



Annual General Meeting 2020 of ECVCN members

Online via Zoom, 17/09/2020, 13:30h

The members of the European College of Veterinary and Comparative Nutrition were invited to take part in the Annual General Meeting scheduled on the 17th of September at 13:30, at the Zoom virtual room, to discuss the following points:

Overview 2019-now

Board update presented by Annette Liesegang

Financial report presented by Ronald Corbee

Committees reports:

- **Education committee report presented by Wendy Wambacq**
- **Credentials committee report presented by Stefanie Handl**
- **Exam committee report presented by Marianne Diez**

Other issues

The AGM was chaired by the Board, composed of the President (Annette Liesegang), the vice President (Anne Mösseler), the Secretary (Ana Lourenço), the Treasurer (Ronald J Corbee) and the Past President (Cecilia Vilaverde).

The presence of the members of the AGM was registered and reported by the Secretary in a list enclosed to this report. A total of 29 ECVCN members took part in the AGM2020

The President (A. Liesegang) opened the AGM and presented the following points:

- 1st point: **welcome to the new diplomats:** Angela Gimmel; Mareike Kölln; Nadine Passlack; Diana Vergnano; Christian Visscher
- 2nd point: **thanks to the members of all the college committee's (listed below) and to the intervenients in the Residency class:** Anne Mösseler (organization), residents and Supervisors (content and participation) and to Pat Harris (topic: senior horse) and Jürgen Zentek (topic: immunity and nutrition) for their excellent talks.

Committees			Board
Credentials	Education	Exam and ad hoc	
S. Handl	L. Colliard	M. Diez	A. Liesegang
A. Verbrugghe	N. Priymenko	E. Hagen-Plantinga	A. Mösseler
K. Gerstner	R. Ricci	L. Prola	A. Lourenço
J. Fritz	C. Bjornvad	M. Hervera	R. Corbee
M. Clauss	W. Wambacq		C. Villaverde

3rd point: **Presentation of the new board composition:**

President: A. Liesegang (2020-2023)

Past President: C. Villaverde (2020-2023)

Vice President: A. Mösseler Witte (2020-2023)
Secretary: A. Lourenco (2020-2023)
Treasurer: R. Corbee (2020-2023)

4th point: **Problems and concerns generated by COVID-19:**

- Assessment of problems and responses on on-going residency programs
- The concerns of EBVS on the previous point and on this year Exams
- This year ECVCN Exam will be postponed to December 2 and 3 and will be performed using Examsoft® an online tool. Marianne Diez (new exam committee chair) will be the superuser to this tool.
- Exam candidates that withdraw their application till 2 weeks prior to the 2020 Exam will not have to pay next time they apply to do the exam and this year will not count for the 8 yrs time length deadline to successfully get the diplomate status.

5th point: **Exam questions procedure:** it was put to discussion if making the exam questions in groups (tested this year) should be maintained or changed. It was also given to consideration that Ellen Kienzle, the administrator of the new method, should have someone else to help her.

About the experience till now

- The overall interventions pointed out their experience was positive. The main concerns were how to deal with the elements that are not contributing, the non-existing feedback on what were the results, i.e. this method allows to collect more questions? Better questions?

How to continue in the future:

- It would be welcome to have more feedback about the performance of the new method. It was agreed that the experiment should continue for one more year.

6th point: Call of attention for the fact that it is mandatory from EBVS **2 reference letters for re-certification.**

7th point: Information that the board is working in the **strategic plan** that is due in November this year.

8th point: The **ECVCN and ESVCN are working together to achieve common goals.** Namely support the residency class and the residents, besides to promote the specialty. With this goals **ESVCN offered space in their website to publish case reports from residents.**

The overall interventions agreed with the *benefits, namely:*

- 1 Promote the specialty
- 2 Help residents to train their skills in dealing with cases in practice and to prepare themselves to the Exam

Main concerns raised by interventions were:

1. Were these publications considered to be full papers for the credentials
2. All residents would have similar criteria in the judgment of their case reports whether submitted to credentials committee or to be published in ESVCN website.

The main concerns were addressed by Annette Liesegang, Britta Dobenecker and Stefanie Handl:

- 1 No, these publications are only considered to be case reports.
- 2 Yes, because the case reports should be submitted using the case report format endorsed by the credentials committee and the peer review of the

case reports submitted to ESVCN website will be done by 2 reviewers from ESVCN but includes also a member of the credentials committee

After the discussion, it was put to voting whether the publication of case reports from ECVCN residents should be put in practice. The proposal was approved with no votes against it.

9th point: The **Travel Grant for Externship was not active due to the COVID 19**. This grant of 500-1000 euro goal is to help residents visit different institutions and will be kept open to be used when the COVID situation allows it.

10th point: The **Sponsors of the College and the Residency class**. This year they were: Nestle Purina, Royal Canin, ESVCN and the Institute of Animal Nutrition, University of Zurich (with Zoom support).

The college is in negotiations with other companies for future sponsorship and it was suggested that Dechra would be approached by the secretary of the ECVCN in this regard.

11th point: **Overview on Residency class:**

- Organized by Anne Mösseler (vice-president)
- 36 attendees because Exam candidates joined.
- 9 case reports (1st and 2nd year residents)
- 3 reviews (3rd year resident)
- Guest speakers: Prof. Zentek, Dr. Harris
- Best case report (Diana Brozic: *Long-term enteral nutrition in a kitten*) and best review (Marco Fantinati: *Dietary copper*) awards (Purina Sponsorship) will be presented at ESVCN meeting.

12th point: **EBVS report strategy**. This year the meeting was held online in April 23-24. The main goals of the EBVS for the European specialists and the colleges for the period 2020-2025 are:

- Achieve Recognition
- Stimulate growth
- Promote the impact and influence of vet specialists
- Assure quality of training and support residents

To achieve this goals EBVS wants that the 5-year (2020-2025) strategic plan include strategies to **increase the number of specialists**, particularly in certain areas of Europe where they are currently under-represented. The **EBVS P&Ps state that “internationally recognized” colleagues are allowed to sit the college exam without undertaking a residency**. Thus, it is very **important that our college defines what we consider an “internationally recognized expert”**.

This issue raised some concerns and discussion but Cecilia Villaverde clarified that we can define in which areas we would like to have more specialists and when the residency is not a possibility because of location or lack of specialists in the field, we could evaluate the prior work experience, qualifications or training and attribute the **“internationally recognized expert”** status. The **“internationally recognized expert”** could then apply for the college exam without having to do the Residency.

The assembly was challenged to submit suggestions for the characterization of an “internationally recognized expert”

13th point: Overview Board: Future

- Develop strategic plan e.g. position statements (communication committee)
→ Annette Liesegang
- Separate website no longer with ESVCN – new!!
- Plan: common website under EBVS – hopefully launched December 2020 (delay due to Covid19)
- Focus on improving resident performance
 - Expand residency class to Monday afternoon for exam training
 - Support of residents in language
 - Support for supervisors
 - Email updates on new papers (e.g. every 3 months, rotation among diplomates)
 - Limit resident training if X latest candidates not successful?

14th point: Financial report was presented by Ronald Corbee

- According to our statutes year runs from January to January
 - Report per year
 - Send out invoice for membership in January
 - We need to vote on membership fee each year
 - We need to have 2 independent auditors to check the finances (Geert Janssens, Wendy Wambacq)

- ECVCN members

	2018	2019	2020
Active	34	38	39
Inactive	2	2	2
Retired	14	14	16
Associate	2	2	2
Total Dipl.	49	53	57

- Financial report

Start 1-1-2019	43174.07		Financial report	
IN			IN	
Member	3330		36 members	3420
Exam fees	2100		12 exam fees	3600
Regular sponsors	10000		Sponsors	10000
For ESVCN	150			
			Total	17020
OUT			OUT	
Bank costs	87.44		Bank costs	87.44
Board meetings	157.58		Board meetings	157.58
EBVS meetings	508.76		EBVS meetings	508.76
EBVS	2112		EBVS	2112
Insurance	1609.5		Insurance	1609.5
Exams	717.34		Exams	717.34
Website	363		Website	363

Residency class 2018	300			
			Total	5555.62
End 31-12-2019	52898.45			
			Result	11464.38
Total IN	15580			
Total OUT	5855.62		Bank account	
Balance	9724.38		1-1-2019	43174.07
			31-12-2019	52898.45

Remark: No one applied for travel grants in 2019

- **The statement of approval of the financial administration 2019 was presented signed by Geert Janssens and Wendy Wambacq**

- **2020 budget**

In			Out			
Membership 39x95		3705	EBVS	1184		
Sponsorship		10000	Bank costs	100		
Exam fees 12x300		3600	Insurance	1609,50		
			Board meetings	0		
			EBVS meetings	0		
			Exam costs	4000		
			Website	5000		
			Travel grants	0		
			Residency class	2500		
Total in		17305	Total out	14393,50	Result	2911,50

- **Considerations for 2020:**

- Virtual Exam
- Use of exam software by EBVS
- Probably investments for website starting in 2020, current website has to be online until December 2020
- Discount on EBVS fee, as we participate in website projec

➤ **Voting:**

- Remain membership fee at €95,= per year. Was approved unanimously.
- Vote for 2 independent auditors for next year: Geert Janssens and Wendy Wambacq

15th point: ECVCN Education and Residency Committee Annual Report was presented by Wendy Wambacq

➤ **Members**

Laurence Colliard (Chair)
Charlotte Bjørnvad
Nathalie Priymenko
Rebecca Ricci
Wendy Wambacq
Petra Wolf

➤ **Activity of the Committee in 2020**

Standard program reapproval:

- Turin
- Hanover

New residents (since Sept 2019):

- 6 Standard
- 2 Alternate

Pending dossier: none

➤ **Approval of residencies and programs**

8 residencies accepted

Padua_Gerardo Siani (alternate) and Giada Morelli
Zurich_Hans Opsomer
Ghent_Marie-Celine Hottat
Turin_Livio Penazzi
Hanover_Julia Hankel
Berlin_Panagiotis Xenoulis (alternate)
Guelph_Erico Ribeiro

➤ **Individual interviews with residents**

- Interviews will take place on 2nd half of October 2020
- Standardized questionnaires: on-going
 - To be finalized before this interview set
- Still chasing reports and document

➤ **Room for improvement**

- Delay between application and approval
 - Define a starting date process
 - To avoid painful and time-consuming backs and forth
- What can we do to stop chasing mandatory documents

16th point: ECVCN Credentials Committee Annual Report was presented by Stefanie Handl

➤ **Members**

Stefanie Handl (Chair)
Adronie Verbrugghe
Julia Fritz
Kersten Gerstner
Marcus Clauss

➤ **Adjustments to COVID19 situation**

- Due to COVID19, all deadlines were extended
- Exam candidates will be given the option (once, only this year) to withdraw from the exam without consequences - this year will not be counted in their record, and the exam fee will be kept for next year

➤ **Residents applications**

- **Internship Acknowledgements**

Applications received:

4 approved and applied for residency

1 still open

- **Exam applications**

- Re-take: received 5
all approved (2nd attempt:3, 3rd attempt: 1, 4th attempt: 1)
- New applications: received 7 (2 not approved last year)
Approved 3
Not approved 4 → publications missing!
All submitted shortly before March 1st
Despite repeated advice not to do so

➤ **Diplomates applications**

- **applications for re-certification**

4 recertified

1 still open

➤ **JAPAN ESVCN Supplement**

- We are providing our members the opportunity to showcase their brilliant work to the international scientific community in a special ESVCN supplement issue, to be published in JAPAN, at **no cost to individual members**.
- The ESVCN issue will be **free to view for everyone**, ensuring the widest possible dissemination of your research.
- We would welcome **original articles on hypothesis driven research projects, which were presented at the 23rd ESVCN congress in Turin in 2019**.
- The final deadline for submission is **30 September 2020**

➤ **Associate members**

- EBVS requires us to re-evaluate associate members
- Currently 2
- Will be done by Credentials Committee
- Same form as diplomate re-evaluation

➤ **Associate members**

- EBVS allows 10 % associate members
- since there are 41 diplomates → 4 associate members
- Please suggest associate members to Credentials Committee
 - Scientists who have contributed significantly to research in Veterinary and Comparative Nutrition
 - Admission criteria for Associate Members are defined by the Executive Committee of the College
 - have to be member of the ESVCN
 - are encouraged to participate in scientific meetings and workshops

- are encouraged to participate in the training of residents together with Diplomates
- are not allowed to hold office within the College or to vote at the AGM
- We will vote on them next year

➤ **Changes to P&Ps**

➤ **Qualifications to sit the ECVCN Certifying Exam:**

Two (2) accepted publications in the area of veterinary and comparative nutrition in an ISI listed refereed scientific journal

See: 2.6.2. Standard Residency Programme

➤ **Research Activities**

The Resident must use off-clinic time to complete a research project that contributes to the advancement of the discipline

The Resident's research must result in at least one (1) original scientific report in the area of veterinary and comparative nutrition published in an ISI listed international peer reviewed journal, with the Resident as the principal author.

It was asked to the assembly if this suggestion should become a proposal and the response was positive.

➤ **Points for doing reviews in re-certification?**

It was asked if the assembly if this suggestion should become a proposal and the response was positive.

18th point: ECVCN Exam Committee Annual Report was presented by Marianne Diez

➤ **Members**

Esther Plantinga

Marianne Diez

Liviana Prola

special guest: Ron Corbee

Marta Hervera – chair

➤ **Exam 2019**

➤ **Written**

○ **General:**

- 1st attempt candidates:4
- retaken:2

○ **Speciality:**

- Farm Animals: 2
- Companion Animals: 6 (1st attempt:4)

➤ **Oral:**

- 5 Companion Animals candidates (1st attempt:4)

➤ **1 New Diplomate**

➤ **Online Examination programme “Exam Soft”**

▪ **Create & Manage**

- Cloud-based question bank
- Unlimited item tagging
- Track all item & exam history
- Simple exam authoring
- Audience response/formative
- Summative
- OSCE/Clinical

- **Assess**
 - Exemplify Win, Mac & iPad
 - Unparalleled security
 - Offline testing
 - Flexible deployment
 - Auto identity-verification
 - Virtual test auditor
- **Feedback**
 - Instantly score objective exams
 - Item and assessment data
 - Adjust scoring
 - Measure learning outcomes
 - Provide student feedback
 - Longitudinal Reporting
- **EVBS economical offer for “Exam soft”**
 - Training of one college person as user
 - Yearly fees of software
 - Colleges would pay depending on the candidates number a fee of 43-65€/per candidate per exam
- **Exam Committee Members from 2020 on**

Marianne DIEZ (chair)
 Esther Plantinga
 Liviana Prola
 Marta Hervera
- **Exam 2020**
 - Planned to be done using ExamSoft due COVID 19 situation
 - December 2 (written: general & specialized) and 3 (oral part)
 - Candidates: 8 (3 new candidates, 5 retake)



The President
Annette Lisegang



The Executive Secretary
Ana Lourenço



Invitation General Assembly 2020
during ESVCN Congress online (Zoom link see below)
September 17th 2019, 13.30

Agenda

Welcome

Overview 2019-2020

Board update:

- Report from EBVS
- strategic plan
- meeting with ESVCN
- Grant for externship
- Contracts with Companies

financial report (Vote for new Auditors)

Vice president overview (Residency class goes online☺)

Committees report (Voting needed for changes)

Varia

Closing remarks

Zoom meeting invitation

Uhrzeit: 17.Sep.2020 01:30 PM Paris

Start Zoom-Meeting follow the link

<https://uzh.zoom.us/j/93313169936?pwd=ck5DalZoOU5tc2VNam8zRkxCcE1qQT09>

Meeting-ID: 933 1316 9936

Kenncode: 029334

Über SIP beitreten

93313169936@zoomcrc.com

Über H.323 beitreten

162.255.37.11 (USA

Westen)

162.255.36.11 (USA

Osten)

115.114.131.7 (Indien Mumbai)

115.114.115.7 (Indien Hyderabad)

213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam

Niederlande)

213.244.140.110 (Deutschland)

103.122.166.55 (Australien)

209.9.211.110 (Hongkong SAR)

64.211.144.160 (Brasilien)

69.174.57.160 (Kanada)

207.226.132.110 (Japan)

Kenncode: 029334

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