



Return to Minneapolis

The United States Animal Health Association is pleased to invite you to attend the 114th Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minn. Join our colleagues from the American Association of Laboratory Diagnosticians as we set forth on this year's annual meeting and all that it has to offer.

Many have wondered why November in Minnesota? Well, as you read this you might be avoiding sweltering summer heat, so look at it as a welcomed reprieve from that. Access to much of downtown Minneapolis has enclosed walkways, making navigation fairly easy. And snow? They're used to dealing with it up there, so if you're not, the resident experts will take care of you. This is the same facility as the 2006 meeting.

The 2010 Annual Meeting will prove to be an interesting and insightful meeting. The USAHA/AAVLD

Joint Plenary Session will feature "One Health: One-Way Street or Are There Opportunities for Animal Agriculture?" The topic has gained increasing awareness in recent years, but many questions still lie around the directions and partnerships that must be developed as we observe more emerging zoonoses, increase scrutiny on public health and the importance of veterinary medicine in the global health spectrum.

The session will feature a broad range of health experts from both human and veterinary medicine, and address the perceptions and roles from both disciplines as it impacts animal agriculture. Dr. Lonnie King, Dean of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine will serve as the moderator for this insightful session.

"As we prepared this session, we realized that the timing was ripe for USAHA and AAVLD to become more engaged in the One Health discussion," says Dr. Steve Halstead, USAHA President Elect, Michigan State Veterinarian and co-chair of the program. "This is an opportunity for our members to come together and engage in an issue that, for all the discussion it generates, has not been

clear in its objectives and its application to our day-to-day work."

Speakers include:

- Lisa Conti, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, CEHP (Director, Division of Environmental Health, Florida Dept. of Health and Co-Author of Human-Animal Medicine, Clinical Approaches to Zoonoses, Toxicants and Other Shared Health Risks.

- Gary Simpson, MD, College Master and Professor of Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease, Departments of Medical Education and Internal Medicine, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso, TX

- Mark Engle, DVM, Director, Health and Transportation, PIC North America

- Katey Pelican, DVM, Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota

- Mo Salman, BVMS, PhD, Colorado State University Professor of Epidemiology

- James Hughes, MD, FACP, FIDSA (Professor of Medicine and Public Health Emory University with over 30 years experience at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Infectious Disease Unit.

"The concept of One Health is very far-reaching, and in reality has been a big part of veterinary medicine since its inception," said Dr. Craig Carter, University of Kentucky who serves as AAVLD President Elect and co-chair



Minneapolis Hilton Hotel

courtesy Meet Minneapolis

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USAHA President's Remarks



As I write these comments in mid August, it has been a very busy year, yet many activities are yet to unfold as we approach our November meeting in Minneapolis. This year has been especially rewarding to me because of the cohesiveness and support of our Executive Committee and professional staff at USAHA. Any time we have had an issue to address or work to be done, I was blessed by being surrounded by professionals that were quick to volunteer, and with a breadth of expertise to get the job done. In addition, on many occasions, we called upon a committee leader for advice, to participate in a conference call or to draft a letter. Time after time, the strength of leadership of this great organization was clearly demonstrated.

I very much appreciated the opportunity to attend three of the four District Meetings this year – and my apologies to the Southern District for not being able to make their Atlanta meeting. These meetings began in Reno at the Western States/Western District meeting, then on to Saratoga Springs to attend the Northeast District Meeting. I took the opportunity when traveling to New York, to go early and take past president Don Lein up on a long-standing offer to see Upstate New York and to taste some of the fine wines of the Finger Lakes Region. Don was a gracious host as we “ate and drank” our way across this beautiful state. I would also like to give special thanks to Dr. Dennis Hughes and the North Central District for allowing the Executive Committee to hold our Summer Meeting in conjunction with their meeting in Omaha, Nebraska in June, and for hosting the members of the Executive Committee that stayed on to attend their meeting.

We continue to make very good progress in carrying out the organizational goals developed in the 2008 Strategic Operational Plan. As a key

component of our goal to Enhance Member Services, we conducted a member survey in April. The interest in the organizations was evident by a very impressive response rate from 25% of our members – and thanks to all of you that participated. We will be providing a summary of the survey results at our Membership Meeting in Minneapolis, but the Executive Committee was pleased that the responses largely validated the goals identified in the Strategic Plan.

As I stated in my remarks in San Diego, our Committees are the core of our organization, and our committee leaders are the lynch pins. Another priority goal from the Strategic Plan is to Improve Committee Effectiveness – to give our committee leaders the support and tools they need to achieve the highest level of success. Following our meeting in San Diego, I appointed Drs. David Marshall and Steve Halstead to Co-Chair a Committee Effective Task Force and solicited several additional members to serve. This Task Force is doing an excellent job and will deliver a final set of recommendations prior to our upcoming meeting.

I know I speak for all of the Executive Committee in thanking Ben Richey and Kelly Janicek for another outstanding year. I had the opportunity to stop by our new office in St. Joseph in May for the first time and am pleased with the office and the location, which is in the Christopher “Kit” Bond Science and Technology Incubator, on the campus of Missouri Western State University. I encourage all of you to stop in if in the area and say hello to Ben and Kelly.

By the time this Newsletter is in print, we will have hosted another Topic-Specific Symposium – another of our operational goals. There is no topic more important – or more

controversial – than animal identification. In partnering with the National Institute for Animal Agriculture to host the Joint Strategy Forum on Animal Disease Traceability, our goal is to advance traceability efforts by bringing together industry representatives and USDA with the majority of state animal health officials. My special thanks to Dr. Bill Hartman for serving as our Co-Chair for this forum. As the language for the USDA rule is close to completion, this forum should serve as a final vetting for concerns and recommendations.

My year as President is rapidly passing and I can say without hesitation that it has been the highlight of my career. Thank you to all of our members for this opportunity to serve and I look forward to seeing all of you in Minneapolis. □

2009-2010 USAHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Richard Breitmeyer, President
California Dept. of Food and Agriculture

Steven Halstead, President-Elect
Michigan Dept. of Agriculture

David Marshall, 1st Vice President
North Carolina Dept. of Agriculture

David Meeker, 2nd Vice President
National Renderers Association

Stephen Crwaford, 3rd Vice President
New Hampshire Dept. of Agriculture

William Hartmann, Treasurer
Minnesota Board of Animal Health

Donald Hoenig, Immediate Past President
Maine Dept. of Agriculture

A Word from AAVLD

It has been a privilege to serve as the AAVLD president, and it won't be long before we will be in Minneapolis passing the gavel to President-elect, Dr. Craig Carter. I invite each of you to Minneapolis for the annual USAHA/AAVLD meeting. Scientific program co-chairs, Drs. Carter and Halstead and the program committees have planned an excellent program. One Health will dominate both plenary sessions, with an objective of helping us determine our roles as veterinarians, diagnosticians and animal health officials in the One Health Initiative. I anticipate forward progress in our continuing need of understanding the Initiative and assisting in determining how to practically apply it within our widely varying disciplines and areas of expertise. In addition to the plenary sessions, there will be over 180 presentations and posters included in the scientific sessions, as well as presentations in various committees... certainly plenty of information and opportunity to juggle your busy schedule!

For comments on this newsletter, please e-mail:
usaha@usaha.org.
 ☎816-671-1144

Our sponsors and exhibitors are crucial to the success of our meetings, and I am pleased with the work of a task force representing USAHA, AAVLD and exhibitors/sponsors earlier this year. You will definitely notice changes in the overall format – scientific sessions will be staggered on Sunday, the exhibit area will be open longer, food will be available throughout the exhibit area, and exhibitors/sponsors will be highlighting products and technologies via formal presentations. The goal is to increase quality and quantity of time between attendees and exhibitors/sponsors. We hope these changes will be positive for everyone; however, we recognize it's pretty tough to get it right the first time, so we will welcome and appreciate your feedback after the meeting.

It has been a real pleasure to serve with Dr. Rich Breitmeyer and the entire USAHA Executive Committee this past year. There continues to be much benefit in working together as individual members and also as associations. After being in this position, it is easy to see the wisdom of our organizational leadership so many years ago when they decided to work together. I have

Gary Anderson



no doubt there is much to gain by thoughtfully pursuing and expanding the good working relationships we already enjoy between AAVLD and USAHA. I applaud and encourage the strong committee work being done in both associations – the more we can do jointly, the greater the gain will be. Our members and other stakeholders will surely benefit from relationships that are collegial, purposeful and built on mutual trust and respect. I look forward to future progress and outcomes that will come from our two associations working together well.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve, and I hope to see you in Minneapolis! ■



From the Executive Director

The summer of 2010 **Ben Richey** has proved to be a busy one, as a combination of work on some key strategic plan items, preparing for the Joint Strategy Forum for Animal Disease Traceability with NIAA, preparations for the 114th Annual Meeting, and the day-to-day business of the association. Needless to say there's not a boring day at USAHA.

The membership survey done earlier this year has been a valuable tool in providing support and direction for the Executive Committee and I was quite

pleased with the responses we received.

There are some exciting projects underway within the organization. The Committee Effectiveness Task Force has provided some excellent input on our committee processes, and I look forward to implementing the collaborative recommendations of that group.

Additionally, we are working through reevaluating and renewing the web site, www.usaha.org, which will give us some added capabilities and service to the members. We are also launching a project to digitally archive

the past proceedings of USAHA and the U.S. Livestock Sanitary Association, which will be made available online. Considered by some to be the nation's oldest and most comprehensive history of animal health, this will give access to all interested in referring to the past work of the association.

While the Annual Meeting is a bit later this year, we see that many of you are beginning to make your plans. Kelly, Linda and I look forward to seeing everyone there. In the mean time, let us know if you need assistance. ■

2010 USAHA/AAVLD Joint Plenary Session

One Health: One-Way Street or Are There Opportunities for Animal Agriculture? **Monday, November 15**

7:50 a.m. Welcome

Steve Halstead, DVM, USAHA President-Elect - Program Co-Chair;

Moderator: Lonnie King, DVM, MS, MPA, ACVPM, Dean of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine

8:00 Keynote. One Medicine - It's All Herd Health

Lisa Conti, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, CEHP, Director, Division of Environmental Health, Florida Dept. of Health and Co-Author, *Human-Animal Medicine, Clinical Approaches to Zoonoses, Toxicants and Other Shared Health Risks*

8:30 Emerging Infectious Diseases: The Case for Integrating Science, Medicine and Public Health

Gary Simpson, MD, College Master and Professor of Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease, Departments of Medical Education and Internal Medicine, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso, TX

9:00 Producer perspective on One Health: What are the Implications of Being a One Health Partner?

Mark Engle, DVM, Director, Health and Transportation, PIC North America

9:30 Break

10:00 One Health and the Environment: Improving Health in a Wicked World

Katey Pelican, DVM, Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota; Current principle investigator on a USAID One Health Grant

10:30 Global Perspective of One Health: Are We in Animal Agriculture Missing Opportunities?

Mo Salman, BVMS, PhD, Colorado State University Professor of Epidemiology

11:00 Emerging Microbial Threats: Challenges and Opportunities at the Human-Animal-Ecosystem Interface

James Hughes, MD, FACP, FIDSA, Professor of Medicine and Public Health Emory University; and former Director of the National Center for Infectious Diseases at CDC

11:30 One Health Discussion/Q&A, Panel of speakers

Lonnie King, Moderator

Other Notable Events...

AAVLD Member Reception and Auction - Friday, Nov. 12, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Salon D

AAVLD Plenary Session - Saturday, Nov. 13, 8:00-11:15 a.m., Salon AB

USAHA All-Districts Breakfast - Sunday, Nov. 14, 7:00 a.m., Salon D

USAHA/AAVLD President's Reception and Dinner - Sunday, Nov. 14, 6:00 p.m., Salon ABCD

USAHA Membership Meetings - Monday, Nov. 15, 12:00 p.m., Salon EF

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2:00 p.m., Salon C

Register Today for the 2010 Annual Meeting

Attendees can register online at www.usaha.org!

Member registration fees for USAHA, AAVLD or both are \$250.00; Non-member fees are \$425.00. One- and Two-Day options are also available, as well as student registrations.

Pre-registration ends October 22! Fees will increase after this date, so please be sure to get your registrations sent in early.

Renew your USAHA or AAVLD Dues with your registration, simply check the appropriate boxes for your membership renewal of 2011 dues.

Not a member of USAHA or AAVLD? If you join either or both organizations with your registration, you'll receive the member discount for the 2010 meeting with your 2011 Annual Dues.

Host Hotel

Minneapolis Hilton Hotel
1001 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612-376-1000 (direct)
1-800-HILTON

USAHA/AAVLD have reserved a block of rooms at 137.00/night plus tax, single/double occupancy.

Online Reservations can be made at: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/MSPMH-HH-UAH-20101109/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.

To make your reservation by phone, call 1-800-HILTON. Be sure to reference group code "UAH" when making your hotel reservation.

Minneapolis (continued)

for the session. "We are at a time where zoonoses are on the rise, and veterinarians are positioned well as experts in this area, ultimately benefitting both humans and animals as the One Health concept evolves."

Additionally, AAVLD will feature "One Health: Opportunities for Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories" for its plenary session on Saturday, November 13, featuring Dr. Peter Rabionowitz as the keynote speaker.

USAHA will again have a robust committee schedule of its 32 species- and topic-based committees. A complete schedule is available at usaha.org,

with detailed agendas posted as they become available from the Committees.

AAVLD will host its scientific sessions on Saturday and Sunday of the meeting, as well as the Poster Session that will be open for viewing.

USAHA is proud to remain a premier forum for animal health in the U.S., offering unique interaction between regulators, producers, veterinarians, scientists and international leaders in animal health. Make your plans to attend today. ■

About the Twin Cities

The greater Minneapolis-St. Paul area boasts a population of more than 3 million residents, making it the 16th largest city in the U.S. This affords the area the opportunity to offer a wide variety of activities for visitors. The Minneapolis Hilton is connected by a series of skywalks, allowing you to navigate the area in the climate controlled areas. The skywalks offer a number of dining, shopping and services within walking distance of the Hilton. A light rail is also available for other destinations of interest.

The Mall of America is a short drive from the Hotel, noted as one of the largest malls in the U.S., with 520 stores, 50 restaurants and an indoor theme park.

The Science Museum of Minnesota, overlooking the Mississippi River offers a number of permanent exhibits and traveling exhibits.

Minneapolis has a number of art and theater venues available for your

entertainment as well.

For more details on attractions, go to <http://www.minneapolis.org/>. ■

QUICK FACT: The average temperatures in Minneapolis for November are 40° F (high) and 25° F (low).



Minneapolis is recognized for its attractions related to the arts. (courtesy Meet Minneapolis)

Report on the 78th Annual Meeting of the OIE

The 78th General Session of the OIE convened May 23-28, 2010 in Paris, France. United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) President-Elect Steven Halstead attended the meeting, representing the organization as a guest of the U.S. delegation. OIE is comprised of 176 member countries, and serves as the standard-setting body for animal health, as recognized by the World Trade Organization. The OIE develops and establishes the health standards for the safe trade of animals and animal product, and makes recommendations for the overall well-being of animals.

The U.S. Delegation includes Dr. John Clifford, OIE Delegate and Deputy Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS); Dr. Michael David, Director, National Center for Import and Export (NCIE), APHIS, VS; and Dr. Antonio Arroyave, APHIS Attaché, International Services, Austria. Along with Halstead, guests of the delegation included: Dr. Craig Carter, President-Elect, American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians; Dr. Paul Sundberg, Vice President of Science and Technology, National Pork Board; Dr. Elizabeth Parker, Chief Veterinarian, National Cattlemen's and Beef Association; and Dr. Elizabeth Sabin, Assistant Director, Education and Research Division, American Veterinary Medical Association.

"USAHA is fortunate to have the opportunity to observe at the OIE General Session. On behalf of this Organization, thank you to USDA-APHIS for the invitation," says Dr. Halstead, who serves as the State Veterinarian of Michigan. "The OIE experience

is truly eye-opening, providing a unique opportunity to understand and appreciate these substantial efforts for animal health on an international scale."



High level authorities, including Princess Haya Bint El Hussein of Jordan, and Ministers of Agriculture of OIE Members attended the opening ceremonies. The Ministers and special guests provided some opening remarks, welcomed Member country delegates and wished them all a productive session.

The President of the World Assembly, Dr. Carlos Correa Messuti, welcomed OIE Members and outlined for them the broader scope of activities which the OIE has embraced in the context of climate change, globalization, consumer demand for safe and secure food, and the impact of livestock and production systems on the environment. He stressed the importance of the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) as a tool to facilitate the continued transparency of the world animal health situation, highlighted the OIE as a driver for economic development and food security, particularly for countries that have developing economies, and reminded delegates of the continued and growing role of the OIE in helping Members establish and improve their veterinary infrastructures.

At this year's Session, delegates adopted a 5th Strategic Plan for pursuing OIE global missions in animal health and welfare. The Plan sets direction for 2011-2015. Highlights of the plan include:

- More activities directed to food security, poverty alleviation and animal health and veterinary public health;
- More focus on the "One Health"

concept and other matters of cooperation with partner organizations;

- The impact of climate and environmental changes on animal disease emergence and occurrence as well as the impact of animal production on climate change.

The Plan also provides for continuation of previous plans and work of the OIE, such as:

- Communicating international animal disease and zoonoses information globally;
- Development and implementation of scientifically-based standards and guidelines;
- Prevention, control and eradication methods of animal diseases including zoonoses;
- Compliance with the Good Governance concepts and capacity building for national Veterinary Services;
- Strengthening the Organization's influence on policy design, applied research and governance;
- Communicating OIE information.

The Assembly addressed the worldwide animal health situation regarding 118 diseases of terrestrial and aquatic animals. Two key items deliberated include the private sector's point of view on the use of public and private standards, and the economic aspects of veterinary services. Delegates also approved the new list of countries and zones that had applied for official OIE recognition for their status within four priority diseases, including bovine spongiform encephalopathy, foot-and-mouth disease, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and rinderpest. More information on these listings can be found at www.oie.int.

OIE also noted its goal to declare

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In the News...

NAVMEC Meeting yields recommendations on "Next Generation" Veterinary Medical Education

The final of three national meetings to discuss the future of veterinary medical education concluded this summer after three days of presentations and discussions about licensing, testing, accreditation and implementation. The North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium, or NAVMEC, was launched by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) in collaboration with its partners in 2009 to ensure that veterinary medical education meets the changing needs of society.

During the first two national meetings, participants discussed changing societal needs and professional competencies and developed nine different veterinary medical education models. The third and final national meeting last week synthesized the information from the first two meetings in the context of moving forward with recommendations to AAVMC for an implementation phase of NAVMEC.

The NAVMEC Board of Directors will be taking the discussions and findings from all three meetings to produce a roadmap for veterinary medical education that is flexible and that builds on the strengths of U.S. and Canadian Colleges of Veterinary Medicine. The comprehensive outcomes report and executive summary from the final meeting will be available upon review and approval by the NAVMEC Board of Directors and will be available at www.navmec.org. The outcomes reports and executive summaries from the first and second meetings are already available on the site.

Animal Disease Traceability Continues Development

Discussions on traceability continue since the the February announcement by USDA, emphasizing interstate movements, discussions continue to take place on the new direction and crucial details for implementation. With States and Tribes in the driver's seat for administering it, the partnership

between states, federal government and industry rises to the forefront to ensure a workable, effective system.

USDA has hosted eight listening sessions this summer on their traceability plans.

Meanwhile, the House Appropriations subcommittee recently cut 2011 funding for the efforts, zeroing the President's request for \$14.2 million.

USAHA is partnering with NIAA to help address the key issues on animal disease traceability. USAHA and NIAA has hosted a Joint Strategy Forum on Animal Disease Traceability, held August 30-31, 2010 in Denver. Look for a forthcoming white-paper summary of the event in the coming weeks. The latest information from USDA is available at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/>.

FDA Issues Draft Guidance on Antimicrobials in Food-Producing Animals

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on June 28 issued draft guidance intended to help reduce the development of resistance to medically important antimicrobial drugs used in food-producing animals.

The draft guidance outlines the FDA's current thinking on strategies to assure that antimicrobial drugs that are important for therapeutic use in humans are used judiciously in animal agriculture. The FDA acknowledges the efforts to date by various veterinary and animal producer organizations to institute guidelines for the judicious use of antimicrobial drugs, but the agency believes additional steps are needed.

The guidance document can be found at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AnimalVeterinary/GuidanceComplianceEnforcement/GuidanceforIndustry/UCM216936.pdf>.

FDA has also recently closed an extended comment period (August 27) on an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to solicit comments from the public regarding potential changes to its current regulation related to veterinary feed directive (VFD) drugs, which provides for veterinary oversight of certain antimicrobials. □

OIE (continued)

rinderpest eradicated worldwide in 2011.

As part of its charge in standard-setting, the Assembly adopted and/or updated 56 Chapters of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code. Highlights include:

- The use of animals in research and education;
- Some welfare aspects in farmed fish activities;

- The control of antimicrobial resistance in aquatic animals;

- The handling, disposal and treatment of aquatic animal waste.

Additionally, Dr. Bernard Vallat, was elected to an unprecedented third 5-year term as Director General of the OIE.

"The work of OIE is invaluable to all involved in animal health globally," says Halstead. "It is important

for organizations such as USAHA to be engaged in the OIE process, and the work that USDA-APHIS-VS does in representing the U.S. on this global stage." □

Compiled from OIE press release, Michael David (NCIE-VS-APHIS) and Steven Halstead (USAHA).



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USAHA Membership Survey Conducted

The United States Animal Health Association recently conducted a full membership survey through a third party group, Adayana, to assess the association's current standing and areas of improvement. The survey yielded a strong response rate, over 25% of all members completed the full survey, with an additional 10% of partial responses.

The survey was targeted to address key areas of USAHA, including the annual meeting, committees, and communication. Survey results indicated a high rate of satisfaction among members, and highlighted some challenge areas as well.

"The survey was an important tool for the executive committee to evaluate our future direction," says USAHA President Richard Breitmeyer. "We

were very pleased with the results, much of which validates the work of USAHA among its members and supports the goals outlined within the Strategic Plan which was approved by the Board of Directors in late 2008."

The survey was an actionable item from the strategic plan, in an effort to enhance member services possible.

A few key positive highlights include:

- 77% of members are satisfied with the annual meeting.
- 90 % are satisfied with communications, with higher satisfaction on the News Alerts Summaries.
- 76% feel USAHA is effectively addressing and influencing key animal health issues
- A number of constructive comments were also made throughout the survey, providing valuable input

for improvement across the association.

It was also noted that the Annual Meeting can be improved to minimize conflicts among sessions and committees, however many appreciated the challenges with making adjustments.

"Clearly USAHA has a long history of success, with the roots of the organization dating back to 1897," says Ben Richey, executive director. "USAHA has evolved over the years to meet the needs of animal health, and the survey provides us valuable tools for continuing to do so in today's climate."

"This helps us to ensure USAHA continues doing what USAHA does best, in a manner that meets the needs of our current members," adds Breitmeyer. ■