



Annual General Meeting 2021 of ECVCN members

Online via Zoom, 09/09/2021,
12h30CET

The members of the European College of Veterinary and Comparative Nutrition were invited to take part in the Annual General Meeting scheduled on the 09th of September at 12h30 CET, at a Zoom virtual room, to discuss the points of the Agenda enclosed to this report.

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 Villaverde).

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 30 ECVCN members took part in the AGM 2021.

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

1st point:

welcome to the new diplomats: Linda Boswald and Anna Lineva

Acknowledges 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 Josef Kamphues (topic: "nutrition of poultry – an overview" and "drinking water for companion and farm animals - what the nutritionist needs to know?"), Manphed Coenen (topic: "energy requirements in Horses with different metabolic effort") and Maria Pires (topic: "is the intestine a battlefield?") 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	M. Hervera	A. Lourenço
J. Fritz	C. Bjornvad		R. Corbee
M. Clauss	W. Wambacq		C. Villaverde

2nd point: **Approval of the minutes of the 2020 Virtual AGM:**

The minutes were approved with no votes against and abstentions from: Ellen Kienzle, Geraldine Blanchard, Marcus Clauss, Nathalie Priymenko, Petra Wolf and Rebecca Ricci because they were not present in the AGM 2020.

3rd point: Overview 2020-till present

ECVCN board update:

- **President**

➤ **Problems and concerns generated by COVID-19:**

- Just a brief reference to it related to Exam, the topic was presented later (see minutes below) by the Examination committee chair.

- Support of programs
- EBVS is also discussing the problems and how to solve them
- Exam date this year in November – online
- Problems with the exam in Australia/Newzealand are still to solve this year.

➤ **About the Exam on Examsoft**

- COVID19 – big challenge
- Exam in Munich under the supervision of Prof. G. Knubben
- Marianne Diez is our superuser
- The exam was hold with online tool from EBVS

➤ **The EBVS AGM was in April 21-22, 2021 virtual. The important points of their agenda fr the ECVCN were**

□ **The new Director of Education Role is Mark Bowen**

- Serve as a resource for colleges by providing technical input on the examination processes;
- Work with the various EBVS committees currently looking at different aspects of education and examination;
- Guide the transition to digital examinations using the EBVS ExamSoft;
- Exchange information and improve the body of knowledge for digital examination and associated improved quality assurance within EBVS;
- Provide resources, draft best practices and give webinars on popular topics;
- Establish a rapport and manage education related correspondence with colleges.

□ **EBVS Challenges and Opportunities of Examsoft**

- COVID
 - Remote in person invigilation
 - Willing volunteers
 - Recognition
 - Cancelled or rescheduled examinations
 - Recognition of impact
- New platform
 - Some initial challenges
 - One error in platform
 - Experience of legacy platform
- OPPORTUNITIES
 - Remote invigilation
 - Some problems remain
 - Local examination centres
 - Reduce costs and Carbon
 - Rubrics
 - Bring your own device
 - Candidate reports
 - Ability to create bespoke reports
 - Guide improvement

□ EBVS Voted on a paper called “extenuating circumstances document»

- to Illness, disability, caring responsibilities
- this will be available at the EBVS homepage
- Individuals (candidates etc) MUST
 - Raise claims with evidence of EPC in a timely (usually prospective manner)
 - Provide evidence to accompany claims that demonstrates impact

PRINCIPLES:

Colleges have a legal and moral obligation to consider EPC and implement reasonable adjustments/accommodations to progression criteria when these:

- are out of the individual's control
- have a demonstrably negative impact on the individual's ability to study or to undertake an activity
- are temporally related to an activity

EXCEPT where these fundamentally impact on the individual's ability to act as a veterinary specialist in their field.

□ EBVS Voted on several changes of words in the P&Ps

- Eg. First and last authorships are eligible for credits for an internationally recognized specialist.
- Future discussion is what is a working week? Definition will be discussed
- Discuss on the number of repetitions of the exams after how many years.....

□ Ronald asked to all members present to update their EBVS profile in the EBVS website.

➤ ECVCN Strategic Plan

Aim: The objective of the European College of Veterinary and Comparative Nutrition (ECVCN) is to advance the quality of animal health care in Europe by increasing the competency of those who are active in the field of veterinary nutrition.

Goals – how to get there?

The College e.g. make participation in the College easier by simplifying ECVCN's processes – be on board!

Residents e.g. create a network of residency training and research opportunities

Supervisors e.g. strengthen the support for the supervisors

Nutrition Veterinary Community

- Promote the value of the ECVCN Diploma
- Increase the visibility of the College (diplomates doing reviews case studies – for practitioners, webinars as a college. Promote to the universities, to the students, innovative.
- Workshops for local veterinarians as post-congress continuing education
- Increase attractiveness of ECVCN in countries with national specialty titles
- Integrate veterinarians from under-represented countries into ECVCN

➤ **ECVCN Goals 2021**

- Finish strategic plan e.g. position statements (communication committee)
→ Annette Liesegang
- Separate website no longer with ESVCN
→ common website under EBVS (Ron Corbee)
 - Focus on improving resident performance
 - ESVCN newsletter/website online will allow residents to publish case reports there too
 - Limit resident training if X latest candidates not successful?

➤ **ECVCN Website 2021-2022**

- ECVCN website is no longer with ESVCN, now is a common website under EBVS (Ron Corbee)
- Outreach committee to give input and update information from current website
- Input from board and committees
- Will have several connections with EBVS to avoid yearly reports and make 5-year reports easier

➤ **Elections 2021**

No elections for the board

BUT NEXT YEAR WE NEED NEW VICE PRESIDENT AND
TREASURER!!!

➤ **ECVCN Changes to the P&P's**

1st proposal was to include the new submission procedure of the Exam Questions by Diplomates.

The changes are as follows in blue:

5. ECVCN Diplomates

5.2. Submission of Exam Questions

The deadline for submitting questions is the 1st of March.

The diplomats can choose to send the questions individually or in a team. Each team is constituted by three (3) Diplomates.

The Diplomat informs in which modality (individually or as a team member) will submit questions by 1st of October. To fail to inform implies it will submit the questions individually.

Diplomates will be informed about their team members by 1st November.

Individual ECVCN Diplomates are obliged to send at least five (5) multiple choice questions (up to 5 answers with one correct answer) and one (1) essay question each year.

Each team is obliged to send in at least ten (10) multiple choice questions (up to 5 answers with one correct answer) and two (2) essay question each year.

All questions must be referenced....

The changes are as follows in blue:

6. Important Dates

6.2. For ECVCN Diplomates

Selection of Exam Questions modality (Individually or Team)	October 1st	✓ Chair Examination Committee ✓ CC: Executive secretary	Examination
Submission Exam Questions	March 1st	✓ Chair Examination Committee ✓ CC: Executive secretary	Examination

If approved, the ECVCN board also propose that these changes are immediately implemented

The proposal was approved with no votes against and no abstention.

2nd proposal was to include the review of articles for JAPAN in the ECVCN Re-certification Programme

The president of the board informed the audience that if the proposal was approved by the audience its implementation would be pending the EBVS approval. EBVS next meeting will take place in November.

The change would be to add an item to this table, namely: (in blue)

Policy and Procedures

5.3. Re-certification of ECVCN Diplomates

(In the table of ECVCN Re-certification Programme)

Review of JAPAN manuscripts (resubmissions do not count)	1point/review MAX 4 points/year MAX 10 points/5 years
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This proposal raised some discussion, the main points

- It was clarified that this proposal does not make the reviews mandatory to get recertification points. During the discussion it was suggested to be mandatory but this possibility was dismissed.
- The JAPAN is not in the top percentile of its group therefor should not have a preference treatment when compared with other Journals of the same group and better ranked. This led to the suggestion of extending the review points to other journals, which was well received, but the Board needs to receive an official proposal from at least one of the College members.
- It was reminded that JAPAN is the journal preferably linked to the College.
- Historical reasons link the college to JAPAN and to the society and this explains the proposal to get points for this journal reviews.
- The quality of the review will be considered to get points. Revisions of reviews do not count and low graded revisions also will not count.

- At the end of the discussion it was clear that this is just an opportunity to get points, there are many ways to get points and this suggestion doesn't diminish them.

The proposal was approved with 3 (three) votes against and 3 (three) abstentions

➤ **NEW to the P&P's**

- 2 reference letters are needed for recertification -this has been changed due to changes by EBVS

➤ **Travel Grant**

Will keep program open, send out reminders again – due to COVID 19 – at the moment unfortunately in hibernation

Grant for Externship

500 -1000 euro help for a resident to visit a different institution

Not possible at the moment.

Travel grant - money will be transferred to next year

➤ **Residents journal club**

Thanks to Jürgen Zentek☺

- Journal Club in Berlin open for all residents

➤ **Residency Class**

Thanks to sponsors! Thanks to Anne Mösseler☺

- Gold sponsor Nestle Purina
- Silver sponsor: Royal Canin
- Negotiations with others at the moment

Society (+ usually local organizing committee - not 2021)

Changes of mail addresses and so on – if residents stop – please report to Ana Lourenço <analou@utad.pt>

• **Vice-President- Residency class 2021**

▪ **was again virtual due to COVID**

ECVCN board decided to have a virtual residency class to have at least a digital meeting- to meet and to listen to presentations and to discuss and to allow residents to fulfill their credentials

Supported by the Institute of Animal Nutrition and Dietetics, Vetsuisse Faculty Zurich

▪ **40 Attendees**

- 28 Active residents (several just started)
- 7 Exam candidates (residency completed)
- 5 Guests

▪ **Speaker giving reviews – supporting the residency class**

3 guest speakers with 4 talks (each 1 hour)

- M. Pires
- *Is the intestine a battlefield ?*

- J. Kamphues
 - *Poultry Nutrition*
 - *Drinking Water*
- M. Coenen
 - *Energy Requirements of Horses*
- News from the Purina Institute
- **Presentations given by residents**
 - 6 Reviews (*this point was corrected during the presentation, it was wrong in the ppt*)
 - 25 minutes + 5 minutes for discussion
 - Insects in animal nutrition
 - Probiotics in animal health and nutrition
 - Role of Taurine in companion and farm animals
 - Nutritional health disorders in the captive giraffe
 - Cannaboids in animal nutrition
 - Nutrition in laboratory mice
 - 7 Case reports
 - 15 minutes + 5 minutes for discussion
- **Best Case report and Best Review awards sponsored by Purina Institut.**

Alessia Candeloni was the winner of the Best-case report
 Han Opsomer was the winner of the Best Review

• Treasurer Financial Report

□ Financial Report

Start 1-1-2020	52898.45	Financial report	
IN		IN	
Member	3610	38 members	3610
Exam fees	3600	12 exam fees	3600
Regular sponsors		Sponsors	0
For ESVCN	190		
Exam fees 2019	1500		
Total	8900	Total	7210
OUT		OUT	
Bank costs	53.51	Bank costs	53.51
Board meetings	0	Board meetings	0
EBVS meetings	0	EBVS meetings	0
EBVS	1184	EBVS	1184
Insurance	1609.5	Insurance	1609.5
Exams	0	Exams	0
Website	363	Website	363
ESVCN membership 2019	200		

ESVCN members and congress	140		
Total	3550.01	Total	3210.01
		Result	3999.99
Total IN	8900		
Total OUT	3550.01	Bank account	
Balance	5349.99	1-1-2020	52898.45
		31-12-2020	58248.44

- **The statement of approval of the financial administration 2020 was presented signed by Geert Janssens and Wendy Wambacq**
- **2021 budget**

Committees update:

• Education & Residency committee report Laurence Colliard

- **Members**
 - Laurence Colliard (Chair)
 - Charlotte Bjørnvad
 - Nathalie Priymenko
 - Rebecca Ricci
 - Wendy Wambacq
 - Petra Wolf
- **Activity of the Committee in 2020**
 - Standard program reapproval : None
 - On-going residents: 24
 - New residents (since Sept 2020):
 - 4 Standard
 - 2 Alternate
 - Pending dossier: none
 - (internship approval for Toulouse?)
- **Approval of residencies and programs**
 - 6 residencies accepted
 - Berlin_Johannes Schulze Holthausen
 - Munich_Carla Guiditta Vecchiato
 - Rostock_Carola Ellner
 - Turin_Andrea Giorgino (alternate)
 - Zurich_Annagret Lucke and Freya Moscoso
- **2022 residency program reapproval**
 - For:
 - Copenhagen
 - Ghent
 - Guelph
 - Munich
 - Utrecht
 - Toulouse

- **Individual interviews with residents**
 - Interviews 2020 took place in January 2021
 - 4 groups of interviewers (including one 1 with Stefanie for the last year residents)
 - 20 residents interviewed
 - First report based on interviewers comments and annual reports
 - The 2021 interviews will take place end of the year of beg next year
- A request to help to update to reduce number of emails and to keep to the deadlines

• **Credentials committee report Stefanie Handl**

➤ **Composition of the credentials committee**

A. Verbrugghe
J. Fritz
K. Gerstner
M. Clauss
S. Handl

➤ **Residents**

Internship Acknowledgement

- 10 Applications received
 - all approved
 - Alle starting Residency

Case reports

- 6 received
- Work in progress
- SOP will be developed

Exam applications

- Re-take: received 3 → all approved + 2 Australians
- 2 dropped out
- New applications: received 5 (2 not approved last year) → all approved

➤ **Diplomates**

4 applications for re-certification

- 3 fine & on time
- 1 very late and acceptable only after revision

➤ **ESVCN 2019 Supplement**

JAPAN-Nov-20-1117.R1 - Cannabis sativa co-products

JAPAN-Nov-20-1114 - insect meal in poultry

JAPAN-Nov-20-1115.R1 - rye in pigs

JAPAN-Nov-20-1072.R2 - Ecotrofin in goats

JAPAN-Sep-20-951.R1 - vit. E in ewes

JAPAN-Nov-20-1107.R2 - nutritional/environmental challenge in cows

JAPAN-Oct-20-1049.R1 - general practice obese dogs

JAPAN-Nov-20-1118.R2 - protein sources in dogs

JAPAN-Nov-20-1110.R1 - extrusion of cat diets

JAPAN-Oct-20-991.R2 - commercial diets for hedgehogs

➤ **Associate members**

After precious discussion in the AGM of 2020, Annette Zeyner was suggested as associate member and the Credentials committee review her resume and motivation and endorsed the proposal. This point was not voted because it raised discussion. The main points were:

- The board members were not informed of this point of the agenda.
- This point was not in the agenda send out for the membership
- It was concluded that it was not given enough time to evaluate the candidate CV nor a formal presentation of the candidate

The decision was to postpone the voting to give more time for Diplomates to evaluate the candidate.

• **Examination committee report Marianne Diez**

□ **Exams 2020**

- Organized on line on December 2 and 3 2020
- ExamSoft for written exams: 4 exams organized in Munchen for 4 German candidates (G. Knubben)
- Collaborate (on line) for oral exams (with 1 colleague on line as observer)
- 2 new ECVCN full members
 - Linda Boswald
 - Ana Lineva
- 2 Candidates in Australia
- There was an attempt to organize the exam in February with ECVIM
 - Impossible due to COVID restrictions
- Reported in 2021

□ **Exams 2021**

- 11 candidates (including 2 in AUS) – included new, retakes, ...
 - 6 different countries
- November 17: written/ Nov 18 (19): oral exams (7 in CA)
- Ex-com 2021
 - M.Diez, E. Plantinga, E. Valle, A. Gimmel
 - Meeting tomorrow to discuss the organization further
- Organization was discussed with the EBVS and the ECVCN board

Adapted schedule			
	Ontario	Europe	Melbourne
Candidates	3	6	2
Nb of locations	1	4 or 5	2
Local time		7	5:00 PM
		8	6:00 PM
Local time	3:00 AM	9	7:00 PM
	4:00 AM	10	8:00 PM
	5:00 AM	11	9:00 PM
	6:00 AM	12	10:00 PM
	7:00 AM	13	11:00 PM
	8:00 AM	14	12:00 PM
	9:00 AM	15	1:00 AM
	10:00 AM	16	2:00 AM
	11:00 AM	17	3:00 AM
	12	18	
	1:00 PM	19	
	2 exams	2 exams	
		9-12h (2 h between)	
		14-17h	

Conclusions

- Thanks to the board for helping to organize the exam in Munchen
- Good communication
- The « question committee » is very active
- ***Small remark : the Ex-com did receive few information about the candidates***
 - Species ? CA – Farm- Equine / Old email
 - Supervisor ? (necessary to organize the exam online in invigilated places/vet schools)

4th Point **Other issues**

- **BRAND NEW:**

Integrating the ACVN certification program into ACVIM → over a period of at least two to three years.

→ working assumption is that candidates of the Nutrition specialty would start taking the ACVIM general exam in 2023. Until that time, they would have a parallel eligibility path that would be satisfied by taking their current exam.

ACVIM would incorporate the existing ACVN rules and regulations into the 2022-2023 certification manual (CM). Those guidelines, which would be unchanged from current ACVN guidelines, would govern through the end of 2023. Therefore, residents who begin programs in 2022 would be able to start and finish their programs while governed by the same guidelines.

→ STILL needs to be voted on.

- **The 26th Congress of the ECVCN**

Will be organized by The Team of the Institute of Animal Nutrition and Dietetics invites you to Switzerland! 6th – 8th September 2022

- Acknowledgements to the College sponsors: Purina and Royal Canin



The President
Annette Liesegang



The Executive Secretary
Ana Lourenço



Annual General Meeting Invitation

Date: September 9, 2021 Time: 12h30 CET Location: <https://videoconf-colibri.zoom.us/j/88565207007>

Agenda

Welcome & Acknowledgments (President)

Approval of the minutes of the 2020 AGM Virtual (in attachment with presence list)

Overview 2020-till present

ECVCN board update:

- President
- Vice-President (residency class)
- Financial report (vote for auditors)

Committees update:

- Education & Residency committee report
- Credentials committee report
- Exam committee report

Other issues



Statement of approval of financial administration 2020

To whom it might concern:

We, **Wendy Wambacq** and **Geert Janssens** hereby declare

that we have checked the financial administration of ECVCN over the year 2020, and have discovered no abnormal transactions or other signs of misconduct. We therefore recommend the AGM to approve discharge of the Treasurer and the Executive committee for the financial administration for the year 2020

Name: Wendy Wambacq Date and place: June 30, 2021, Zingem, Belgium

Signature:

Name: Geert Janssens Date and place: June 10, 2021, Ghent, Belgium

Signature:

Presence List

First name	Last name	AGM 2021
Adronie	Verbrugghe	No
Ana	Lourenço	Yes
Angela	Gimmel	Yes
Anne	Moessler	Yes
Annette	Liesegang	Yes
Britta	Dobenecker	Yes
Cecilia	Villaverde Haro	Yes
Charlotte R.	Bjornvad	Yes
Christian	Visscher	Yes
Diana	Vergnano	Yes
Domenico	Bergero	No
Ellen	Kienzle	Yes
Emmanuella	Valle	Yes
Esther	Hagen-Plantinga	Yes
Francis	Enjalbert	Yes
Géraldine	Blanchard	Yes
Ilias	Kyriazakis	Yes
Josef	Kamphues	No
Julia	Fritz	Yes
Jürgen	Zentek	No
Kerstin	Gerstner	Yes
Laurence	Yaguiyan-Colliard	No
Liviana	Prola	No
Marcus	Clauss	Yes
Mareike	Kölln	Yes
Marianne	Diez	Yes
Marta	Hervera Abad	Yes
Myriam	Hesta	No
Nadine	Passlack	Yes
Nathalie	Priymenko	Yes
Patricia	Harris	Yes
Patrick	Nguyen	No
Petra	Wolf	Yes
Rebecca	Ricci	Yes
Ronald Jan	Corbee	Yes
Sarah	Sander	No
Stefanie	Handl	No
Veerle	Vandendrische	Yes
Vincent	Biourge	No
Wendy	Wambacq	Yes
Linda	Boswell	Yes