

## European Coordination Committee on Veterinary Training Update on activities

The EBVS President Prof Steven May chaired the first meeting of the European Coordination Committee on Veterinary Training (ECCVT) for 2015. The meeting took place on 24 March at the FVE headquarters in Brussels. Prof Dimitiris Raptopoulos (CEO EBVS) participated the discussions of the Committee for first time. The Committee agreed that Prof Raptopoulos together with Prof Pierre Lekeux (Director of ESEVT) will be attending all the meetings of the Committee in the future as observers on behalf of their organisations.

Additionally two invited guests, Prof Jonathan Rushton and Mr Jens Gaster from the European Commission DG GROW joined the Committee this time. Prof Rushton spoke about the objectives and goals of the NEAT project that looks into the application of economics in animal health decision making. He explained that various teaching tools covering the key concepts and skills required in Animal Health Economics have been identified, and will be publicly available on the NEAT website, when the exercise is completed.

ECCVT members closely follow the implementation of the Professional Qualifications Directive and in that respect they warmly welcomed the opportunity to exchange directly with Mr Gaster on the latest developments. The veterinary profession is keen to follow up with the legislative process, especially when the discussion on the secondary legislation starts. ECCVT has indicated long ago the need for establishing a standard for ensuring the quality of veterinary undergraduate education throughout the Union which will reinforce the trust of the Member State authorities to each other. . ECCVT presented also their [proposal for amendment of the Annex 5.4.1<sup>1</sup> of the Directive 2013/55](#) in order to meet the latest scientific developments and ensure the necessary skills and Day-1 Competences of European veterinarians. All the three member organisations of ECCVT – EAEVE, EBVS and FVE – call for their members to work in their countries with their National authorities, in order to facilitate and ensure the incorporation of the Day-1 competences in the European legislation.

The recognition of Veterinary Specialists throughout Europe is

another item on the ECCVT agenda, related with Directive 2013/55 and the Committee is working on the development of an opinion on behalf of the veterinary profession.

ECCVT continues the assessment of teaching of the lab-animal medicine in undergraduate level and expects to be able to provide more concrete data later this year. Additionally ECCVT is working on an opinion on the training for veterinarians that wish to become Animal Welfare Officers according to Regulation 1099/2009. This opinion is expected to be further discussed in the second ECCVT meeting this year.

ECCVT members have been also updated on the works of VETCEE, the [Veterinary Continuous Education in Europe](#). VETCEE is now ready to accept applications from

programmes in Companion Animal Medicine, in Porcine Health Management and in Equine Medicine. Further to this two more dossiers of competences are under preparation, one in Bovine Health Management and one in Laboratory Animal Science and Medicine. These two dossiers will soon be finalised and once they are approved by the Board, VETCEE will be ready to accept applications from programmes in those fields as well.

ECCVT members were informed that the group on the European

Skills, Competences and Occupations taxonomy (ESCO) had completed their works. ESCO group were very satisfied with the input they received on behalf of the veterinary profession.

The Committee members were further updated on the [WVA Education portal](#), a joint project of the World Veterinary Association (WVA) and the World Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA) concerning the creation of the largest pool of Veterinary Continuing Education in the world<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.fve.org/education/docs\\_to\\_download/ECCVT%20Newsletter/Other%20activities/2015\\_2%20D1C\\_Adopted.pdf](http://www.fve.org/education/docs_to_download/ECCVT%20Newsletter/Other%20activities/2015_2%20D1C_Adopted.pdf)

<sup>2</sup><http://wva.learning.education/>

### ***ECCVT Activities 2015***

- ***ECCVT Activities***
- ***Dir 2005/36 and Dir 2013/55***
- ***ECCVT proposal on Day-1 Competences***
- ***Education & training for the Designated Veterinarian***
- ***Education & training for the Animal Welfare Officer***
- ***VETCEE***
- ***ESCO & WVA Education portal***