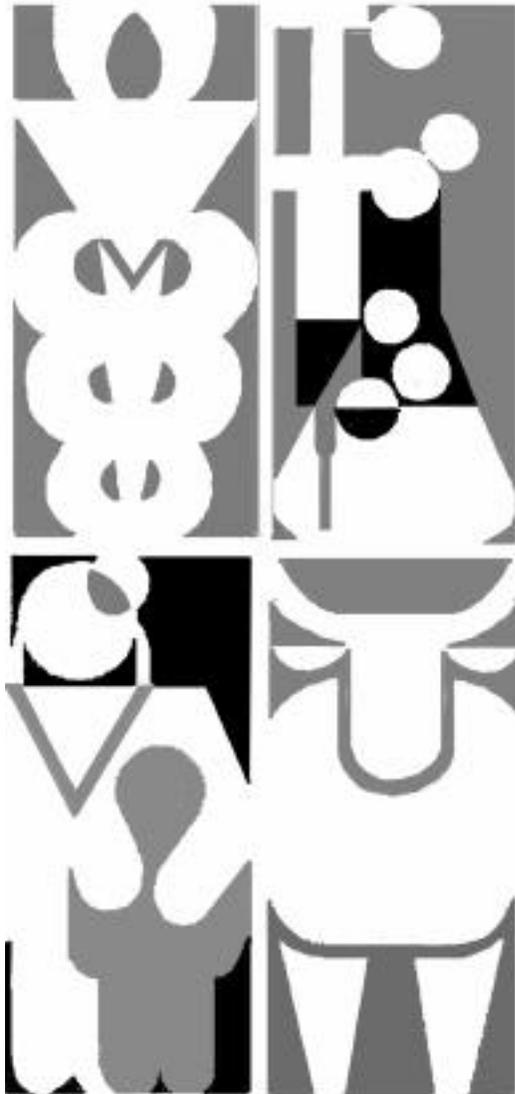


NEWSLETTER



Association of Teachers of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine

President - Dr. Margaret R. Slater
Dept. of Veterinary Anatomy & Public Health
College of Veterinary Medicine
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX
mslater@cvm.tamu.edu

President-Elect - Dr. Laura Hungerford
Great Plains Veterinary Center
Clay Center, NE
lauri@gpvec.unl.edu

Secretary/Treasurer - Dr. James Thorne
3310 Cheavens Rd
Columbia, MO 65201-9383
atvphpm@tranquility.net

ATVPHPM Newsletter Editor - Dr. Ronald D. Smith
Department of Veterinary Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL
rd-smith@uiuc.edu

ATVPHPM is committed to developing and fostering the academic base for veterinary public health and preventive medicine

Visit the ATVPHPM Web site at...

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/>

IN THIS ISSUE

ASSOCIATION NEWS.....	3
ATVPHPM President's Message.....	3
ATVPHPM-Sponsored Course.....	3
How to Contact AVI.....	3
PROPOSED ATVPHPM BYLAWS CHANGES.....	4
INTERNET RESOURCES.....	7
Merck Veterinary Manual on the Web.....	7
Animation of the Spread of West Nile Virus in Illinois in 2002.....	7
Foodborne Disease Pathogen Modeling Program.....	7
NEWS & COMMENTARY.....	8
Massive Recall Results in Plea to Irradiate all Ground Beef.....	8
On-Farm Testing for Pathogens on the Horizon.....	8
Faculty Position in Epidemiology and Food Safety.....	9
ISU Gains Key Food-Security Role.....	9
MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & COURSES.....	10
ATVPHPM Symposium: One Medicine for the Future.....	10
SUGGESTED READING.....	10
IOM Report on Zoonoses, Animal and Human Health.....	10
Core Functions and Capabilities of State Public Health Laboratories.....	10
BALLOT – New Name for Our Organization.....	12

Important: Please take a moment to look at your mailing label on the envelope. The number (e.g. 98) in the lower right corner of the mailing label is the last year for which a dues payment has been recorded. Membership dues are \$20 US annually and are payable on January 1 of each year. If, for example, your dues payment year is indicated to be 97, then to become current you should remit two years dues or \$40. The ATVPHPM Constitution and By-Laws require that members two years in arrears in payment of dues shall be dropped from membership (Article VIII)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

ATVPHPM President's Message

Greetings to all this fall! I'm really looking forward to seeing many of you at CRWAD in November. We have an impressive Sunday afternoon lined up for attendees so I hope you can join us. The schedule of presentations for the regular sessions should be available early October on the CRWAD website.

We (the executive committee) have two ongoing issues related to the Association. The first is a bylaws change. We have included the changes in this newsletter. They are really an update with the addition of removing the requirement for veterinarians to be AVMA members. We will be voting on the changes at the CRWAD meeting Monday at 11:30 (right after the Monday morning session).

The second is the continuing story of the name change. I want to reiterate that the change in name does not signal a change in the direction of the organization. We simply wanted a shorter and yet all encompassing name (how's that for an objective!). I think that the organization has changed admirably with time without losing its origins. We hope that a name change will make it easier to bring in new members and continue to expand the Association.

I have been a member for many years, joining as a graduate student. One of the things that attracted me to the Association was the way it included many different disciplines and approaches. The members were and are always welcoming and supportive of each other and the Association. This makes for a great networking opportunity and a broad pool of expertise.

The Association has also had an emphasis on education. This is defined as broadly as possible. For those of us in academic settings our roles in education (in classrooms, clinics and offices) are obvious. For others who work primarily with producers or consumers or other scientists, you too spend at least some of your efforts on education of one sort or another. The Association helps us disseminate new information and meet new colleagues by taking the lead role in the Epidemiology and Economics session as well as the more recent Food Safety session at CRWAD. Members of the Association also provide continuing education forums on behalf of the Association. And the Association encourages graduate students to excel by giving awards and providing a forum for national presentations.

Our new name will be voted on with the new officers ballots, soon to be forthcoming. I appreciate all the input from you members. The three choices offer alternatives between short, shorter and more inclusive: (1) Veterinary Population Health Association: short, inclusive and uses some newer terminology about studying populations; (2) Veterinary Epidemiology Association: more a shorthand for what goes on in the Association so less inclusive but, even shorter than #1; and (3) Association of Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine: more similar to what we have now, more explicit than #1 but long and easy to confuse with the Canadian (CAVEPM) and European (SVEPM) organizations. We'll know after the ballots are counted!

Hope everyone has a good fall! Margaret

ATVPHPM-Sponsored Course

From: Mo Salman <M.D.Salman@colostate.edu>

The Continuing Education Committee of ATVPHPM and the USDA:APHIS Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health held the second international course in Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis in Spanish. The course was held in Fort Collins, Colorado from August 5-16, 2002. Sixteen participants from seven countries and one international organization attended the course. The countries represented were Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Uruguay, Spain, Panama and Guatemala.

How to Contact ATVPHPM

Applications for membership, accompanied by a check for \$20 payable to the ATVPHPM, should be sent to:

Dr. James Thorne, Secretary/Treasurer, ATVPHPM
3310 Cheavens Rd
Columbia, MO 65201-9383

Phone: 573/443-0157
FAX: 573/884-5050
E-mail: atvphpm@tranquility.net

Membership application forms are available online at:

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/>

Newsletter items can be sent to:

Dr. Ronald D. Smith, Newsletter Editor, ATVPHPM UI
College of Veterinary Medicine
2001 South Lincoln Ave
Urbana, IL 61802.

Phone: 217/333-3290

FAX: 217/244-7421

E-mail: rd-smith@uiuc.edu

Current and past issues of the ATVPHPM Newsletter
are also available online at:

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/>

PROPOSED ATVPHPM BYLAWS CHANGES

**To be voted on at the CRWAD meeting at 11:30am Monday, Nov 11, 2002
(see President's Message for additional information)**

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

(Organized May 4, 1966)

(Constitution Adopted March 20, 1968)

(Constitution Amended October 1, 1976, and July 19, 1982)

ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be known as the Association of Teachers of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine, referred to herein as the Association.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Association shall be the advancement of veterinary public health and preventive medicine through the medium of education in the United States and Canada.

The objective shall be accomplished through the following activities:

1. Disseminate veterinary public health ~~and~~ preventive medicine and epidemiology knowledge and experience to those individuals preparing for a career in veterinary medicine.
2. Arrange and sponsor continuing education programs for those individuals engaged in the practice of veterinary public health and preventive medicine.
3. Identify and provide expertise to those individuals or groups that request assistance in developing educational programs in the veterinary public health and preventive medicine area.
4. The recruitment and maintenance of professional manpower in veterinary public health and preventive medicine.
5. Promote post-doctoral training programs for individual increased competence and/or specialty certification.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

The membership shall consist of persons actively engaged in teaching, research ~~and~~ or service in veterinary public health and preventive medicine in any of the following disciplines:

- Biostatistics
- Comparative Medicine
- Disease Control, Prevention, Eradication
- Economics
- Environmental & Occupational Health
- Epidemiology
- Food Hygiene and Food Safety
- Herd Health
- International Health
- Risk analysis
- Zoonoses

Regular membership shall be conferred by action of the Secretary-Treasurer upon receipt of application, which shall be submitted for review and approval by the Executive Committee, and dues payment for the current year.

All regular members shall have voting privileges in the Association, ~~with the additional requirement that veterinarians who are residents of the United States must be members of the American Veterinary Medical Association to have voting status.~~ (This requirement was originally established because ATVPHPM meetings were held in association with the AVMA meeting. It no longer seems well justified since we have our meeting at CRWAD and this restricts the number of voting members)

Honorary membership may be conferred on individuals who have distinguished themselves in the field of public health and preventive medicine and shall be on a dues free basis.

Corporate membership may be conferred by action of the secretary-treasurer upon receipt of application, which shall be submitted for review and approval by the Executive Committee and dues payment for the current year. This membership category is for individuals not actively involved in teaching, research or service in the above disciplines but who are interested in supporting the Association's mission.

Student membership shall be conferred by action of the secretary-treasurer upon receipt of application, which shall be submitted for review and approval by the Executive Committee and dues payment for the current year. A student may be in a graduate or professional veterinary curriculum.

Nominations shall be sent to the Executive Committee. Recommendations of the Executive Committee shall be made to the membership at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall consist of the following: President, President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer.

The officers and three elected members shall form the Executive Committee which shall be in charge of the administration of the affairs of the Association, including organization, planning, and preparation of meetings.

The officers and Executive Committee members shall be elected for a term of two years. The President, President-Elect, and one committee member shall be elected during one year while the Secretary-Treasurer and two committee members shall be elected in alternate years. The President-Elect shall succeed to the Presidency without ballot.

The President shall preside over all meetings, appoint all committees, and shall perform such duties as may properly devolve upon a presiding officer.

The President-Elect or the Secretary-Treasurer, in this order, shall preside in the temporary absence of the President and, when so acting, shall perform such duties as would otherwise devolve upon the President.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall record the proceedings of all meetings and shall present at each meeting a report of transactions of the previous meeting, shall handle all funds and collections, and shall pay all bills which the Association may owe. This officer shall maintain rolls of the membership and perform duties necessary to delinquency of payment of dues.

In the event that any officer should for any reason be unable to serve his full time in office, the nominating committee will be requested to select new candidates. His replacement, to fulfill the balance of his term, shall be elected by the membership at the earliest opportunity. In filling a vacated term of President for one year or less, the President-Elect will jointly fill the remaining term of office as President and his own term as President-Elect.

Newly elected officers shall assume the duties of their respective offices at the annual meeting as the last item of business.

ARTICLE V ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A nominating committee appointed by the President shall select nominees, who are willing to serve, from the membership of the Association.

Election shall take place by mail ballot prior to the annual meeting. The officers shall be elected by majority vote. Ballots will be mailed to members in good standing at least 90 days prior to the Annual meeting. To be counted, ballots should be returned to the Secretary-Treasurer at least 30 days before the meeting.

ARTICLE VI QUORUM

Members present at the meetings shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

A meeting of the Association, designated Annual Meeting, shall be held once annually at such time and place designated by the Association or by the Executive Committee.

Other meetings, designated special meetings or conferences, may be called by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail at all meetings of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII DUES

Annual dues shall be payable at the time of the annual meeting of the Association. The dues structure shall be recommended by the Executive Committee and any change approved by three-fourths (3/4) of the members voting in the annual election of officers. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify members by mail when such members are delinquent in payment of dues. Members two years in arrears in payment of dues shall be dropped from membership in the Association.

ARTICLE IX COMMUNICATION

The Newsletter of the Association shall serve as a medium of communication among the members of the Association. The President, or one whom he designates, shall have the responsibility for the accumulation, summarization and organization of material for the Newsletter.

ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments and By-laws to this Constitution shall be approved by the Executive Committee, published in the Newsletter and presented to the membership at least 30 days in advance of the annual meeting.

Amendments may be adopted by a vote of three-fourths of the quorum.

INTERNET RESOURCES

Merck Veterinary Manual on the Web

The Web version of the Merck Veterinary Manual is available free of charge at...

<http://www.merckvetmanual.com/>

The zoonoses table can be found by selecting the "Tables/Images" tab.

Animation of the Spread of West Nile Virus in Illinois in 2002

<http://maximus.cvm.uiuc.edu/wnv/maps/animation.mhtml>

This animation shows disease spread data for the West Nile virus in Illinois between May 2, 2002 and August 13, 2002. To start the animation, scroll down and click the Play button (>>). You may also use the single-frame toggle buttons (< and >), or select a different speed to run the animation.

Foodborne Disease Pathogen Modeling Program

The scientific discipline of Predictive Microbiology has gained an important role in food industries, regulatory agencies, and academia. Products of this field of research include mathematical models that estimate the behavior of microorganisms throughout the food system, including production and processing environments, and at retail and consumer levels. These models predict the effects of various intrinsic and extrinsic factors that can affect the growth, survival and inactivation of both pathogenic and spoilage organisms.

For more than 15 years, the US Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service Eastern Regional Research Center (ERRC) in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania

<http://www.arserrc.gov/cemmi/field.htm> has excelled in the development of mathematical models for foodborne bacterial pathogens. The USDA/ARS Pathogen Modeling Program (PMP)

<http://www.arserrc.gov/mfs/pathogen.htm> is one example of a software program which is highly utilized by the food industry to estimate pathogen behavior in food.

These models are designed as a research and instructional tool for estimating the effects of multiple variables on the growth, inactivation or survival of foodborne pathogens. Most of the models are based on extensive experimental data of microbial behavior in liquid microbiological media. Current models include:

- Growth Models for *Aeromonas hydrophila*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Clostridium perfringens*, *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella flexneri*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Yersinia enterocolitica*. Three new *Salmonella typhimurium* in Ground Chicken and BHI broth.
- Non-thermal inactivation/survival models for *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Salmonella* spp., and *Staphylococcus aureus*.
- Thermal inactivation models for *Clostridium botulinum*, *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 and *Listeria monocytogenes*.
- Gamma Irradiation models for *Salmonella typhimurium*, *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 and "Normal" flora in meats.
- Cooling/Growth models for *Clostridium botulinum* and *Clostridium perfringens* in simulated meat gravy, *Clostridium perfringens* in Cured Beef and Cured Chicken.
- Time-to-Toxigenesis model for *Clostridium botulinum* on fish.
- Time-to-Turbidity models for *Clostridium botulinum*.

NEWS & COMMENTARY

Massive Recall Results in Plea to Irradiate all Ground Beef

July 24, 2002
Meating Place
Bryan Salvage
www.meatingplace.com

In light of the latest recall of ground beef because of contamination by potentially lethal *E. coli* O157:H7 bacteria, scientists and physicians associated with the American Council on Science and Health urged consumers on July 22 to demand that such products be irradiated to prevent future illnesses. On July 19, the Agriculture Department expanded an earlier recall of ground meat products produced by ConAgra to include approximately 19 million pounds of ground beef products. To date, 19 people have reportedly become ill after consuming ground beef produced by ConAgra between April 12 and July 11.

While industry and government officials investigate the current situation and endeavor to prevent future occurrences of contamination, there is a simple solution ACSH says can help prevent consumer illness--irradiation. Irradiation of ground meat products kills bacteria without harming either the flavor or nutritive value of the meat, according to a news release.

Food processors, however, have been slow to adopt irradiation out of concerns about consumer acceptance. Yet, retail sales of irradiated beef have been widely accepted when consumers are informed of the product's improved safety profile, the news release added. "Consumers should be cooking ground meat products properly," said Dr. Ruth Kava, ACSH nutrition director. "That means, for example, cooking burgers until they're 160 degrees F." Dr. Elizabeth Whelan, ACSH president, added: "Consumers should be demanding that irradiation be added to the arsenal of techniques routinely used to safeguard our food supply." Persons interested in ACSH's booklet on food irradiation can log on to:
www.acsh.org/publications/booklets/irradiated.html

The American Council on Science and Health is a consumer education consortium concerned with a full spectrum of contemporary public health issues, including cigarette smoking, AIDS, alcohol consumption, nutrition, pharmaceutical safety, low-level radiation, biotechnology, food safety, pesticides, medical screening, health quackery and many other topics. The nucleus of ACSH is a board of 350 physicians,

scientists and policy advisors--experts in a wide variety of fields--who peer review the Council's reports. ACSH's top priority is to help Americans distinguish between real and hypothetical health risks.

On-Farm Testing for Pathogens on the Horizon

September 10, 2002
ARS News Service
Agricultural Research Service, USDA
www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/thelatest.htm

Researchers are creating a new system for rapid on-farm detection of pathogens. Such an achievement could usher in a new age of agricultural diagnostics, allowing the detection of tiny, potentially harmful organisms before they leave the farm and get into the food chain.

Agricultural Research Service scientist Michael Perdue and his Animal Waste Pathogen Laboratory team are collaborating with researchers at Idaho Technology, a company based in Salt Lake City, Utah, to design fluorescent probes and primers to identify specific genetic sequences in 30 to 45 minutes--far faster than is currently possible. Current culture techniques require 18 hours to several days to unequivocally identify pathogens in the laboratory.

The relatively new genetic analysis technique, called fluorescent real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR), is used with investigator-designed probes and primers to rapidly pinpoint short stretches of each pathogenic organism's genetic code. In addition to quick results, the detection system would be portable and could be brought to the farm or any other location.

Regulatory agencies, farmers, consumer groups and industry groups could all benefit from the nearly immediate assessment of the presence of pathogens in a number of settings, whereas previously, days could pass prior to identification.

Before this new age of detection can proceed, researchers have to evaluate a host of different primers, using real-life organic substances as test samples, to determine the usefulness of real-time fluorescence-based PCR machines. Researchers will analyze substances such as milk, soil, water and manure for the presence of pathogenic organisms like *Salmonella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *E. coli* O157:H7, hepatitis viruses (A and E), and bovine enteric viruses.

Faculty Position in Epidemiology and Food Safety

The Department of Clinical Sciences and the Animal Population Health Institute, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Colorado State University, are seeking applicants for a non-tenure, full-time position in veterinary epidemiology and food safety at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor.

Applicants should have an advanced degree related to veterinary epidemiology, and be knowledgeable of current food safety issues and North American livestock production systems. Applicants with knowledge and experience in beef feedlot production will be given preference. The successful candidate will spend a majority of time conducting research on food safety issues and beef feedlot production, and graduate student teaching in epidemiology and research methods.

Applicants should submit a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and letters from 3 individuals willing to serve as references to: Dr. Anthony P. Knight, Chair, Department of Clinical Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, 80523; phone 970-491-1274; fax 970-491-1275; email: Anthony.Knight@ColoState.EDU. Review of applicants will begin on December 1, 2002 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

Colorado State University is an AA/EO employer.

ISU Gains Key Food-Security Role

August 22, 2002
DesMoines Register
Anne Fitzgerald

Officials were cited as saying that a new center at Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in Ames should boost the nation's ability to combat agroterrorism and bioterrorism. The story says that ISU's Center for Food Security and Public Health will team with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta and will focus its efforts on threats to the nation's livestock herds and food supply.

The CDC provided \$1 million in federal funds to establish the ISU project, which is to be announced today. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the East Coast and subsequent anthrax scares prompted the college to create the center, said Jim Roth, an ISU professor of veterinary microbiology and preventive medicine. He will direct the center. The step is part of a national effort to fortify U.S. food security.

Since Sept. 11, Congress has appropriated \$64 million for sensitive diagnostic equipment at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's animal-disease center in Ames, which has a key role in the nation's disease-prevention system. In addition, more than \$43 million has been allocated to states and land-grant universities, including \$21 million for a national diagnostic laboratory network to aid in rapid response to an outbreak of high-risk agricultural pests or pathogens. Iowa is to receive \$1.5 million of that to improve its animal- and plant-disease detection and response systems; half of the money will go to the state diagnostics laboratory at ISU's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Roth was cited as saying that while other land-grant universities are beefing up anti-terrorism efforts, Iowa State's new initiative is one of a kind and the first to be linked to CDC, said. As part of its efforts to protect Americans' health, the CDC runs veterinary medicine programs, including the tracking of zoonotic diseases, or those that afflict both humans and animals. Many experts believe terrorists might try to spread those diseases in an attempt to disrupt the U.S. food system.

The ISU center's top priority will be to organize a national network of public health specialists that could be tapped by the CDC if such a public health emergency were to occur. In addition, the ISU center will: Establish a program to train veterinarians and animal owners across the country to raise awareness of zoonotic diseases. Convene two international scientific meetings to compare notes on research into vaccines needed to combat disease outbreaks, including a Sept. 16-18 meeting at Iowa State. Take a comprehensive look at threats to U.S. crop-based agriculture. Provide five graduate fellowships to veterinarians studying public health and infectious diseases at Iowa State.

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & COURSES

See the ATVPHPM Web site at <http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/> for the most current listings.

ATVPHPM Symposium: One Medicine for the Future

From: "Paul S. Morley" <Paul.Morley@ColoState.edu>

We are happy to announce that the Association of Teachers of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine (ATVPHPM) will sponsor a special symposium titled, "One Medicine for the Future" in conjunction with the 2002 Conference of Research Workers on Animal Diseases (CRWAD).

The symposium is intended to discuss the future of veterinary preventive medicine and epidemiology as they serve the health of all animals and man. It is being convened to honor Dr. Calvin Schwabe for his lifetime achievements and contributions to veterinary preventive medicine. This symposium will feature presentations by Drs. Margurite Pappaioanou, Mo Salman, Wayne

Martin and Lonnie King, and Dr. Schwabe will be the keynote speaker.

We hope that you will join us in honoring Dr. Schwabe at this special event! No registration or fees will be required to attend this symposium.

For additional information about this symposium please contact Dr. Paul Morley (Paul.Morley@Colostate.edu). For more information about the ATVPHPM please visit the association's web site

[<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm>]. Please visit the CRWAD website for more information about the conference, which is an exceptional showcase for veterinary epidemiology and preventive medicine, and other animal health related topics [<http://www.cvmbs.colostate.edu/microbiology/crwad/crwad.htm>]. Attendees should phone the Millennium Hotel directly in order to ensure that they receive the CRWAD hotel room rate (1-800-325-7353).

SUGGESTED READING

IOM Report on Zoonoses, Animal and Human Health

From: Sarah Lister <sarah.lister@APHA.ORG>

The long-awaited Institute of Medicine Report from their June 2000 workshop "The Emergence of Zoonotic Diseases: Understanding the Impact on Animal and Human Health" is available from IOM's "Recent Reports" page at:

<http://www.iom.edu/iom/iomhome.nsf/Pages/Recently+Released+Reports>

(See also: <http://www.nap.edu/books/0309083273/html/> for the full text of the report – Editor)

Core Functions and Capabilities of State Public Health Laboratories

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5114a1.htm>

A Report of the Association of Public Health Laboratories

SUMMARY: Emerging natural and man-made threats to the health of the nation's population require development of a seamless laboratory network to address preventable health risks; this can be achieved only by defining the role of public health laboratories in public and private laboratory service delivery. Establishing defined core functions and capabilities for state public health laboratories will provide a basis for assessing and improving quality laboratory activities. Defining public health laboratory functions in support of public health programs is the beginning of the process of developing performance standards for laboratories, against which state public health laboratories, and eventually local public health and clinical laboratories, will establish and implement best laboratory practices. Public health is changing, and as a part of that change, public health laboratories must advocate for and implement

improvements for public health testing and surveillance. These changes are outlined also in the Association of Public Health Laboratories consensus report (Association of Public Health Laboratories. Core functions and capabilities of state public health

laboratories: a white paper for use in understanding the role and value of public health laboratories in protecting our nation's health. Washington, DC: Association of Public Health Laboratories, 2000).

BALLOT

New Name for Our Organization

(see President's Message for additional information)

Select ONE choice below for the new name for our organization. Only members who are current in their dues payments (paid through 2002) are eligible to vote. Dues can be returned with the ballot or paid online through the ATVPHPM Web site (<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/>). The number (e.g. 00) in the lower right corner of the mailing label is the last year for which a dues payment has been recorded. Membership is \$20 annually and is payable on January 1 of each year.

Select one of the following three choices:

- Veterinary Population Health Association (VPHA)**
- Veterinary Epidemiology Association (VEA)**
- Association of Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (AVEPM)**

Please detach this page and return your completed ballot, postmarked no later than October 31, 2002, to:

Dr. Margaret R. Slater
Dept. of Veterinary Anatomy & Public Health
College of Veterinary Medicine
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Alternatively, you may email your vote to m Slater@cvm.tamu.edu
