

National Board Report

A Quarterly Newsletter of the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

Volume 21 Issue 2

©National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

May 2016

Reflection

Over the last few years, the NBVME has undergone several changes. Some of these changes have been the result of circumstances while others are the result of deliberate action. These changes led to the implementation of a new strategic plan based on strong vision and mission statements. This strategy enhances our collaboration with the National Board of Medical Examiners and has fostered teamwork among staff and volunteer leadership.

The NBVME has evolved into an organization striving to be the world leader in veterinary assessments through embracing diversity and thoughtfully considering perspectives across veterinary medicine. We are in the midst of a practice analysis, governance review, and branding project. Through these activities, we are reflecting on what we have accomplished and consciously focusing on our future as an organization. This time of reflection allows the NBVME to better understand our role in veterinary medicine and assessments and successfully move forward in our mission.

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

NBVME Spring Meetings

NBVME Board of Directors

The NBVME Board of Directors met on April 6 following the NAVLE® form review in Philadelphia, PA. During its meeting, the Board received updates from Harrison Coerver regarding the governance review, from 88 Brand Partners on the current branding project, and from NBME staff on NAVLE® related items, including the practice analysis.

The Board will hold its summer meeting on June 24-26 in Portland, OR. The NBVME General Session, which is open to guests, is scheduled to begin on Saturday, June 25. Dr. Jack Wilson, the NBVME Chair and Canadian National Examining Board designee, will preside. Please contact the NBVME office for additional information.

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.

NAVLE® Form Review

Each year, the NBVME conducts a review of draft NAVLE® forms to be administered in the coming year. The review ensures that the forms are balanced in content and allows reviewers to evaluate the quality of the images associated with many of the items. On April 5-6, veterinarians met in Philadelphia, PA to review and approve NAVLE® forms to be administered in the November-December 2016 and April 2017 testing windows. Participants included NBVME Board members, Examination Development Advisory Board members, one veterinarian from the AAVSB Board of Directors, and four recent veterinary school graduates. This year's recent graduates were Drs. Emily Feyes (Ohio State), Jeremy Keen (Mississippi State), Lloyd Reitz (Mississippi State), and Danielle Teehan (Tufts).



Front Row L-R: Drs. Hilton, Tuzio, Provost, Little, Corber, Teehan, Fixman, Robinson, Cherenon, and Chaddock; **Middle Row L-R:** Janine Hawley, NBME; Amy Miller, NBVME; Dr. Tubbs, Robin Brennan, NBME; Kristin Britton, NBME; Anne Russell, NBME; Kathy Bowler; **Back Row L-R:** Drs. Martindale, Betts, LaFaunce, Dhein, Reitz, Gackstetter, Lehe, Hedrick, Taylor, Feyes, Wilson, Darien, Keen, Marques, Glattly, Louderback, and Case, Melissa Dudlick, NBME; Elizabeth Juarez, NBME

NBVME Governance Working Group

The NBVME Governance Working Group (GWG), formed in February, has been charged to explore all aspects of volunteer recruitment, engagement, and retention. Harrison Coerver serves as the facilitator for the working group. The GWG met in-person on March 15 and on April 26 in Chicago, IL to analyze the current composition, structure and functioning of the NBVME Board of Directors, Examination Development Advisory Board and committees. It also considered alternative scenarios for the NBVME board and committee structure in the future as a best practice governance exercise. The GWG will make a preliminary report to the Board of Directors on June 24 in Portland, OR.



Front Row L-R: Dr. Meg Glattly, *CVAGC*; Dr. Karen Lehe, *AASV, NBVME Board Member*; Harrison Coerver, *Facilitator*; Kathy Bowler, *AAVSB, NBVME Board Member*
Back Row L-R: Amy Miller, *NBVME*; Drs. Jon Betts, *AAVSB, NBVME Board Member*; Dennis Feinberg, *Former Board member*; Jack Wilson, *NBVME Board Chair, CNEB*; Chris Runde, *AAVSB Board Member*; Heather Case, *Executive Director*

Collaboration for Veterinary Assessments Governance Committee

The CVAGC met on April 4 in Philadelphia, PA. The Committee reviewed NAVLE® policies and procedures and received a presentation on current research and topics in testing accommodations. The CVAGC will hold its next meeting on December 9 in Philadelphia, PA.

Additionally, the Committee received an update on the current Practice Analysis survey. The survey was completed in Canada in March 2016 and launched in the United States on April 19. An excellent response was received among Canadian veterinarians. Thank you to everyone in the select group of veterinarians in Canada and the United States who received the survey and completed it.

Fix the Debt Summit

The Fix the Debt Summit, organized jointly by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges and Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, was held April 20-22, 2016 in East Lansing, MI. The purpose of the summit was to identify viable solutions to financial issues related to student debt and the cost of veterinary medical education.

Approximately 180 individuals attended the event, including veterinary students, recent graduates, representatives from veterinary medical colleges, veterinary employers, veterinary organizations, associations and governmental agencies. Dr. Heather Case, along with NBVME Board members Drs. Mike Chaddock and Mark Russak, attended the summit. The NBVME was also a sponsor of the event.

ATP: Innovations in Testing 2016

The annual Association of Test Publishers Innovations in Testing Conference was held March 20-23, 2016 in Orlando, FL. Dr. Heather Case, along with Melissa Billings, Caroline Beaumont and Dr. Mark Raymond of the NBME, presented on *Competency Modeling and Job Analysis for Certification and Licensure Tests*.



2016 SAVMA Symposium

The SAVMA Symposium was hosted by Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in Ames, IA, March 17-19. Dr. Heather Case attended the three-day meeting to present The Life of an Item and staff the NBVME's booth.



AAVMC 2016 Annual Conference

The 2016 AAVMC Annual Conference was held March 4-6 in Washington, D.C. Drs. Heather Case and Mike Chaddock, NBVME Board member, and Anita Casey-Reed, NBVME staff, attended the event. Dr. Case presented The Life of an Item and an update to the Academic Affairs Committee on the Veterinary Educational Assessment with Ms. Casey-Reed. The NBVME also had a booth to provide additional information to veterinary schools on The Life of an Item, the VEA and NAVLE® Self-Assessments. The three NBVME representatives also attended the AAVMC's 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration.

Dr. Chaddock, Anita Casey-Reed and Dr. Case at the AAVMC Gala.



New Bismarck Office Location

After 4 years at its previous office, the Bismarck staff has relocated to new office space within the Security First Bank building. The team is excited about the new space that will allow for future growth as needed. The new physical address is listed below, however, the mailing address will remain P.O. Box 1356 Bismarck, ND 58502.



**3000 North 14th Street, Suite 2A
Bismarck, ND 58503**

Upcoming Events

- June 1:** November-December 2016 NAVLE® Application Window Opens
- June 2:** The Life of an Item Presentation - Colorado State University
- June 19-22:** AAVMC Veterinary Educator Collaborative University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- June 24-26:** NBVME Summer Board Meeting - Portland, OR
- July 7-10:** Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Convention - Niagara Falls, ON
- August 1:** November-December 2016 NAVLE® Application Window Closes
- August 3-9:** AVMA Convention - San Antonio, TX
- September 22-24:** AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference - Scottsdale, AZ

NBVME Examination Updates

NAVLE®

With all scores now reported, a total of 1069 candidates took the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE®) during the April 11-23, 2016 testing window, an increase of 29 from April 2015. The majority of scores were released on May 9. Applications for the November-December 2016 NAVLE testing window will be accepted beginning in early June, and the NBVME application receipt deadline is August 1. The 2016-2017 edition of the NAVLE Bulletin of Information for Candidates is available on the NBVME's web site (www.nbvme.org). The NAVLE fee for 2016-17 will be \$620, an increase of \$15.

All NAVLE candidates must be approved by a licensing board to take the examination. For the 2016-17 testing cycle, the NBVME 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 NBVME's website. Information for candidates applying through other licensing boards is available in the Candidate Bulletin and on the NBVME website.

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 9-20, 2016 testing window, with St. Matthew's University School of Veterinary Medicine administering the test to 14 of their students, the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine administering the test to 114 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 87 of their students. Scores will be reported by early June. Additional information regarding the upcoming 2016-2017 VEA administration cycle will be sent to veterinary schools in early June. Schools interested in using the VEA should contact the NBVME office.

The *National Board Report* is published quarterly by the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (NBVME®), PO Box 1356, Bismarck, ND 58502. Phone: (701) 224-0332; Fax: (701) 224-0435; Email: mail@nbvme.org; <http://www.nbvme.org>.

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

Jon Betts, DVM; Michael Chaddock, DVM, EML; Robert Cherenon, 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*