

# National Board Report

A Quarterly Newsletter of the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

Volume 9 Issue 3

© National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

August, 2004

## A Perspective on the ECFVG-PAVE Discussions

The NBVME's mission is to "produce psychometrically sound, defensible examinations for use by governmental licensing agencies and other entities whose primary purpose is the protection of the public health and welfare."

The ECFVG was a committee of the NBVME from its creation in 1965 until it was reorganized as a committee of the AVMA in 1971. Since then, the ECFVG has included a member representing the NBVME. The ECFVG has always used examinations developed by the NBVME, presently requiring the NAVLE as ECFVG step 3.

In April 2000, the NBVME responded to a request from the AAVSB to develop two new examinations to support its new PAVE program. The basic science Qualifying Examination is used as step 3 of PAVE. The Veterinary Clinical Skills Assessment is being developed by the NBVME for use as an option for PAVE step 4. The NBVME nominates one member to the PAVE Board.

At a public meeting of representatives from ECFVG and PAVE in June last year, NBVME Chair Dr. Roger Magnusson outlined the board's position on the foreign graduate certification issue. The NBVME believes that any certification program should be under the control of an independent entity; that it must include an English proficiency requirement; that it should include a test of knowledge of the basic sciences; that it should include a hands-on practical examination of clinical and client communication skills; that if a year of evaluated clinical experience at an accredited school is offered as an alternative to a

(continued on page 2)

## Board Revises NAVLE® Blueprint

At its meeting in Philadelphia on July 26, the NBVME approved several revisions to the NAVLE blueprint. The blueprint, which functions as the content outline for the examination, includes two dimensions: activities (tasks performed by licensed veterinarians) and animal species.

When the new NAVLE blueprint was approved in July 2003, the NBVME agreed with the recommendation from its job analysis task force that all NAVLE items be coded to an animal species. However, during subsequent item review sessions, it became apparent that some items are not easily assigned to a species category. At the July meeting, the board approved a motion to create two new categories in the animal species dimension of the blueprint, one for items dealing with public health and food security (which will comprise 3% of the total examination) and another for non-species specific items (1%). The revised blueprint is available on the NBVME's web site,

[www.nbvme.org/specifications.html](http://www.nbvme.org/specifications.html).

NBVME members are appointed to three year terms, and can serve a maximum of three terms.

Three members completed nine years of service on the NBVME at the July meeting. Drs. R.B. (Butch) Baker, Nancy Collins, and Norman LaFaunce received plaques from NBVME Chair Dr. Jan Krehbiel, and each offered comments on their experience working with the national licensing examination program. The American Association of Swine Veterinarians has appointed Dr. Rick Tubbs to succeed Dr. Baker (see page 3), and the American Association of Bovine Practitioners has named Dr. Thomas Hairgrove to succeed Dr. LaFaunce. Dr. Meg Glattly has been nominated by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) to succeed Dr. Collins, and her appointment will take place at the AAVSB's meeting in Kansas City on September 18.

NBVME officers for 2004-05 include Drs. James Dalley, Chair; Mike Thomas, Chair-Elect; Don Draper, Secretary-Treasurer; and Jan Krehbiel, Past Chair.

Other actions taken at the July 26 meeting are reported elsewhere in this newsletter.



**NBVME 2003-04.** Front row (1 to r): Ellen O'Connor, Jim Dalley, Jan Krehbiel, Mike Thomas, and Lila Miller. Back row (1 to r): John Boyce, Norm LaFaunce, R.B. Baker, Nancy Collins, Dale Boyle, Sylvie Latour, Don Draper, Doug Aspros, and Ben Franklin.

## Wadley Honored in Philadelphia



Dr. George Wadley of Searcy, Arkansas received the sixth NBVME Award at the board's July 26 meeting in Philadelphia. NBVME Chair Dr. Jan Krehbiel is shown on the right (above) presenting the award to Dr. Wadley. The award is a print by Bismarck artist Gary Miller depicting members of the Lewis and Clark expedition on a buffalo hunt in the spring of 1805 along the Missouri River in what is now North Dakota.

Dr. Wadley was appointed to the National Board Examination Committee (NBEC) by the AAVSB in 1989, and served through 1995. He chaired the NBEC in 1991-92.

Dr. Wadley provided key leadership to the NBEC during a time of transition. He drafted revised Operating Guidelines for the NBEC, which subsequently formed the basis of the NBEC Bylaws when the board incorporated as an independent organization in 1994. He also was

(continued on page 3)

## From the Past: State Board Questions Number 13 in a Series

More surgery questions from the 1917 book, *Veterinary State Board Questions and Answers* by V.G. Kimball.

### Questions

1. What is a calculus? Name the different varieties of calculi and state where each variety is found.
2. Describe a method of applying a plaster-of-Paris dressing for fixation in case of a fracture.
3. Give the treatment of an open joint.

### Answers

1. A calculus is an abnormal concretion occurring within the animal body and usually composed of mineral salts. Urinary: found in the kidney, in the bladder, and in the urethra. Intestinal: found in the large intestines and rectum. Salivary: found in the large intestines and rectum. Salivary: found in Steno's duct. Chondroids or arthritic calculi: found in joints and tendon-sheaths, mucous bursae, and in the guttural pouches. Milk: found in the milk-cisterns and teats. Preputial: found in the preputial sac of the horse, commonly called "bean."

2. After reposition of the broken ends of the bone is effected, the limb is covered with a pad of cotton, over which a flannel bandage is applied. Over this, the plaster-of-Paris bandages are placed. These bandages are prepared by dusting with fresh plaster and soaking for a short time in warm water. After a sufficient number of plaster bandages have been applied, the outside may be strengthened by applying some of the plaster made into a paste.

3. In case of a fresh wound, do not probe but irrigate the opening with the mildest non-irritating antiseptic, or physiologic salt solution, suture, and apply iodoform gauze and bandage. Cauterization of punctured openings is often beneficial. Seal with collodion after thoroughly disinfecting as described above. Suppurating wounds should be drained, irrigated and packed with antiseptic gauze. Such wounds are usually incurable. The swelling produced by blistering is often employed to close wounds around joints.

Next issue: more surgery.

### ECFVG-PAVE

(continued from page 1)

practical examination, the year should be acceptable whether completed pre- or post-graduation; that the NAVLE should be taken only after all steps of the certification program are completed; and that a single certification program would best serve the interests of the public, the profession, and those seeking licensure.

The board is hopeful that discussions on this issue will continue, and is confident that members of the profession, acting in good faith, will be able to come up with a solution that is acceptable to all.

John R. Boyce, DVM, PhD  
Executive Director

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, mail@nbvme.org, http://www.nbvme.org.

The purpose of the *National Board Report* is to educate, to inform, and to 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 members, unless expressly so stated.

Douglas G. Aspros, DVM; Dale D. Boyle, DVM, MPH, DACVPM; James Dalley, DVM, MS, *Chair*; Donald D. Draper, DVM, PhD, MBA, *Secretary-Treasurer*; Benjamin Franklin, Jr., DVM; Thomas B. Hairgrove, DVM, DABVP; Jan Krehbiel, DVM, PhD, DACVP, *Past Chair*; Sylvie Latour, DVM; Lila Miller, DVM; Ellen L. O'Connor, *Public Member*; Mike Thomas, DVM, *Chair-Elect*; Rick Tubbs, DVM, MS, MBA, DACT, DABVP. John R. Boyce, DVM, PhD, *Executive Director*

## NBVME Award

(continued from page 2)

influential in the process that led to the adoption in 1992 of a common pass point for the National Board Examination and Clinical Competency Test in all licensing jurisdictions.

Dr. Wadley was born in Paragould, Arkansas. He received his BS degree in Agriculture from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. After graduation, he served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in Korea. After his military service, Dr. Wadley worked for the Cotton Division of the US Department of Agriculture from 1957 through 1968.

In 1968, Dr. Wadley entered veterinary school at the University of Missouri, graduating in 1972. After graduation, he entered private practice in Searcy, Arkansas, where he worked until 1998. After a brief retirement from practice, Dr. Wadley accepted a position as State Veterinarian for the Arkansas Racing Commission in 2002, a position he still holds.

Dr. Wadley served as a member of the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Examining Board from 1979 through 1994. His work on the Arkansas Board led to his involvement with the AAVSB, for which he served as President in 1987-88. Dr. Wadley was recognized as Arkansas Veterinarian of the Year in 1986.

The NBVME Award was established in 1999 to recognize individuals who have made significant personal contributions to the national licensing examination program.

Previous recipients include:

- Dr. Duane T. Albrecht, 1999
- Dr. Samuel E. Strahm, 2000
- Dr. Richard S. Hawe, 2001
- Dr. Billy E. Hooper, 2002
- Dr. Melvin Swenson, 2003.

## QE Goes Web-Based

On August 19, 123 candidates took the NBVME's basic science Qualifying Examination (QE) for the first time via the internet. Candidates sat for the exam at sites in Grenada, St. Kitts, Scotland, and 12 locations across the United States. Proctors at each test site were responsible for verifying candidate identity and for overseeing the administration. The test delivery software provided additional security for the examination items.

Web-based testing offers several advantages over testing at fixed locations, especially in the area of scheduling flexibility. The NBVME web site contains a link to a practice version of the web-based examination ([www.nbvme.org/examinations.html](http://www.nbvme.org/examinations.html)).

The QE is required for candidates enrolled in the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE). Future administrations of the QE are scheduled for January 20 and May 5. Candidates should contact the AAVSB for application information.

## NBVME Member Profile: Dr. Rick Tubbs

Dr. Rick Tubbs of Bowling Green, KY is one of three new members of the NBVME for 2004-05. Dr. Tubbs was appointed by the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV) to succeed Dr. R.B. Baker.

A native of Oakman, Alabama, Dr. Tubbs received his DVM from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Auburn University in 1983. After graduation, he practiced for two years in Georgia before beginning graduate study at Mississippi State University, where he received his MS degree in swine reproduction in 1987. He then accepted a swine medicine faculty position at Mississippi State.

In 1991, Dr. Tubbs moved to the University of Missouri as the swine extension veterinarian. While at Missouri, he completed his MBA degree.

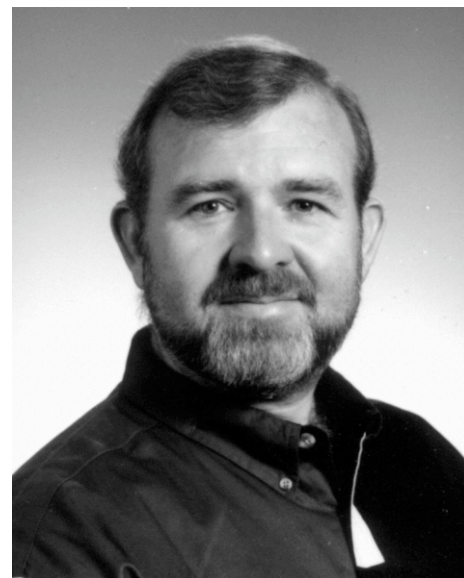
In 1996, Dr. Tubbs left academia to become a partner in the

Green River Animal Hospital in Bowling Green. There, he provides consultation and services to breeding stock and commercial swine production companies in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Dr. Tubbs is board certified in theriogenology and in the swine health management specialty of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.

Dr. Tubbs is a past president of AASV, and has been involved in many AASV committees. He has edited two textbooks on swine reproduction and has numerous scientific publications.

Dr. Tubbs and his wife Nellie have three sons, one in high school and two attending Western Kentucky University. In his spare time, Dr. Tubbs enjoys attending his son's sporting events and following college football, especially the SEC. He also enjoys rodeo, traveling, reading, and gardening.



## Groves Nominated to PAVE Board

Dr. Michael Groves has been nominated by the NBVME to be its new designee on the PAVE Board, succeeding Dr. Jan Krehbiel. Dr. Groves served as a member of the NBVME from 1993 to 2002, and is presently Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at Louisiana State University. The appointment will be made by the AAVSB Executive Committee.



## Paul to Coordinate VCSA Development; MSU Consultants to Provide Assistance

Dr. Michael Paul has been named by the NBVME to serve as overall coordinator for the new Veterinary Clinical Skills Assessment (VCSA). The VCSA will be a hands-on clinical skills examination, offered to candidates enrolled in the PAVE program.

During a July 7 conference call, the NBVME approved a proposal to retain the services of Dr. Paul, and approved a budget and timeline for development of the examination, with the first administration planned for December 2005.

Dr. Paul's duties are to secure leaders for the various sections of the VCSA, and to work with them to develop the examination.

A 1972 graduate of Kansas State University, Dr. Paul has a long career in private small animal practice in California and Washington. He is a past president of the American Animal Hospital

the AAHA, California VMA, and AVMA. Dr. Paul and his wife presently reside in Anguilla.

The VCSA proposal also includes a plan to enlist the services of testing experts from the Michigan State University Office of Medical Education Research and Development. These individuals have experience developing and administering performance assessments in human medicine and other fields. They will provide consultation and technical assistance to the NBVME as the VCSA is developed and implemented.

The planned format for the VCSA is a two day examination comprising four sections:

- Clinical Skills and Physical Examination
- Laboratory, Radiology, and Necropsy
- Anesthesia and Surgery
- Clinical Encounters (small animal and food animal cases).

National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners  
Post Office Box 1356  
Bismarck, ND 58502

stamp

Mailing Label