



IWSAVA

Global Veterinary Development



Message from the President

Six months in the job and counting!
Professor Jolle Kirpensteijn updates us
on the WSAVA's latest initiatives



**Jolle Kirpensteijn,
WSAVA President**

New ways to manage a World Congress

David Wadsworth, Peter Ihrke, Colin Burrows and I attended the Southern European Veterinary Conference (SEVC) in Barcelona to meet our new core Professional Congress Organiser (PCO), Kenes International. Many thanks goes to our hosts and friends from AVEPA and SEVC for organising such a stellar event. During the meeting with Kenes many things had to be worked out including a new contract, many new standard operating procedures (SOPs), the bid process for 2015 and the exciting Congress in 2014. David Wadsworth and I will serve as Congress liaison officers until April 2012 and I will continue in this role after David retires as past president.

Kenes is an experienced global conference organiser in the medical field – it has organised more than 2,800 congresses in over 100 countries, attracting around 110,000 attendees per year, and has some 50 long-term clients. Kenes has offices in Geneva, London, Munich, Hamburg, Berlin, Leipzig, Madrid, Istanbul, Tel-Aviv, Singapore and Santiago de Chile. A staff of over 300 specialists worldwide will ensure that Kenes will cater to our needs.

Kenes will take over a lot of the logistical responsibilities. One example is the installation of the

new Congress Programme Committee. A chair is being appointed and member positions will be filled shortly afterwards. The new Congress Programme Committee will create a grid for the scientific content of the World Congress for the five years starting 2014, aimed at ensuring the top-notch quality of our Congress. We will inform you about this exciting development as soon as there is more news. But that is of course not all – there will be SOPs for the local organising committee, the exhibition, the social programme, and so on. All these changes will make the organisation of the World Congress clearer, less stressful and more rewarding. Remember that it is our primary duty to make the organisation easier with a much smaller financial risk to the local committee. All changes are closely watched and controlled by our Congress Scientific Committee, chaired by Dr Nicola Neumann, which dictates the strategy of the current process. Nicola has done a superb job, together with Ed Hall, Colin Burrows, Siraya Chunekamrai and Amanda Evans. Once created, the SOPs will be available to those who are interested.

For further information you can reach Nicola at neumann@eircom.net.





WSAVA Assembly members at the Geneva Congress 2010

Bidding process for the 2015 World Congress

The bidding process will change for 2015 and beyond. Because of the wonderful regional enthusiasm of the 2014 bids, the Congress Scientific Committee, our PCO and the executive board have decided that Asia/Oceania will be the next Congress region (2015). This will automatically mean that the Americas will follow in 2016 and Europe/Middle East/Africa in 2017, and so on. Details of the bidding process will follow shortly.

Thank you Geneva!

We all enjoyed a wonderful meeting in Geneva and we cannot say it enough: the Swiss did a marvelous job in hosting us and making the 2010 World Congress a huge success. Chris Amberger and his team will be in our minds for a long time.



Forthcoming World Congresses

We are all eagerly anticipating our next Congress in Korea on beautiful Jeju Island. The local organising committee is working hard to make this an event we will not forget easily. Save the date in your calendar: 14–17 October 2011. I wish my Korean friends 행운을 빌어요 (haeng-un-eul bil-eoyo; good luck) with the organisation of this prestigious event.

After Korea, WASVA/FECAVA Congress will be in England, where the BSAVA is up to the challenge of organising the biggest World Congress ever in April 2012.

In 2013 we will visit stunning New Zealand – Christchurch was shaken up a bit by the recent earthquake but the local organising committee assure us that it was business as usual, although our hearts go out to the people that were affected.

After 20 years, our family will return to the African continent and South Africa in 2014. One of our main goals will be to reach the entire continent with our excellent continuing education efforts. This meeting will have a true regional outreach, touching vets all over Africa.

Treasury transfer

The Treasury transfer has not been easy and has put our new Treasurer, Shane Ryan, and our supportive staff including our Hon. Secretary Walt Ingwersen and Chief Administration Officer June Ingwersen to the

test. The good news is that our financials will be crystal clear and easy to read and obtain for all interested. We are a legal entity in the world now and Canada is our homestead, thanks to the hard work of all involved.

WSAVA Foundation

More good news – the WSAVA Foundation is chomping at the bit to be inaugurated and start working to promote global veterinary care all over the world. Brian Romberg and his team have done an outstanding job in pushing this important initiative forward.

Standardisation projects

Last but not least, new standardisation projects including the One Health Initiative, V5 Nutritional Standards Project, the Global Pain Council and the Wellness Project are underway to shape our future. One Health, under the leadership of Professor Michael Day, will rock the world because it is the first of its kind that takes companion animals seriously as an essential part of the One Health protocols. Its first meeting will be at NAVC and both Michael Day and Di Sheehan will promote our committee at the first One Health Congress in Melbourne, Australia on 14–16 February 2011.

V5 stands for the 5th vital assessment and addresses the important role nutrition plays in a healthy pet. We need to shift the focus from therapy to prevention and one of the cornerstones is keeping your pet healthy – proper nutrition is of course of the essence of this.

The Wellness Project will be developed in the next six months. The Global Pain Council will translate knowledge of pain management and evaluation of pain in companion animals from well-established protocols in certain countries to the rest of the world. Key opinion leaders will identify the major issues and develop protocols that can be used by everybody. Wellness of pets is a mainstay of every veterinary surgeon and linking global standards to wellness and welfare is the key to improving veterinary care everywhere.

None of these projects would be possible without the help of volunteers, our friends at other Associations and our sponsors. Dr Janet Donlin, Chief Veterinary Officer at our prime sponsor Hills, has been appointed to be our direct liaison in the company and we could have not dreamed for a better person to replace Hein



Dr Janet Donlin, Chief Veterinary Officer of Hills Pet Nutrition (third left) with (from left), Dr Di Sheehan, Vice President of WSAVA; Dr Veronica Leong, Board member of WSAVA; Mrs Isabel Romberg; Mrs Mary Holt; Mrs Jane Wadsworth

Meyer. Hein, of course, has been our longstanding friend within Hills Pet Nutrition and his strategic view to combine our efforts and global reach has truly changed the veterinary world. Janet is a wonderful person too who combines care for pets and people with a human touch for business. Welcome Janet to our veterinary family!

2011 was recently elected by the American Senate to be the Year of the Veterinarian. Let's celebrate this all over the world together with our theme of 2011: Global One Health. The veterinary surgeon is an essential element of the One Health Initiative and we will dedicate all our efforts to promoting this globally – starting with the first meeting of the One Health Project Group in January 2011 and ending with a keynote lecture from one of the most world's famous virologists at the WSAVA 2011 World Congress.

I wish you all a happy WSAVA new year!

And finally...

If you want to be really up-to-date about what a WSAVA President does these days, follow me on Twitter (WSAVAPrez log) or type in WSAVA on Facebook. ■