President’s Message

In President’s Message #1 (February, 2002), I shared with you the membership in the ASVCP standing committees for 2001-2002, a new model for committee structure and function, and an abbreviated charge given to each committee. Together with the Executive Board (EB), the standing committees form the infrastructure that conducts the Society’s business.

In order to assure progress and respond rapidly to issues, the seven members of the EB work continuously throughout the year. We communicate several times weekly via electronic mail discussions. We utilize US mail, fax, and telephone conferences to share information, seek opinions, and make informed decisions. In addition, we meet in person for 1-2 days of focused meetings prior to the combined annual ASVCP/ACVP meeting. During the annual meeting we also meet jointly with the ACVP Council. Periodically issues arise that require us to seek the advice of small groups of highly informed individuals with specific knowledge in an area. Late in 2001, then President Jeanne George, formed two ad hoc committees to advise the EB. Ad hoc committees...
address focused issues, are composed of small numbers of members, and exist for a finite period of time. Because these two committees were unable to complete their business in 2001, I have extended their tenure with the specific charge that all work be completed within the year 2002. The members of these committees, a brief history, and my charge for these committees are listed below.

**Ad hoc Committee on Constitutional Reform 2001-2002**
Jan Krehbiel (Chair), Rose Raskin, Gary Kociba, Bill Reagan (EB Liaison)

**History**
Appointed in 2001, this committee composed of 3 Past-Presidents of the ASVCP and an EB Liaison (Eric Schultze) was charged with extensive review and revision of the Constitution and Bylaws. Recent events in the life of the organization had emphasized that the Constitution and Bylaws were inadequate to meet the needs of a growing, modern, scientific organization with diverse membership. The current documents contained several internal conflicts and many articles in need of clarification. The Committee worked diligently to review the Constitution and Bylaws and suggest various changes including additions, clarifications, deletions, etc. The Committee focused initially on the amendment process to help simplify the numerous changes that are to come. At the recent annual meeting held in Salt Lake City, the Amendment to Article IX passed by overwhelming majority thereby permitting mail ballots and simplifying the constitutional revision process. The first draft of suggested changes to the Constitution and Bylaws is currently under review by members of the EB. The EB promises rapid review and discussion of the document with the Committee Chair.

**President’s Charge for 2001-2002**
The ASVCP EB is very pleased with the progress of this committee. Therefore, only one charge is necessary: complete the review and amendment process to the Constitution and Bylaws within the year. In turn the EB promises quick review of any suggested revisions, active discussion, development of a letter of support, and rapid voting by the membership.

**Ad hoc Committee on Management Support 2001-2002**
Eric Schultze (Chair and EB Liaison), Don Meuten, Linda Werner, Phyllis Fisher, Ellen Evans

**History**
Appointed in 2001, this committee was charged with investigating various management support companies and suggesting options for growth and management of the ASVCP administrative business. The Committee worked diligently but found few options for a Society of approximately 500 members. Two companies expressed interest in discussion regarding management support: Rees Group (also manages ACVP) and Allen Press (manages our journal). More discussions are needed in order to make a recommendation to the EB. At the annual meeting held in Salt Lake City, the Rees Group expressed interest in pursuing discussions for our business. Susan Rees discussed many options and promised an open door for interactions should the Society wish to pursue the services of her organization.
President’s Charge for 2001-2002
The ASVCP EB is satisfied with the progress of this committee to date. The charge is simple: continue discussions and resolve the management issue within one year. Specifically, we are looking for a recommendation of which, if any, management company to employ, anticipated expenses, and a list of what management services we should consider utilizing. In turn, the EB promises frank discussions of the options that are presented, review of material in a timely manner, and our full cooperation.

Special Interest Groups
Identification and growth of special interest groups possess unique opportunities for the ASVCP. For several years, the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals (VLP) have met at the ASVCP meeting. Many, but not all, VLP members are members of the ASVCP. The EB recognizes the benefit of the close association of the VLP and ASVCP. We wish to encourage participation in the VLP programs, growth of their membership, sharing of common objectives and expenses, and active membership in the ASVCP.

Veterinary Laboratory Professionals (VLP) 2002
Betty Thompson (CoChair), Linda Vap (CoChair), Bill Reagan (EB Liaison)

History
The VLP (formerly Veterinary Laboratory Managers) is a small, well-organized group of laboratory professionals. The group is loosely defined by a very active listserve of diverse individuals who share a common interest in the laboratory testing of animal samples. The VLP has met with the ASVCP for 7 years, and last year the VLP was granted “special interest group status” by the EB. The VLP have regularly contributed informative and practical articles for inclusion in the ASVCP Newsletter. The group has strong leadership and organization that guide its communication and function. The VLP coordinated their own educational program, via the Program Committee, for the annual meeting, and they have excellent contacts that assist in capital development for shared portions of the ASVCP/ACVP meeting. The close association of the VLP and ASVCP is a mutually beneficial arrangement that we wish to encourage and develop.

President’s Charge for 2002
1. Continue annual meetings of Co-Chairs with members of the EB to discuss progress and concerns.
2. Use newly-created positions on each of the ASVCP standing committees to actively contribute to the ASVCP and draw the VLP closer into the parent organization.
3. Continue to increase the number of VLP who join the ASVCP.
4. Work with the Program Chair, Betsy Welles, to plan meeting sessions that complement ASVCP activities and reduce or eliminate conflicts with the main activities of the ASVCP (keynote speakers, business meeting, etc).

The EB of the ASVCP strongly supports the two ad hoc committees and the VLP special interest group in their endeavors. We ask that you advise us of any needs as they develop and let us know how we can assist you. We look forward to a positive working relationship.
Good luck in the year’s endeavors!

Eric Schultze
President, ASVCP

Election of ASVCP Executive Board Members

This year, we are electing three officials of the ASVCP: President-Elect, Secretary, and First Year Executive Board Member. Each candidate has provided a statement that is included below. All ASVCP members eligible to vote should receive a ballot with this newsletter. All completed ballots for ASVCP officers must be received by July 1, 2002. Please send your ballot to the Immediate Past-President:

Dr. Jeanne George
VM:PMI
School of Veterinary Medicine
1126 Haring Hall
UC-Davis, Davis, CA 95616

Candidate for President-Elect

Duties of the President-Elect include: serving on the Program Committee and coordinating the ASVCP/ACVP Clinical Pathology Scientific Sessions, acting as Parliamentarian for the Executive Board, and serving as liaison for the VLP group and the Committee on Constitutional Reform.

Harold Tvedten

I work currently at the Swedish Agricultural University and at a regional veterinary hospital at Strömsholm Sweden. I retired from Michigan State University in 2000 after 26 years of service. I have written 2 CD-roms (“Veterinary Clinical Pathology 2000" and "Veterinary Gross Pathology") and am co-editor of "Small Animal Clinical Diagnosis by Laboratory Methods". I have been a member of the ASVCP Executive Board for 2 years, was Secretary-Treasurer of the ASVCP for 4 years, and was President of the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association.
Candidates for Secretary

Duties of Secretary include: recording the minutes of business meeting and Executive Board meetings, editing and publishing the quarterly newsletter, supervising the ASVCP website, and publishing the annual directory. The Secretary serves a two year term, with possibility of re-election for one more term.

Marilyn Whitney:

I graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) at the University of Missouri in 1979. Following 2 years in private practice, I entered into a residency/graduate training program in clinical pathology at Purdue University’s School of Veterinary Medicine, receiving the MS degree in 1984, and the PhD in 1986. I joined the faculty of Texas A&M’s CVM in 1986 as Assistant Professor, and in 1994 I took the position of Clinical Pathologist at the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory in Amarillo, TX. Since October 1, 2001, I have been Clinical Associate Professor of Veterinary Clinical Pathology at the CVM and the Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory of the University of Missouri in Columbia. I have been an ASVCP member since 1983, and an ACVP diplomate since 1989. My professional interests include hematology, hemoparasites, metabolic disorders, and instructional methodology. Having long enjoyed the benefits of being an ASVCP member, I would appreciate the opportunity to serve the Society. I enjoy writing, an attribute that would serve me well as Secretary.

Linda Vap:

ASVCP Member since 1989. Education: BS, MT, University of Nebraska, 1977, DVM, Colorado State University, 1988, Completed a residency in Clinical Pathology at CSU in 1995. Professional experience: Several medical technology positions 1977-1988. Clinical Pathology Coordinator at CSU’s James Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital from 1988 to present. In addition to routine management, this involves teaching veterinary and veterinary technician students the wonders of veterinary clinical pathology. Currently, I am Co-chair of the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals Group. I hope to make a contribution to the ASVCP by serving as Secretary.
Candidates for First Year Executive Board Member:

The First Year Executive Board Member serves a two year term. Duties include attending Executive Board meetings and voting on all issues brought before the Board, coordinating the case review session, and acting as liaison for some committees of the ASVCP.

Karyn Bird:

ASVCP member since 1987; member of the Education Committee (1996-2002), Program Committee (1999-2002), and Development Committee (1999-present). Education: DVM, Colorado State University, 1986; PhD (Pathology), Texas A&M University, 1993. After completing post-doctoral work in thrombosis at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, I worked as Assistant Director and then Director of the Thrombosis, Hemostasis and Vascular Biology Research Laboratories in the Veterans Administration Hospitals in Richmond, VA, and Syracuse, NY, respectively. I am currently an assistant professor at Oregon State University (OSU), where I am a clinical pathologist and section leader of the Analytical Chemistry service in the OSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL). I also serve as the QA/QC Officer and the Safety Officer for the VDL. My clinical interests are in diagnostic clinical pathology and coagulation/ hemostasis. My research interests in hemostasis, thrombosis, and vascular biology are mainly centered on the effects of heparin on coagulation and the vascular system, isolation and therapeutic uses of peripheral blood progenitor cells, and bio-compatibility of vascular implants.

Judith Radin:

Education: DVM, Cornell University 1981; PhD (Renal Pathophysiology) Colorado State University 1986; Diplomate of ACVP 1988. Professional Positions: I was in companion animal practice from 1981-1983. I completed a combined clinical pathology residency training and PhD program in1986 at CSU. I then took a position as an Assistant Professor at The Ohio State University. Currently, I am a tenured Associate Professor at OSU. Interests: My research interests include mechanisms regulating blood pressure and hormonal influences on the development and progression of congestive heart failure. Professional interests include diagnostic clinical pathology, especially hematology and cytopathology. ASVCP: Member of ASVCP since 1984. Vice Chair for ASVCP/ACVP joint session in 1994 and 1995 and Chair for 1996 meeting. I was on the editorial board of Veterinary Pathology (1995-1997) and am currently on the editorial board for Veterinary Clinical Pathology. I have been a member of the Clinical Pathology ACVP Board Examination Committee. Goals: To continue to promote the role of the ASVCP in education and the
advancement of veterinary laboratory medicine and to continue to facilitate interactions within the Society as well as with other related organizations.

The ASVCP and ASVCP Committee for Quality Assurance and Standards for Veterinary Laboratory Testing are pleased to announce a one-day workshop.

Dr. James Westgard
Speaker/Moderator

QC Practices and Designs for Laboratory Testing Processes

Saturday, December 7, 2002
Fairmont Hotel, New Orleans, LA,
in conjunction with the annual meeting of the ASVCP/ACVP

The process of quality planning, the philosophy of quality management, and the need for standard processes and standards of quality will be covered. Method validation, its purpose, review of regulations required for testing of specimens, method selection and the experiments needed to validate method and instrument performance will be presented. The workshop will encourage audience interaction and discussion about issues of quality assurance and method validation, and the aspects unique to veterinary medicine.

All persons attending the meeting will receive 2 valuable reference books, Basic QC Practices, 2nd ed. and Six Sigma Quality Designs and Control by James O. Westgard. Participants will find these books useful in the application of information obtained from this workshop in their own laboratories.

Cost: $250.00 per person
Attendance will be limited to approximately 50 people, please register early.

A registration form will be included with the registration material for the ASVCP/ACVP meeting and posted on the ASVCP website (www.asvcp.org)

For additional information, contact
Dr. Kathy Freeman or Dr. Laurie O’Rourke (Co-Chairpersons, QAS Committee)
kfreeman@flexnet.co.uk or laurie.orourke@pharma.novartis.com
Case Review Session: Call for slides and cases

Submissions are requested for the 2002 ASVCP Case Review Session. Materials that may be submitted include hematology, cytology or surgical pathology slides, electron photomicrographs, and interesting clinical chemistry or hematology cases. This is a popular and interactive opportunity to share cases and experiences among attendees.

Types of Material Requested
Cases should be classic examples or unique or unusual representations of diseases, clinical cases, or research data. Cases may represent any species. Analytic problems that are associated with instrumentation, assay conditions, statistical analysis or specimen handling are welcome. Stained, cover-slipped glass slides are preferred, but in certain cases, 2 x 2 transparencies will be considered. Surgical biopsies should be from lesions that would be examined cytologically, and ideally the submission should include a cytologic preparation.

Case Submission:
Material Needed
Eighty (80) glass slides are needed for each case. The submitter must check all glass slides to assure their quality. Please do not attach adhesive labels to the glass slides. If 2x2 transparencies or histologic sections are submitted, send only one transparency or histologic section. If the case is accepted, the submitter will supply 80 copies of the transparency or histologic slide.

For clinical chemistry or hematology cases, laboratory data including reference intervals for your laboratory should be submitted.

Printed Material/Case Information
Please send a hard copy of case information with the slides or data. In addition, send 2 Word files as e-mail attachments to Susan.Tornquist@orst.edu. If e-mail or attachments are a problem, these files may be sent on a 3.5” disk. The first file is the case history to be distributed with the slide sets prior to the meeting and should include contributors, specimen submitted, signalment, concise history, clinical findings, and pertinent laboratory data. The second file is information that will be distributed at the meeting and should include the information on the first file, plus diagnosis, slide description, discussion, and references.

The goal of this session is to stimulate discussion and not necessarily to present a lecture or literature review with each case. If preferred, the submitter may include discussion questions to be answered at the case review session. These questions may inspire members to review cases before the meeting.

When and Where to Submit
The deadline for submission of cases is July 15, 2002. Submitters will be notified of the results of the selection process by August 1, 2002. Only 20 cases will be presented at the meeting. Cases not selected for presentation may be returned to the submitter, retained for consideration as a 2003 presentation, or included in the 2002 cases as an
interesting case, but not presented. Be sure to include your e-mail address with your submission.

Inquiries and case submissions should be sent to:
  Dr. Sue Tornquist
  College of Veterinary Medicine-Magruder Hall
  Oregon State University
  Corvallis, OR  97331
  Phone: (541) 737-6943
  FAX: (541) 737-6817
  E-mail: Susan.Tornquist@orst.edu

Second Call For Abstracts

The next concurrent meeting of the ASVCP and the ACVP will be held December 8-11, 2002, in New Orleans, LA. There will be a combined ASVCP /ACVP Clinical Pathology Scientific Session for everyone that has interest in clinical pathology. The format will be similar to that of the 2001 annual meeting. This will be a great opportunity to present experimental or clinical research data to colleagues and we will have both oral platform and poster presentations. The final decision regarding presentation format is at the discretion of the program committee. We encourage participation by a wide variety of individuals including faculty, senior scientists, diagnostic veterinary pathologists/clinical pathologists, trainees and many others. Presenters are required to register for the meeting. Now is the time for you to start planning your presentations!!!

The deadline for abstract submission will be June 3rd, 2002.

ASVCP Young Investigator Award

The ASVCP will present a $500 award to the resident or graduate student whose platform presentation is judged best among the competing presentations. Eligibility requirements include a degree in veterinary medicine and enrollment in a residency or graduate program in pathology/clinical pathology or a related discipline. The oral presentation must describe original work of the competitor involving clinical or experimental research that relates to clinical pathology. Presenters are required to register for the meeting. Award selection will be based on the scientific content, abstract composition, clarity of presentation and ability to answer questions. Each trainee may submit only one presentation in this competition.

ACVP Young Investigator Award

If you are a trainee and have a poster presentation, you can submit it for consideration in the ACVP Young Investigator Award. [Any abstract submitted for the ACVP Young Investigator Award is not eligible for the ASVCP Young Investigator Award.]
Submitting Your Abstracts For Consideration

Paper abstracts will not be used this year. Abstracts must be submitted electronically. Instructions that explain how to submit an abstract and how to enroll in the ASVCP or ACVP Young Investigator Award competition are now posted on the ACVP website (www.acvp.org). If the website does not provide you with all the answers to your questions, contact Bill Reagan who will coordinate the combined ASVCP /ACVP Clinical Pathology Scientific Session of the meeting. Bill’s address is:

Pfizer, Global Research and Development
Groton Laboratories
Eastern Point Road 8274/1203
Groton, CT 06340
Phone: 860-715-2650
FAX: 860-441-1197
E-mail: william_j_reagan@groton.pfizer.com

Call For ACVIM Speakers

The ASVCP has arranged speakers for a clinical pathology section of the annual American College of Veterinary Medicine (ACVIM) Forum for many years. ASVCP members who would like to give a presentation on a state-of-the-art topic in clinical pathology at the Forum, recommend a good speaker that is an ASVCP member, or suggest a topic/ theme should contact Harold Tvedten (email: tvedten@msu.edu or write to Veterinary Faculty, Institution for Clinical Chemistry, Swedish Agricultural University, PO Box 7038, 750 07 Uppsala, Sweden). The forum will be held June 4-7, 2003, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Harold will coordinate the selection of speakers and topics for the Forum. He can provide additional information to prospective speakers. Arrangements for this meeting will be confirmed by the middle of 2002.

2001 Teaching Clinical Pathology: A Forum for Discussion
Clinical Pathology Training for Residents in Other Specialties
By Leslie Sharkey and Mary Christopher

Are you faced with the challenge of training surgery, oncology, critical care and other residents? How does your clinical pathology service accommodate these residents? What clinical pathology content is important for residents in other specialties? Participants at the 2001 Teaching Clinical Pathology Forum discussed these and other questions at the ASCVP annual meeting in Salt Lake City. The Teaching Forum is organized annually by the ASVCP Education Committee to promote discussion and exchange on clinical pathology education.

Pat McManus and Leslie Sharkey, the moderators of the discussion, first defined the scope of training needs by providing the clinical pathology training requirements for each of the specialty colleges currently recognized by the AVMA (Table 1).
### Table 1. Veterinary specialty college requirements for clinical pathology training.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO FORMAL REQUIREMENT†</th>
<th>Training in pathology required, training does not require a pathologist</th>
<th>Training in pathology required, to be provided by a pathologist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Board of Veterinary Toxicology</td>
<td>American Board of Veterinary Practitioners: required to perform necropsies</td>
<td>American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care: minimum of 5 weeks of rotations in any combination of diagnostic imaging, clinical pathology, neurology, ophthalmology, oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Board of Veterinary Anesthesiologists</td>
<td>American Board of Laboratory Animal Medicine: required to interpret clinical pathology data and perform necropsies</td>
<td>American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine: must spend at least 40 hours direct contact with board certified veterinary pathologist (rounds, seminars, clin path education sessions at ACVIM are acceptable). Oncology candidates are required to have 40 contact hours of cytology. See <a href="http://www.acvim.org">www.acvim.org</a> for details on other subspecialties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Board of Veterinary Behaviorists</td>
<td>American College of Veterinary Dermatology: histology questions on the board exam</td>
<td>American College of Veterinary Radiology: must have opportunity to attend pathology rounds or have access to written pathology reports generated from the radiographic case load</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Board of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology</td>
<td></td>
<td>American College of Veterinary Surgeons: minimum of 80 hours supervised directly or indirectly by ACVP Diplomate, might include microscopic and gross pathology, rounds, journal clubs, case discussions, seminars, surgical biopsy service, clinical case data interpretation, graduate courses, form to be signed</td>
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<tr>
<td>American College of Veterinary Microbiologists</td>
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<td>American College of Veterinary Nutrition</td>
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<td>American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine</td>
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*Unable to obtain data from the following groups: American College of Poultry Veterinarians, American College of Theriogenologists, American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, American Veterinary Dental College.

†The ACVP (Anatomic Pathology) also has no formal clinical pathology training requirement.

For a complete copy of clinical pathology training requirements for all specialty colleges go to [www.asvcp.org/asvcpeducation.htm](http://www.asvcp.org/asvcpeducation.htm) and click on “Teaching Clinical Pathology: A Forum for Discussion 2001” for a PDF document.

The remainder of the Forum centered on the following 8 questions posed by the moderators. About 30 participants from veterinary schools throughout the US and Canada contributed to the discussion.
Who is currently asking to spend time with us? The services most often requesting training roughly correlate with those Colleges that have a requirement for time spent with a board-certified pathologist. Requests for rotations by surgery residents were most common. Requests from medicine, critical care, and oncology residents also were common, and a few institutions had requests from laboratory animal medicine and anesthesia residents or overseas trainees. In addition, many clinical pathologists receive requests for additional clinical pathology rotations from 4th year veterinary students within their own institutions as well as from other schools. A notable lack was requests from anatomic pathology residents for formal training in clinical pathology. With cytology being contemplated for inclusion on future anatomic pathology board exams, this may change.

How much time do they ask for? Generally a week or two at a time.

How do you structure these periods? Attendance at existing clinical pathology rounds and seminars partially fulfilled the requirements at many schools, although several individuals reported requests for full-week blocks that sometimes were disruptive to either the function of the clinical pathology lab or to the ability of the clinical pathologist to accomplish other tasks concurrently. Several people expressed concern that the scheduling of rotations for residents from other services was not optimal, and sometimes occurred without prior consultation with the pathologist expected to provide the training.

Do clinical pathologists train more outside residents, or devote more time to this than other services? Do other services reciprocate for clinical pathology residents? Because we did not have data on other services, this was a difficult question to answer. However, the demand for extra training in clinical pathology does seem to be high, and is increasing. It was noted that many anatomic pathology services participate in training clinical pathologists.

(How) Do teaching hospitals and universities recognize or reward the training of residents from other services? Responses varied; some schools reward this activity as part of a larger teaching mission. Other schools did not have a mechanism for evaluating teaching that was not part of a formal course.

Are the goals of the residents seeking training in clinical pathology clearly defined? Almost all discussants felt goals were NOT well defined. There was an impression that most residents had a desire to evaluate blood films and cytologic specimens. The short amount of training time, however, does not allow residents to achieve competency in cytopathology. Many discussants indicated that more time should be spent on sample submission procedures, including sample collection and the impact of sample quality on the ability to obtain a diagnosis. In addition, training in clinical chemistry and hematology methods, artifacts, and application of statistics that would enhance the ability of residents to interpret clinical pathology data was recommended.

What about clinical pathology training by non-pathologists? Considerable concern was expressed regarding Colleges that require training in pathology techniques and principles, but do not require this training to be provided by pathologists. While some
individuals in other specialties may have sufficient skills to provide some pathology instruction to their residents, the level of expertise is inconsistent. Many participants felt that if skills in pathology are required for board certification, time with a board-certified veterinary pathologist would be beneficial and was recommended.

What role should the ASVCP have in advising specialty colleges on their clinical pathology requirements? There was consensus that no formal recommendations should be made by the ASVCP to other specialty boards. It was recommended, however that clinical pathologists work closely with other specialists at their institutions in making recommendations for programs for their residents. It also was suggested that the ASVCP work closely with the ACVP on these issues.

Summary and Recommendations
Following the Teaching Clinical Pathology Forum, the ASVCP Education Committee met to review a summary of the discussion, and made the following recommendations regarding clinical pathology training for residents in other specialties:

1. The mentor of the resident requesting clinical pathology training should contact the clinical pathologist to facilitate scheduling and to define workload and expectations.
2. Residents from other services should work with their mentors and the clinical pathologist to establish training goals for their rotation in clinical pathology.
3. Clinical pathologists should ensure that clinical pathology training for residents in other services includes not only cytology, but also appropriate training in other areas of clinical pathology.

ASVCP Committee Updates

Development Committee

The current total donations for 2002 are $16,250. The Committee membership has expanded and now includes Karyn Bird, Harold Tvedten (Executive Board liaison), Mike Fry, Dave Fisher, Roberta Relford, Mike Scott, and Phyllis Fisher/Ellen Willet (VLP liaison). The Committee has had three teleconferences (Jan, Feb, and March 2002). The Committee has undertaken several new activities that include the following: 1) revision of fundraising letters; 2) initiation of collaboration with ACVP External Finance Committee; 3) update of company sponsor list.

Frances Clemo, Chair

Membership Committee

The goal of the Membership Committee is to determine the best ways to boost membership in the ASVCP and to implement these procedures. Current Committee members include: Tracy Stokol, Chair (Harvard U), Christine Olver (CSU), Julie Stickle
We are asking the following questions:
1. What are the benefits of membership of the ASVCP?
2. Who should be targeted for membership to the ASVCP?
3. What are the best ways for increasing membership to the ASVCP?

We need to be proactive in promoting ourselves to veterinary and laboratory medicine communities. We are hoping that all veterinary clinical pathologists will encourage interested students, residents and laboratory professionals to join our Society. If anyone in the ASVCP has any ideas they wish to share with the Committee, please email Tracy Stokol (tstokol@rics.bwh.harvard.edu) or contact one of the Committee members. We would really appreciate any input or ideas regarding membership.

Tracy Stokol, Chair

Quality Assurance and Standards Committee

ASVCP has a long history of interest in Quality Assurance and Quality Control. The current ASVCP Committee for Quality Assurance and Standards for Veterinary Testing was initiated in 1996 by Dr. Bernie Feldman (President) chiefly in response to a letter composed by Dr. Sally Lester highlighting the need for ASVCP to continue to provide leadership and direction in this area.

Over the last 6 years the Committee has had a variety of members with various interests and contributions to its work. One of the initial remits of the Committee was to compile a list of organizations involved in or related to QA/QC for veterinary laboratories. This list has been available as part of the Committee Report and should be part of the ASVCP website by the end of 2002.

In addition, 2002 should see the publication of various documents generated by this committee, both on the website and as a booklet produced by ASVCP publications. This should include recommendations regarding the role of the clinical pathologist in the veterinary laboratory, guidelines for QA/QC for Hematology and Coagulation, Clinical Chemistry, Radioimmunoassay and Cytology, and Recommendations regarding Information about Reference Intervals. Periodic revisions of the published booklet are planned as additional guidelines are drafted and finalized.

Sections on in-hospital veterinary testing are being revised and work is in progress addressing guidelines for QA/QC for Urinalysis, as well as Agglutination Tests and Tests related to Blood Banking.

The first ASVCP QA/QC Workshop will be held in conjunction with the annual ASVCP/ACVP meeting in 2002 in New Orleans. We are all looking forward to this workshop since we have booked the famous laboratory QA/QC specialist, Dr. James O. Westgard. This workshop will address basic QA planning and method validation.
Should you have a special interest in QA/QC and would be interested in contributing to the drafting, revision and/or publication of guidelines and recommendations, the QAS is always looking for new members to lend a hand! If you are interested in working on this Committee, please contact Dr. Laurie O’Rourke (Co-Chairperson, 2002 and Chairperson, 2003) at laurie.orourke@pharma.novartis.com and Dr. Kathy Freeman (Co-Chairperson, 2002) at kfreeman@flexnet.co.uk.

**Regulatory Affairs Committee**

The ASVCP Regulatory Affairs Committee began as an ad hoc “regulatory review committee” in the early 1990’s when members of the ASVCP and the AACC Division of Animal Clinical Chemistry organized into a Joint Task Force to make recommendations for clinical pathology testing in nonclinical toxicity and safety studies of new drugs, food additives, and chemicals. The goal of the Joint Task Force, which later became an international task force, was to influence the many regulatory and standards organizations worldwide that provide study design guidelines for the testing of new products. Because guidelines varied considerably from one organization to another and because many of the guidelines contained technically inappropriate or impractical recommendations, it was hoped that a consensus document from an international task force of scientists might ultimately help improve the way new products are tested in laboratory animals. While uniform, global guidelines are still many years in the future, the efforts of the original task force were very successful in raising an awareness among regulatory and standards organizations, especially in this country, that the ASVCP, the AACC-DACC, and similar scientific groups worldwide are eager to share their knowledge and expertise.

From those beginnings, the Regulatory Affairs Committee became something of a “surveillance” organization that stood ready to respond to proposals by various regulatory agencies that affected the conduct of clinical pathology testing in nonclinical toxicity and safety studies. In past years, for example, the committee has responded to proposals such as the FDA’s Red Book II guidelines (for food additives) and EPA’s 870 Health Effects Test Guidelines (for pesticides and toxic substances).

For the first time, the ASVCP Regulatory Affairs Committee has been given a formal charge by the Society’s President. This article, for example, as a means of increasing communication with the Society’s membership, is one piece of that charge. The Committee was increased in size to 11 members to reflect the growing presence of the Society’s membership in “industry.” The members are Pat Benson, Laura Boone, Pat Cusick, Glenn Elliott, Daniela Ennulat, Ellen Evans, Nancy Everds, David Honor, Vince Meador, Susan Tornquist (Executive Board liaison), and Bob Hall (chair). Liaisons have been assigned to related organizations including AACC (Everds), ACVP (Cusick), SOT (Meador), and STP (Elliott) as a means of improving issue identification and coordinating responses. The Committee is also charged with incorporating input from the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals (Benson) with respect to the issues addressed.

The Federal Register is monitored daily for the publication of draft guidelines that might affect our Society’s membership. Should such an issue arise, the membership will be notified, and the Regulatory Affairs Committee will prepare an appropriate response.
Individuals at FDA and EPA are familiar with the ASVCP, and members of our Society have been invited to give educational presentations on several occasions. These types of contacts have been very beneficial in maintaining open communication and mutual respect.

Lastly, the Society’s President has asked the Committee to prepare a manuscript for publication on an issue (or issues) that affects clinical pathologists and laboratory professionals employed in industry and private diagnostic laboratories. At this time, a topic for the manuscript has not been chosen, and ideas from any member of the Society would be welcome. In addition, the Committee encourages and welcomes the input from anyone who becomes aware of an issue they feel should be considered or addressed by the ASVCP Regulatory Affairs Committee.

Bob Hall, Chair

ASVCP Executive Board News

The year is moving along at a brisk pace and members of the Executive Board have been taking care of business. Since publication of ASVCP Newsletter #1, 2002, the following motions were seconded and approved by majority vote of the Board: (1) hiring a consultant at up to $10 per hour for a maximum of 3 hours per week to help the ASVCP Treasurer handle the Society’s finances and membership data; (2) moving the ASVCP listserve to Michigan State University under the direction of Mike Scott and limiting the listserve to members of the ASVCP, ESVCP (pending approval by their leadership) and VLP (one year trial period); and (3) providing a free subscription of the ASVCP journal to each of the student chapters of Pathology Clubs (in North America).

VLP Update

Urinalysis Procedure Survey

What originally started out as rewriting our urinalysis procedure turned into a survey of how other laboratories were performing the test. Sixteen labs responded consisting of both university and commercial laboratories.

There was a wide variety of methods including differences in test strips, tests reported (urobilinogen), use of auto-readers, use of confirmation tests, sediment volume and microscopic reporting. Ictotest had several methods of reporting from ‘negative or positive’ to ‘small, moderate, large’, to ‘1+ - 4+’ depending upon the intensity of the color and the rapidity of turning color. Another difference was how the specific gravity was performed. This ranged from using reagent strips, using spun or unspun urine or diluting or extrapolating the result using the refractive index or total protein scale. Some labs use the human Reichert/Leica triple scale refractometer and some the veterinary refractometer with differences in which species are read using the cat and dog scales.

The biggest difference was in the qualitative reporting of the microscopic portion of the UA. For example, casts ‘rare’ = ‘1-2 per entire lpf smear’ to ‘not present in every field’ to a ‘number range (low to high).’
Some procedures did not mention the use of controls in validating the reagents and instruments before running test samples.

The ASVCP QAS committee is currently considering recommendations for the performance of urinalysis testing.

Submitted by Carolyn Haines

Announcements

**Electronic Forum Changes.** The ASVCP listserve has moved and is now being operated through Michigan State University. The discussion list is currently available as a benefit to all ASVCP and VLP members. All members of these groups were automatically subscribed in March if the ASVCP had a current email address. If you did not get subscribed and would like to join, contact Mike Scott at scott@ahdl.msu.edu. Also contact Mike if you have problems with the list or want more information about it. You may obtain listserv information at: [http://www.lsoft.com/manuals/1.8d/user/user.html](http://www.lsoft.com/manuals/1.8d/user/user.html).

**ASVCP Secretary Address Change.** Jenny Thomas, ASVCP Secretary, has relocated. Her new address is G350 VMC, Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation, CVM, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI, 48824, email: thomas@ahdl.msu.edu.

**Recognition of Veterinary Clinical Pathology as Specialty.** For reasons unknown, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) had no record of ever approving Clinical Pathology as a specialty. Paul Stromberg, Secretary/ Treasurer of the ACVP, reports that the American Board of Veterinary Specialties, and by extension the AVMA, acknowledged at their February meeting Clinical Pathology as a Recognized Veterinary Specialty (RVS) within the Recognized Veterinary Specialty Organization (RVSO) of the ACVP. Thanks to all those who worked hard to make this happen!

**MEDLINE ACCEPTANCE.** *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* has been accepted for indexing by MEDLINE. This is an incredible achievement and speaks to the high quality of the journal and all those people involved in its publication. The Society is very appreciative of Mary Christopher and everyone else who has worked so diligently to make *VCP* such an excellent journal. Thanks and keep up the good work!

**Veterinary Clinical Pathology Online.** Current issues of the journal are now available online to ASVCP members at [http://www.vetclinpathjournal.org/pages/currentissue.html](http://www.vetclinpathjournal.org/pages/currentissue.html). If you have any questions or comments, contact Mary Christopher, Editor, at mmchristopher@ucdavis.edu.

**Address Change?** If you have recently relocated, please be sure to send your address changes (to include a current email address if you have one) to Sonjia Shelly, ASVCP Treasurer, PO Box 395, Davis, CA 95617-0395, email [sonjia-shelly@idexx.com](mailto:sonjia-shelly@idexx.com). This will help assure that you receive your journal and newsletter in a timely matter as well as provide you the opportunity to take part in the ASCVP listserve.
Job Opportunities

Veterinary Clinical Pathologist. The Department of Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University has a tenure-track faculty position available. Requirements are a DVM degree (or equivalent), PhD degree in a discipline relevant to clinical pathology, and certification as a Veterinary Clinical Pathologist by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists. Qualifications: Preferred qualifications include recent experience in didactic classroom and small-group instruction of veterinary students and in providing diagnostic veterinary clinical pathology services. Recent experience in conducting collaborative or independent research is desirable. Responsibilities: Entail about 75-80% diagnostic services and teaching (DVM and graduate students, residency training), and 20-25% research or outreach activities. Rank: Full, Associate or Assistant Professor commensurate with qualifications and experience. Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. Position Available: 02/01/03. Application Deadline and Procedure: Review of applications will begin 05/01/02 and continue until the position is filled. Please send a curriculum vitae, statements summarizing professional experience and career goals, and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of 3 references to: Dr. Elizabeth G. Welles, Dept. of Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University, AL 36849-5519. TEL: (334)844-4539, FAX: (334)844-2652, e-mail: welleeg@vetmed.auburn.edu. General background information on Auburn University can be found at http://www.auburn.edu. Auburn University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. The Department of Pathobiology is one of three academic departments in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Activities of the 30 full-time Pathobiology faculty include teaching pathology, microbiology, immunology, parasitology, and public health/epidemiology in the DVM curriculum and in graduate degree and residency training programs; research programs, e.g., pathogenetic mechanisms of infectious and parasitic diseases, genetic resistance to infectious diseases, and pre-harvest food safety; and outreach, including providing diagnostic services in pathology, microbiology, and parasitology. Auburn University is a comprehensive public doctoral institution with an enrollment of 22,000 students in 12 colleges or schools. The University is located in the City of Auburn in east-central Alabama, about 100 miles SE of Birmingham and 100 miles SW of Atlanta.

Clinical Faculty Position at the Assistant, Associate or Full Professor Rank in Clinical Pathology. The University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine at UIUC, seeks a full-time clinical-track assistant, associate, or full professor in clinical pathology to join its faculty. The successful candidate will be principally involved in teaching through the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology and service activities through the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, but will also be encouraged and have the opportunity to either study for the ACVP examination or participate in ongoing research activities depending on the interest of the candidate. The successful applicant will join three other ACVP certified clinical pathologists, several residents/graduate students in clinical pathology, and an enthusiastic technical support staff. Qualifications include a DVM or equivalent degree, diplomate status or eligibility in the American College of Veterinary Pathology (Clinical Pathology) and a desire to maintain a high level of expertise in state-of-the-art veterinary clinical pathology procedures and knowledge. The ability to work as
a team player and to communicate effectively with Veterinary Teaching Hospital personnel and practicing veterinarians utilizing the laboratory services are essential to the success of the candidate. Rank and salary are commensurate with experience and training. To insure full consideration, applications should be postmarked by 05/01/02. Applicants may be interviewed before the closing date; however, no hiring decision will be made until after that date. Anticipated starting date will be 08/21/02, or as soon as possible thereafter. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, and names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of at least 3 professional references to Dr. Walter E. Hoffmann, Search Committee Chair, c/o Amanda Matson, University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine, 2001 S. Lincoln Avenue, 1234 VMBSB, Urbana, IL 61802. Contact Dr. Hoffmann (Tel 217-333-5370 or e-mail: whoffmann@cvm.uiuc.edu) for further information. The Univ. of IL is an AA/EOE.

Veterinary Clinical Pathologist. The Department of Veterinary Pathobiology – Purdue University, School of Veterinary Medicine invites applications for a 12-month clinical track faculty position in clinical pathology. This position is available at the Assistant or Associate Professor level with rank and salary commensurate with the candidate’s education and experience. Responsibilities include classroom and clinical instruction to veterinary students, and case consultation for faculty, residents and interns. The major effort will be devoted to: 1) performing diagnostic service, 2) assisting in the oversight of laboratory operations, and 3) teaching DVM and non-DVM students clinical pathology predominantly in the clinical setting. The remaining effort will be secure time for scholarship and to perform academic service activities. Qualified candidates should have a veterinary degree, and certification by the American College of Veterinary Pathology or completed residency training qualifying them for board-eligibility. Applications will be reviewed beginning 04/01/02, and accepted until the position is filled. Applicants should submit a letter of intent, statement of personal goals, curriculum vitae, and the names and addresses of 3 references to John A. Christian, DVM, PhD, Dept. of Veterinary Pathobiology, Purdue University, 1243 Veterinary Pathology Building, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1243; phone: (765) 494-6558, email: chrisja@vet.purdue.edu, fax: (765) 494-9830. Purdue University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Veterinary Clinical Pathologist. Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine is seeking nominations and applications for a full time teaching position for a Professor of Clinical Pathology. Candidates must have a DVM degree or equivalent and preferably board certification by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists or equal qualification. A strong record of excellence and commitment to teaching is required with at least three years of experience in a U.S. or Canadian Veterinary School. The primary focus of RUSVM is teaching. The successful candidate must be passionate about educating, challenging and empowering students to achieve their full professional and personal potential as veterinarians. Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine’s campus is located in the country of St. Kitts, a Caribbean island, a beautiful country famous for its history, unspoiled rain forests and water sports. The campus is equipped with state-of-the-art audiovisual and computer enhanced teaching tools. Compensation is commensurate with U.S. veterinary schools. Inquiries or applications should be sent to David P. Willis, Director of Faculty Recruitment, Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, 460 West 34th. St., New York, NY 10001. Tel. Number: (212) 279-5500, ext. 648. E-Mail: dwillis@rossmed.edu. WEB site: rossvet.edu.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Address for Directory: _____________________________________________

Telephone: Office [ ] - ______-________ Home [ ] - ______-________

Fax [ ] - ______-________

E-mail __________________@____________________________

Degrees

University or College Year

_______________________________________________________________

Experience as related to veterinary clinical pathology: ___________________


Present position: _________________________________________________

Profession/occupation (mark one choice):

__Veterinarian __Resident/Intern __Student __AHT __Medical Technologist

__MLT __CLA __Other laboratory professional (specify): _______________

If elected to become a member of the American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology, I
agree to abide by the principles and regulations as detailed in the Constitution and Bylaws of
the Society.

Signature of Applicant: _____________________________ Date: _________

Complete this application and submit it to the ASVCP Treasurer. Include the applicable
membership application fee:

☐ $60 for US, Canada and Mexico

☐ $70 outside North America

☐ $45 for veterinary medical students, interns, residents and graduate

students. Signature of faculty mentor/advisor is required:

Name of mentor/advisor: __________________________________________

Signature of mentor: _____________________________________________

Payment is by check or money order ($US), or credit card choices listed below.

Method of payment:

☐ Check or money order (payable to ASVCP)

☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard Card Number:___________________

Expiration date:_________________

Signature __________________________

Mail to ASVCP Treasurer:

Dr. Sonjia Shelly
ASVCP Treasurer
PO Box 395
Davis, CA 95617-0395

(form 12/99)