

Veterinary Assessment In Focus

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT

MOMENTUM

By Heather Case, DVM, MPH,
DACVPM, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

“One way to keep momentum going is to constantly have greater goals.”

-Michael Korda

Momentum is a powerful force essential for success. Over the last year, the ICVA has moved forward with several projects including a governance review, re-branding initiative, and the NAVLE® Practice Analysis. As we began each project, it was critical to develop a vision for the outcome and keep that vision out front.

Once the momentum begins to build, there is a tremendous amount of enthusiasm that surrounds this forward growth. This enthusiasm translates into energy for new goals and makes any kind of change possible. The unprecedented response to the Practice Analysis survey along with our organization's recent name and governance changes could not have taken place without the motivation, confidence, and momentum needed for successful results.

Creating momentum is not an easy task, but its force can change an organization. At the ICVA, we are committed to keeping the momentum going by constantly setting greater goals in the interest of advancing veterinary medicine through continuous enhancement in veterinary assessment.

ICVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING UPDATE

The ICVA Board of Directors met January 20-21, 2017 in San Antonio, TX. The Board received reports on several items including the Practice Analysis, the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE®), NAVLE® Self-Assessments, the Veterinary Educational Assessment (VEA), the Collaboration for Veterinary Assessments Governance Committee (CVAGC), and the Life of an Item presentation. The Board also discussed plans to redesign the ICVA website and will keep all stakeholders informed of changes as it moves forward with this project.

BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

A governance working group was formed in early 2016 and was charged to conduct an in-depth review of the ICVA governance structure, composition, and functioning. Harrison Coerver and Associates served as the facilitator for the ICVA Governance Working Group.

In an effort to acquire the competencies, skills, and expertise needed to achieve the mission and vision, several key changes were proposed for the composition of the ICVA Board of Directors and the Examination Development Advisory Board. During its January 2017 meeting, the ICVA Board of Directors considered and approved amendments to the bylaws to better position the organization to meet the goals established in its strategic plan.

The new role of the Board will be solely focused on achieving the goals established in the strategic plan and elevated from the hands-on work of the organization. However, it is important for Directors to understand the ICVA activities in examination development and preparation.

The Examination Development Advisory Board has been replaced by the Assessment Development Committee. This committee will be composed of a broad representation of species and content areas across veterinary medicine. As new opportunities arise, the Assessment Development Committee will be able to assemble the necessary subject matter experts to meet these needs. (Bylaws pg.2)

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

BYLAWS (continued)

A Talent Management Committee will also be formed to establish director selection criteria, review credentials, and conduct interviews for individuals nominated for a position on the Board. This new structure will be implemented over the next three years. The transition will take place through attrition as volunteers complete their existing terms.

A press release announcing the Bylaws amendments was distributed in early February. Please contact the ICVA if you have any questions regarding these changes.

NAVLE® POOL REVIEW

A group of subject matter experts from the US and Canada met to review items from the NAVLE® item bank January 19-20 in San Antonio, TX. They were assisted by test development staff from the National Board of Medical Examiners.



Front Row: Drs. Fernando Marques, Lauren Kleine, Karen Rosenthal, Melissa Dudlick, NBME, and Elizabeth Juarez NBME
Second Row: Drs. Rick Tubbs, Patty Provost, Linda Blythe, and Anne Russell, NBME

Third Row: Drs. Garry Gackstetter, Jack Wilson, Katie Steneroden, Mike Chaddock, and Kriston Britton, NBME

Back Row: Drs. Bob Cherenson, Karen Lehe, Jon Betts, Norman LaFauce, and Meg Glattly

2017 FARB FORUM

Dr. Heather Case attended the 2017 Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards Forum January 26-29 in San Antonio, TX. The meeting was a great networking event to exchange information and learn about challenges and opportunities for regulatory licensing agencies.

AVMA VETERINARY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Drs. Heather Case, Mike Chaddock, and Mark Russak attended the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference January 12-14, 2017 in Chicago, IL. This was a great opportunity to meet with students, young veterinarians, and colleagues who are passionate about advancing veterinary medicine through leadership.

INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SYMPOSIUM

Drs. Heather Case and Mike Chaddock attended the International Veterinary Students' Association Symposium held January 1-8 at the NC State University College of Veterinary Medicine in Raleigh, NC. Dr. Case presented the Life of an Item, a presentation that demystifies the NAVLE® development and administration. The ICVA booth was also exhibited to educate students about our organization and assessments.



COLLABORATION FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENTS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The Collaboration for Veterinary Assessments Governance Committee met on December 9, 2016 at the NBME Headquarters in Philadelphia, PA. The CVAGC received an update on the current Practice Analysis and preliminary reports are expected this spring. The CVAGC also reviewed budget materials for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The candidate fee for the 2017-2018 NAVLE® testing cycle will be \$630.



Front Row: L-R: Mr Jack Hinke, NBME; Drs. Stacy Lankford, NBME; Meg Glattly, Chair, ICVA; Rick Tubbs, ICVA; Heather Case, CEO, ICVA

Back Row: L-R: Drs. Jon Betts, ICVA; Mike Chaddock, ICVA; Gerry Dillon, NBME; Peter Katsufakis, CEO, NBME; Donald Melnick, NBME; Gary Gackstetter, ICVA

ICVA STAFF UPDATES

Amy Miller joined the ICVA staff in June 2015 as an executive assistant. During this time, she was also completing coursework for a Master of Business Administration degree. In December 2016, Amy completed her degree and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.



Amy has accepted a position with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services where she will serve as the International Marketing Project Coordinator. While Amy has enjoyed her time at the ICVA working on projects like the governance review and organizational re-brand, her new position will allow her to expand upon her passion for agriculture and relocate closer to her family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 3-4: Life of an Item Presentation at Michigan State University, Lansing, MI

March 5-8: ATP Innovations in Testing 2017, Scottsdale, AZ

March 6: Life of an Item Presentation at the University of California-Davis

March 6: Life of an Item Presentation at Midwestern University, Glendale, AZ

March 10-12: AAVMC Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

March 16-18: SAVMA Symposium, College Station, TX

March 22: Life of an Item at the Atlantic Veterinary College, Prince Edward Island

March 30-31: NBME Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA

April 5: ICVA Board of Directors Meeting, Philadelphia, PA

April 5-6: NAVLE® Form Review, Philadelphia, PA

April 7: Collaboration for Veterinary Assessments Governance Committee Meeting, Philadelphia, PA

ASSESSMENT UPDATES

NAVLE®

A total of 4,521 candidates took the NAVLE® during the November 14 - December 10, 2016 testing window, an increase of 69 from November-December 2015. Scores were reported on January 12. There were 3,853 criterion candidates, 382 non-criterion candidates, and 286 candidates from non-accredited schools. Criterion candidates are senior students at AVMA-accredited schools taking the examination for the first time. The passing rate for criterion candidates was 90%, down from 91% for the past two November-December administrations.

The ICVA office has submitted 1098 candidate eligibility files to the NBME for the April 10-22, 2017 NAVLE® administration.

NAVLE® AGREEMENTS

In February, boards received updated information on the fees and dates for the upcoming 2017-2018 NAVLE® testing cycle. The dates for the upcoming testing cycle will be November 13 - December 9, 2017 and April 9-21, 2018. The application receipt deadlines will remain August 1 for the November-December testing window and February 1 for the April testing window. In addition, a form was provided to licensing boards to confirm and, if needed, update their contact information for the NAVLE® Bulletin of Information for Candidates and ICVA website.

Boards were also provided with the opportunity to have a member of their licensing board review the NAVLE® during the November-December testing window, and with a memo regarding the NAVLE® accommodations request process. The ICVA office has been approving NAVLE® candidates on behalf of licensing boards since 2004, at the request of the individual boards. For the 2016-2017 testing cycle, the ICVA approved 3,742 candidates applying through 32 boards.

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

A total of 541 students from Iowa State University, Ross University, St. George's University, St. Matthew's University, Purdue University, and the University of Tennessee took the Veterinary Educational Assessment during the January 9-20, 2017 testing window, with scores reported to the schools in early February. St. George's University, Midwestern University, Tuskegee University, and the University of Missouri administered the test to their students during the August 29 - September 9, 2016 testing window. Administrations are currently planned at Lincoln Memorial University and Ross University for the May 3 - 17, 2017 testing window.

Schools interested in using the VEA should contact the ICVA office for further information.

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.

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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 Cherenson, 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*