AVEPM is committed to developing and fostering the academic base for veterinary epidemiology and preventive medicine

Visit the AVEPM Web site at...

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Important: Please take a moment to look at your mailing label on the envelope. The number (e.g. 03) 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 to AVEPM on January 1 of each year. If, for example, your dues payment year is indicated to be
02, then to become current you should remit two years dues or $40. The AVEPM Constitution and By-Laws require that
members two years in arrears in payment of dues shall be dropped from membership (Article VI)
ASSOCIATION NEWS

From the AVEPM Secretary-Treasurer

By unanimous vote Tom Wittum was elected president-elect and Gay Miller was elected board member. Congratulations to both!

I am happy to announce that the IRS has granted AVEPM 501(C)(3) tax exempt status as a public charity organization. This was after I applied for said status in June and responded to a subsequent letter that the IRS sent back requesting additional information. We had the same status when we were ATVPHPM so it is good to have that classification again.

James G. Thorne

Call for Nominations: 2005 Calvin W. Schwabe Award

The Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (AVEPM) is currently accepting nominations for the 2005 Schwabe Award. The Calvin W. Schwabe Award is presented annually by the AVEPM to honor lifetime achievement in veterinary epidemiology and preventive medicine. Previous recipients include Dr. Calvin W. Schwabe, and Dr. Robert K. Anderson. This award will be presented in November 2005 at the Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases (CRWAD) at a special symposium which features addresses by colleagues and protégés of the recipient in addition to a keynote address delivered by the awardee.!

We encourage you all to consider mentors that have been important to your careers, and to nominate them for this prestigious award. Nominators should submit a CV or resume for their nominee, in addition to a letter of support which discusses at length the reasons that this person is particularly worthy of this recognition. Application materials will be reviewed by a committee and the 2005 recipient will be selected based upon overall contributions to veterinary epidemiology and preventive medicine. There are no restrictions or requirements for nominees or nominators regarding their training, area of expertise, location of residence, affiliations, etc. (specifically, nominees and nominators are not required to be members of AVEPM).!

Applications must be received by November 1, 2004 in order to receive full consideration.!

Application materials or questions should be directed to Dr. Paul Morley by email or surface mail (see contact information below).

Paul S. Morley, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVIM
Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Biosecurity
Animal Population Health Institute
Campus Delivery 1681
Colorado State University
Ft. Collins, CO 80523

Phone: (970)491-7332
Fax: (970)491-2940
Email: Paul.Morley@ColoState.edu

How to Contact AVEPM

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

Dr. James Thorne, Secretary/Treasurer, AVEPM
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/avepm/

Newsletter items can be sent to:

Dr. Ronald D. Smith, Newsletter Editor, AVEPM UI
College of Veterinary Medicine
2001 South Lincoln Ave
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Phone: 217/333-3290
FAX: 217/244-7421
E-mail: rd-smith@uiuc.edu

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

http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/avepm/
Diseases transmissible from animals to man (zoonoses) are of significant public health importance, with major social and economic consequences. Over 60% of all agents pathogenic to man have animal reservoirs, and it is estimated that about 75% of new and emerging diseases are zoonotic. Such diseases may be transmitted through food or by direct contact with reservoirs in food-producing animals; consequently, they need to be addressed across the whole food chain. Research on zoonoses within Europe is currently highly fragmented, with operational divisions over all aspects (organisms, hosts, and routes of transmission), but the largest barriers are between the public health and veterinary researchers.

Such barriers have prevented an integrated approach to zoonoses research, and hinder progress towards zoonotic disease prevention and control. To address this problem, the European Union has recently funded a Network of Excellence, MED-VET-NET, which aims to integrate veterinary, medical and food scientists. MED-VET-NET comprises eight veterinary institutes and seven public health institutes in 10 countries (Table 1). These partner institutes have national reference laboratory-based responsibilities for the prevention and control of zoonoses. The network also employs a further partner, the Society for Applied Microbiology (http://www.sfam.org.uk/), to disseminate knowledge both within the network and to other stakeholders, including the general public. Over 300 key scientists, with complementary expertises and skills, are involved in the network. The combined research capabilities of these scientists have generated over 2700 peer-reviewed scientific publications in the past five years.

The management structure of the network is based on that of a ‘virtual institute’ and is designed to generate durable interactions between partners. A governing board, comprising director-level representatives, will take overall responsibility for strategic decisions enabling the sharing of the skills, facilities and expertise resources of all partners. In addition a coordinating forum, comprising senior scientific representatives of all partners, will formulate and implement the scientific research. Each partner institute has also established an internal team to ensure full involvement in the network. A project manager, based near London, will implement the management committee decisions and work closely with the partners and the individual scientists to ensure scientific integration. Administrative, financial and legal aspects of the project are the responsibility of the coordinator’s representative with an appointed administration bureau based in Paris.

Three overarching and organisational work packages have been established to manage and enable integration. This includes the development and implementation of a strategic scientific plan based around four thematic areas: epidemiology, host-microbe interaction, detection and control, and risk research. A recent meeting of 54 representative scientists from all partners initiated this process by reviewing the state of the art for these areas and highlighting knowledge gaps. An advisory panel of external international experts will monitor the future scientific direction. Integration will also involve structured and systematic communications, led by a professional science communicator, who will manage a communications group that is developing appropriate web-based and live-time communication systems. Communication to the general public is a major goal, and the public website will be continuously developed (http://www.medvetnet.org). This communications group will also train up to 10 young scientists in communication skills. These skills will be used to inform the media and advise governmental bodies and non-governmental organisations. Continuous professional development is a major component of the network integration process, and as part of this, a programme of workshops, exchange visits and training sessions will be established by a training subcommittee of the coordination forum.
Table 1. The MED-VET-NET partnership

1. Health Protection Agency (HFA)
2. Society for Applied Microbiology (SIAM)
3. Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA)
4. Danish Institute of Food and Veterinary Research (DIFV)
5. Statens Serum Institut (SSI)
6. French Food Safety Agency (AFSSA)
7. Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)
8. Veterinary Medical Research Institute (VMRI)
9. Italian National Institute of Health
10. Centrale Instituut voor Diergeneeskunde (CID)
11. Instituut voor Onderzoek in de Diergeneeskunde (IDO)
12. National Institute of Health Carlos III, National Centre of Microbiology
13. Complutense University Madrid (UCM)
14. National Veterinary Institute
15. National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
16. National Institute of Hygiene
Table 2. List of work packages in relation to activity area for the first 18 months

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<td>Non-scientific activities</td>
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<td>Risk research</td>
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Ridge, Veneman Mark Launch of Food and Ag Security Centers

July 6, 2004
CIDRAP News
Robert Roos

The launching of separate national research centers for food security and foreign animal diseases was hailed by Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge and Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman in a ceremony at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis today.

Ridge and Veneman came to Minneapolis to herald the establishment of the National Center for Food Protection and Defense, based at the University of Minnesota, and the National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense, based at Texas A&M University.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) plans to provide $15 million to the food protection center and $18 million to the animal disease center over the next 3 years. The grants were first announced in late April.

Ridge and Veneman described the grants as part of a comprehensive national strategy to strengthen the nation's defenses against terrorism. The launching "is one more example of a national coordinated effort integrating public, private, and academic sectors," said Ridge. "It's one more signal to the world of our resolve to defeat terrorism and become smarter, more sophisticated, and safer every day."

The two centers join another Homeland Security "Center of Excellence" already in operation: the Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events at the University of Southern California.

Ridge used the occasion to announce plans for a fourth DHS center of excellence. DHS is inviting applications for funding of a new center that "will focus on the behavioral and social aspects of terrorism and counterterrorism," he said. "It will study both the behavior of terrorists, as well as the social effects of terrorist threats and attacks on our population." He offered no details on the level of funding or timeline.

Veneman and Ridge addressed a crowd of dignitaries and reporters at the university's McNamara Alumni Center. Ridge called the food security center "the heart and soul of our efforts to protect America's food supply."

"Researchers here will partner with industry leaders to establish best practices to manage and respond to food contaminations whether they are intentional or naturally occurring," he said.

He said he and other federal officials had just been shown examples of some of the research projects that the new center will support. One was a portable device, for use by laboratories and first responders, that could potentially detect up to 96 food contaminants. Other projects include two computer systems for simulating attacks on the food supply and testing responses to them.

In discussing the animal disease center, Ridge said, "The Aggies will work closely with others in academia, industry, and government to address potential health risks such as foot-and-mouth disease and avian flu." In researching food-and-mouth disease, Texas A&M will collaborate with DHS's Plum Island Animal Disease Center, according to a DHS fact sheet.
Ridge asserted that all sectors of society must cooperate to boost the nation's security. "It's important to continue to note that homeland security is more than just a federal department with 180,000 employees. Ultimately homeland security is about the integration of an entire nation," he said.

Veneman talked about the Bush administration's overall efforts to improve food and agricultural security. She said President Bush signed a directive last January that sets forth a national strategy for food and agriculture, which includes the three centers of excellence launched so far.

"The administration has supported record funding levels for safeguarding animal and plant health and food safety," she said. "The president's budget for fiscal year 2005 includes $381 million for new food and agricultural defense initiatives as well as $60 million for BSE [bovine spongiform encephalopathy] or mad cow disease."

Veneman said the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) is increasing its research in security-related areas, including new vaccines and rapid diagnostic tests for a variety of animal diseases. The department's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has "set up a state-of-the-art emergency operations center in Riverdale, Maryland," she added.

Veneman also said, "We're in the process of establishing a national food and agricultural organization sector council . . . to expedite the communication of threat intelligence with key individuals in the private sector."

She used her talk as the occasion to announce that USDA is committing $100 million for emergency response services and equipment in rural areas. Under the plan, $1 of every $5 of fiscal 2004 funds for community facilities will be dedicated to emergency response services, according to a USDA news release.

A DHS fact sheet listed a number of other DHS and USDA initiatives related to food and agricultural biosecurity. Among them is "the National Consumer Complaint Monitoring System, a surveillance and sentinel system that monitors and tracks food-related consumer complaints 24/7 and serves as a real-time, early warning system of a potential attack on the food supply."

See also: Prepared text of speech by DHS Secretary Ridge

http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/speech/speech_0191.xml

July 6 USDA news release dealing with the food protection and animal disease centers and other issues (see last three paragraphs)

http://www.usda.gov/Newsroom/0276.04.html

Defending Against the Terrorist We Already Know

July 9, 2004
Meatableplace.com
Dan Murphy

In the wake of both world and domestic developments recently, one concept has crept toward the top of the management agenda.

No, not stock options.

I'm talking about security, or "biosecurity," as it's commonly called in the food industry.

Just yesterday, Tom Ridge, secretary of Homeland Security, called a news conference in Washington, D.C., to warn Americans of an "increased risk of terrorist attacks this summer." Ridge said that DHS has "credible evidence" that Al Qaeda plans to carry out a "large-scale attack to disrupt our democratic institutions."

Early speculation centered on the upcoming Republican and Democratic national conventions in New York City and Boston, respectively "two cities chillingly connected to the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

Against such a frightening scenario, Ridge reassured the nation that new "permanent protections" against terrorism are now in place and boasted about "unprecedented communication abilities" that recently have come online.

Since DHS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration have all issued new biosecurity guidelines aimed at addressing weaknesses in our food production system, it's only fair to ask: How well are meat, poultry and food processors armed with strengthened security and communications capabilities to prevent sabotage or foil any terrorist-type activities?

The answer, experts say, is not that great.

"When I go into plants to conduct training, I find that too many managers think, 'It can't happen here,'" says Mike Fagel, Ph.D., a long-time meat industry veteran who has pursued a parallel career in disaster planning and serves as a security expert in manufacturing and an expert consultant with DHS. "It's true that the bad guys aren't likely to walk into the plant wearing a backpack..."
marked 'POISON,' but that doesn't mean that even the most remote location couldn't be the target of anything from a disgruntled ex-employee to a true, highly trained terrorist."

The antidote to such thinking is development and implementation of a security program that focuses on the real traction points for food processors: Lockdown protocols, information sharing and crisis preparation, a sequence progressing from the practical to the probable to the possible ~ if unthinkable.

Here is a review of checkpoints within each of these areas:

Lockdown protocols

Most processors would argue, "We already have these kind of security procedures in place," and in fact, the meatpacking and poultry processing industries have one major advantage over other manufacturing sectors: They have long been targeted by animal rights and vegetarian extremists willing (and able) to attempt all sorts of violence and vandalism. Thus the basics of securing facilities and controlling personnel movement are already in place.

Moreover, the demands of even a nominal HACCP program require that many of the critical control points where product sabotage is likely to take place have already been analyzed and vetted for process control, if not hardened security.

But that shouldn't be cause for complacency. A majority of processors fail to make use of such tools as video surveillance, electronic ID badges and security audits to target vulnerabilities, and even those who do cannot always confirm that the less glamorous tactics are equally well-monitored.

"I have to ask managers, 'How often have you changed the locks? How frequently ~ and thoroughly ~ are you checking raw materials? Or packaging?'" Fagel says. "But focusing on the basics can be boring, and you need a top management mindset that communicates to everyone at the plant that security is a top priority."

Even when the proper emphasis is placed on constant security monitoring, it's useful to bring in experts to assess a facility's vulnerabilities as an investment in both operational and product integrity.

"Preemption is really the name of the game," says James E. Lukaszewski, principal of his own firm and a security consultant to the Fortune 500. "Companies have to get ahead of the problems by identifying vulnerabilities and training against scenarios in which someone tries to exploit those areas."

Lukaszewski stresses that a security audit, though hardly an event any CEO relishes, can provide invaluable guidance for even the more mundane problems, such as a fire or an ammonia leak or other limited disaster event.

But the planning cannot be limited to an internal process, which brings up the next area of attention.

Information sharing

When it involves those outside the plant, this aspect of security planning is often neglected, the experts point out. An optimal plan requires that both plant-level and senior management reach out to local and state law enforcement and emergency services personnel.

Such advice is commonsensical ~ and generally ignored by food industry managers busy trying to keep the wheels turning and the margins somewhere in sight. Too often, the focus of both corporate and small-business crisis planning is strictly internal. A committee is formed, key managers are identified and a manual is prepared and promptly filed away.

That's a start ~ but only a start.

Having names and numbers written down is great ~ if an event occurs during regular working hours, the personnel haven't changed since someone last updated the manual and everyone's in town and on duty that day. Such good fortune, of course, rarely happens, which is why we call it a disaster.

The experts now recommend that crisis communication information be stored and disseminated via handheld wireless PDAs, rather than having paper manuals and memos to distribute. That also allows another benefit in the event of an actual crisis or terrorist attack.

"The last thing you want in the initial stages of an event is a dozen people talking to each other on their cell phones or using the intercom function," explains Regis Becker, the global director of security and compliance at PPG Industries, who addressed a recent security planning conference. "PDAs cut down on phone traffic and keep the communications going in one direction. For all but the key people in a company, the goal is to stay off the phones and wait to be updated."

Who should be involved in an initiative to connect with emergency personnel before disaster strikes? "It should go right to the top," Fagel says. "You need the boss, the CEO, on board, because that sends the message to everyone else that properly preparing for an emergency ahead of time is truly a company-wide priority."
However, plant and operations managers need to interact with emergency officials to discuss the following:

Contact information for members of the crisis response team

The plant layout and location of utilities

Exits and evacuation routes

The plant's internal security procedures

One caution, Fagel suggests: In-house assessments of potential vulnerabilities remain internal. "If you discover certain weak spots, those are your own," he says. "Law enforcement or other emergency personnel can't be expected to understand how a food processing plant works, so controlling product and operational integrity is something management must address."

Which leads to the final area of concern.

Crisis preparation

Two elements stand out no matter what level a company decides to take its crisis and disaster planning to, the experts say. The first is the vital importance of what is called "victim management," or attending to those who may be hurt or killed in an attack or other violent incident.

"Dealing with the victims of a disaster is one of the most important functions a company must fulfill," Lukaszewski says. "For one thing, without victims, there really is no crisis. More importantly, no emergency can ever reach closure until the impact of the event on any victims is satisfactorily addressed."

Lukaszewski says all communications that deal with the victims of an incident need to stress concern, but also focus on immediate restitution and future prevention.

"People, and media, need to know that the victims will be taken care of and that the company is actively putting strategies in place to make sure no one else ever undergoes their pain and suffering," he says. "Without that assurance, most of the efforts to resolve the fallout of a disaster or an act of sabotage are useless."

The second aspect of importance involves actually doing disaster drills.

"What keeps the CEO up at night worrying about the consequences? That should be the focus of any type of crisis planning and actual disaster drilling," Lukaszewski says. "Few managers actually like spending time 'practicing' mock crises, but if they can relate to the impact of a potential event, that increases the chance that the drill will be taken seriously."

Lukaszewski raises an interesting sideline to top management's involvement in crisis planning, and that is the shifting of roles when necessary.

"No matter what the scenario, executives have to be prepped for their role in an actual event," he explains. "They're typically used to being in charge, but in a crisis involving terrorists or a sabotage of company products, the CEO is not going to be giving the orders. The incident commander is generally going to be a law enforcement official, and standing by while someone else directs operations is a role many top managers aren't well-prepared to play."

Which might be a fair summary of the impact of the whole security planning process in this new and on occasion terrifying age in which we live. But it's a role those in positions of industry leadership need to learn and embrace.

Dan Murphy is a freelance writer and former editor of MMT magazine based in the Pacific Northwest. His column, THE VOCAL POINT, appears in this space each Friday.

Agricultural Dept.'s Inspector General Calls Mad Cow Testing Plan Seriously Flawed

July 14, 2004
New York Times/AP

A harshly critical draft report by USDA's inspector general, released yesterday by Representative Henry A. Waxman, a California Democrat who has long been a critic of the department, was cited as saying that the Agriculture Department's new testing plan for mad cow disease, which calls for testing up to 220,000 cows by the end of 2005, is seriously flawed and will result in "questionable estimates" of the prevalence of the disease in the nation's cattle, and that the sampling that began June 1 was not random "because participation in the program is voluntary."

The report, which was to have been released today at a hearing of the House Committee on Government Reform, was further cited as saying that the department has fallen short of its own standards by failing to test all cattle condemned at slaughter with signs of brain disease, and it now lacks a credible plan for testing animals that die on farms.
The stories say that in a hastily arranged telephone news conference, Dr. Ron DeHaven, chief of the department’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, was cited as conceding yesterday that some criticisms were accurate for testing done through 2003, but added that the new testing program had changed substantially, and that the draft report reflected preparations as of mid-March, and his office is working with the inspector general's office and "implementing many recommendations made in this report."

For instance, he said, inspectors have been told to test all cattle condemned at slaughterhouses for any reason and "when in doubt, take a sample."

Still, he said, the department plans to continue concentrating on testing sick or dying animals, believing they are most at risk of the disease. About 70 percent of those tested since June, he said, are those that have died on farms or are received dead at rendering plants.

Dr. Peter Lurie, deputy director of health research for Public Citizen, a consumer group, was quoted as saying the report "documents that the surveillance program has been sloppily implemented in every possible way and has been oversold to reassure the public and the export market."

Michael Hansen, a scientist at Consumers Union, was cited as saying he was shocked to learn from the report that since 1989 hundreds of cows with signs of rabies that mimic mad cow symptoms were never tested for mad cow disease after testing negative for rabies, adding, "What was this program doing for its first 15 years?"

On the Net:
Agriculture Department: www.usda.gov
House Government Reform Committee: http://reform.house.gov

Veterinarians Support Food Safety

July 26, 2004
Lean Trimmings
Edited by Kiran Kernelu

Representatives from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners, American Association of Swine Veterinarians, Association of American Veterinary Colleges, Academy of Veterinary Consultants and American Veterinary Medical Association met in May to establish the Food Supply Veterinary Medicine Coalition (FSVMC), aimed at assuring the public that food continues to be abundant, safe and wholesome by ensuring that veterinarians are appropriately involved throughout the food supply system. The coalition's first project, slated for completion in summer 2005, is a comprehensive study addressing the demands for and availability of food supply veterinarians in the U.S. and Canada, Feedstuffs recently reported.

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & COURSES

See the AVEPM Web site at http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/avepm/ for details and the most current listings.

October 25-29 and November 29-December 3, 2004 – Animal Health Economics

A two-week-course in Animal Health Economics will be conducted 25-29 October and 29 November-3 December 2004 at The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL), Copenhagen, Denmark.

The detailed teaching schedule is available at http://kursus.kvl.dk/mvph (Click Modules and then Module 4)


The course is part of the curriculum for the program Master of Veterinary Public Health. You can attend single courses or the whole program; Further information and application form is found at http://uk.kvl.dk/continuing.

Further information about the course and enrolment in the course is also available from Jens Frederik Agger (jfa@kvl.dk) or Lisbet Vesterager Borge (lvb@kvl.dk).

November 14-16, 2004 - Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases

The CRWAD 2004 Program is available at: http://www.cvmbs.colostate.edu/microbiology/crwad/index.htm

Symposiums to be held at CRWAD Meeting:
SCHWABE SYMPOSIUM - 2004

“The Synergy of Science, Education, and Service”
A Symposium Honoring the Legacy of Robert K. Anderson

The Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (AVEPM) is pleased to announce the program for the 2004 Schwabe Symposium honoring the lifetime achievements of Dr. Robert K. Anderson. This symposium will be held in Chicago on November 14, 2004 at the Congress hotel, just prior to the opening of the Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases. No registration or fees are required to attend. Please make plans to join us for this important event. This Symposium is once again made possible by a generous donation from Bayer Animal Health.

12:30 pm  Introductory Remarks:

12:35 pm  Session 1:  
Population Health and Preventive Medicine: Essential Elements for Veterinary Education. Billy E. Hooper, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVP, Former Executive Director, American Association of Veterinary Veterinary Medical Colleges, retired veterinary college administrator.

1:15 pm  Session 2:  
The Interface of Pet Population Issues, Policy, and Epidemiology. Janet M. Scarlett, DVM, MPH, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology, Cornell University.

1:55 pm  Session 3:  
Contributions of Program Disease Control Efforts to the Advancement of Epidemiology. John B. Kaneene, DVM, MPH, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology; Director, Population Medicine Center, Michigan State University.

2:35 pm  Break and Refreshments

3:05 pm  Session 4:  
“The Future Ain’t What It Used To Be”: The Role of Veterinary Medicine in the Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases. Michael T. Osterholm, PhD, MPH, Professor, School of Public Health; Director, Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy; and Associate Director of the Department of Homeland Security National Center for Food Protection and Defense, University of Minnesota.

3:45 pm  Session 5, Keynote Address:  
Epidemiology as a Synergist for Science, Education, and Service. Robert K. Anderson, DVM, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Director of the Center to Study Human Animal Relationships and Environments, University of Minnesota.

4:40 pm  Panel Discussion

5:00 pm  Adjourn

6:00-8:00 pm  CRWAD Researchers Reception and Poster Viewing
The Calvin W. Schwabe Award for Lifetime Achievement in Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine

Sponsored by the American Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine.

The Calvin W. Schwabe Award is presented annually by the AVEPM to honor lifetime achievement in veterinary epidemiology and preventive medicine. This year’s honoree is Robert K. Anderson, DVM, DACVPM, DACVB. Dr. Anderson is Professor Emeritus at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Past Director of the Animal Behavior Service of the College of Veterinary Medicine, and is the current Director of the Center to Study Human Animal Relationships, all at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Anderson received his DVM degree from Colorado State University and worked in public health before joining the University of Minnesota where he became Professor in both the College of Veterinary Medicine and the School of Public Health. As Director of the Veterinary Public Health MPH program in the SPH he influenced the careers of generations of veterinarians working in public service. Dr. Anderson not only imparted knowledge of applied epidemiology and zoonoses, but also taught his students to think analytically. His usual response to an assertion by one of his students was “What’s your data base”? RK’s students always knew that their wellbeing and academic progress were his highest priorities. He made important contributions to the study of brucellosis early in his career, and his current focus is the human-animal bond. In 1975 he co-authored a sentinel research report commissioned by the NIH which documents "The Human Health Responsibilities of Veterinarians." This paper was the first official recognition of the triangular interrelationships among people, veterinarians, and their pets. He later became a co-founder of the Delta Society, the first professional, interdisciplinary organization to focus on the various aspects of the human-animal bond.

Currently Dr. Anderson owns an animal behavior consulting and referral practice to consult with veterinarians, trainers, dog owners and humane societies. He is a co-inventor of the Gentle Leader® headcollar for dogs, a humane training aid. In 2000 he was presented with the Waco Childers Award for Humane Ideals by the American Humane Association and in 1997 was honored with the Distinguished Service Award of the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association. For the past 6 years he served as a member of the Human Animal Bond Committee of the American Veterinary Medical Association. He is a lecturer and teacher for state, national and international meetings and author or co-author of more than 100 articles in scientific and professional publications and co-author of several books.

POSITIONS

Space does not permit a listing of the many opportunities for graduate study and employment. Please visit the AVEPM Web site at http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/avepm/ for the most current listings.

SUGGESTED READING

Ethics of Differences in Risk Perception and Views on Food Safety

July 2004
Food Protection Trends: Vol. 24, No. 7
Michiel Korthals
Wageningen University, The Netherlands, Hollandseweg 1, 6706 KN Wageningen
http://www.foodprotection.org/QuickLinks.htm

SUMMARY

Conventional risk analysis presupposes that uniform definitions of risks can be reached on the basis of scientific consensus; it does not take consumers, definitions of risks seriously. However, risk definitions can vary widely, depending on national cultures and their influence on scientific communities. In addition, risks must be accepted by members of society, both individually and jointly. The issue is then no longer one of costs and benefits, but of mutual respect of rights and of achieving trust and reasonable agreement among
members of society. In this paper the controversies between scientific and cultural risk perception will be considered, and the issue of the ethical acceptability of different risk definitions. A key element for consumers is trust in the authority that defines and sets out the risks for policy purposes, and trust is not upheld by dismissing their definitions as irrational. For consumers, but for scientists as well, cultural background, basic assumptions, expectations, and lifestyles play a major role here. Subsequently, the ethical legitimation of pluralism in risk perception is discussed. Consumers not only have money to buy products but hold varying views about freedom of food choice and diversity of the food supply. In democratic societies, legitimately developed risk definitions of consumers are entitled to recognition, and such definitions cannot be set aside by scientific, free-market, or utilitarian considerations (such as cost-benefit analyses prepared by others). Implications for risk assessment and risk communication are explained in detail.
BALLOT

Instructions and Biographical Sketches of Candidates for Fall 2004 AVEPM Elections

On the attached ballot, select ONE candidate for Secretary-Treasurer and TWO candidate for Member-at-Large. Only members who are current in their dues payments are eligible to vote. Dues can be returned with the ballot or paid online through the AVEPM Web site (see URL below). The number (e.g. 03) 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 annually and are payable on January 1 of each year. Online dues payment instructions and AVEPM Bylaws can be found at the AVEPM Web site at http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/avepm/

Candidate for Secretary Treasurer

Dr. James G. Thorne is the current AVEPM Secretary-Treasurer and is running for re-election.

Candidates for Member-at-Large

Paul S. Morley - Dr. Morley is an Associate Professor and active member of the Animal Population Health Institute at Colorado State University. He serves as Director of Biosecurity for the James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and has academic appointments in the Clinical Sciences Dept. and the Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences Dept in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. He teaches epidemiology and infection control in the undergraduate, veterinary, and graduate programs at CSU, and maintains an active research program. Major focuses for his professional and research activities include promoting solutions for biosecurity issues important to agriculture and veterinary medicine, identifying effective pre-harvest approaches for food-safety, and investigating the ecology of antimicrobial resistance in animals. Dr. Morley is an active member of several professional organizations, including the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, the Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, the Veterinary Infection Control Society, and the Academy of Veterinary Consultants. Dr. Morley served on the faculty at The Ohio State University for three years before joining the faculty at Colorado State University. He is a native of Nevada and received baccalaureate degrees and his veterinary medical degree from Washington State University. After graduating from WSU, he served as an intern and resident in the area of large animal internal medicine at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He received his doctorate from that institution studying the epidemiology of infectious respiratory disease in horses. He is also a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Dr. Morley is a recognized authority on epidemiology and infection control in animal populations and has consulted on infection control and biosecurity issues at several veterinary colleges in North America as well as for several intensive animal production facilities.

H. Morgan Scott - H. Morgan Scott DVM, PhD is a 1988 graduate veterinarian from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (Saskatchewan). He spent four years in food-animal practice in Alberta and then moved on to the Ontario Veterinary College to pursue graduate studies in ruminant health management and a PhD in veterinary epidemiology. He spent a year as a post-doctoral fellow in public health at the University of Alberta and another year in the Food Safety Division of Alberta Agriculture. He is presently an assistant professor of veterinary epidemiology at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University. His present research efforts include attempting to quantify transmission dynamics of antimicrobial resistance (AR) in an integrated population of animals and humans, identifying barriers and opportunities to prevent and mitigate against AR in production agriculture, and investigating the epidemiology of Johne's disease in dairy and beef cattle. He is also involved in research and programs pertaining to the vulnerability of agri-food production systems and biosecurity through the recently announced DHS Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Diseases Defence. He is interested in the full spectrum of epidemiological endeavors: from the molecular to the social, particularly as they pertain to many of the seemingly intractable scientific questions concerning public health risks related to pre-harvest food safety and agricultural production practices. He wishes to serve as an AVEPM director in order to continue promoting veterinary epidemiology and preventive medicine approaches to agricultural and public health problems to students, government and industry, and the public at large.
BALLOT - PLEASE SEND NO LATER THAN November 8, 2004

If you elect to vote by mail, please detach this page and return your completed vote, postmarked no later than November 8, 2004 to:

Dr. James Thorne  
Sec/Treas AVEPM  
3310 Cheavens Rd  
Columbia, MO 65201-9383

Alternatively, you may e-mail your vote to atvphpm@tranquility.net. Be sure to include all requested information. All emailed votes must be sent no later than November 8, 2004 to be valid.

From the AVEPM Bylaws <http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/avepm/Bylaws.html>:

The affairs of the Corporation, including organization, planning, meeting preparation, shall be managed, supervised, and controlled by a self-perpetuating Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect, the Secretary-Treasurer, and Three (3) members, all elected by the members...

Each director shall be elected for a term of two (2) years at the annual membership meeting. The President-Elect, and one member shall be elected in one year while the Secretary-Treasurer and two members shall be elected in the next year. The President-Elect shall succeed directly to the Presidency for the next year without election in that year.

Secretary-Treasurer (vote for one)
- James G. Thorne
- ___________________________ (write-in candidate)

Member-at-Large (vote for two)
- Paul S. Morley
- H. Morgan Scott
- ___________________________ (write-in candidate)

Additional Information Request
- I am current on my dues payment
- I am a member of the AVMA (only applies to U.S members who are veterinarians)