

Veterinary Assessment In Focus

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT

PROGRESS

*By Heather Case, DVM, MPH,
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Chief Executive Officer*

Progress is defined as “forward or onward movement toward a destination”. At the ICVA, all of our recent efforts are focused on one destination — fulfilling our vision and mission in the ever-changing veterinary landscape. One thing I’m pleased to report is that, thanks to the work of our volunteers and staff, we’ve made great strides in a variety of different projects.

Our NAVLE Practice Analysis has taken almost two years of development and hundreds of volunteer hours from veterinarians across the US and Canada to create an updated test blueprint for the next decade of our rapidly developing discipline. The ICVA’s new governance structure creates a framework for constructing our Board of Directors that allows us to procure the wide variety of talented individuals needed to guide us into the years and decades to come. The ICVA’s rebranding process continues with an extensive renovation of our website in the works to make our on-line information more user-friendly and more technologically accessible to test candidates, veterinary schools, and licensing boards. Most recently, our office has been lucky enough to add a new member to our staff, building on the fantastic teamwork that is the foundation of the ICVA’s strength.

The ICVA’s progress is moving at a rapid pace along many fronts, and I know the implementation of these efforts will serve all of us well as we work together to strengthen veterinary medicine.

ICVA MEETINGS

The ICVA Board of Directors met on April 5 following the NAVLE® forms review in Philadelphia, PA. During its meeting, the Board discussed the recent governance changes, received information on the upcoming ICVA website redesign, and heard from NBME staff on NAVLE® related items, including the practice analysis (see update on page 2).

The Board will hold its summer meeting on June 23 - 24 in Flagstaff, AZ. The ICVA General Session, which is open to guests, is scheduled to begin on Saturday, June 24. Dr. Karen Lehe, the ICVA Chair and American Association of Swine Veterinarians designee, will preside. Please contact the ICVA office for additional information.

NAVLE FORM REVIEW

Each year, the ICVA conducts a review of draft NAVLE® forms to be administered in the upcoming testing cycle. The review provides subject matter experts with an opportunity to review complete forms for quality and content overlap and to ensure content equivalence. Reviewers also evaluate all associated images online for quality and clarity. On April 5-6, veterinarians met in

Philadelphia, PA to review and approve NAVLE® forms to be administered in the November-December 2017 and April 2018 testing windows. Participants included ICVA Board members, past and present Assessment Development Committee members, one veterinarian from the AAVSB Board of Directors, and five recent veterinary school graduates. This year’s recent graduates were Drs. Jennifer Gilbert (Tufts), Wesley Lyons (Tennessee), Jonatan Pribluda (Virginia Tech), Lloyd Reitz (Mississippi State), and Michael Zabrodski (Calgary).



Drs. Jennifer Gilbert, Gary Gackstetter, and Jack Wilson review NAVLE forms at the April meeting.

ICVA Vision (2015-2018)
The world leader in veterinary assessments.

ICVA Mission (2015-2018)
Provide world-class examinations and other assessment tools to protect the public, and animal health and welfare.
Provide leadership and facilitate collaboration throughout veterinary medicine.

ICVA QUICK UPDATES

LIFE OF AN ITEM PRESENTATIONS

The Life of an Item is a presentation created for veterinary school students to demystify the NAVLE®. It provides an overview of the International Council for Veterinary Assessment, the creation of NAVLE® items, and administration.

To date in 2017, the presentation has been given to students in six veterinary schools. Dr. Case presented The Life of an Item in person at Tufts University, Michigan State University, Midwestern University, Tuskegee University, and via Skype at the University of Prince Edward Island. Dr. Bob Chersonson gave the presentation at the UC-Davis College of Veterinary Medicine in Davis, CA on March 6.

Schools interested in The Life of an Item presentation should contact the ICVA office for more information.

AAVMC 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2017 AAVMC Annual Conference was held March 10-12 in Washington, D.C. Drs. Heather Case and Mike Chaddock attended the event. Dr. Case presented The Life of an Item and an update to the Academic Affairs Committee on the Veterinary Educational Assessment and the NAVLE Practice Analysis. The ICVA also had a booth to provide additional information to veterinary schools on The Life of an Item, the VEA and NAVLE® Self-Assessments.



2017 NBME MEETING

Dr. Heather Case and ICVA Chair-Elect Dr. Jon Betts attended the National Board of Medical Examiners annual meeting in Philadelphia on March 30-31. Dr. Betts and his wife, Debbie, (above)

were among those representing the ICVA at the Annual Meeting Gala on March 30, where retiring president Dr. Donald Melnick was honored for his years of service with the NBME.

PRACTICE ANALYSIS SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS MEETING

On June 7 and 8, a cross-section of subject matter experts reconvened at the NBME Headquarters in Philadelphia, PA to evaluate the results of the NAVLE Practice Analysis Survey and follow-up

and NBME activities and on the ongoing Practice Analysis process. The Committee reviewed and approved a proposal to update the existing policy for handling irregular behavior review to reflect the current requirements of the Collaboration. The committee also reviewed the process for standard setting in advance of the next standard setting exercise that will occur after forms are built based on the new examination blueprint.



Practice Analysis Meeting Participants — Front row (L to R): Dr. Helen Tuzio, Dr. Julia Wilson, Dr. Karen Rosenthal, Dr. Patricia Wakenell, Ms. Janine Hawley, and Ms. Melissa Dudlick. Back row (L to R): Drs. Mark Raymond, Norman LaFaunce, Benjamin Darien, Gary Gackstetter, Katie Steneroden, Cary Hashizume, Robert Lester, and Heather Case.

activities. The group reviewed the high-level diagnoses and competencies and refined the information that will be used in the creation of a new NAVLE test specification blueprint. A final NAVLE Practice Analysis report is scheduled to be completed by late 2017.

COLLABORATION FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENTS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The Collaboration for Veterinary Assessments Governance Committee met on April 7 at the NBME Headquarters in Philadelphia, PA. The CVAGC received updates on recent ICVA

2017 SAVMA SYMPOSIUM

The SAVMA Symposium was hosted by Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine in College Station, TX on March 16-18. Dr. Heather Case attended the three-day meeting to present The Life of an Item and staff the ICVA's booth.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 23-24, ICVA Board of Directors Meeting in Flagstaff, AZ
July 21-26, AVMA Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN
September 14-16, AAVSB Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX

ICVA QUICK UPDATES



Mia Delgado with her adopted Labrador/Terrier/Pitbull mix, Harvey.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT— MIA DELGADO

Mia Delgado is the newest member of the ICVA staff. She has been working in our Crystal Lake office as Dr. Case's Executive Assistant since May 15.

Mia was born and raised in Santa Monica, CA where she was an avid surfer and a (now retired) professional beach volleyball player. Mia's permanent residence is Chicago, IL where she and her husband have become die-hard Chicago Cubs fans (go Cubs!).

Mia's professional experience has been primarily in the role of an Executive Assistant in the Corporate environment (private and public sector) having worked with Sam Zell at Equity Office and Ald. Gilbert Villegas at David Mason & Associates. She also previously worked at the Chicago Public Schools managing transportation for special needs children.

Mia's most recent employer, Prescient, gave her project management experience, which allowed her to be a part of the state of the art 24/7/365 Watch Center design build from start to finish. She also served as the office's chief of staff there.

In addition, Mia is passionate about volunteering with Northwestern Memorial Hospital and at several local animal shelters. She is excited to combine her past work experience in the corporate arena with her interests in mission driven organizations like the ICVA.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT— ANITA CASEY-REED

Anita Casey-Reed recently celebrated her 15 year anniversary with the ICVA. Originally from Iowa, she received her BA in film and television production from New York University and her Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Nebraska - Omaha.

Anita resides in Bismarck with her husband and their 2 children, along with their adopted Border Collie, Howard.

Anita worked in public television and for several non-profit groups prior to joining the ICVA in 2002. She is a member of the local Cinema 100 Film Society, a volunteer and co-host for the Dakota Digital Film Festival and former co-host of 'Reel Retro', a nostalgic presentation of classic films on Dakota Media Access.

She is also active in Bismarck Urban Harvest, a weekly seasonal community gathering of farmer's markets, arts and entertainment.

Anita wears many hats at the ICVA; she is often the first contact a NAVLE candidate has with the ICVA, providing accurate information and assistance to them, always going above and beyond. In addition, Anita works closely with candidates requiring special accommodations for testing, assuring the requests are handled appropriately and in a legally defensible manner. Anita has been instrumental in the transition of the Qualifying Exam (QE) to the Veterinary Educational Assessment (VEA), and works closely with the veterinary schools and veterinary licensing boards. Anita continues to be a vital member of the ICVA 'center of operations' in the Bismarck office.



Anita Casey-Reed

Veterinary Assessment In Focus is published quarterly by the International Council for Veterinary Assessment, PO Box 1356, Bismarck, ND 58502. Phone: (701) 224-0332; Fax: (701) 224-0435; Email: mail@icva.net; <http://www.icva.net>

The purpose of **Veterinary Assessment In Focus** is to educate, inform, and communicate information about the objectives and programs of the ICVA. The opinions and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official opinions, views or policies of the ICVA or any of its board members, unless expressly so stated.

Jon Betts, DVM, *Chair-Elect*; Michael Chaddock, DVM, EML; Robert Chersonson, DVM; Kathy Bowler, *Public Member*; Gary D. Gackstetter, DVM, MPH, PhD, DACVPM, Fellow A.C.E.; Jay Hedrick, DVM; Karen Lehe, DVM, DACVPM, *Chair*; Susan Little, DVM, DABVP; Bruce Louderback, DVM; Billy Martindale, DVM; Patricia J. Provost, MS, VMD, DACVS, *Secretary-Treasurer*; Mark Russak, DVM; Jack Wilson, DVM, *Past-Chair*; Heather Case, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, CAE, *Chief Executive Officer*

ASSESSMENT UPDATES

NAVLE®

With all scores now reported, a total of 1066 candidates took the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE®) during the April 10-23, 2017 testing window, a decrease of three candidates from April 2016. All scores for the April testing window were released by May 18. Applications for the November-December 2017 NAVLE testing window are currently being accepted, after opening in early June. The ICVA application receipt deadline is August 1. The 2017-2018 edition of the NAVLE Bulletin of Information for Candidates is available on the ICVA's web site (www.icva.net). The NAVLE fee for 2017-18 will be \$635, an increase of \$15.

All NAVLE candidates must be approved by a licensing board to take the examination. For the 2017-18 testing cycle, the ICVA office will approve candidates applying through 32 states: Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia. These candidates can complete their state's NAVLE application and pay the corresponding state application fee on-line, through the ICVA's website. Information for candidates applying through other licensing boards is available in the Candidate Bulletin and on the ICVA website.

NAVLE® SELF-ASSESSMENTS

NAVLE® Self-Assessments are a web-based tool to help veterinary students prepare for the NAVLE®. There are four English forms and three French forms available in two timing modes. Each form consists of 200 retired NAVLE® items. Score reports are available to the student immediately after completion and include a projected NAVLE® score range. These score reports can help students understand their strengths and weaknesses and become familiar with the exam format. To learn more, please contact the ICVA.

VETERINARY EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT (VEA)

The VEA is a 200-item, web-based basic science examination made available to veterinary schools as a comprehensive assessment of basic science knowledge, and to provide students with experience taking a standardized multiple-choice examination similar to the NAVLE.

The VEA was administered during the recent May 3-16, 2017 testing window, with St. Matthew's University School of Veterinary Medicine administering the test to 9 of their students, the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine administering the test to 3 of their students, Ross University College of Veterinary Medicine administering the test to 141 of their students, and Lincoln

Memorial University administering the test to 103 of their students. Scores were reported in early June. Additional information regarding the upcoming 2017-2018 VEA administration cycle was sent to veterinary schools in early June. Schools interested in using the VEA should contact the ICVA office.

SPECIES SPECIFIC EXAMINATIONS

The ICVA offers species specific examinations to evaluate a veterinarian's knowledge in companion animal or equine medicine. These examinations are offered to veterinary licensing boards for use in disciplinary cases, competency verification for veterinarians licensed in another jurisdiction, and other purposes deemed necessary by the board. There are two 100-item forms for each examination in paper-and-pencil format. Licensing boards interested in reviewing or administering the species specific examinations should contact the ICVA office.

WISCONSIN LAWS AND RULES EXAMINATION

The Wisconsin Veterinary Examination Board (VEB) requested the ICVA to handle the administration of their web-based Wisconsin Rules and Laws Examination for veterinary licensure. The Wisconsin VEB provides the ICVA with a list of eligible candidates, and the ICVA then coordinates payment, test administration, and score reporting to both the licensing board and to the examinee. Test administrations began in early October. For more information on test administration services, please contact the ICVA office.