

MINUTES  
ACVD MENTOR'S MEETING

May 3, 2018  
Maui, Hawaii

The meeting was called to order at 12:56pm by R. Marsella. Members present were Drs. Bizikova, Blessing, Bourgeois, Boynosky, Cain, K. Campbell, DeBoer, DeJaham, DeManuelle, Diaz, Diesel, Doerr, Drake, Duclos, Frank, Frazer, Griffeth, Griffies, Hall, Jazic, Kirby, Koch, Layne, Liska, Lo, Lorch, Matousek, Messinger, B. Miller, Moriello, Morris, Mount, Outerbridge, Page, Patterson, Petersen, Pieper, Plant, Pye, Rook, Rosenberg, Rosenkrantz, Rosser, Rothstein, Santoro, Sauve, A. Schick, R. Schick, Torres, Trimmer, Udenberg, A. White, S. White, Woodward, Yu. A. Borich was also present.

**OPENING REMARKS – R. Marsella**

Thank you to Stallergenes-Greer for sponsoring the mentor's luncheon. Stallergenes-Greer is also sponsoring two \$5,000 resident grants. One deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup> and the second is December 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a restricted grant in the realm of allergy and immunotherapy. The grant announcements have been sent out and also posted on the website.

Cody Mikael said Stallergenes-Greer would like to provide each resident with a copy of their veterinary compendium for use during their training. They will also offer new diplomates starting their own practice an in clinic set-up for immunotherapy.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE – A. Diesel**

Committee members include: A. Diesel (chair), A. Rosenberg (incoming chair 2019), A. Bourgeois, J. Gimmler, R. Mount and new member S. Diaz.

The resident annual reports were due May 1<sup>st</sup> and the corresponding mentor reports are due May 15. Last year the committee reviewed forty-six progress reports and all were accepted. Nineteen residency completion letters were written. The mentor/program exam question submission requirement was eliminated last year. However, mentors are still welcome to submit questions.

Last year the committee started the review process for six new programs. Some of them required edits and are still in the review process.

Goal this year is to update the education guidelines.

**CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE – E. Jazic**

Committee member include: E. Jazic (chair), N. Eckholm, H. Edginton, E. Goodale, D. Santoro and D. Simoes.

Reviewed sixteen case reports. Twelve of them passed on initial review, three passed after additional information was provided and one failed.

The committee reviewed twenty credentials packets and nineteen were accepted. In the credentials packets there were sixteen alternative case reports. Five residents elected to submit two alternative case reports.

The committee sent a survey to residents. Twenty-three people completed the survey. Of those, twenty had completed training and three are currently in training programs. The purpose of the survey was to find out which textbooks and journals are most beneficial for exam preparation. There were also questions and comments about the value of journal club.

It's great residents have the option of traditional and alternative case reports. Traditional case reports have a strict deadline for a reply from the committee so they will have an answer on whether it is accepted. With the case report alternative several residents in the past year were fortunate to hear about their paper in time to meet the credentials deadline. The resident is at the mercy of the journal when they submit a case report alternative. Residents need to be aware that review time can be a long process. It is not possible for Vet Derm to give residents a preference and it may be a slower process to publish than submitting traditional case reports.

Discussion followed it may be beneficial to survey the residents in the past five years to see how long the alternative case report process was and also how long the original research review and acceptance process was. Since process takes longer can we push back the publication submission deadline?

There is a problem if their publication is accepted before the meeting. Technically they cannot present the paper which is another credentials requirement. They can ask the publisher to delay the publication.

Discussion followed. As a college we need to decide what we are trying to accomplish and teach our residents. Then determine a plan moving forward.

### **EXAMINATION COMMITTEE – A. White**

The 2017 exam was held at Western University in Pomona, California. All portions of the exam were on the computer. The only written portion was the glass slide descriptions. Twenty-four candidates took the exam. Of those, nineteen took it for the first time, five candidates repeated the exam. Eleven of the nineteen first time takers passed for a 57.9% pass rate. Overall, fourteen of twenty-four candidates passed the exam for a 58.3% pass rate.

The 2017 committee members were: Drs. A. White (outgoing chair), K. Doerr (current chair), A. Shumaker-Meyer, J. Pieper, J. Bajwa and A. Lam. K. Rook was added to committee this year.

Thank you to the AOK committee for their help developing questions.

Please remind your residents the exam has been written and reviewed. There should not be questions that are tricky or confusing on the exam. Candidates should not ask questions pertaining to specific questions on the exam. If there is a technology question or procedural question they can raise their hand and ask for help. Each candidate will be asked to sign an ethics and honesty agreement prior to taking the exam.

The exam this year will be held at Western University, November 8-9, 2018. A mock exam is available. Recommend candidates take the mock exam online through ExamSoft so they are familiar with the program at least four weeks before the exam.

Post exam critiques cover general subject matter and will be provided to candidates who fail if they request a critique. Similar to last year no scores will be provided just pass/fail only. The candidates will receive their scores within a few weeks depending on how grading progresses.

In 2020 the exam will still be held in November due to the ABVS time requirement between when the resident is notified whether their credentials packet is accepted and the exam date.

Please remind residents to check the website for guidelines, deadlines, notices, forms, etc.

### **MANUSCRIPT PUBLICATION – D. Morris**

Spoke to the attendees at the resident forum about the manuscript development and publication process in general and in terms of the Vet Derm journal.

Vet Derm has a duty to be as non-biased as possible however most of the time know when I have a resident paper and try to help them. The biggest problem the editor has is finding reviewers. Discussed the process with the residents and hopefully they understand why the process takes so long. The submission and acceptance deadline dates the ACVD currently have are acceptable.

In order to get a case report published it must be incredibly novel and scientifically valid by Vet Derm standards. Suspect there are more rejections of alternative case reports and this is problematic. Residents should consider submitting case reports to other journals on the approved list.

If you are contacted by an editor and asked if you can review an article please reply as soon as you know. If you say no the editor can move on to another reviewer quickly. When reviewing focus on the questions and the science; not wordsmithing. Overall there is a 47% rejection rate and it creates bad blood if the paper is sent back for formatting and then ultimately rejected.

D. Morris provided the residents with an outline and formula to follow when writing and submitting articles. The information will be available on the website later this summer.

Discussed residents need to be the primary author, do the work and write the manuscript for their original research and alternative case report publications. There was additional discussion regarding the question of publishing vs presenting at NAVDF to meet the residency requirements. It is an NAVDF rule that papers not be published prior to presenting at the annual meeting. So this is an NAVDF rule and not an ACVD rule.

Remind the mentors to please complete the job task analysis survey at earliest convenience. We need your input by May 7<sup>th</sup> to ensure the exam is representative of the entire college.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Borich  
ACVD Executive Secretary