



AAVPT Newsletter

**American Academy of
Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

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Editor's note: In accordance with Executive Council decisions:

- The newsletter will resume hardcopy distribution to all members. You will continue to receive electronic access via email and publication at the AAVPT web site.
- The newsletter will be published twice yearly.

On behalf of the membership, I want to thank Scott Brown for his work in the preceding two years as the newsletter editor.

Sincerely,
Cory Langston

Secretary/Treasurers Report

Carol Davis

Hello, from Central Illinois where the summer heat is still hanging on. School is about to start at Illinois and the pace around town is beginning to pick up with all the students moving back into town. I hope everyone had a great summer.

We had an excellent symposium in Charlotte, NC in June and attendance was good. I want to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all the organizers of the symposium and extend a personal thanks to Dr. Ralph Claxton for the help he gave me in arranging for the meeting at the Adam's Mark Hotel and helping me with the budget. Very few people truly understand how much time and effort must go into planning a meeting such as ours and Ralph was great under very trying circumstances – a baby due at any moment (yes, his wife did delivered just as the meeting was to start!) and having to plan

a move across country to a new job. Hopefully things are beginning to settle in for him since he has the meeting behind him and he and his family are located in their new home.

Secretary Report

After discussion with the executive counsel, last spring I reviewed the membership list and put all members in our database who have not paid since 2000 (54 members) on an “inactive” list. This reduced our membership to 161 members in 2003 (from 215 in 2002). Our total membership in AAVPT stands at 161 - 76 Fellows, 18 associate fellows, 4 students and 34 emeritus fellows - but we still struggle with a significant number of delinquent accounts. According to my records, we have about 127 dues-paying members. In fact, we currently have 93 members who have paid their 2003 dues leaving about 34 members who have not paid their 2003 dues. Of these 34 members, 27 members have not paid their dues for 2003 or 2002 (delinquent for 2 years) and 7 members have not paid dues since 2001 (delinquent for 3 years). For now, we are carrying these members in our directory and continue to include them in all our communications. Our policy going forward will be to include information in the annual dues announcement of any delinquent accounts. If members do not want to continue paying their dues, we will be forced to drop them from membership after the third year.

We welcomed 8 new members to our membership the last year. Our new fellow members are Albert Boeckh, DVM, PhD, Diane Larson, DVM, PhD, Tsagaany Volodya, MS, PhD, Ralph Claxton, DVM, MS, and Kurt Grimm, DVM, PhD. The new

associate fellows are Eden Bermingham DVM, MS, and Ronette Gehring, DVM. We elected one student member, Tara Bidgood, DVM.

Election results were reported at the meeting in Charlotte. For the term of office for 2003-2005: President-elect is Dr. Jane Owen Clark, Secretary/Treasurer is Dr. Carol Davis and councilors are Dr. Mark Novotny and Dr. Robert Hunter.

Listserv Is Up and Running

The AAVPT listserv is now up and running. I think I have all our members on the listserv. All members including Emeritus fellows have been placed on the listserv. When the listserv was first set up, several email addresses (about 10) bounced back as undelivered. (See listserv announcement in newsletter) As far as I can tell everyone else should be on the list to receive these messages. For the listserv to function properly please be sure to let us know whenever you change your email address. I would request you send me your old email address so I can remove it along with the new one you want me to add. The listserv is open to all our members. We do not have any restrictions on what you can send and there is not screening of messages. We do ask you be considerate to our members and kept the content limited to items that are of general interest to our members.

The procedure for sending messages to our membership is to first write up your message. You can then mail the message using the email address for the listserv (aavpt@listserv.cvm.tamu.edu). The message will be then be routed through the listserv directly to our members. If your email address is on the listserv, the message will be sent out automatically. If your email is not on the listserv the message will be rejected. If it is rejected, I get a notification that you have tried to send a message and the software does not recognize your email address. If I get this message, I will have to log onto the listserv site and find out what the hang up

is and if I can, give permission to release the message. If the email address is wrong and I can not tell whether it is from one of our members and I am afraid I will have to delete the message. For the listserv to work, everyone must keep their email current in our database. If things are working well, there should be no delay in when you send the message and when it is sent out to the listserv. The only delay will occur if the software does not recognize the sender's email address. The most common reason for delays is either your email address is incorrect or the length of the message is outside the limit of the server. Since we have a limited size on the server, you are asked to be frugal in the size of your messages. We encourage everyone to use the listserv and to get some interesting exchanges going between our members. The officers hope to use the system to pass on information in a more timely fashion and to get feedback from our members.

I remind everyone to periodically go to the directory and check what email address we have listed for you. To get to your information, go to our website (www.aavpt.org) and click on "Directory". It will ask you for your user name and password. We use a universal password for all members so you can get into the directory by entering "aavpt" for the user name and "acadm" for the password. (In both cases, do not type the parentheses) You can then type in your name and it will list your directory information. Check the information we have for you and report any errors or changes by clicking on the "secretary-treasurer" hot link so I can correct it in our database and enter the new one on the listserv.

Treasury

To date we have 54 paid subscription to the journal. Journal subscriptions were \$80.00 for 2003. I am anticipating an increase in subscription rate for next year.

The following people are sincerely thanked for their contributions to the Awards fund: D. Kochevar, D. Boothe, A. Bhattachar, J. Clark, T. Clark, G. Coppic, M. Ehrich, D. Gingerich, A. Jernigan, C. Langston, S. Malik, W. Muir, J. Oliver, M. Papich.

For 2003, we added \$440.00 to the Award Fund. We paid out \$500 this year for a graduate student award at the Charlotte meeting. That brings the awards fund to \$4474.00.

We currently have about \$14,000 in the local checking account. We are finalizing the expenses for the symposium but it looks like we just about broke even for the symposium. There are two items that need to be finalized - outstanding obligation of (\$4320.00) for journal subscriptions and the charges for 2003 LED award and new medallions (\$1673.26). Funds will be transferred from the LED account into the checking account to cover the later. After these items have cleared and the final expenses for the symposium have been taken care of, funds in excess of \$5,000.00 will be transferred into the AAVPT funds for investment.

Merger of AAVPT and ACVCP

There has been much discussion over the last couple of years about whether the AAVPT and the ACVCP should be merged. To try to address this issue, a full day retreat was held by the executive counsel of the AAVPT in Dallas in 2002 where many ideas, thoughts, pros and cons were presented and discussed in some detail. One decision taken at that meeting was to form an ad hoc AAVPT ACVCP committee to look into the merger issue. The committee was appointed by the presidents of AAVPT and ACVCP and included Rob Hunter and Carol Davis representing the AAVPT and Ann Jernigan and Charles Short representing the ACVCP. The committee met by phone in the spring of 2003 and reviewed the minutes of the Dallas meeting and discussed the issue. Recommendations based on these discussions were made to the presidents.

Although the committee did not support the merger of the AAVPT and ACVCP organizations at this time, the committee felt there does need to be a major effort by the leadership teams of both the AAVPT and the ACVCP to assess the current activities of both organizations and to better identify activities that should be directed away from the college and back into the academy. Since the major

purpose and much of the activities within of the college centers around training and certification of veterinary clinical pharmacologist issues, much of their time should be given to those specific jobs. The goal should be to find ways to improve communication between the two organizations and to make the activities between the two groups more integrated without merging. Serious effort should be made to streamline the leadership structure of both by creating synergistic relationships where appropriate between both groups. This would help to reduce the workload on all the officers and committee chairs. In doing this, it should be stressed that every effort should be made to preserve the current links between the two groups while trying to institute new initiatives to re-invigorate the academy. It was the committee's recommendation that the leadership teams of both groups need to meet on a regular basis to identify what activities are being carried in each group and to decide where the responsibilities should be assigned. The goal should be to move some of the activities from the college back into the academy. The leadership team, after consulting and meeting (on a regular basis) with all officers and chairs of both organizations and with continued probing of the academy membership, should develop a specific 1, 2 or 3 year plan to address these needs. It is suggested they try to focus their initial effort with the following concepts in mind: 1) maintain the links between the groups, 2) improve the efficiency of both organizations, and 3) identify and create activities that are synergistic. For the academy, their efforts should be on how to re-invigorate the activities and membership of the organization. For the college, their effort should be focused on certification and training programs for board exams in veterinary clinical pharmacology.

The findings of the ad hoc committee were presented to the executive counsel during the executive counsel meeting in Charlotte and the consensus within the counsel was not to merge. It was decided the issue needed to be presented to the membership for general discussion and feedback and a final decision made on the issue. The item was presented during the 2003 annual business meeting and discussion followed. At the meeting it

was decided that the comments made at the business meeting should be collected and shared with the membership of AAVPT and the issue should be discussed with the members. We are planning on doing this through the new listserv. We will provide some background to get the discussion going and want to hear from the membership on the pros and cons of a merger of the two groups. We also would like to have our members share their thoughts on what they think are the major issues facing the organization and where we might improve the organization. We really need your feedback – both the positive and the negative. When you receive this communication, please take the time to read and to join in on the exchange. There are some very important issues facing the organization and we need to hear from you.

Have you received any AAVPT listserv announcements lately?

If not, it means we do not have your email address or the current one listed in our directory is incorrect. Recently, the email addresses of all our members were added to the new AAVPT listserv. If the email address we have for you was the correct one, you should have received a notice informing you that you had been added to our listserv. A few addresses bounced back to me as undelivered. If you did not receive any notice, please take a moment look over the list below to see if one of these email addresses belongs to you. If you are not on this list and still did not receive a notification that means I do not have your email address. If you are not receiving the listserv mailings for whatever reason, please let me know and I will make the necessary corrections. You can email me (cdavis@shout.net) from your current email address to let me know and I will update your information in the directory and add you to the listserv. You can always opt out at anytime if you find you do not want to get the mailings from the group. To remind all members, it is important that you let the secretary know whenever you change your email address so we can keep you on the listserv.

Email addresses that bounced back as undeliverable:

donecker@netmcr.com
 duncanf@vet.uga.com
 gamichell1@home.com
 jbakerc@mail.vetmed.ufl.edu
 jreid@mgfairfax.rr.com
 kbowman@sn1.cvm.ncsu.edu
 kkavang@wfubnc.edu
 ssoba_vs@netvision.net.il
 jeffrey_clask@merck.com

What ever happened to?

Several members who we have lost contact with are listed below (listed by name, last known address, membership category and the year they became members). As you can see there are quite a few (roughly 41) who we have lost from our active list. Please take a minute and look over the list. If you have a current phone number, address or email for them, we would appreciate hearing from you so we might try to make contact with them to find out if they wish to continue their membership in AAVPT. This will be our last chance to make contact before we remove them from our directory. You can send any information to Carol Davis (217-359-0661 or cdavis@shout.net).

Alexander, D., MSc, DVM, PhD	Ottawa, Ontario	Fellow 88
Amend, James PhD, DVM	College Station, TX	Fellow 78
Bertone, Joseph DVM, MS	Carbondale, CO	Fellow 98
Caprile, Kelli BS Pharm. D.	Yakima, WA	Associate 88
Cerniga, Raymond DVM	Unknown Address	Fellow 93
Conlon, Peter MSc, DVM, PhD	Guelph, Ontario	Fellow 88

Crawford, Lester DVM, PhD	Washington, DC	Fellow 78
Davis, Gary DVM, PhD	Delaware, OH	Fellow 93
Dawe, Gail DVM, MS	Unknown Address	Associate 90
Dougherty, Roderick DVM	Unknown Address	Fellow 88
Duffee, Nicole DVM, PhD	Collierville, TN	Fellow 89
Eckhoff, Gary DVM, MS	Elkhorn, WI	Associate 90
Fleisher, Lloyd PhD	Raleigh, NC	Fellow 88
Frazier, Donita DVM, PhD	Knoxville, TN	Fellow 88
Gardner, Sarah DVM	Research Triangle Park, NC	Fellow 93
Garg, Ramesh, PhD, DABT	Mundelein, IL	Fellow 78
Gunawardana, S BVSc, MS	Ithaca, NY	Associate 95
Harvey, Terence BS, DVM	Cincinnati, OH	Fellow 81
Heath, George DVM, PhD	Tuskegee, AL	Fellow 78
Johnson, Ron DVM, PhD	E. Lansing, MI	Fellow 01
Keister, D. BS, DVM	Athens, GA	Associate 84
Kilroy, Carolyn DVM, MS, PhD	Groton. CT	Fellow 98
Kittleson, Mark DVM, PhD	Davis, CA	Fellow 86
Knight, Anthony BVSC, MS	Fort Collins, CO	Associate 78

McCracken, Joseph DVM, MS	Belmont, CA	Fellow 86
Mealey, Katrina DVM	Pullman, WA	Fellow 94
Mercer, H. DVM, PhD	Mississippi State, MS	Fellow 78
Miller, David DVM	Unknown address	Fellow 95
Miner, William DVM	Wisner, NE	Fellow 78
Mizinga, Kemmy PhD	Tuskegee, AL	Fellow 98
Moore, Gareth DVM, MS	Pembroke, VA	Associate 83
Mulnix, John DVM, MS	Fort Collins, CO	Fellow 78
Norton, John DVM, PhD	Fort Worth, TX	Associate 90
Ogunbiyi, Peter DVM, PhD	Tuskegee, AL	Fellow 88
Robinette, Lee DVM, PhD	Raleigh, NC	Fellow 88
Roder, Joseph DVM	Unknown address	Student 95
Sangiah, Subbiah DVM, PhD	Stillwater, OK	Fellow 82
Schaffer, David DVM, PhD, DO	Unknown address	Fellow 83
Schall, William DVM, MS	East Lansing, MI	Fellow 85
Schultz, Virginia DVM	Stillwater, OK	Student 95
Scialli, Vincent BS, DVM	Unknown Address	Fellow 78
Seibert, Barbara BS, VMD	Fort Collins, CO	Associate 84
Sharma, Rajinder BVSc, MS, PhD	Ottawa, Ontario	Fellow 84

Stoffregen, Dana DVM, PhD	West Point, PA	Associate 94
Tasker, R. Bsc, Msc, PhD	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	Fellow 95
Tucker, Cassius DVM	Athens, GA	Associate 91
Vaden, Shelly DVM, PhD	Apex, NC	Fellow 90
Williams, Howard DVM, PhD	Summit, NJ	Fellow 93

Thirteenth Biennial AAVPT Symposium

Jane Owens Clark

The 13th Biennial Symposium of the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics (AAVPT) took place on June 3rd-5th, 2003 in Charlotte, NC. Linda Rhodes VMD, PhD, adjunct professor in the graduate animal science department at Rutgers and founder and senior partner of animal health consultancy AlcheraBio, reports¹. The focus was on innovation at the AAVPT symposium in North Carolina. Sponsors included Bayer Healthcare Animal Health Division, Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Elanco, Jurox, Merial, Novartis Animal Health US, and Vetoquinol. Under the chairmanship of Jurox's Dr Ted Whittem and the organizing committee of Elanco's Dr Terrence Clark, BIV's Dr. Ralph Claxton, Dr. Randy Lynn of Idexx, and Pfizer's Dr Gina Michels, the meeting brought together participants from industry, private veterinary practice, and academia to hear a program entitled "The Cutting Edge".

Dr Kathy Mitchell, of Kansas State Veterinary College, kicked off the program, discussing innovations in computer-aided drug design and

rightly pointing out that, in animal health, it is vital to find ways of decreasing the cost of drug screening and to develop better predictors of absorption, metabolism and toxicity.

Alternatives to antibiotics are always of interest to the animal health industry, as pressure increases to reduce antibiotic use in production animals. Dr Frank Blecha, also from Kansas State University, recounted his research on porcine antimicrobial peptides, noting that more than a dozen of these naturally occurring peptides have been identified. These small peptides can be either linear or cyclic, and are encoded by distinct genes that are produced by many cells of the immune system, and also by mucosal surfaces. In model systems, these porcine peptides have been shown to inhibit Salmonella gut invasion, and have a number of other biological effects that give them potential as therapeutics. Can these peptides be developed commercially? The potential exists, but the research is in its early stages, and the current cost of peptide production may limit usefulness for production animals.

Are designer medicines in the future for animals? Dr Herve Lefebvre, of Toulouse, France, gave a presentation on pharmacogenetics. He discussed determinants of individual risk for therapeutic failure or drug adverse reactions, outlining situations in which an animal's breed influences its drug response. For example, greyhound dogs have been shown to have higher intestinal permeability than golden retrievers, and therefore may have significantly higher blood levels of drug after oral administration. There are more than 350 dog breeds, and more than 20 breeds of cattle in common use. Are there ways that we can predict breed-specific drug responses?

Dr Lefebvre explained that, although responses to drugs are usually caused by a multitude of genes, in some cases one key gene can be identified. Collies that are hypersensitive to ivermectin, and show toxic signs after ivermectin administration, have been shown to have a small base pair deletion in a key protein involved in the p-glycoprotein, which causes the ivermectin toxicity. If specific genotype-phenotype relationships such as this can be identified, might drugs be launched with an

¹ As reported in Animal Pharm on July 3, 2003 ((c) 2003 PJB Publications, Ltd.)

associated test that identifies animals in which the drug can be expected to have toxic effects?

Finally, defining the genetics of drug response may have significant regulatory implications, since a limited test of safety and efficacy in a small population of animals can, in some cases, be shown to be a poor predictor of the effect of the drug in the general population of that species.

In talks by Drs Alastair Cribb, of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, and Lauren Trepanier, of the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Wisconsin-Madison, the diversity of the cytochrome P450 system in dogs was reviewed, further illustrating the point that genetic diversity affects the metabolism and therefore clearance of a variety of drugs. CYP2B11, which metabolizes the anesthetic propofol, "varies at least 14-fold in activity in mixed breed dogs", according to Dr Trepanier, with greyhounds showing particularly low activity. This explains the greyhound's delayed recovery after propofol anesthesia. Dr Trepanier comments: "The field of pharmacogenetics in veterinary medicine is still in its infancy."

Cutting-edge science focusing on pharmacogenomics in animals is of great academic interest, but can understanding genetic diversity and the availability of increasing amounts of genomic information for animals be put to use in discovering and developing new drugs? Dr Carla Chieffo, of Pfizer, spoke on applications of genetics and genomics in drug development, making reference to several applications of the flood of information coming from whole genome sequencing. Using the humane genome, researchers have defined expressed sequence tags (ESTs) which are random DNA sequences from one or both ends of genes, and databases of the ESTs allow definition of potential new drug targets. Gene mapping and positional cloning have been used to study the inheritance of a disease within a family. Once the canine, bovine, feline and equine genomes are sequenced, these types of tools can be employed in basic research on new disease targets in animal health. Microarrays to study expression patterns of a large number of genes simultaneously can also be used to identify new targets for therapy. Pfizer has

developed a dog "gene chip" with DNA from multiple tissues, and Dr Chieffo says that "the chip is being used in human and veterinary medicine to assess safety of compounds as well as to identify new targets, such as genes involved in osteoarthritis in dogs."

Thinking entirely out of the box, Dr Mark Jones, of Sydney, Australia, spoke about a unique method of delivering peptide therapeutic molecules to animals. Viral vectors have been used to target therapeutic peptides such as insulin into cells in culture. These cells can then be implanted in an animal, and secrete the therapeutic peptide in vivo, circumventing the need to extract, purify and inject a peptide into the patient. Because the cells are foreign to the implanted host, Dr Jones described a process whereby the cells are encapsulated in microcapsules with a semi-permeable membrane that allows escape of the target peptide. These microcapsules range from 70 microns to a couple of millimeters in diameter and have the advantage of acting as a barrier to various microbes. These "immunoneutral gene therapy capsules," or IGTs, are being explored as a mechanism to deliver porcine somatotrophin (pST) to pigs, which could present an alternative to injections of manufactured recombinant protein. Can protein levels from this cell-based delivery system be regulated? Theoretically, yes, by incorporating various inducible promoters into the gene construct.

Beyond peptide drug delivery, such a system could, in theory, be used to identify an animal's physiological state. For example, cells could be engineered to express a fluorescent glow when an animal's oestrogen level peaks, indicating oestrus. Several questions from the audience expressed concern about how the various regulatory bodies would approach such a new technology, serving as a reminder that without progress on the regulatory front, bringing such novel technology to market would be a challenge.

What else is on the cutting edge for animal health? Dr Mark Walker presented work funded by the National Institutes of Health in collaboration with the University of Florida, Applied Gene Technologies (Tallahassee, Florida) and North

Florida Veterinary Specialists (Jacksonville and Orange Park, Florida) on treating cats with erythropoietin delivered by gene therapy. Erythropoietin is used in human health for treatment of anaemia, and although the feline and canine erythropoietin genes have been cloned, there is no commercially available canine or feline version available for animal therapy. By injecting a non-replicating viral vector encoding the feline erythropoietin gene intramuscularly in cats, these investigators can demonstrate a significant increase in red blood cell numbers, with the response lasting up to 250 days in one animal. Further studies are focusing on new constructs with inducible gene promoters that can "turn on" the erythropoietin gene when animals are treated with doxycycline in their feed. Dr Julie Levy at the University of Florida has tested this gene construct in cats and shown an increase in red blood cell numbers corresponding to administering doxycycline, illustrating that gene expression of the administered gene can be controlled.

All innovations are not necessarily related to cutting-edge genomics and molecular biology. A novel drug delivery method was discussed by Dr Gijsbert van de Wijdeven, of Leipzig, Germany, who presented Injectiles, a novel biodegradable injection needle and administration device. The needles are pre-filled with the drug or vaccine of choice, and range in size from 0.9 to 13 mm. They are made of rapidly degradable carbohydrates, and can be administered subcutaneously or intramuscularly, whereupon they degrade and release their contents. The obvious advantage is avoiding metal needles in production animals, and the limitation is the small delivery volume, making them suitable for only very potent drugs or vaccines. These biodegradable needles could be administered by a repeat injection gun designed specifically for use in production animals, or via a small pen-like device for companion animals. It would be interesting to see data on the stability of vaccines or drugs in the carbohydrate needles, as a good stability profile will affect the practicality of developing this system. The AAVPT put together an excellent program that covered a range of technologies we may see emerging in the future.

The technologies that seem impractical, difficult to get approved under current regulations, or too early in development may be the future of animal health. Creating opportunities for experts from academia, industry and private practice to interact and learn from each other will help bring the best of these cutting edge technologies forward, both for the welfare of animals and the future of the animal health industry. ANIMAL PHARM - World Animal Health & Nutrition News FILED 3 July 2003 COPYRIGHT 2003 PJB Publications Ltd.

At the AAVPT business meeting, new offices were announced for the 2003-2005 term. The President is Ted Whittem, BVSc, PhD, FACVSc, DACVCP (Jurox Ltd, Rutherford, NSW, Australia- Figure 1); President-elect, Jane Owens Clark, DVM, PhD, DACVCP (Eli Lilly and Company, Greenfield, IN – Figure 2); and Secretary-Treasurer. Carol A. Davis, MS, PhD (University of Illinois, Champagne, IL). It was also agreed that the Fourteenth Biennial Symposium would be held in Washington, D.C. in 2005. The Lloyd E. Davis Award was presented to Gary D. Koritz, DVM, PhD (University of Illinois, Champagne, IL – Figure 3). This award is presented to individuals that have made significant contributions over an entire career toward the advancement and extension of knowledge in the fields of veterinary or comparative pharmacology. Over the thirty years of his academic career at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Koritz developed and expanded the use of pharmacokinetics as a research tool in veterinary pharmacology, therapeutics and toxicology. Dr. Koritz is credited with the introduction of rigorous mathematical modeling and computer use for veterinary pharmacokinetics and with a leadership role in the development at the FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine of regulatory guidelines for proof of bioequivalence and for flexible veterinary dose labels.

The American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology (ACVCP) met in conjunction with the AAVPT Biennial Symposium in Charlotte, NC. At the ACVCP business meeting, new offices were announced for the 2003-2005 term. The President is Terrence Clark, DVM, PhD, DACVCP (Eli Lilly

and Company, Greenfield, IN - Figure 4); President-elect, Debbie Kochevar, DVM, PhD, DACVCP (Texas A&M University, College Station, TX – Figure 5); Vice President, Michèle Doucet, DVM, PhD, DACVCP (Faculté de médecine vétérinaire, Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec, Canada); and Secretary-Treasurer, Katrina Mealey, DVM, PhD, DACVCP (Washington State University, Pullman, WA). Newly instituted for 2003 was the AAVPT/ACVCP Resident Graduate Student Award. The purpose of the Award is to recognize research excellence in clinical and/or basic pharmacology for residents and graduate students. The first recipient of this award was Butch KuKanich, DVM (North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC – Figure 6), a veterinary pharmacology graduate student at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine for his poster “Population Pharmacokinetics of Marbofloxacin in Harbor Seals after Oral Dosing”. Dr KuKanich’s mentor was Mark Papich, DVM, MS, DACVCP (North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC). Additional co-authors on the poster were Jim Riviere, DVM, PhD (North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC) and Dave Huff, DVM (Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada). The next ACVCP meeting will be held in conjunction with the ACVIM Forum in Minneapolis in 2004.

Thoughts on the beginnings of the AAVPT

Marilyn Martinez

Retired members of the AAVPT represent an invaluable information resource, both in terms of the history of our profession as well as their unique insights into challenges facing the profession today. Therefore, it is important to capture the perspectives of these colleagues. It is in that spirit that I would like to invite retired colleagues to share their thoughts with our AAVPT membership. If you are retired (or semi-retired) and would be willing to share your thoughts during a one hour interview, please contact Marilyn Martinez by email

(MMartin1@cvm.fda.gov) or by telephone (301-827-7577). The interview will be circulated to the AAVPT membership through the semi-annual newsletter after you have had an opportunity to review its contents.

This initiative began after I was contacted by Rainer Muser, a former member of Hoechst Roussel Vet. In his e-mail, he expressed numerous thoughts that were clearly important to capture and circulate through the AAVPT membership. In response, I requested an opportunity to chat with him by phone for around an hour so that he would have an opportunity to expand upon some of his initial thoughts. The following is a summary of the very enjoyable conversation I shared with Rainer regarding his perspectives on what made the organization strong, what he most valued as a member, and what the AAVPT can do today for members who have retired.

Q: Do you recall when you first became involved with the AAVPT and the reasons for your participation in this group?

A: My initial contact with Lloyd Davis was related to his involvement in the design and execution of a study on one of the drugs our company was marketing at the time. I am not able to recall the actual date, but I do vividly recall a conversation with Lloyd in the early days when he, together with several other colleagues, first organized the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics. It was in Ft. Collins, Colorado, and the occasion was a conference arranged by Lloyd and others. As Lloyd explained it to me, his vision was for an Academy that united professionals with various professional backgrounds related to clinical pharmacology in veterinary medicine. The Academy was designed to address current issues related to the rational use of animal drugs and to emphasize the benefits of veterinary clinical pharmacology within this context. Lloyd invited me to join the Academy, knowing that I was not specially trained in pharmacology or clinical pharmacology. Nevertheless, he stated that my more general background and interest in the needs of

industrial veterinary medicine could significantly contribute to this vision of collaborative interactions. A common sense approach to meeting needs and applying science was to be part of this effort.

I must admit, that I at first saw the Academy as an organization for people with an interest and training in this specialty. However, I soon realized that it offered a powerful opportunity to address current problems, powered by the input and diversity of its members. I believe that this original concept has proven itself to be viable in the years following that conversation. Memories of the activities sponsored by the AAVPT are among those that I treasure and the time invested was well spent.

Q: What did you value most about your AAVPT membership while you were active?

A: What was most important to me changed as the years went on. Initially, I viewed the AAVPT primarily as a venue for scientific exchange. However, after attending numerous meetings, I saw the AAVPT more as a forum for discussing the burning issues in veterinary medicine either in the field of veterinary pharmacology itself or in areas where it offered possible solutions to problems. The biggest asset for me was not only the scientific expertise of my colleagues but that through the AAVPT, we were provided an environment within which to freely discuss the challenges we face. Regardless of whether an individual was from government, industry, academia or practiced veterinary medicine, we were all working together to resolve the issues, each bringing a different perspective to the problem based upon their own professional affiliation.

Continuing education was also extremely important. Within the meetings, we had an opportunity to learn about what was going on in the field even before it appeared in print. Possibly even more valuable was the opportunity to have informal discussions with experts: meeting them during social portions of the meeting to chat about their research, work, and current challenges. In addition, Tom Powers and Lloyd organized workshops and task forces to

tackle some of the most challenging issues facing veterinary medicine at that time. Again, it provided an opportunity for folks from very different backgrounds to express their view and to contribute to the resolution of these problems.

Q: When was the last meeting that you had attended?

A: It was the meeting in 1998, which was the same year that I retired.

Q: What are you doing now and how can the AAVPT meet some of your ongoing needs?

A: I am no longer actively consulting or engaged in research. Nevertheless, I would like to stay in touch with what's going on in the field of veterinary pharmacology: to stay abreast of the major issues. I know that there are sources where one can obtain some of this information, but a concise summary in the AAVPT Newsletter would be most welcome and would be sufficient for my current needs. I believe that it would be helpful to "beef up" the Newsletter with a synopsis on current problems in veterinary pharmacology, public perception of these problems, and new initiatives. I really believe that the Newsletter will be a good way to start for getting retired members involved. It would also be good to have a question posed in each Newsletter and have the subsequent issue summarize the responses that were received.

Q: Do you have any interest in attending upcoming AAVPT meetings?

A: Possibly yes, but it is difficult to make commitments, particularly a year or two in advance. The AAVPT might consider using its retired members as facilitators since they are removed from the passion of the specific issues, but have a great deal of insight that could stimulate discussions.

Our conversation closed with hopes that the AAVPT will actively seek to keep in contact with its retired members, and that the retired members would be willing to contribute their insights in an

effort to help AAVPT maintain its function as a valued forum for debate, scientific exchange and problem solving.

Drug Availability and Food Safety Committee

Rob Hunter

The Executive Council asked the DAFS committee to investigate the impact that wide-spread implementation of food irradiation might have not only on pathogen reduction but also how this might affect the antimicrobial approval process. The committee membership consists of Patricia Dowling, Virginia Fajt, and Ralph Clarkson, and Rob Hunter (chair) and plan on having a report to the organization by May, 2004 at the annual business meeting. We would like to point out to the membership that the USDA is allowing irradiated beef to be served in public school cafeterias in the US.

Liaison reports

USP Drug Information: *Cory Langston*

The USP Veterinary Medicine Drug Information Expert Committee is publishing a series of monographs on veterinary antibiotics as a special supplement to JVPT. These monographs represent a seven-year effort that includes evidence-based extra-label and label indications and dosages, as well as FARAD withdrawal information for specified extra-label dosages. A smaller series of monographs on glucocorticoids and NSAIDs is nearing completion.

News from the Pharmaceutical Industry

- Metacam® (meloxicam) was approved in April in the U.S by Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica as a COX-2 selective NSAID for use in dogs. It is considered by many to be an excellent NSAID for cats, though this is an extra-label use.
 - Zubrin® (tepoxalin) has been released by Schering-Plough Animal Health Corp. for pain and inflammation associated with osteoarthritis in dogs. It is an NSAID with dual cyclooxygenase and lipoxygenase inhibitory activity. Though non-COX₂ selective, it is said to have an excellent GI safety profile.
 - Neutersol® (zinc gluconate neutralized by arginine) by Technology Transfer, Inc. has been approved as an intratesticular injection for chemical sterilization in 3- to 10-month-old male dogs. The company claims that unlike prior intratesticular injectable sterilants, little inflammation occurs at the injection site.
 - Rimadyl® (carprofen) is now available from Pfizer as an injectable formulation for a once or twice daily subcutaneous administration in dogs.
 - Kaopectate® liquid was historically a mixture of kaolin and pectin. Later, attipulgite was added as a toxin adsorbant. Following a prompt from the USP Medication Errors Reporting Program (for human health care providers), Dr. Amy Neal reports that Kaopectate has been reformulated into a bismuth subsalicylate antidiarrheal. As with Pepto Bismol®, this formulation contains bioavailable salicylate.
 - Novartis Animal Vaccines Inc. obtained a conditional license in August for an equine-origin antibody product intended to aid in the treatment of horses with the disease caused by West Nile virus.
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