



## EAEVE "Staying in Touch"

FEBRUARY 2010

1ST EDITION

### Editorial from the President

„getting to know  
you“

..an interactive  
platform...

..promoting  
information flow  
and exchange of  
knowhow...

..increased  
transparency..

EAEVE  
President´s  
Election at the  
General  
Assembly 2010..

Dear EAEVE-member,

### **„PLEASE NOT ANOTHER NEWSLETTER !!!“**

will most likely be your first reaction when opening up this mail. We do not blame you at all. Your mail box is probably teeming with newsletters. See, that´s why we have decided not to call it a newsletter. Since for us it is supposed to be a lot more than just an overused modern marketing tool to annoy our members and encourage them to hit the "delete" button right away.

Our desire is to establish a better rapport and working basis, "getting to know you" and vice versa.

According to the aims published on our homepage, one of our objectives is **"..to reinforce cooperation between member establishments and to act as a forum for discussion in order to improve and harmonize veterinary education."**

In order to achieve this aim, an occasional e-mail or letter just does not suffice. We feel that we do need an interactive platform enabling us to keep you updated and draw your attention to new information in the veterinary field for you to take advantage of. But it is not meant to be a one-way street. We are just as eager to get your feedback as well as act as "middleman" for intra-member communication by initiating and promoting information flow and exchange of expertise among the faculties. Is there for instance a professorship vacancy at your faculty? A new student exchange programme? Are you perhaps in need of advisors in specific fields?

It goes without saying that we rely on your active cooperation in this respect and hope that we will all benefit from this increased transparency to the best of our ability.

Let me close this introduction by wishing you all a successful New Year as well as a prosperous collaboration!

Yours sincerely,

Marcel Wanner  
President of EAEVE

### **THE PRESIDENT´S ELECTION**

As you all know, my days as president of the EAEVE are counted and at the General Assembly on May 21./22., 2010 in Vienna my term ends and you will be invited to elect my successor. As a result, we are looking for candidates who are interested in the general aspects of veterinary training and who find sufficient time to fulfill this function which is challenging, rewarding but definitely not always easy.

...the procedure...

The procedure of the election is laid down in article 10 of the statutes:

- Any nomination of a candidate for President must be received, in writing by the Association's Office two months before the date of the General Assembly for that year.
- Candidates for President must be a Dean (or equivalent) or an ex-Dean (or equivalent) of a positively approved member Establishment of EAEVE. They must be proposed by at least two members coming from two different regions with the consent of the nominated candidate.
- The Curriculum Vitae of the candidate as well as the electoral manifesto of the candidate shall be provided and sent to all EAEVE members at least one month prior to the General Assembly.

Do not miss the deadlines!

In this respect, the following timetable should be adhered to:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 15 March 10 | Latest possible date to deposit the candidature at the EAEVE office                           |
| 1 April 10  | Latest date for the candidates to send the CV and the electoral manifesto to the EAEVE office |
| 15 April 10 | Publication of the CV and the electoral manifesto of the candidates by the EAEVE office       |

Do not hesitate to contact me for further information!

I am convinced that the new team will continue our efforts to achieve all the EAEVE's goals just as efficiently with a view to further improve veterinary education in Europe.

General Assembly to take place in Vienna...

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MAY 20-21, 2010, VIENNA** **The event of the year...**

..focusing on the future of veterinary education and medicine...

A couple of days ago the invitations for this year's General Assembly were sent out by surface mail. The main topics on the agenda are the future of veterinary education and medicine as well as the election of the new EAEVE president and Executive Committee members.

--renowned speakers..

We are pleased to announce that Katinka de Balogh from the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department of the FAO and Jean-Francois Chary, Inspector General of the French Ministry of Agriculture, have accepted our invitation to join our General Assembly. Katinka de Balogh will talk about "The Future of the Veterinary Profession" whereas Jean-François will inform about "Vet2011". Kristina Fontel, the president of the International Veterinary Students' Association, will analyse the students' angle by presenting "Objectives of the IVSA"

.. and a novelty...

In addition, we have decided to introduce a novelty - the formation of 8 different working groups, all devoted to a different aspect of "Veterinary Education and Medicine - Current Challenges and Future Visions" - please register for the topic of your choice via the registration link ([www.vetmeduni.ac.at/eaeve2010](http://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/eaeve2010)) where you find all information regarding registration, fees, accommodation, social events etc. **For organisational reasons, a speedy registration is highly recommended - in addition, the deadline for the reduced registration fee as well as the special EAEVE hotel rates will be March 10, 2010 - and also coincides with the deadline for the transferral of the EAEVE annual membership fee. Please note that the closing date for GA registration is May 1'2010.**

...take advantage of the early bird registration.....

..the highlight of the social programme - a typical Viennese ball!

In order to familiarize you with Viennese culture and history, we have worked out a diversified social programme, which peaks in the unique opportunity of attending the veterinary ball on Friday night - definitely an event not to be missed! As far as the dress code is concerned, ladies can choose between a long evening dress, tuxedo or national costume, whereas

...the dress code...

men have the following options: Dark suit, white shirt, tie or bowtie, tuxedo, tail-coat or national costume. By the way, in the FAQs Section on the homepage you can find links where to buy/rent ball attire in case you do not wish to bring it with you.

.. anything missing?"

Please note that this is the "first edition" of the programme; if you feel that a particular item is missing and should consequently be added to the agenda, please let us know by the end of February at the latest so we can include it in the final version.

Looking forward to welcoming you to beautiful Vienna!

## **NEWS FROM THE FRONT**

### **Visitations 2009 and 2010**

..two very labor-intensive years...

We have a very busy year behind us but also ahead of us – but so have those faculties who are on the verge of preparing the SER or getting ready to welcome the visitation teams. 13 full visitations (stage I), 1 combined stage I and II visitation, 1 stage II visitation and 5 revisits are planned.

Helsinki the first one to achieve accreditation!

The first faculty in the "accredited"-section is Helsinki, which passed both stage I and stage II evaluation with flying colors.

..new on the list..

New on the list of approved faculties are Las Palmas and Tartu, whereas Cordoba managed to make the "list of visited and conditionally approved establishments", eager to give it another shot as soon as possible.

.."I'll be back!"..

The Université de Liège, on the other hand, is a great example of a faculty that has celebrated an impressive come-back on the "approved"-list. Merely conditionally approved after the visitation in March, they not only rectified the deficiencies at lightning speed, but even surpassed the requirements by far by developing "Biosecurity SOP" of exemplary quality.

...Liège setting an example...

[http://www2.ulg.ac.be/fmv/actualites/Biosecurity\\_Manual\\_Final\\_6Jan10.pdf](http://www2.ulg.ac.be/fmv/actualites/Biosecurity_Manual_Final_6Jan10.pdf)

Congratulations – and good luck to all those who are going for it in the months to come! We are keeping our fingers crossed for you!

## **NEWS FROM THE FIELD**

### **From Formalin to Salt**

A new method as alternative to formalin..

Formalin is frequently used as a fixative for anatomical specimens. However, the exposure to formalin represents a potential jeopardy to human health, as it can be toxic, allergenic and cancerogenic. As a result, EAEVE recommends to replace this old-fashioned fixation method by a non-toxic, easy-to-handle alternative apt to preserve macroscopic anatomical specimens. The so-called preservation method according to Friker (2007) which was developed at the Institute of Veterinary Anatomy, Ludwig-Maximilian-University, Munich, makes the use of formalin dispensable.

#### **Preservation method according to Friker**

There are two ways:

- 1.) Perfusion (entire animal carcasses with skin)
- 2.) Immersion (for skinned body parts; it is also possible to employ the immersion technique for body parts formerly preserved by the perfusion method). For immersion, containers in plastic material are recommended.

#### **Brine:**

87% tap water (cold)

13% pickle salt (not table salt!)

Antioxidant (according to instructions by the manufacturer)

#### **Perfusion technique:**

- Fresh carcasses of animals immediately expired are perfused with brine via the carotid artery (ligated cranially)
- before perfusion bleed-out the animals as far as possible via the opening of the A. carotis communis. For this purpose it might be helpful to hang the animal head-down.
- Perfusion should be slow and pressure low (a bicycle pump with an aspiration and injection hose can be used)
- Perfusion can be terminated when brine exits the nasal openings
- Cool storage of carcasses (at approx. 7 degree Celsius)
- Time for complete fixation approx. 1 week

If fresh cadavers of very recently died animals are being used, no prior manipulations such as exsanguination with lavage or exenteration of organs or their contents are necessary. If an animal cannot be perfused immediately after death, heparinisation is recommended. Extremities may be sectioned and after skinning may be immersed directly without any intermediate step of preparation.

#### **Immersion technique:**

- Body parts have to be skinned
- Water the material 10 to 15 hours in running cold tap water

### **NEWS FROM THE "LEGAL RECOGNITION"-FRONT A different approach**

You are all aware, that when EU Directive 2005/36 came into force, all previous legislation and agreements were repealed. For this reason, we have been investigating other possibilities to get legal recognition.

It is clear from the EU legislation, that the Veterinarian is the "key" to the "farm to fork or feed to food" food chain concept. In EU Regulation 854/2004, the qualification requirements for an official veterinarian are listed in Annex 1 and it is clear that virtually all of the items are taught at some time during your existing undergraduate curriculum. This offers us an opportunity to fairly speedily obtain legal recognition if we can supply evidence to support a claim that the requirements listed are contained in the existing undergraduate courses.

At the end of Section 2, there is a paragraph which starts:

***"Candidates may acquire the required knowledge as part of their basic veterinary training,..... However, when the competent authority is satisfied that a candidate has acquired all the required knowledge as part of a university degree,.....it may waive the requirement for a test."***

We want to have a sentence added to this paragraph as follows:

***"A candidate who has received a degree from a veterinary teaching establishment evaluated and approved by the Joint Evaluation/Accreditation System run by the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) and the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) can be considered to have acquired the necessary knowledge."***

This would give EAEVE Approval the legal recognition, we so desperately need.

**If you have not already done so meanwhile**, please print out the questionnaire, tick the items you can say are included in your undergraduate course and indicate that items not covered at present could be taught. Put the name of your establishment, your signature as Dean, the date and, if possible, your stamp, fax it to Uschi in the EAEVE Office and send the original by post to Uschi in Vienna by February 17 at the latest.

We are tenacious  
and do not stop  
trying...

...food hygiene  
might be the key  
to legal  
recognition...

Your help is  
urgently  
needed...

Link to  
questionnaire:

This could be of ultimate importance to our Association. Those of you who have not gotten back to us concerning this matter, please respond as soon as possible; those who have already done so – Thank you for your cooperation!

[http://www.eave.org/fileadmin/downloads/Food\\_Hygiene\\_Questionnaire.pdf](http://www.eave.org/fileadmin/downloads/Food_Hygiene_Questionnaire.pdf)

A new QM  
committee comes  
into force...

## **NEWS FROM THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT FRONT CIQA and feedback instruments**

...to review the  
evaluation  
process... and to  
guarantee an  
equal application  
of the system...

CIQA was brought into existence to act as a quality management tool since we are convinced that an Association involved primarily in evaluating levels of education and assessing teaching quality of its member establishments should submit itself to an Internal Quality Assessment and Assurance Policy to periodically evaluate and critically review the development, results and personnel involved in steps of the evaluation process, including the final decisions taken by ECOVE in order to ascertain that the system is applied equally to all members without any type of discrimination.

.. the feedback  
questionnaires  
have become a  
very useful tool...

As agreed upon unanimously at the GA in Hanover, Prof. Hans Henrik Dietz, Copenhagen will chair CIQA, with Prof. Marc Gogny and Prof Lucca Rossi being the other two members. A first meeting will be held in a couple of weeks and the results of which – along with proposals for improvement – will be presented in the framework of the General Assembly in May.

In addition to the formation of CIQA, questionnaires to be filled in both by the visited establishment and the members of the team have proven a very useful quality assurance tool in evaluating the performance of the visiting team from different angles. Suggestions and pieces of advice are thoroughly discussed and if deemed justified, modifications in procedure are made accordingly, such as an improved itinerary with respect to stage II evaluations.

In need of your  
help for data  
base update..

## **NEWS FROM THE HEAD OFFICE Keeping data-bases updated**

You probably know from your own experience, that this is sometimes quite a challenge... Deans change, addresses change, telephone number change and so do e-mail addresses. Experts retire and are thus no longer available to join our visitation teams. To keep our homepage updated, we rely on your support and cooperation. Please let us know as soon as possible when any of those items have changed to modify our lists accordingly in order to enable us to contact you in the case of need and not run the risk of having to deal with back-bouncing mails and letters. We will also update our expert list in the near future and count on your assistance in this respect.

Thanks a lot in advance!

### **A new arrival**

Not only the number of visitations increases, but also the workload in the Vienna Head Office. As a result, we have decided to hire an additional employee to assist the office manager and director of the visitation/accreditation programme to the best of her ability.

We are growing...

Beth Geiger, a Newzealander who stranded in Vienna many years ago, will work part-time and be primarily responsible for writing reports, letters, reminders, confirmations, render assistance in website maintainance, keep electronic and hard copy archives and the website lists up-to-date, manage databases and assist in the quarterly budgeting and financial management.

We wish her all the best for a successful start!

## **LAST, BUT NOT LEAST....**

...we do know that curiosity killed the cat – still we are dying to know how you like our “staying in touch”-letter? What would you like to see included? Any novelties at your faculty that you would like to share with us and the other establishments?

Please do not hesitate to let us know!

Thanks for your feedback!

## **EDITORIAL INFORMATION:**

### **CHIEF EDITORS:**

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