



FVE and EVERI Spring General Assembly 2012

The EVERI and FVE Spring General Assembly took place 07- 09 June, 2012 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

EVERI

At the very well attended EVERI General assembly the future EVERI strategy (2013-2016) was discussed and updates were given on project and other specific activities running.



Participants of EVERI Spring General Assembly, June 2012.

EVERI Strategy 2013-2016

During spring EVERI executed a membership questionnaire in order to move forward and efficiently address any current and future challenges has to draft a road-map for the next years. From the membership 41% responded to the questionnaire. Majority (70%) of the respondent was satisfied with the work, contact frequency and engagement of membership by EVERI. The most important pillar for the membership based on the responses is Education followed by Research and Industry. The feedback on special topics of attention was used by the EVERI Board to draft the next EVERI strategy for 2013-2016, which was endorsed at the EVERI GA with some additional remarks. A revised version of the draft document will be circulated to all members for comments until end of September. Intention is to adopt it at the GA in fall.

Projects and Specific Activities

The project facilitating extramural studies started positively and in the previous year there had been a good level of activity in which we placed three students. This year a student from Romania spent 2 weeks in France and we had another application up to now, from a French student who will be placed in Dublin. Further stimulation of this initiative, possibly using the network of the International Veterinary Students' Association (IVSA) is necessary. In addition to study periods focusing on laboratory animals, it has been investigated to set a program to gain experience in aquatic medicine. Project lead, Ellef Blakstad, Norway, presented a program composed of a one week practical course arranged by the Norwegian School for Veterinary science and another week of practical training at a fish health management company. Preliminary contacts with industry look positive to get the necessary funding. Interested people can contact EVERI via everi@fve.org.

On veterinary professional development (former project of acknowledged vets) a formal committee on Veterinary Continued Education in Europe (Vet CEE) under interim chairmanship of Andrew Bryne (FECVA, UEVP) has been established. In the pilot phase the committee will focus on development of standards for continued education, testing an accreditation system and financial requirements. Amongst others a sub-group, headed by Richard Weilenmann (EVERI) and Ghislaine Poirier (ECLAM), This subgroup will focus on the field of laboratory animal for practitioners. The subgroup will present a draft of program by end of the year.

For the Accreditation of Veterinary Education Establishments close collaboration with EAEVE, the other sections and the statutory body of FVE continued. Laslo Fodor, President of EAEVE, updated the participants of the general assembly on the status of accreditation. Out of 98 member schools in Europe (74 in EU) 4 schools are accredited and 50 are approved plus 3 conditionally approved. To 20 schools visits are pending. EAEVE introduced the system of preliminary site visits to ensure that schools are better prepared to the inspecting visit. EAEVE is also looking into simplification of the standard operating procedure for the evaluation. EAEVE is also still pursuing to become member of ENQA, European Quality Association agency.

In the context of knowledge sharing with Veterinary Faculty, Lviv, Ukraine, Richard Weilenmann gave a presentation on behalf of EVERI about the association objectives and current animal health issues in May this year. The faculty is progressing impressively with the plans to modernize the faculty's facilities. Exchange with EVERI members and collaboration with Purdue University, USA allowed gaining insight into different approaches and solutions for veterinary educational establishments.

Officials of Lviv Veterinary Faculty and Richard Weilenmann, EVERI, May 2012



Viorel Andronie, representing the Veterinary Association of Romania, presented the organization of veterinary education in Romania. The faculty ClujNapoca is currently the only one approved by EAEVE. Bucharest, the oldest one, applied for it. Romania has a system in place for continued training of veterinarian in which each veterinarian is obliged to document training activities matching 120 points each year, otherwise the license can be withdrawn. In addition an eLearning program has been initiated with support of the European Commission.

The EVERI GA supported to further investigate involvement of EVERI in [EPAA](#), European Partnership for Alternative Approached to Animal Testing. EPAA has three platforms focusing on Science, 3R in Regulations and Communication & Dissemination of best practices in 3R. Further opportunity for EVERI to be involved is in the national mirror groups. Those groups focus on actions in the framework of EPAA objectives at national level.

Guest Speaker

As guest speaker Karin Östensson, Associate Professor, Dept of Clinical Science, Faculty of Veterinary Medicines and Animal Science, Uppsala, Sweden gave a talk on 'Veterinary Education in Europe – do we have to worry?'. After an excellent overview of historic aspects and currently existing regulations and initiatives, she gave her view on quality aspects of veterinary education on which a FVE policy paper is in development. A major hurdle is still that executive power is with the member states and enforcement of any pan-European requirement for comparative education is weak, especially considering that veterinary graduation allows under the conditions of free movement for the right to practice throughout Europe.

FVE

The FVE General Assembly was opened by Prof. Ludo Hellebrekers, President of the Royal Veterinary Associations of the Netherlands. The association was hosting the event in the year celebrating its 150 years anniversary.

Strategy 2011-2016

Since the last GA the FVE Board prioritized based on defined criteria all topics received by the membership. The core topics for the strategy presented at the GA are:

- Strengthen Animal Welfare Training supported by a new working group
- Promote stricter controls to certain antibiotics in contacts with the European commission, members of European Parliament and through FVE guidelines
- Develop guidelines on the responsible use of antibiotics and defend the veterinary use of antibiotics as well as preventing general bans in the animal field
- Promote Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and Lifelong Learning (LLL) through development of an ECCVT (Europ. Coordination Committee of Veterinary Training) action plan and through VetCEE
- Promote the Code of Conduct and stimulate veterinarians to adhere to the Code.

Awards

The FVE GA voted in favour to establish two awards, namely the FVE Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to FVE and the FVE Award for outstanding contributions to the veterinary profession. The first one honoured with the FVE Distinguished Service Award is Gundega Micule, Latvia, Member of UEVH. Walter Winding, former president of FVE, was recognized for his contributions to FVE with the honourable membership.

Regulations, Guidelines, Positions

A brief update was given on the Animal Health Law. While FVE already provided comments, the regulation is still in drafting phase at European commission level. A revised draft is expected for fall this year.

FVE though it's Medicines WG, was very active on the topic of responsible use of antibiotics. Two leaflets have been drafted to guide veterinarians and the policy makers on the appropriate use of antibiotics. The leaflets are based on previously adopted FVE positions. The group developed a position on the 1-1-1 concept for a simplified registration of veterinary medical products. FVE highlighted that this needs to lead to a real single market throughout Europe. FVE also nominated a new representative for the European Medicines Agency management board, Peter Jones.



FVE Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

Veterinarians care for animals and people

"How we can safeguard antimicrobials now and for the future"

- ▶ **Antimicrobials always need a veterinary prescription**
Antimicrobial drugs are vital to treat and prevent disease in animals and humans. But the risk that the organism causing the disease will develop resistance to them increases every time they're used. To make sure antimicrobials stay effective now and in the future, they must be strictly controlled. Only veterinarians and human doctors should prescribe antimicrobials, following an examination and clinical diagnosis. Whenever possible, sensitivity testing should be done to determine which antimicrobial will be most successful in treating a particular condition.
- ▶ **Prevention is better than cure**
A farmer can reduce animal disease and so the need to use antimicrobials altogether by drawing up an effective health plan, working with a veterinarian. This should outline how the farmer will keep animals healthy and provide effective bio-security. Veterinarians should conduct frequent herd health visits to all farms. Antimicrobials
- ▶ **New and critically important antimicrobials must be strictly controlled**
We have to prevent development of resistance to antimicrobials classed as "critically important" or to new antimicrobials for as long as possible. Veterinarians should only prescribe these as a very last resort, following a sensitivity test, and should administer them themselves.



An extensive update about various professional matters was given with amongst others the development of a definition of a veterinarian, continuous professional development and education matters. In this context an update report was given by the FVE working group on the development of an animal welfare curriculum. A paper for consultation is expected by end of the year. Furthermore the final paper of OIE on minimal competencies expected from Day1 veterinary graduates was presented. Taking into account the vast societal, economic, and political differences among OIE Member Countries, including the different existing veterinary education establishments accreditation schemes, this document sets

out the competencies necessary for the Day 1 veterinary graduate to be adequately prepared to participate in National Veterinary Services at the entry-level. The document is viable on the members section of the FVE website. The FVE policy paper on veterinary education is at a very early stage and has not yet given into consultation with a wider audience in FVE.

Upcoming Events

- IVSA Annual Conference, 15 to 27 July, 2012, Oslo, Norway
The theme of the Congress will be Aqua medicine and animal welfare
- FVE Autumn General Assembly and Sections meetings, 15-17 November, 2012, Brussels, Belgium
- 31st World Veterinary Congress, 17- 20 September, 2013, Prague, Czech Republic;
150th Anniversary of WVA.

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EVERI is a section of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

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