was professor of internal medicine and head of the Cytology Laboratory at the Veterinary School in Lyon (F). Both agreed that clinical pathology as a specialty was lacking in Europe and started initial discussions about the need to create a clinical pathology college. But how? And where to start?

1995-1997: Cytology Working Group

Following that first contact, Anne and Corinne started to establish an initial network of individuals working in clinical pathology/internal medicine in veterinary institutions in Europe, via personal and direct contacts (fax, letters and phones). The first individuals that participated were: Johannes Hirschberger (D), Eric Teske (N) and John Dunn (UK). With the help of colleagues from the ECVIM (European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine), the "Cytology Working Group" was created. The group was given lecture time for the first time at the ESVIM/ECVIM congress in Handoven in 1996. The scientific activities and discussions continued in 1997 with meetings between Corinne, Anne, John, Johannes and Erik as well as participations at the ESVIM/ECVIM congress in Lyon (F, 1997).

1998: ESVCP

In 1998, the interest for clinical pathology continued to grow and its presence within the internal medicine group attracted more and more individuals to the specialty. The desire and need to form a separate specialty in Europe was shared by many individuals. At the ESVIM/ECVIM congress in Vienna (A) in 1998, the ESVCP was officially formed and inaugurated by Johannes Hirschberger. The first executive board was formed by the following individuals: President: Johannes Hirschberger (D), Vice-President: Corinne Fournel-Fleury (F), Secretary: Jean-Pierre Magnol (F), Treasurer: Asger L. Jensen (Denmark). The scientific participation of the clinical pathology group with the internal medicine group was another success.

1999-2000: Investigative Working Group

In 1999, the ESVCP had 100 members, and the journal "Veterinary Clinical Pathology" became the official publication of both, ASVCP and ESVCP. At the business meeting of the Society in Perugia (I), the members discussed the possibility to establish a European college of clinical pathology. A working group mandated to investigate this possibility was created. The Working Group consisted of the following individuals: Peter O'Brien (UK), J.P. Braun (F), Anne Provencher Bolliger (USA), Corinne Fournel-Fleury (F), Larry Roberts (UK).

In 2000, at the ESVCP's annual meeting in Toulouse (F), the Working Group presented results from its investigation and survey on the establishment of a clinical pathology college in Europe. Conclusions showed strong support to the formation of the College. The ESVCP voted positively on

presenting a letter of intent followed by an application for the creation of the ECVCP, independent from other colleges.

2001-2002: ECVCP's Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee, composed of the 15 founding diplomates, was formed and the ECVCP officially submitted a letter of justification for its independence, published later as an abstract in Veterinary Clinical Pathology journal. The organizing committee was formed by: P. O'Brien, A. Provencher Bolliger, C. Fournel-Fleury, JP Braun, K. Freeman, J. Archer, J. Ceron, T. Gaal, A. Jensen, H. Larkin, M. Palm, S. Paltrinieri, J. Pastor, Z. Polizopoulou, H. Tvedten. On December 3, 2002, the EBVS (European Board of Veterinary Specialization) notified the organizing committee that the ECVCP was awarded provisional approbation.

Since provisional approbation, the progresses made by the College are quite remarkable. At the end of 2006, the College comprises 64 diplomates (from 18 different countries, on 3 continents), has conducted 3 successful annual board examination, 8 annual scientific conferences and has established 18 training programs in 12 countries. In addition, the College and Society have established constitutional linkages, ensuring close collaboration between the 2 organizations.

From a simple conversation between 2 individuals that strongly believed in their specialty and in its need to be independent, we now have an independent College in Europe. Thanks to the dedication, willingness, time and effort of the all individuals that got involved, at each step of its creation, the European College of Veterinary Clinical Pathology exists. We can all be very proud of our successes and achievements.

Congratulations to all of us!

Anne and Corinne

The College warmly welcomes its new diplomates:

Andrew Torrance (UK)
Mark Pinches (UK)
Cathy Trumel (F)
Alessia Giordano (I)
Laia Solano-Gallego (I)

Mock clinical pathology exam

Idexx Laboratories, with the help of Drs. Joy Archer and Kathy Freeman, was host to 12 participants from 6 countries in the Second Open Mock Exam held December 16th 2006 in Wetherby, UK. The feedback from the participants indicated that they felt it was a worthwhile experience. For some it was good practice for writing the examination in English. For others, it was a 'wake up' call for time constraints and organization to complete all cases in the allotted time, whilst others agreed that they needed to hand-write some things for practice in order to avoid a major cramp! We wish all participants good luck in their studies and in continued preparation for the RCPATH and/or ECVCP and/or ACVP examinations! *Sincerely, Kathy Freeman and Joy Archer*

Call for examination questions – ECVCP Diplomates

Dear ECVCP member,

According to the ECVCP constitution and By-laws, all diplomats must submit five questions, along with their fully-referenced answers, each year (by May 31st) to the examination committee. Failure to submit questions for two consecutive years could cause suspension of approval of training programs. Late submission of written questions results in inconvenience to the section leader and extra mailings of segments for review. The task of preparing all items for various sections is sizable. To meet deadlines, provide the highest quality items. For multiple choice questions, please include five foils (a-e) if possible. We encourage everyone to start assembling materials as soon as possible to avoid last-minute rush preparations. For biochemistry cases please provide a complete case report with all haematology and chemistry data, and if available urinalysis and cytology findings.

In order to be sure that all the members have sent their 5 questions, we send this message monthly to the ECVCP mailing list. Please provide 3-4 multiple choice questions and 1-2 questions to be chosen among the following: biochemistry cases, cytology or haematology images or glass slides.

For further information how questions should be written or mailed, please contact the chair of the examination committee at kerstintt@tolling.org

ESVCP- Membership Dues Notice
Membership Year: January 1- December 31, 2007

All members of the Society and the College who have not done so, are requested to pay their 2007 Dues by February 28, 2007.

Please take a moment to renew your membership.

Renewing your membership requires two steps:

1. Email your up to date contact information to **Peter Graham**, pgraham@nwlabs.co.uk . This will ensure that copies of Veterinary Clinical Pathology are sent to the correct address.
2. Select your payment method and amount. Payments are processed by **Heather Holloway**, heather-holloway@idexx.com .

All members of the ECVCP should also renew their membership of the Society in addition to paying the Dues for membership of the College. It is a requirement of the Constitution that ECVCP members are also members of ESVCP.

1. Membership Details update

Please send a copy of your full postal address by email to pgraham@nwlabs.co.uk .

2. Membership Fees and Payment Methods

ESVCP Membership Fees 2007

- **100 Euros for regular members.** This includes Veterinary Clinical Pathology journal subscription (4 issues per year).
- **80 Euros for ASVCP members.** Journal subscription is not included as this is paid for through ASVCP Dues.

Payment Options

Paypal

This option will be available soon with a second reminder distributed by email shortly that will also enclose Paypal instructions.

International Funds Transfer : in Euros or pounds sterling

For members in countries where Paypal payment is not possible or if you choose, payment can be made using International Funds Transfer. See instructions below. This system does not however generate automatic receipts and is more expensive for the Society. Frequently members will have to pay transfer fees to their bank in addition to the Dues.

This usually requires completion of a form at the bank. **Please note that when using this method of payment it is essential that the member's name is given in the payment details.** A number of payments using this method have been received which cannot be traced because the member's name is not given on the transfer document. Please state this first in the payment details field of the form.

UK members

Cheques in UK pounds can be accepted (posted to the address below) or funds transfer from any UK bank.

Bank details for Funds Transfer:

Bank: Lloyds TSB

Account name: European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology

Account No: 1963022

Address: 8 Cambridge Crescent, Harrogate North Yorkshire HG1 1PQ ENGLAND

Sort code: 30 93 91

Swiftbank code (Bank Identification Code): LOYDGB21214

IBAN code: GB48LOYD30939101963022

OR

Postal address to mail cheques:

Heather Holloway
ESVCP Treasurer
Hostlers
The Street
Little Waldingfield
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 0SQ
United Kingdom

If you have any queries regarding membership payments please contact the Treasurer, Heather Holloway at to heather-holloway@idexx.com .

ECVCP- Call for Diplomate Fees for 2007
Membership Year: January 1- December 31, 2007

All members of the College who haven't done so, are requested to pay their diplomate fees for 2007 by February 28, 2007.

Please remember that you must also be a member of the Society in order to retain your diplomate status. If you have not paid 2006 dues, please pay both 2006 and 2007 dues. If you do not recall whether you have paid 2006 dues, please contact Kathy Freeman at kathy-freeman@lineone.net.

Please take a moment and renew your membership NOW.

Renewing your membership requires three steps:

1. Complete and email the Excel spreadsheet below giving your up to date contact information. This will ensure that any communications are sent to the correct address.
2. Select your payment method and amount.
3. Make your payment.

1. Membership Details update

Please complete the attached Excel spreadsheet and email it to kathy-freeman@lineone.net

2. Diplomate Fee and Payment Methods

ECVCP Diplomate Fee 2007

- 100 Euros

Payment Options

Paypal

See information above in ESVCP Membership notice.

International Funds Transfer

For members in countries where Paypal payment is not possible, payment can be made using International Funds Transfer. The information required to make these transfers is given on the website and is copied below. This system does not however generate automatic receipts and is more expensive for the Society. Frequently members will have to pay transfer fees to their bank in addition to the Dues.

UK members

Cheques in UK pounds can be accepted (posted to the address below) or funds transfer from any UK bank (the UK equivalent of 100 Euros will be considered to be £68.00)

Bank details for Funds Transfer:

Account name: European Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology

Bank: Lloyds TSB

Address: Aberfeldy Branch, Bank Street, Aberfeldy, Scotland, United Kingdom

Account No: 0511748

Sort code: 30 25 87

Swiftbank code (Bank Identification Code): TSBSGB21280

IBAN code: GB97TSBS30258700511748

Postal address:

Dr. Kathy Freeman

ECVCP Treasurer

Rynachulaig Farm

Killin

Perthshire FK21 8TY

Scotland, United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)1567 820 580 Mobile: 07766 600 274

3. Making your Payment

Using Paypal to pay Dues

Go to Paypal on the Internet. Either follow the link below:

<https://www.paypal.com/uk/> or search for Paypal in your country of residence

Click on the **Send Money** Tab

Open a personal account if you do not already have one. Once this is open please enter the College's Paypal email and payment details as below

Recipient's Email: kathy-freeman@lineone.net

Amount: (100)

Currency: Euros

Type: Service

Subject: ECVCP Diplomate fee 2007

Notes: Please enter your name and the fact you wish to pay the diplomate fee

Click on the Send Money button

Paypal will email you confirmation that money has been sent

International funds Transfer

This usually requires completion of a form at the bank.

Please note that when using this method of payment it is essential that the member's name is given in the payment details. A number of payments using this method have been received which cannot be traced because the member's name is not given on the transfer document. Please state this first in the payment details field of the form.

If you have any queries regarding membership payments please contact the ECVCP Treasurer, Kathy Freeman at kathy-freeman@lineone.net .

2007 annual ESVCP and ECVCP meeting with ECVIM-CA in Budapest, Hungary, on September 12-14

Message from the Local Organizers of ESVCP/ECVIM Annual Meeting 2007 Budapest



Dear All,

Welcome to the ESVCP/ECVCP Annual Meeting that will be held September 12-15, 2007, in Budapest, Hungary. This year our meeting will be held again together with ECVIM-CA. The Chair of the Local Organizer Committee of ECVIM-CA Congress is Károly Vörös, Head of our Department, with 4 local fellow organizers from the clinical staff while we, Tibor and Péter, will guide ESVCP people during your stay in

Budapest. The venue of the meeting is the Budapest Congress Centre joined to Hotel Novotel on the Buda side of the beautiful Danube not far from downtown. So, most of the attendees will have on site accommodation. Early September is usually a nice and dry period of the year in Hungary. You may visit our Faculty on the Pest side of the city where there will be plenty of students given the time of year. There one can meet more than 300 English or German speaking students from several parts of the world studying veterinary medicine.

The scientific part of the meeting seems to be very interesting again. Detailed information of the meeting including programme, accommodation, registration and abstract submission is (or will soon be) available at the ECVIM Congress website: <http://www.ecvimcongress.org>, and hopefully also with links on the ESVCP website (<http://www.esvcpcongress.org>). Between September 13th and 15th, parallel ECVIM sessions will take place in the same building. The main themes of the Congress are leukaemia diagnosis, biomarkers of bone, and CNS disorders. Speakers will include colleagues from the human field. All social functions between September 13th and 15th (Welcome Party at our Faculty, Gala Dinner, Farewell party) will be joint with ECVIM. The Examination Committee of ECVCP decided earlier this year that ECVCP Exams would not be held at the venues of the coming Annual Meetings – so, no exam in Budapest. As usual, all those who will have accepted oral/poster abstracts or case presentations will benefit from a reduced registration fee. Most likely we will have several new participants from countries that formerly rarely appeared at ESVCP meetings. Surely new friendships will be forged, and our hope is that these new colleagues will stay with us and increase the number of members of our growing ESVCP family.

See you in September,
Tibor Gaál
Péter Vajdovich



ESVCP and ECVCP business meeting minutes, Cambridge, UK, Sept. 2006

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the ESVCP**Cambridge U.K. 6 September 2006.**

The meeting was opened by Joy Archer, president.

Apologies were received from Peter Graham (secretary), Josep Pastor and Stefano Comazzi (Executive members).

Joy Archer welcomed all members including several new members to the meeting. It was noted that membership is now at 120 for 2006. Members were encouraged to be active in the society and attend meetings. It was stressed that membership is open to anyone who is interested in, or working in Veterinary Clinical Pathology and they do not have to be veterinarians or diplomats of ECVCP to join or be officers of the society. Young persons particularly trainees in veterinary clinical pathology were encouraged to join the society, and since the reduce dues for trainees/ graduate students have been introduced (agreed at the AGM 2005) many trainees have become new members.

A request from Peter Graham (secretary) was made on his behalf for members to be sure that he has an up to date email and mailing address for them to ensure receipt of the journal and newsletters.

Report form the treasurer: Nick Carmichael gave an overview of the state of finances. Before the meeting they were in good condition. He noted that the accounts for 2001 – 2004 had been finalized and submitted to the German tax authorities. The accounts for 2005 had also been prepared and submitted to the accountants. The society now has 3 accounts : 1) a deposit account, 2) a GBP account, and 3) a Euro account. It was suggest that dues payments can be made by Paypal transfers and bank transfers. It was reiterated that the cost of the transfers should be born by the member, not the society.

A brief break down of what the 100 Euro membership fee is spent on was presented.

Euro 100:	3.50	Bank fees
	12.0	ECVIM for newsletter and ESVCP day in the ECVIM congress
	45.0	ESVCP ASVCP journal Veterinary Clinical Pathology
	10.0	German accountants
	= 70.50	
	Balance =	30 Euro

With many trainees paying only 50 Euro.

It was noted that if there is an increase in the cost of the journal, and if members continue to leave the costs of transfers and payments to the society, serious consideration will have to made about increasing membership dues at the next AGM. Everyone was reminded that if they wish to receive ALL the journals for 2007 they must pay their 2007 dues and be on record with an up to date mailing address before 1 March 2007.

Election of new officers: the positions of vice president, treasurer and secretary were renewable in 2006. Solicitations for candidates were distributed by email.

Vice president One candidate Tibor Gaal, Hungary, was unanimously elected
Treasurer : One candidate Heather Holloway, U.K, was unanimously elected.
Secretary: No new candidate. Peter Graham agreed to serve another term.

The out going officers, Nick Carmichael and Carlo Masserdotti were thanked for their voluntary work for the society over the past 3 years.

Congress 2007: A presentation about the venue and the city of Budapest was made by Tibor Gaal (vice president and local congress organizer). An invitation extended to all to attend. This congress will be joint with ECVIM –CA from 12 – 15 September at the Novotel congress centre.

Congress 2008: possible venues for this year were discussed. There was an invitation to hold the meeting in Barcelona with ISACP (previously ISACB). This meeting is usually held in spring /summer as in 2006 in Istanbul Turkey. However, Josep Pastor and Jose Ceron agreed to investigate the possibility of holding it jointly in September.

An invitation to Greece on one of the islands was extended by Zoe Polizopolou. The original plan for 2007 was Thesoloniki, Greece, but unfortunately this had to be changed to Budapest after it had been agreed at our 2005 AGM. An invitation to consider an unusual combined meeting between Denmark and Norway was also proposed by Stein Thorensen. After some discussion of these three proposals it was decided that all three invitations should be presented in more detail on the ESVCP web site and that a vote should be cast. It would be realistic to choose venues for 2008 and 2009 at that time since a long lead time is needed for congress preparations.

New business: Peter O'Brien (president ECVCP), spoke about the questionnaire that was circulated 6 years ago when the college was first founded. He discussed a new survey, which would be circulated to all members of the college and society and used as part of the application for approval of the ECVCP by EBVS. He encouraged all members to reply to this survey.

As there was no further business the meeting was declared closed

Minutes prepared by J Archer
12.09.06

Advertisements

Chair, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences

The Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences seeks an internationally recognized clinician and scholar for a full time, 12 month position of chair of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, one of three academic departments in the College of Veterinary Medicine in Pullman, WA. The department currently consists of 43 faculty members, 29 post-DVM trainees and instructors, and 67 support staff. Minimum qualifications for this position include a DVM or equivalent degree and credentials for appointment at the rank of professor at Washington State University. Board certification in a veterinary specialty and an advanced graduate degree in veterinary medicine or a related biomedical science are preferred. Other preferred qualifications include a distinguished, internationally recognized record of scholarship, a record of extramural funding, commitment to excellence in veterinary clinical science teaching, strong leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills, and demonstrated skills in administrative, organizational, and budgetary matters, including provision of clinical services in an academic setting. The chair will be expected to provide leadership and promote excellence in the teaching, research, service and outreach activities of the department, and will coordinate fund raising activities with the college development team. He/she will be responsible for faculty recruiting, mentoring and development, and will conduct annual faculty evaluations. The chair has budgetary authority and accountability for all departmental programs, and will work with the Director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital to coordinate departmental activities with the provision of clinical services. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. The Washington State University Pullman campus is located in the rich agricultural area known as the Palouse, in eastern Washington. Pullman has a strong school system and a reputation as an excellent, safe environment. Pullman is eight miles from the University of Idaho at Moscow, Idaho, approximately 1.5 hours south of Spokane, Washington, and 5 hours from Seattle, Washington. The Pullman area offers numerous recreational activities including skiing, fishing, hunting, whitewater rafting, camping, hiking, bicycling and rock climbing. In addition, both universities provide a wealth of sports and cultural activities. Review of applications will begin February 15, 2007. The starting date is July 1, 2007, or at a mutually agreeable date. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, a list of 3 references, and a personal statement of the applicant's vision for academic development in a major clinical department with a teaching hospital. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Dr. K. Jane Wardrop, Chair of the VCS Chair Search Committee, at 509-335-0820 or email kjw@vetmed.wsu.edu for more information. Information is also available at <http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/employment/>. Applications should be addressed to Dr. K. Jane Wardrop, c/o Ms. Julie Smith, Dean's Office, College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-7010. WSU is an EEO/AA Educator/Employer. Protected group members are encouraged to apply.