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Important Dates

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 4-7, 2008</td>
<td>2008 ACVIM Forum, San Antonio, TX</td>
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<td>Sept 30-Oct 3, 2008</td>
<td>XIII\textsuperscript{th} Congress of the International Society for Animal Clinical Pathology, Barcelona, Spain</td>
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<td>October 23-29, 2008</td>
<td>51\textsuperscript{st} Annual AAVLD/USAHA Meeting, Greensboro, NC</td>
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<td>November 15-19, 2008</td>
<td>Annual ASVCP/ACVP Meeting, San Antonio, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16, 2008</td>
<td>ASVCP Annual Business Meeting, San Antonio, TX</td>
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President’s Message

Dear ASVCP Members,

Planning for the future
It is a distinct privilege to address the membership as president of this organization, since my first year as Executive Board member, four years ago; this organization has grown and prospered. During the year of 2008 we have recorded 611 active members with two-thirds representing North America and international members representing 28 countries. We now have 32 student chapters involved in the membership. Due to the efforts of the management group (Rees Group) and Executive Director Susan Rees, ASVCP members and donors that have contributed to the Society, ASVCP is financially well-positioned to provide value-added benefits to its members. I would like to thank the executive board and ad hoc members that participated in the development and refining of the ASVCP Strategic Plan over the past year. Past-President, Holly Jordan, summarized the plan at the ASVCP business meeting in San Antonio. The vision statement is “to be a vital participant in strengthening animal and human health”. The mission statement is “to promote the dissemination of information, standards, education, and research in veterinary and comparative laboratory medicine”. I encourage the membership to view the Strategic Plan on ASVCP’s website and to consider joining one of the Society’s standing committees as we work together towards advancing the Society to accomplish its vision, mission, and goals for the future.

Overview of the year’s accomplishments
We are well on our way to meeting many of the goals in our strategic plan due to the activities of members and committees in the Society. I would like to extend a sincere appreciation and thank you to outgoing Past-President Christine Olver, and newly transitioning immediate Past-President Holly Jordan for their leadership this past year and their efforts in facilitating key initiatives in the Society. Christine, we will miss your humor and antics. Holly, we are glad you are available for advice over this next year. I would like to welcome Joanne Messick to the President Elect position, Kristin Barnhart as the second year Executive Board member, and Leslie Sharkey as our newest member of the Board.

The transition of the journal, Veterinary Clinical Pathology, to Wiley Blackwell has been smooth and has benefited the Society by increasing the number of publication submissions, improving the impact factor, and promoting the profession and Society internationally. To facilitate opportunities for increasing advertising in the journal and linking with ASVCP development activities, Paula Krimer will be the ASVCP corporate sales liaison for Wiley-Blackwell. We look forward to many more opportunities to promote the Society through the publisher and the co-editors, Mary Christopher and Karen Young, who have great ideas that tie together the journal and committee efforts. The annual meeting at San Antonio was successful and highlighted established leaders in our field as well as bringing new leaders to light. Kudos goes to Bruce Leroy and the Program Committee members and chairs for their efforts to create an outstanding program. Thanks go to Laura Boone and Daniela Ennulat, session chairs for a successful premeeting workshop on Biomarkers in Preclinical Studies: A Reality Check. Kirstin Barnhart organized the Case Review and Clinical Chemistry Case sessions that
were the most popular sessions for ASVCP. Due to the online ordering format for slide sets, we sold out of slide sets very quickly this year, but CDs are available! The Clinical Pathology Scientific Sessions included 29 oral and poster presentations and platform speaker, Mark Knepper, Chief of the Laboratory of Kidney and Electrolyte Metabolism, at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. We had 7 trainees compete for the ASVCP Young Investigator Award. Dennis Olexson and the VLP committee organized a diverse highly interesting program for the veterinary laboratory professional session. Next year the ACVP/ASVCP joint meeting will be held in Monterey Conference Center/Marriot Hotel, Monterey California, Dec. 5-9.

Dr. Mary Ann Thrall was this year’s Life Time Achievement Award winner, a well deserving acknowledgement for an individual who has lasting contributions to veterinary clinical pathology.

Great appreciation goes to Mike Fry, chair of the Development Committee, together with the Committee members and ASVCP members that give to the “Share the Future campaign” this year for these efforts provided the Society’s ability to sponsor five travel awards and our first research award for trainees. These efforts by everyone contributing will allow ASVCP to continue offering these awards plus additional awards in the next year. The Regulatory Affairs Committee continues to contribute to clinical pathology in areas of toxicological pathology and topics of interest for our industry partners. The Membership Committees together with Wiley Blackwell published a new membership brochure that is widely distributed. Kristin Friedrichs and Kendal Harr (co-chairs) and the Quality Assurance and Standards Committee have created quality standards guidelines that will be posted on the Society’s website. The QAS committee is also working on reference interval guidelines and has interacted with the European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology. Sharon Dial and the Education Committee have created an Education Award that will be available for applicants to apply for in the next year. Together with Mark Johnson, chair of the Web Editorial Board and board members and the Rees Group, we plan to develop a new web design for the ASVCP website next year. We are excited about having the resources and people with creative ideas to develop a more modern and dynamic website that would strive to meet the needs of the membership and the goals of our Strategic Plan.

On behalf of the Executive Board and the ASVCP committees, I would like to invite the membership to provide feedback and ideas to us as you read the Strategic Plan and regularly visit the Society’s website. This is your organization and your participation is what contributes to the continued success and growth of our Society. I look forward to a productive innovative year!

Have a great holiday season!

Melinda
Melinda Wilkerson, ASVCP President
State of the Society

December 2008

Dear ASVCP Members:

Despite a year of economic and political tumult on the national stage, the state of our Society remains vibrant and our financial status strong. This year, our membership number broke 600 for the first time. Attendance at the Annual Meeting was excellent, especially in light of recent economic forecasts. And once again, our 2008 Pre-Meeting Workshop, Educational, and Clinical Pathology sessions were all very well received.

The first Strategic Plan for ASVCP was completed this year and is available on-line at our website. As we announced at the Business Meeting, this plan serves as a guide for priorities of current and future Executive Boards and Committees and will be re-evaluated yearly as needs of the Society evolve. The plan encompasses our infrastructure and ways to best address needs of our members. One priority is to enhance our web presence. Efforts to identify a dedicated Web Master were unsuccessful, however, we are excited about optimizing our web site by partnering a Web Editorial Board made up of ASVCP members led by Mark Johnson with the technical expertise of The Rees Group.

The Share the Future campaign continues to grow and directly benefit our membership. ASVCP funded not only travel awards, but also its first research award this year. Next year we hope to support our first Education Award.

Under the leadership of Mary Christopher and Karen Young, *Veterinary Clinical Pathology* made a very successful transition to Wiley-Blackwell Publishing. It is a world-class journal providing an outstanding benefit to members of our Society and to the field of clinical pathology as a whole.

Mindy has nicely summarized many of the other accomplishments of ASVCP over the past year in her Presidential Message. I would like to extend my personal congratulations to our Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Dr. Mary Anna Thrall. Her contributions to veterinary clinical pathology have been outstanding. Through her teaching, scholarship and research, she has touched us all.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as President and I look forward to continuing on the Executive Board. I have very much enjoyed working with the past and present EB members, Committee Chairs, the Rees Group and our many member volunteers. I can truly say it’s been fun to work for the Society and I recommend becoming involved to each of you. The Society can only be as strong as its volunteers and we have many talented, bright, creative people working behind the scenes to keep ASVCP dynamic and growing.

Have a terrific holiday and Happy New Year!

Holly

Holly Jordan
Immediate Past President
2009 ASVCP Officers and Executive Board Members

New officers were inducted at the conclusion of the ASVCP Annual Business Meeting on November 16, 2008 in San Antonio, TX. The ASVCP officers and Executive Board members for the upcoming year are:

President
Melinda Wilkerson

Secretary
Karen Russell

President-Elect
Joanne Messick

Treasurer
Dori Borjesson

Second Year Executive Board Member
Kirstin Barnhart

Immediate Past-President
Holly Jordan

First Year Executive Board Member
Leslie Sharkey

ACVP Council Representative
Maxey Wellman

Front row: Susan Rees, Holly Jordan, Christine Olver, Leslie Sharkey
Second row: Joanne Messick, Karen Russell
Third row: Melinda Wilkerson, Kirstin Barnhart
Membership Report

Since the 2007 Executive Board and Annual Business Meetings, 47 new members have been accepted into the ASVCP. Our total membership now stands at 611, compared to 580 at the time of last year’s Annual Conference. Electronic membership renewal is now available. The 47 new members who were approved for membership within the last year (from the 2007 Executive Board Meeting through the 2087 Executive Board Meeting) are listed below. Welcome to all!

New ASVCP Members
December 1, 2007 - December 1, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thelda J. Atkin</td>
<td>Helen Michael</td>
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<td>Janet Beeler-Marfisi</td>
<td>Livia Fagundes Moraes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erica Behling-Kelly</td>
<td>Elizabeth J. O’Neil</td>
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<td>Mark Bennett</td>
<td>Sergo Ogasawara</td>
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<td>Elmarie Bodes</td>
<td>Veronica Ortiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Boes</td>
<td>Jelena Ostojic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marion Bushey</td>
<td>Nadia Regina Pereira Almosny</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura Clausen Cregar</td>
<td>Nicolas Pouletty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Javier Coen Alfaro</td>
<td>Lila Ramaiah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah L. Colledge</td>
<td>Jahanna Rigas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janice A. Cruz-Cardona</td>
<td>Eduardo Sotelo Salcedo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brittney Fierro</td>
<td>Gian Piero Salemi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Frye</td>
<td>Sarah Schmidt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angelica Galezowski</td>
<td>Amy Schnelle</td>
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<td>Bradley Galgut</td>
<td>Rimme Serena Singh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul G. Gallagher</td>
<td>Jean Sparks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Goss</td>
<td>Jason Stayt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily C Graff</td>
<td>David Sweetlove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aradhana Gupta</td>
<td>Emmeline Tan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather Herrington</td>
<td>Susan E. Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Irwin</td>
<td>Thiago Dos Santos Teixeira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amir Kol</td>
<td>Rebecca Urbiztondo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathias Leblanc</td>
<td>Allison Vitsky</td>
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<td>Mary C. Lewis</td>
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2009 ASVCP Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Mary Anna Thrall

The ASVCP Lifetime Achievement Award, established in 2004, recognizes members of the ASVCP who have contributed to the advancement of the field of veterinary clinical pathology through their research and teaching, and through their work on behalf of the ASVCP. The Immediate Past President chairs a nomination committee consisting of at least four additional members of the ASVCP that do not currently sit on the Executive Board. This committee reviews nominations made by the members of the ASVCP, and the committee’s recommendation is presented to the Executive Board for approval by majority vote. The ASVCP Lifetime Achievement Award is presented at the Annual Meeting. The 2008 recipient of the ASVCP Lifetime Achievement Award recipient is Dr. Mary Anna Thrall. She was presented the award on November 16 in San Antonio, Texas during the ASVCP Reception at the Annual Meeting.

Dr. Olver presented the award to Dr. Thrall after being introduced by 2007-08 ASVCP President Dr. Jordan.

The following is a synopsis of Dr. Thrall’s illustrious service.

Dr. Thrall graduated from the University of Evansville in Indiana and received her DVM from Purdue University. She received a Master’s Degree from Colorado State University and is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists in clinical Pathology. She currently divides her professional time between the Clinical Pathology Section of Colorado State University and the Department of Pathobiology, Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, Basseterre, St. Kitts, West Indies.

Dr. Thrall has contributed to advances in science through her research in lysosomal storage diseases and ethylene glycol toxicity. In addition, her contributions to clinical pathology include many case reports, clinical studies, and being the editor of an important textbook, *Veterinary Hematology and Clinical Chemistry*. She has mentored over 40 clinical pathology residents and has participated in internationally recognized continuing education for practicing veterinarians. Dr. Thrall has contributed to the board certification of many candidates through her work on the ACVP examination committee. Most recently, Dr. Thrall led the American College of Veterinary Pathologists as the College President.

Dr. Thrall is a truly gifted, giving, and talented individual that the ASVCP is honored to have a member and leader. Congratulations, Mary Anna!!
2008 ASVCP Young Investigator Award

Each year, the Society presents a cash award to the resident or graduate student whose oral platform presentation is judged best among the competing presentations given during the scientific sessions at the annual meeting. 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. At our meeting in San Antonio, Drs. Virginie Allegret (University of Montreal), Keith DeJong, (University of California - Davis), Janet Beeler-Marfisi (University of Guelph), ML Lepherd (University of Sydney, Australia), AP Santos (Purdue University), Davis Seeling (Colorado State University), and Heather Priest (Cornell University) gave interesting and well-organized scientific presentations. Award selection was determined by an independent panel of judges and was based on the scientific content and significance, abstract composition, clarity of presentation, and the competitor's ability to answer questions. This year's judges were Nancy Everds (Amgen, Inc.), Anne Barger (University of Illinois), and Robin Allison (Oklahoma State University). During the Annual Case Review session, Immediate Past-President Christine Olver presented a check for $500 to the winner, Heather Priest, for her presentation entitled, "Transferrin Receptor Expression in Canine Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma".

Congratulations to all participants for excellent presentations.

2008 ASVCP Travel Grant Awards

In 2007, the first Travel Grant Awards were possible because of Share the Future, the ASVCP's program to support students and trainees in clinical pathology. This year was the second year that travel grants were awarded to help support trainees presenting at the Annual Meeting in Savannah. There were 5 applicants, all of whom were awarded grants of $500 each. The grant recipients were:

Dr. Tricia Bisby (Purdue University)
Dr. Liesl Breickner (University of Tennessee)
Dr. Janet A Cruz-Cardona (University of Florida)
Dr. Keith DeJong (University of California-Davis)
Dr. Heather Priest (Cornell University)

Congratulations to the awardees!!!
Also, many thanks to everyone who have helped Share the Future grow. This year was the first to offer the Research Award (see below) and we hope to continue to expand funding our other objectives in 2009, including sponsoring clinical pathology speakers at the SAVMA Symposium and veterinary school pathology club events. Please consider giving to this important cause.
2008 ASVCP Research Grant Award

2008 became another landmark year for Share the Future where the ASVCP was able to offer its first Research Grant Award to a trainee and we congratulate Dr. Erica Behling-Kelly from the University of Wisconsin received an award for $2,000 for her research in "Macrophages derived from sites of granulomatous inflammation and histiocytic tumors in dogs: identification of cellular junctions."

Congratulations Erica!

Society of Toxicologic Pathology (STP) Student Speaker Award

The third annual Society of Toxicologic Pathology (STP) Student Speaker Award competition was held in the Toxicologic Pathology Specialty Section at the concurrent meetings of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) and the American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ASVCP) in San Antonio on November 16, 2008. Dr. Angela Brice (Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD) was selected the winner for her presentation entitled, “Minocycline Arrests CD4+ T Cells In The G0/G1 Phase Of The Cell Cycle And Increases The Activation Threshold.” [Abstract #211]. Dr. Brice received free registration to the next STP meeting (Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C.) plus a $1,000 cash award to be used for lodging and travel to the 2009 STP meeting. Thanks are extended to our judges for the competition: Drs. Brian Berridge (GlaxoSmithKline), Eric Blomme (Abbott Laboratories), and Eric Schultze (Eli Lilly and Company). The fourth annual STP Student Speaker Award competition will be held at the concurrent meetings of the ACVP and ASVCP to be held at the Monterey Conference Center/Monterey Marriott Hotel in Monterey, on December 5-9, 2009. We hope to see you there!

Submitted by Eric Schultze

2008 Pre-Meeting Workshop

Biomarkers in Preclinical Studies: A Reality Check

The ASVCP pre-meeting workshop for the 2008 ACVP/ASVCP Concurrent Session in San Antonio, Texas was another great success. The workshop entitled "Biomarkers in Preclinical Studies: A Reality Check" was well attended and included presentations from five outstanding clinical pathologists and research scientists. Laura Boone from Eli Lilly and Co., Greenfield, IN and Daniela Ennulat from GlaxoSmithKline, King of Prussia, PA co-chaired the session. Laura Boone began with a presentation about qualification of biomarkers. Daniela Ennulat addressed biological considerations of biomarker applications in preclinical studies and reviewed renal biomarkers. Holly Jordan
presented an overview of cardiac biomarkers for Phillip Solter (University of Illinois). Aurore Varela from Charles River laboratories, Senneville, Quebec gave an overview of bone biomarkers over the last ten years, and Ilene Cohen from Eli Lilly and Co., Greenfield, IN presented information about endocrine biomarkers.

Thanks again to all who worked to have another interesting and informative pre-meeting workshop.

ASVCP Committee Annual Highlights

Highlights include of committee activities are summarized below:

Development Committee: The second Travel Grants and the first Research Grant, funded by Share the Future fund, were awarded this year.

Education Committee: The 2008 Education Forum was another success. Details of the Education Award have been finalized and nominations for this award will be solicited in 2009. The committee has been communicating with the North American Veterinary Technician Association who has an interest in forming a clinical pathology/hematology specialty for veterinary technicians. The Education committee will be in charge of planning the pre-meeting workshop for 2010.

Web Advisory Group (formerly Electronic Communication and Technology Committee): This committee was re-organized with the realization of the growing importance of the ASVCP website and the need for an editorial board for the website. Mark Johnson will continue to serve as committee chair, and they are looking for members. Any one interested in joining this committee please contact Mark at mjohnson@cvm.tamu.edu.

Program Committee: This year’s pre-meeting workshop was another success. Next year’s workshop is being organized by the Veterinary Laboratory Professionals committee and will focus on hematology and biochemistry of marine animals including sea turtles, sharks, dolphins and whales. Bruce LeRoy is stepping down as committee chair and Jan Andrews is taking the helm.

Outreach Committee (formerly Membership Committee): A new ASVCP Membership Brochure was made in collaboration with Willey-Blackwell. Printed copies are available or can be downloaded from the website. For the second year, Heska Corporation and the Outreach committee provided a Hematology Atlas to those teaching veterinary students.

Quality Assurance and Standards Committee: This committee had several projects this year. A quality control survey was posted on VIN and received approximately 500 responses. VIN also hosted Quality Control Rounds for 30 participants, the content of which can be viewed on the VIN archives. A Reference Interval subcommittee was formed to write guideline on reference interval. Some of this information was presented at the XIIIth Congress of the International Society for Animal Clinical Pathology in Barcelona, Spain. The committee hopes to publish a consensus paper on reference intervals in the next year. Kendal Harr will serve as committee chair with Kristen Friedrichs stepping down.
Regulatory Affairs Committee: This year, the committee was in charge of organizing the 2008 Pre-Meeting Workshop on biomarkers.

Veterinary Laboratory Professionals: Dennis Olexson is stepping down as committee chair and Rick DeFransico is the new committee chair. The committee is planning the 2009 Pre-Meeting workshop. This year’s VLP sessions were successful and topics included Six Sigma and QC, hematoparasites, acetaminophen (Tylenol®) toxicity, and myasthenia gravis.

Executive Board News

This year, the EB welcomes Leslie Sharkey as the incoming First Year EB member. We sadly say goodbye to and sincerely thank Christine Olver for all of her hard work and wisdom during her service with ASVCP. We hope she will not be a stranger! The EB would also like to thank all the members who gave some of their time over the year to the Society. ASVCP is better and stronger because of our members.

During 2007 the EB began the process of working toward a Strategic Plan for the Society. During 2008, a draft of the Plan was completed, a copy of which are posted on the website for review and comments from the membership. Please take some time to read the Plan and offer any comments you may have.

Also posted on the website for member review, are the Quality Control Guidelines by the Quality Assurance and Standards Committee, who has put quite a bit of time and effort into these guidelines. Again, we strongly encourage all members to look at these and provide feedback.

As you can see from the committee highlights summarized in this issue, a lot of exciting things are being done. Please consider joining one of the committees, it is fun and very rewarding, plus you are contributing to your society.

This year was the first to offer electronic purchasing of the slide sets. It was very successful, but because of a tremendous demand, the sets sold out quickly. If you are still interested in having a copy of the CD of the 2008 Annual Slide Review, you can order this on-line. Just visit the website. Orders are needed by January 15, 2009.

The EB wishes each and every member of the ASVCP and their families a Happy (and safe) Holiday Season.
2008 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology
43rd Annual Business Meeting, San Antonio, Texas
November 16, 2008

Proposed Meeting Agenda
I. Call to order
II. Approval of the minutes from the 2007 Business Meeting
III. Veterinary Clinical Pathology Report
IV. Committee Reports
   a. Development Committee - Mike Fry
   b. Education Committee - Sharon Dial
   c. Outreach Committee - Cheryl Swenson
   d. Program Committee - Bruce LeRoy
   e. Quality Assurance and Standards Committee - Kristen Friedrichs
   f. Regulatory Affairs Committee - Laura Boone
   g. Veterinary Laboratory Professionals - Dennis Olexson
V. Secretary’s Report - Karen Russell
VI. Treasurer’s Report - Dori Borjesson
VII. ACVP/STP Coalition for Veterinary Pathology Fellow - Gary Cockerell
VIII. Induction of new members
IX. Strategic Plan
X. New Business
XI. Induction of Officers
XII. Adjournment

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Holly Jordan at 4:37 pm CST.

Current Officers Present: President Holly Jordan, President-elect Melinda Wilkerson, Immediate Past-President Christine Olver, 2nd Year Executive Board Member Joanne Messick, 1st Year Executive Board Member Kirstin Barnhart, Treasurer Dori Borjesson, Secretary Karen Russell and incoming 1st Year Executive Board Member Leslie Sharkey.

Approval of 2007 Business Meeting Minutes: Karen Young moved that the minutes of the 2007 Annual Business Meeting be approved. Melinda Wilkerson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Strategic Plan: Holly Jordan
H Jordan summarized the Strategic Plan to members. The need for a Strategic Plan developed because the Society is growing. It was facilitated by JFB and Associates. Members of the Executive Board and others have been working on this since last year’s meeting in Savannah, Georgia. Some of the central issues that arose from the Strategic Plan included the following. ASVCP has a unique value and can be a primary conduit for state of the art information in veterinary and comparative topics; the Society can act as a leader in quality assurance and standards for veterinary laboratory medicine; and it should be a leader and advocate for professionals in veterinary clinical pathology. Vision and Mission statements were developed.

The Vision Statement: ASVCP will be a vital participant in strengthening animal and human health.
The Mission Statement: To Promote the dissemination of information, standards, education, and research in veterinary and comparative laboratory medicine.

Goals developed to accomplish the Strategic Plan include:
1. Optimizing infrastructure:
The current Executive Board, Committees, Executive Director, and other needs (staffing, member volunteers) will be evaluated by an Ad Hoc group.

The Website was deemed an important area and as a result a new position of Web Master was created. This position is not yet filled so if any has an interest or knows of someone who would be interested in the position, please contact TRG.

A joint meeting between the EB, journal editors and committee chairs was held to discuss the best ways to make the Strategic Plan happen.

An online ordering and payment option is now in place for STF donations, slide sets, and membership dues.

2. Enhancing the visibility and value of the ASVCP:

This goal is centered around the need to promote overall visibility and benefits to the society's members and later assimilate European members.

ASVCP should be a leader in the quality assurance and standards.

ASVCP needs to develop its role as an advocate for member interests and become a leader in the field.

Some accomplishments to date include:

- The Membership Committee, now renamed, the Outreach Committee.
- QAS Committee is developing and publishing QA guidelines
- The first research award has been granted
- New journal publisher
- Education and Program Committees are considering podcasting or webinars and ways to enhance education opportunities for veterinary technicians

The next steps will be to:

- The Plan will be posted on the web site so that all members can have an opportunity to review it and make comments to any members of the EB.
- The Plan will be re-evaluated during the 3rd year and if needed, modifications will be made.

The following individuals were acknowledged for their contributions in the Plan:
Christine Olver, Holly Jordan, Melinda Wilkerson, Karen Russell, Dori Borjesson, Joanne Messick, Kirstin Barnhart, Michael Fry, Jan Andrews, Mary Christopher, Judy Radkin, Dennis Olexson, Sue Tornquist, Cheryl Swenson, Mark Johnson, Richard DeFransico, Karen Young, Sharon Dial, Pat Steiner (JFB & Associates).

Veterinary Clinical Pathology Journal Report: Karen Young

K Young reported that this past year has seen many changes with the Journal. The Journal has a new publisher, Willey-Blackwell. The cover and the format of articles have been redesigned. There is a new website for the Journal, which is hosted by Willey-Blackwell. ManuscriptCentral and Early View have been implemented to assist authors in article submission. All of the issues of VCP, back to Volume 1, Number 1 have been scanned and are available to members.

The current impact factor for the journal is 0.671 with a ranking of 65/133, which are increased since 2007. These statistics (impact factor) actually reflects articles from 2 years ago.

The Editorial Board consists of Mary Christopher and Karen Young as co-editors. Additional section editors have been added for Review Articles, What's Your Diagnosis, and Book Reviews. JP Braun is now section editor for clinical chemistry, and Ilse Schnwendenwein is the new section editor for laboratory management. The total number of individuals on the editorial board has increased from 24 to 30.

Manuscript submissions have increased approximately 10% (156 submitted this year). Original articles have also increased, which is always considered to be a favorable trend because of the increased numbers of research papers. The numbers of case reports remains fairly steady. The vast majority of articles are from North America and Europe, but the Journal has also received submissions from Asia, Pacific, Africa and the Mid East, which reflects that this is truly an international journal. With the increased submission rate, the rejection rate has also increased.
A summary of acceptance rates:
2008  28* year is incomplete
2007  54
2006  62
2005  65
2004  80

The time to print publication has decreased.

Since ManuscriptCentral has gone live, 85 manuscripts have been submitted.

The following individuals were acknowledged.
Section Editors: Pat McManus, JP Braun, Maxey Wellman, Ilse Schnwendenwein, Dave Fisher, Darren Wood, Karen Russell
Sharon O’Neill (Editorial assistant)
Colleen Myers, Kaia Motter, and others at Willey Blackwell

This year the Journal used over 160 reviewers including parasitologists, surgical pathologists, internists, biomedical scientists in addition to ASVCP members

All reviewers are encouraged to update Key words to help section editors to identify correct/appropriate reviewers for submitted papers.

Kaia Motter was introduced. She indicated that this past year was a transition year for the journal and issues were still published on time.
She summarized several new benefits. Some of these include:
• Launching of ManuscriptCentral, which allows authors to track their manuscript
• EarlyView
• Free color prints for authors when the article is in print and online
• New ASVCP membership brochure: Willey-Blackwell has worked with ASVCP Membership/Outreach committee to produce a new membership brochure which was distributed at other conferences.
• Archival back issue digitization: Archival issues are available to ASVCP members, but not individual subscribers, who only get the journal access back to 1997.
• A call for papers using print and e-mail campaigns has been initiated
• 134 e-alert subscriptions
• To date 20,172 articles have been downloaded.
• Copies of the Journal have been present at 30+ conferences
• Select Contents is available for free. This is a service for getting the Table of Contents, which is a way to keep people informed.
• To increase citations the first issue is offered for free or selected articles are available with input from editors.

• ASVCP abstracts and ESCVP abstracts were published on-line. These will be published as supplements in time.

Karen Young made a request to submit to a relatively new section, laboratory Medicine, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow. Please send her ideas or let her know about other colleagues who might be interested in contributing.
She also encouraged all members to write letters about articles as a form of communication.

Bruce LeRoy asked that now that abstracts are on line, is it in a searchable form? Colleen Meyers informed everyone that the abstracts are in PDF not HTML so it can be downloaded and searched. B LeRoy also thanked those involved with the Journal for the free color prints.

ACVP - STP Coalition: Gary Cockerell
G Cockerell summarized the history, goals, and organization of the Coalition. Briefly, it was started in later 2004 in order to create a mechanism for linking ACVP/STP, industry, and training institutions as a way to increase training positions. ACVP and STP each have 5 representatives and the Board of Governors includes 2 clinical pathologists, Judith Radin and Denise Bounous. As money is obtained, the Coalition issues an RFA. To date there have been 88 applications for 21 positions, 3 of which are clinical pathology training positions.

Summary of position and application numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Anatomic Pathology Training Positions</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Clinical Pathology Positions</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 PhD Training Position</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

He showed a graph of the numbers of positions with the dollar amount of commitments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Positions with 1 Million Dollars</th>
<th>Positions with 5 Million Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As a result of the efforts of the Coalition, there have been 21 new positions available for training pathologists.

He finished his presentation with contact information for himself, TRG and the Coalition’s website.

The first door prize, a Star Bucks gift card, was awarded to Marlyn Whitney.

1st Year Executive Board Member: Kirstin Barnhart

K Barnhart summarized this year’s case and clinical chemistry review submissions. She mentioned that L Sharkey will be handling it for the year 2009. This year, there were 36 submissions with 28 cases and 8 chemistries. From these, 20 cases and 4 chemistries were accepted for presentations. K Barnhart also indicated that this was the first year for electronic purchases for slide sets, and as a result of the high demand, several institutions did not receive a set. To rectify this, all of the training institutions will be polled to see if the institution wants to reserve a set for 2009. She also asked that all submitters check their sets before sending them to make sure it contains 80 slides. This year a few sets were short with only 74 or 78 slides.

K Barnhart received a lot of questions this year about the possibility of submitting virtual slides. Last year at the meeting Sharon Dial and Mike Scott presented a virtual case as an example. If virtual submissions are allowed in the future, this could potentially broaden the numbers of submissions from diagnostic laboratories, for example. This could also result in a much larger submission rate, which might be difficult to handle. She also mentioned that it might be possible to maintain a glass set for archival purposes. She asked for members’ opinions on this issue.

Harold Twedten indicated that he uses the case from M Scott in his courses and finds it an asset to teaching. He would like more cases available for this reason.

Christine Olver indicated that this might be something the Society should try on a trial basis, and suggested trying a few cases first. After that the Society would have a better idea of the potential for this type of submission. She said maybe next year, we could try 20 glass cases and 2 or 3 virtual cases.

The majority of the individuals who attended the business meeting are in favor of the idea of trying 20 glass cases and 2 or 3 virtual cases as a trial run.

Sharon Dial brought up the issue of the cost of producing the virtual images and that the images need to be copied properly. She felt an estimated cost would be around $800 and suggested that ASVCP could possibly assist with the cost.
Ted Valli mentioned that he has a virtual lymphoma CD, which he finds useful.

It was suggested that Aperio will sponsor a slide but maybe an institution would volunteer to be a sponsoring institution with a site where members could go to a website to obtain images.

It was also suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed for virtual microscopy.

**Committee reports**

**Development: Mike Fry**

M Fry listed the current committee members and thanked them for their efforts this year. These individuals include: Dennis DeNicola, Paula Krimer, Michelle Frye, Kelly Penraat, Lindsay Tomlinson, Linda Vap (VLP liaison), and Melissa Wilkerson (EB liaison). He indicated that he is stepping down as committee chair, and the committee will need a new chair for 2009. As a summary, he told the meeting attendants that this committee works closely with TRG for fund raising. In March, there is a teleconference to organize goals for the year. There are two major fund raising campaigns, Corporate giving where TRG invoices past donors and Share the Future (STF).

This year corporate giving was down at 20,000 + 3,000 for a total of $23,000 compared to 2007 ($30,500) and 2006 ($28,000).

STF continues to grow with $8,374 this year, $5,804 in 2007, and $6,175 in 2006. This effort was started several years ago to encourage support for trainees, including residents, graduate students, and veterinary students. All of the moneys donated to this fund are earmarked for trainees.

Heska Corporation, as last year, worked with the Membership/Outreach Committee to produce a 1 page, double sided hematology atlas that was distributed to training institutions to give to veterinary students.

Last year 5 travel grants were awarded at $500 each. More travel grants were awarded this year and for the first time, a Research grant for $2,000 was given. In the future, it is hoped that there will be money to sponsor speakers at national meetings and clinical pathology speakers for pathology clubs.

M Fry encouraged all members to consider contributing to STF, no matter how small a dollar amount. He acknowledged all who gave to this cause. He then gave a summary of corporate donors and thanked all who donated.

Below is a summary of donors:

- **Platinum Circle** ($3000+)
  - Merck
  - Pfizer
  - Wyeth
- **Gold Circle** ($1500+)
  - AniLytics
  - GlaxoSmithKline
  - IDEXX (Trainee Reception)
  - Novartis
  - Sysmex (VLP Social Hour)

Committee challenges and plans for 2009 were presented, which included:

- Maintain corporate donations
- Increase participation in STF
- Coordinate with other committees and Wiley-Blackwell to maximize fund raising support.

Eric Schultz spoke about a procedure for following up after a donation has been made. For example, if a company gave in the recent past, there should file to identify who has been the best contact by phone or e-mail. For example his company gave in the past, but there appears to be no good mechanism to try to identify contacts if a lapse in time occurs. He emphasized that personal communication is critical. He also indicated that in order to make it easier for a company to donate, some sort of justification is useful. A brief letter is not received well with sponsor because there is no indication of why donating is important.
He suggested that a stronger emphasis be placed on selling our product. He feels this approach is not utilized as well as it could be and suggests starting over especially with companies that have not donated recently. He also felt that there is too long of a delay in contact and need to highlight what ASVCP has actually done with the money. M Fry suggested that the next chair of the Development Committee come from industry because that person may have better contacts or insights as to how to obtain donations. H Jordan asked E Schultz if he would consider helping in writing a letter that could better explain the importance of donating to ASVCP. D Honor supported the points that E Schultz made and also mentioned that requests for donations should reach companies early in the year for budgetary reasons. C Olver mentioned the possibility of matching fund where a small percentage of ASVCP could match private donors, maybe at 5%.

M Fry informed the group that much of the money received (such as that given to STF, or from IDEXX and Sysmex) is already earmarked, whereas a large proportion of money from corporate donors goes to journal and management. A suggestion that maybe the Society should increase its targeted donations was made. In summary, it was suggested that more direct personal contact is needed as well as developing a better way to inform potential donors about the importance of such support. H Jordan thanked M Fry for all his work on the Development Committee.

**STF Travel Grant Awards**

Melinda Wilkers announced those who were awarded Travel Awards this year. The individuals are:
- Dr. Tricia Bisby (Purdue University)
- Dr. Liesl Breickner (University of Tennessee)
- Dr. Janet A Cruz-Cardona (University of Florida)
- Dr. Keith DeJong (University of California-Davis)
- Dr. Heather Priest (Cornell University)

She announced that if anyone is interested in serving on the ad hoc committee for choosing these awards to contact her.

**Education Committee: Sharon Dial**

S Dial told the members that the topic of this year’s teaching forum was Veterinary Technicians in Clinical Pathology and In-house laboratory. There is a need for veterinary technicians to have an education pathway to improve training. NAVTA [North American Veterinary Technician Association] has expressed an interest in having a clinical pathology specialty. S Dial thanked all who attended the forum and joined in the discussion.

**Education Award**

The committee has developed and Education Award. She informed the members that there will be a call for nominations in 2009. The committee is encouraging nominations from a wide range veterinary laboratory professionals and clinical pathologists who are contributing to teaching and training veterinary students and residents. The deadline will be March 1, and the committee will be asking for a letters of nomination that describe the role of education. Details will be posted on the website and in the newsletter.

S Dial told the group that the 2010 Pre-Meeting Workshop will have an education theme. ASVCP members will be surveyed for topic interests.

**Web Advisory Group (formerly Electronic Telecommunications and Committee: Mark Johnson**

M Johnson summarized that the committee went through several changes this year from the Electronic Communications and Telecommunications Committee to an advisory group for a newly created position, Webmaster. This group is now called the Web Advisory Group. M Johnson gave a current list of members including Jennifer Thomas, Pete Fernandez, Beth Spangler, Sharon Dial, Darren wood and Kendal Harr. This committee has had some difficulties in defining its role and in attracting new members. In a teleconference with the Executive Board in June, the possibility of developing a new position for a Web Master was discussed. Many members on this committee worked on recommendations for qualifications and a position description for a Web Master. This position has been advertised on the list serve and in the newsletter.
The second door prize (Texas Treats) was awarded to Ryan Dickenson.

**Outreach Committee (formerly Membership Committee): Cheryl Swenson**

C Swenson acknowledged the current committee members and outlined the past year’s committee projects. She summarized the committees’ activities for the year.

1. A new brochure was made in collaboration with Willey-Blackwell. The brochure is available in hard copy (2,500 copies were printed) or can be downloaded from the web site.
2. Student Path Clubs, Anne Barger has created a clinical pathology Jeopardy game that is available to interested individuals.
3. The Hematology Atlas (from Heska Corporation and Glade Weiser) was available again this year to those teaching veterinary students.
4. Promotion of ASVCP is best done by current members. There are two presentations available for use. One is for lay people and the second is for other veterinary professionally. Both of these can be downloaded from the website.
5. The ASVCP booth was displayed at the SAMVA convention this year in Tuskegee, AL. In the future, it is hoped that the booth will be displayed at annual meetings such as the North American Veterinary Conference, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum, and European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine meeting, Veterinary Cancer Society, or AALAS. C Swenson thanked all who had staffed the booth this year.
6. Poster Contest with an award of $250. The goal of this project was to showcase ASVCP. The first will occur next year at the SAVMA at the Ohio State University.

Lastly, C Swenson asked if anyone is planning on speaking at the SAVMA Meeting next year in Ohio, that they contact C Swenson or any member of the Outreach Committee.

H Jordan announced that due to time constraints, the following reports will be posted on the Website: Treasurer’s report, Secretary’s report, Committee reports from the Program Committee, VLP Committee, Quality Assurance and Standards Committee, and Regulatory Affairs Committee.

Bruce LeRoy asked the membership to please provide comments about this year’s meeting. He also announced that Jan Andrews will be taking over as Program Committee chair and acknowledged all those who were involved in the meeting planning this year.

Laura Boone made a few comments about the Pre-Meeting Workshop and emphasized that it takes a lot of work and time. She felt that rotating the responsibility between several committees would be very beneficial. She expressed the feeling that there seems to be some pressure to make the workshop profitable, and everyone needs to remember that this is a volunteer organization.

H Jordan welcomed new members. The membership for ASVCP is now over 600.

New officers were inducted and a sincere thank you was given to the outgoing officer, Christine Olver. A token of appreciation was given to S Rees. H Jordan handed the gavel to M Wilkerson.

**Rose Raskin received the last door price, Veterinary Comparative Hematopathology (Willey-Blackwell).**

The meeting was adjourned by President, Melinda Wilkerson at 6:25 pm CST.

Submitted by Karen E. Russell, Secretary
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Announcements

Institutional slide sets: Due to the high demand for slide sets this past year, institutions that are interested in reserving a set for the upcoming year are asked to contact Leslie Sharkey, shark009@umn.edu. A notice to all members will also be sent out through the listserv.

Reviewers for Clinical and Chemistry Cases: If you are interested in being a reviewer for next year’s hematology/cytology cases or chemistry cases, please contact Leslie Sharkey, shark009@umn.edu.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ASVCP NATIONAL OFFICE: 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; Phone 608-443-2479; Fax 608-443-2474 or 608-443-2478; E-mail: info@asvcp.org.

Electronic Newsletters: Paper copies of the newsletters are no longer mailed to all ASVCP members. Those members who have provided the Society with an e-mail address will receive an e-mail containing a link to the newsletter as soon as each issue is posted to the ASVCP website. The newsletters are posted in PDF format. If you have any problems accessing the newsletter electronically, please contact the ASVCP National Office (info@asvcp.org) or Secretary Karen Russell (krussell@cvm.tamu.edu). Those members without e-mail access will continue to receive paper copies of the newsletter.
Change of Address: Please send any changes in mailing address or electronic mail address to the ASVCP National Office at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; Email: info@asvcp.org; FAX 608-443-2474 or 608-443-2478.

ASVCP Newsletter and/ or Website Submissions: If you have any material of interest to post in the newsletter or on the ASVCP website (www.asvcp.org), please contact the ASVCP Secretary, Karen Russell, at 979-458-3548, FAX 979-458-1235, Email: krussell@cvm.tamu.edu; or contact the ASVCP National Office at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; Email: info@asvcp.org.

ASVCP Membership Application: Member application forms are available at the ASVCP website (www.asvcp.org), by contacting ASVCP Secretary Karen Russell, krussell@cvm.tamu.edu, or by contacting the ASVCP National office at 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718; phone 608-443-2479; Email: info@asvcp.org.

Upcoming Meetings


2009 ACVIM Forum with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, June 3-6, 2009, Montreal, Canada. For more information, go to www.acvim.org.


146th AVMA Annual Convention, July 11-14, 2009, Seattle, Washington. For more information, go to www.avmaconvention.org.

The 19th Congress of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine - Companion Animal, September 10-12, 2009, Porto, Portugal. For more information, go to www.ecvimcongress.org. Abstracts for posters and scientific presentations are welcome.

The XIVth Congress of the International Society for Animal Clinical Pathology, July 2010, Corvallis, Oregon, USA. For information, go to www.isacp.org.

52nd Annual AAVLC/USAHA Meeting, October 7-14, 2009 in San Diego, California. For more information, go to www.aavld.org.

Job Opportunities

WestVet Emergency & Specialty Center: Veterinary Clinical Pathologist
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Boise is one of the fastest growing cities in the country and was recently voted one of the best places in the United States for small business entities by Money magazine. Boise retains a small town feel and is an excellent place to raise a family. Recreational activities abound with easy access to mountain biking trails, skiing, hunting, hiking, fishing, kayaking, white water rafting and backpacking.

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Jeff D. Brouman, DVM, MS, DACVS
5019 N. Sawyer Avenue, Garden City, Idaho 83714
e-mail: jbrourman@westvet.net
Facsimile: (208)375-1606

Feel free to call with any questions: (208) 375-1600