

National Board Report

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Leadership

Leadership plays a vital role in the house of veterinary medicine. From veterinary school faculty to practitioners, veterinarians promote their leadership skills for the benefit of the workplace, profession, and society. At the NBVME, we strive to be the leader in veterinary assessments to ensure animal health and welfare and public protection in service to veterinary medicine.

The November-December NAVLE testing window is well underway and successful candidates will soon begin their journey as leaders in the profession. Additionally, the Practice Analysis is a complex process where we gain new insights into the assessment of key veterinary knowledge, skills and competencies. It is important to focus on careful, strategic planning as each task progresses and collaborate with leaders in the field to sharpen our perspective. This allows the NBVME to update and enhance the NAVLE to keep pace with changes throughout our field.

It is truly an exciting time for the organization. We venture into 2016 with confidence and hopeful anticipation of continued excellence in each of our endeavors.

Heather Case, DVM, MPH,
DACVPM, CAE
Executive Director

NAVLE Practice Analysis Advances

The NBVME collaborates with the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) through the Collaboration for Veterinary Assessments Governance Committee (CVAGC) to create and administer the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE®).

Approximately every five years, the NBVME conducts a practice analysis to ensure the NAVLE continues to test the appropriate knowledge, skills, and competencies needed by entry-level veterinarians. The practice analysis defines these requirements and is the basis of the NAVLE test blueprint. The practice analysis officially launched in May 2015, with the first meeting of the Subject Matter Expert Working Group.

A survey has been created to capture information from veterinarians across all aspects of veterinary medicine. Information collected will be used in the review of the test blueprint to ensure entry-level competencies are appropriately assessed on the NAVLE. This survey will be conducted in early 2016 and sent to over 15,000 veterinarians in the US and Canada.

The NBVME held a practice analysis focus group meeting at the NBME Headquarters in Philadelphia on November 11. The AAVSB and AAVMC were invited to identify representatives to participate in this one day meeting facilitated by Dr. Ken Andrews of High Impact Facilitation, LLC. The purpose of the focus group was to provide an update on the current practice analysis and increase dialogue and understanding among two of the NBVME's key stakeholders about how to best develop a competency-based NAVLE blueprint.

NBVME Vision (2015-2018)

The world leader in veterinary assessments.

NBVME 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.



Front Row L-R: Drs. Gerry Dillon, NBME; Heather Case, NBVME; Mark Nunez, CA Board; Jan Ilkew, UC-Davis; Marty Greer, WI Board; Ms. Melissa Dudlick, NBME

Back Row L-R: Drs. John King, MN Board; Vito DelVento, DC Board; Kent Hecker, University of Calgary; Ms. Jan Robinson, College of Veterinarians of Ontario; Drs. Gary Gackstetter, NBVME; Lisette Hardie, NCSU; Kristin Chaney, TAMU; Jenny Hodgson, VA-MD CVM; Miss Janine Hawley, NBME; and Dr. Ken Andrews, High Impact Facilitation

AAVSB Annual Meeting

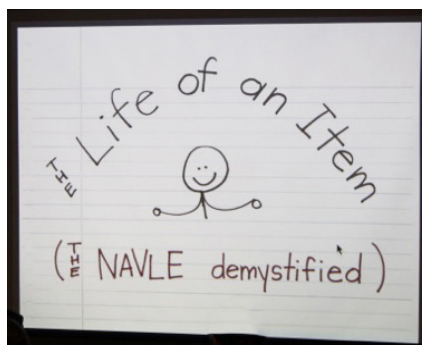
NBVME board members and staff attended the AAVSB Annual Meeting September 17-19 in Milwaukee, WI. The meeting provided networking opportunities with veterinary regulators, presentations and open forums covering veterinary licensure-related issues, in addition to the AAVSB business sessions with state and provincial licensing board delegates.



Dr. Wilson recognized Ms. Joyceanne Fick for her service on the NBVME Board as the public member designated by the AAVSB.

Life of an Item

The Life of an Item is a presentation intended for veterinary school students preparing to take the NAVLE. It provides an overview of the NBVME, the creation of items, and the NAVLE administration. The presentation was given to seven veterinary schools this fall and is scheduled for several this spring, including the SAVMA Symposium in March. Costs associated with the presentations are covered by the NBVME. To schedule the presentation, please contact the NBVME.



January Board Meeting Preview

The Board of Directors will meet in Scottsdale, AZ on January 22-24, 2016. The meeting will be chaired by Dr. Jack Wilson, the Canadian National Examining Board designee. Persons interested in attending the meeting should contact the NBVME for more information.



New Member Orientation

NBVME legal counsel Claire Topp will present a new member orientation to Drs. Susan Little, Billy Martindale, and Ms. Kathy Bowler who represent the American Animal Hospital Association, AVMA Council on Education, and AAVSB respectively. Ms. Topp will also provide an orientation to the full board.

Agenda Items

Board members will hear reports from the CVAGC and discuss any updates for the NAVLE. The Board will also receive reports on the Veterinary Educational Assessment (VEA), Species Specific Examinations, and the ongoing practice analysis. Dr. Case will provide an update on the NBVME's strategic plan implementation.

NAVLE® Pool Review

On January 21, NBVME board members will join members of the Examination Development Advisory Board (EDAB) along with other experts in a periodic review of items from the NAVLE item bank. These reviews are done at least once each year and ensure items in the active pool are suitable for continued use in NAVLE forms. Participants will work in teams determined by content area and be assisted by editors from the NBVME's test development team.



Front Row L-R: Drs. Wilson, *Chair*; Betts, Gackstetter, and Louderback
Back Row L-R: Dr. Case, *Executive Director*; Laurie Holverson, Anita Casey-Reed, Amy Miller, Janine Hawley, Dr. Lehe, *Chair-Elect*; Joyceanne Fick, Tonee VanderVliet, and Dr. Hedrick, *Immediate Past Chair*

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

NAVLE Item Review

Item writers met at the NBME Headquarters on November 9-10 to review NAVLE items written and submitted earlier this year. New items were approved for addition to the NAVLE item bank. Each NAVLE form includes 300 scored items and 60 pretest items. All new items are pretested to determine if they are suitable to be used as scored items in later administrations. Pretesting ensures that all scored items have acceptable performance statistics. New items approved at the November 2015 meeting will appear for the first time as pretest items on examination forms developed during the 2016-2017 NAVLE testing cycle. Most NAVLE item writers are appointed by the Examination Development Advisory Board according to the main content areas of the examination. Work is now underway to finalize the list of item writers for 2016.

2015 NAVLE Item Writers

Canine: Drs. Allan Corber, Julie Fixman, Christine Savidge and Karen Tefft

Feline: Drs. Steven Bailey, Margie Scherk, Glenn Olah, Helen Tuzio and Alice Johns

Pet Bird: Dr. Amanda Marino

Other Small Animal: Dr. Sandra Mitchell

Bovine: Drs. Arn Anderson, Bob Cherson, Stephen Foulke and Travis White

Small Ruminant: Dr. Joan Bowen

Poultry: Dr. Patricia Wakenell

Porcine: Dr. Robyn Fleck

Equine: Drs. Lauren Kleine, Simon Peek, Ramiro Toribio and David Wilson

Cervids/Camelids: Dr. Keith Poulsen

Public Health: Drs. Katie Steneroden and Tegwin Taylor

Professional Behavior, Communications and Practice Management: Drs. Ruthanne Chun, Laura Garrett and Donna Harris



Front Row L-R: Drs. Tefft, White, Cherson, Fleck, Wakenell, Poulsen, Wilson, and Savidge
Middle Row L-R: Melissa Dudlick, *NBME*; Anne Russell, *NBME*; Drs. Corber, Marino, Chun, Garrett, Scherk, Bowen, Elizabeth Juarez, *NBME*; and Dr. Heather Case; *NBME*
Back Row L-R: Allie Roberston, *NBME*; Dr. Fixman, Kristin Britton *NBME*; Robin Brennan, *NBME*; Drs. Johns, Tuzio, Olah, Kleine, Bailey, Toribio, Anderson, Harris, Tegwin, and Foulke

2015 Item Writer Workshop

The NBME held a call for nominations for new item writers this fall. This was a new process that received many high-quality nominations. Prospective item writers attended the item writer workshop held at the NBME Headquarters on November 12.

The purpose of the workshop was to familiarize writers with the NAVLE and provide them with the fundamental skills needed to write items that accurately and objectively assess the knowledge and skills needed by entry-level veterinarians.



Front Row L-R: Drs. Joe Bertone, Serge Chalhoub, Trina Westerman, Munashe Chigerwe, Karen Rosenthal, Phillippa Gibbons, Bonnie Rush, and Adam Rudinsky
Back Row L-R: Dr. Robert Goggs, Greg Habing, Jason Coe, Jeff Bender, Pete Kistler, Cheryl Dhein, Kathleen MacMillan, Jean Yin-Tan, Gretchen Schoeffler, Terri O’Sullivan, Lisa Lunn, Ms. Robin Brennan, *NBME*; Drs. Ryane Englar, Matthew Kornya, Ms. Kristin Britton, *NBME*, Dr. Don Noah, Ms. Melissa Dudlick, *NBME*; Drs. Margery Hanfelt, Heather Case, *NBME*; and Roslyn Casimir-Whittington

NBMVE Staff Highlights

Amy Miller joined the NBVME staff as the executive assistant in June. Amy is originally from a dairy farm in southwestern Pennsylvania. She graduated from Penn State with a BS in Dairy and Animal Science and is currently pursuing an MBA at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Prior to the NBVME, Amy worked at Golden Oaks Farm and the American Veterinary Medical Association. She currently lives in Wauconda, IL with her husband and daughter Eva.



Amy Miller



Jeanne Blasewitz

Jeanne Blasewitz joined the NBVME in October as an administrative assistant. Jeanne is a native of Wisconsin where she attended the University of Wisconsin and Milwaukee Area Technical College. She has worked in the medical field for over 20 years in several positions.

Jeanne and her husband, Dale, moved to North Dakota seven years

ago. They share their home in Mandan with two dogs, two cats, and a horse. She enjoys hiking, horseback riding, boating, photography, and creating stained-glass pieces.

Additional Office Location

The NBVME now has an additional office location in Crystal Lake, IL, in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. Dr. Case and Amy Miller moved into this office earlier this year in June.



1095 Pingree Road, Suite 218
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

NBVME Examination Updates

NAVLE®

The November-December 2015 testing window for the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination runs from Monday, November 16 - Saturday, December 12. The NBVME office processed and submitted 4,498 candidate eligibility files for this testing window, 68 more than in November-December 2014. Scores for the November-December testing window will be reported electronically to all candidates and licensing boards by mid-January.

Applications for the April 11-23, 2016 testing window will be available beginning in early December. The NBVME application receipt deadline for all candidates is February 1. This is a change from previous administrations, which had one dead-

line for new candidates and a later deadline for candidates who took and failed the exam in the preceding November-December testing window.

Veterinary Educational Assessment

The VEA is a 200-item, web-based examination used as a standardized assessment of basic science knowledge for students in veterinary school. The 2015-2016 VEA Bulletin of Information for Candidates is available on the NBVME's web site. During the August 31-September 11, 2015 testing window, the VEA was administered to students from the University of Missouri, Tuskegee University, and St. Matthew's University. Administrations during the January 11-22, 2016 testing window are scheduled for students from Iowa State University, The University of Tennessee,

Ross University, St. George's University, and St. Matthew's University. The final window for the 2015-2016 VEA testing cycle will be May 9-20, 2016. Veterinary schools interested in using the VEA should contact the NBVME office.

Species Specific Examinations

Since 1997, the NBVME has offered species specific examinations in companion animal and equine medicine to licensing boards. There are two 100-item forms for each examination. The paper-and-pencil tests are used by boards in disciplinary cases and for other licensure purposes. The present test forms were last updated in early 2014. Licensing boards interested in reviewing or administering the species specific examinations should contact the NBVME office.