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Newsletter

Elizabeth M. Lund - President; Paul Schmitz - President Elect, Rick M. Mills - Immediate Past President; Robin M. Starr - Secretary Treasurer; Ronald D. Smith - Newsletter Editor

IN THIS ISSUE

ASSOCIATION NEWS.....	2
AVI Business Luncheon 2002.....	2
How to Contact AVI.....	2
SEVENTH ANNUAL TALBOT INFORMATICS SYMPOSIUM	2
PRODUCTS & REVIEWS.....	4
ANMLDR for Palm Computers.....	4
Mobile Technologies Improve Medical Education.....	5
CD - Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State, 1879-2002.....	5
INTERNET RESOURCES.....	6
IVIS Calendar.....	6
Terms Used in Science and Healthcare.....	6
NEWS & COMMENTARY.....	6
E-Learning Providers Not Profitable Yet, But Getting Closer.....	6
Online Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Technology.....	6
UT Uses CyberKnife for Non-Invasive Surgery.....	7
AMIA Education Working Group Web Page.....	7
Visiting The Doctor Online.....	8
UCLA Med Mobilizes Student Web Applications.....	8
MEETINGS & EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.....	9
AVMA Veterinary Informatics Standards Development and Harmonization Meeting.....	9
SUGGESTED READING.....	10
Expert Systems.....	10
CLOSING BITS.....	10
Older Than Dirt Quiz.....	10

ASSOCIATION NEWS

AVI Business Luncheon 2002

Medallions of beef tenderloin, mashed potatoes, chocolate pecan pie and more will be served Monday, July 15 at 11:59-1:00, in the Belle Meade room at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville in conjunction with the AVMA Annual Convention. Free to AVI members; guests are invited at the \$32 per plate cost. No need to pre register.

How to Contact AVI

Applications for membership, accompanied by a check payable to the AVI, should be sent to:

Dr. Robin M. Starr; Secretary Treasurer, AVI;
31575 Griffin Drive, Conifer, CO 80433
Phone: 303/674-5231; FAX: 303/674-9717;
e-mail: starrchi@earthlink.net

Membership application forms are available online at:

<http://www.avinformatics.org/>

Dr. Starr is responsible for distribution of the hardcopy version of the AVI Newsletter.

Newsletter items can be sent to:

Dr. Ronald D. Smith, Newsletter Editor, AVI;
UI College of Veterinary Medicine; 2001 South
Lincoln; Urbana, IL 61801.
Phone: 217/333-2449
FAX: 217/333-4628
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If you are an AVI member and would like to be on the AVI Newsletter electronic distribution list, send an e-mail message to the Newsletter Editor. The electronic (PDF) version is faster, searchable, easier to store and retrieve, and environmentally friendly.

Current and past issues of the AVI Newsletter are also available on the Web at:

<http://www.avinformatics.org/>

SEVENTH ANNUAL TALBOT INFORMATICS SYMPOSIUM

Association for Veterinary Informatics

The 2002 Talbot Informatics Symposium and Educational Programs will be held July 14 -16, 2002 in Nashville in conjunction with the AVMA Annual Convention.

Sunday, July 14, 2002		
TIME	TITLE	NAME
8:00 AM	Vaccination and Health Care Schedule Program	Glenna M. Gobar
8:25 AM	Development of an In-house Picture Archiving and Communication System	Dennis Ballance

9:05 AM	Creating a Living Textbook for Distance Learning	Theresa M. Bernardo
9:05 AM	Creating a Living Textbook for Distance Learning	Robert Malinowski
10:00 AM	j.MD: Java System to Support Medical Diagnostic Reasoning	Arno K. Wormek
10:45 AM	A Relational Reimplmentation of the VMDB	Lillian C. Folk
11:10 AM	An Online Reporting System for Veterinary Hospitals	Pritam Kaur Sidhu
1:00 PM	PAU_Epi~AID: A Relational Database for Epidemiological, Clinical and Laboratory Data	Navneet Kumar Dhand
1:30 PM	Promoting Veterinary Medicine on Television and on the Web	Robert Malinowski
1:50 PM	VMACS--Mobile: PDA Access to Patient Records	Chris Brandt
2:10 PM	Vet PDA-Rx: Is That a Veterinary Drug Database in Your Pocket?	Chris Brandt
3:00 PM	INTERNET VETERINARIAN: Information Access for Veterinary Practitioners	Sandra Oelschlegel
3:45 PM	Multimedia in the Veterinary Curriculum	Sandra Oelschlegel

Informatics Section – Monday, July 15

8:00 AM	Evidence-based Medicine: Searching, Evaluating and Implementing Clinically Relevant Information at the Point of Care	Stuart W. Turner
10:00 AM	Handheld Computers in Emergency and Critical Care: Bringing Computing Technology to the Cageside	Stuart W. Turner
1:00 PM	Essential Veterinary Tools for the Future: Distance Learning and Digital Photography	Stanley R. Robertson
3:00 PM	Panel Discussion: Veterinary Informatics--Past, Present and Future	Allen W. Hahn

3:00 PM	Panel Discussion: Veterinary Informatics--Past, Present and Future	Robert H. Featherston
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Informatics Section – Tuesday, July 16		
8:00 AM	Roundtable Discussion: Veterinary Electronic Publishing--What's Happening Now and Where Will We Be in the Future?	TBA
10:00 AM	Roundtable Discussion: Can Proprietary Practice Management System Vendors and Database Developers Work Together?	TBA

PRODUCTS & REVIEWS

ANMLDR for Palm Computers

Rush into the future with ANMLDR!
<http://www.anmlldr.com/>

New Releases:

- Small Animal Internal Medicine Notes is now available.
 - ANMLDR Calcs© is now available.
 - The PocketDVM is now available.
 - Veterinary Virology databases now available.
 - Plumb's Veterinary Drug Handbook 3rd Edition-Withdrawn from sale until 4th edition is completed. Check back soon.
1. ANMLDR Calcs with over 60 calculations and 100 conversions
 2. Emergency Drug Calculator (International version is also available)
 3. Tilley's ECG for the Small Animal Practitioner
 4. Pain Management for the SA Practitioner
 5. Small Animal Internal Medicine Notes --- Yaphé
 6. The PocketDVM
 7. Veterinary Virology
 8. Dermatology Exam Form
 9. Surgery and Anesthesia Record

What I am working on now:

1. Veterinary patient records for Palm Computers
2. Exotics Formulary 1 by JVet, LLC

What is the PocketDVM (tm)?

1. The PocketDVM (tm) is a hypertext e-nerd-book for veterinary students, interns and residents. Topics included are: Emergencies, Procedures, Blood Transfusion, Fluid Therapy, Common Small Animal Cardiology Problems, Neurology, Toxicology, Internal Medicine, Endocrine, Dermatology, Infectious Disease, Feline Medicine, Calculations, Clin Path, Misc

What software to I need to use The PocketDVM?

- The PocketDVM (tm) requires Isilo to run on your Palm Pilot

Is there a version planned for the Pocket PC?

1. Not at this time - but I am willing work with someone who has such a device to port it over to that OS.

How much memory will the PocketDVM (tm) take?

1. While we are still making last minute changes it should take about 288k.

Who Wrote The PocketDVM (tm)?

1. I (Mark Acierno) started the PocketDVM (tm) in my senior year of vet school. Topics included in the book are those that came up commonly in clinics and on externships. I finished the book during the break between graduation and starting my internship.

Why is this taking so long to publish - the book has been finished for months?

1. Rather than rush to market an e-book that was written and edited by a veterinary student (now intern) I chose to employ the help of a boarded Internal Medicine Specialist - Rhonda Schulman- to edit and help re-write the entire document.

What is the Cost?

1. The exact price has yet to be determined - there may be a small student discount. Check back just before the product ships.

How can I order The PocketDVM (tm)?

1. The Book will be available for on-line ordering at Handango and Palm GearHQ

Are there updates planned?

1. The PocketDVM (tm) is a work in progress. We expect annual (and perhaps twice annual) updates. Whether updates are developed will depend on how well the book is received. I expect that a discount will be available for registered users.

Mobile Technologies Improve Medical Education

From: Tom Cochran
<Tom.Cochran@arcstream.com>

Mobile Technologies Dramatically Improve Medical Education

Come hear the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California and ArcStreamSolutions present on:

“Mobile Medical Education - How Technology is Enhancing the Way Students Learn”

Visit the 6 th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Medical Science Educators (IAMSE) <<http://www.iamse.org/>> on July 20-23 to understand how medical schools are adapting their curriculum to include mobile technology to improve access to course information, enhance student-faculty communications, and monitor programs.

CD - Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State, 1879-2002

I am not sure that my latest program will interest many veterinary types other than Iowa State veterinary alums but I have completed the first version of the program and wish to announce its availability. The program is 640 x 480 pixel resolution and runs on a 32bit Windows operating system. It provides information (including pictures where available) on students, faculty, buildings, classrooms, curricula, and events from the founding of the veterinary program at Iowa Agricultural College and Model Farm up through the 2,000's (ISBN 0-9709789-3-6). I will be selling the CD for \$ 74.

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INTERNET RESOURCES

IVIS Calendar

The IVIS calendar database has information on over 650 veterinary meetings world-wide and can be searched based on region, species, event type and date. To consult the IVIS calendar, go to the IVIS website at <http://www.ivis.org/> .

You can add your veterinary short-course or meeting to the IVIS calendar free of charge. To enter information about your continuing education event on-line, visit the IVIS calendar and go to on-line submission.

The IVIS website can be visited free of charge at <http://www.ivis.org/>. The IVIS project is a work-in-progress and comments or suggestions may be sent to info@ivis.org .

Irma Revah, DVM MPVM PhD
Editor-in-Chief

Terms Used in Science and Healthcare

From: Christian Nordqvist
<Scienceacronyms@AOL.COM>

<<http://www.pharma-lexicon.com/>>www.pharma-lexicon.com

We have come a long way since we started just under two years ago. Our <http://www.pharma-lexicon.com/> website now has the following, and it is all free:

- The largest abbreviations database of medical, pharma, biotech, vet abbreviations.
- A huge searchable database of medical, pharma, biotech associations worldwide.
- A searchable database (worldwide) of 9000 pharma companies.
- A searchable database of drugs.

NEWS & COMMENTARY

E-Learning Providers Not Profitable Yet, But Getting Closer

Chronicle of Higher Education, 23 May 2002

Despite predictions last year from the three leading e-learning software companies that they would be profitable this year, none of them is there yet. Blackboard, Inc. has revised its goal for profitability from the middle of this year to sometime before the end of the year. The company's chairman said they are "sort of tantalizingly close." The chairman of eCollege said his firm hopes to be profitable by the middle of next year. Top officials at WebCT said they are still on target to be profitable this year, though they would not offer more specifics. Analysts said the higher education market does not offer much room for further expansion, so companies must either eliminate competition or venture into other areas, such as corporate training, if they are to achieve profitability.

Online Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Technology

St. Petersburg College (www.spcollege.edu) became a 4 year college a year ago, and we are considering the offering of a 4 year Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Technology. If this degree is approved it would be provided through distance learning similar to our current AS Degree. The distance program currently has 245 students enrolled from throughout the USA.

Part of the process of gaining approval is to document that there is both a need and a benefit of the 4 year degree separate from the AS Degree. I am asking AVI members to help me collect this documentation by sending comments to me at hancockg@spcollege.edu.

- I need to hear from any AS Degree technicians who would seriously consider

enrolling in the Bachelor's program if it was available online.

- Equally important, I need to hear from potential employers about any positions where you would prefer to employ a 4 year graduate. We need to know what additional knowledge and skills you would expect as well as the salary differential you would pay. Is the 4 year degree a preference or a requirement for the position?

Thank you very much for any assistance you can provide.

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<http://www.spjc.edu/hec/vettech/vt1.html>

UT Uses CyberKnife for Non-Invasive Surgery

From: Syllabus@101communications-news.com

Physicians at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center used the CyberKnife Stereotactic Radiosurgery System to treat infants and young children with brain tumors for the first time. The radiosurgery system, which involves delivery of high doses of targeted radiation to non-invasively tumors, has not been available to infants in the past because of limitations of commercially available radiosurgical systems. The CyberKnife, developed by Accuray Inc., delivers multiple beams of radiation via a robot-mounted accelerator to the tumor, destroying it while minimizing exposure to surrounding healthy tissue. The combination of robotics and image-guidance enables application to targets throughout the body.

AMIA Education Working Group Web Page

Editor's note: the following is a call to members of AMIA's Education Working Group to contribute content to the working group's Web site. I thought it might be of interest as AVI continues to define comparable roles in veterinary informatics. **This is an informational item. Please do not submit content for the AMIA site.**

[The AMIA working group Web site] currently is online at

<http://www.amia.org/wg/education/main.html>

I am especially interested in input on the the following topics:

1. Definition of "Medical Informatics Education": Please review and let me know what should be changed/added.
2. Roles in education related to informatics: Here, I am looking for a list of short position descriptions. I think there could be several, such as for an instructional designer, educational methodologies specialist, ['associate' or 'assistant'] ['dean' or 'vice chancellor'] for medical education, program administrators for distance education/online learning, etc. But, I do not want to dream them all up. Rather, the position descriptions should be grounded in their relative prevalence in the real world. Please send me position descriptions similar to the one appended below as an example.
3. Resources: Here, we should list resources (Internet or otherwise) that are useful in medical informatics education. When you send a resource, please include a short description. (Descriptions also need to be added to items already there.)

I would like to make our Web page into a really useful resource for ourselves and others. Your input is crucial in that.

Example position description

Manager, Computer Operations: The Manager, Computer Operations is the person responsible

for IT operations at the school. He/she reports directly to the Director of the Center for Dental Informatics. He/she supervises all IT staff; determines computing needs; develops strategic, tactical and operational plans for computing resources; and monitors the implementation of these plans. The position requires at minimum a B.S. in the information sciences, computer science or related fields; three years of working experience managing and IT support organization; and excellent technical, communication and management skills.

Thanks in advance for your help!

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Visiting The Doctor Online

Wall Street Journal, 17 June 2002

Internet company Medem Inc. will offer a service enabling patients to "visit" their doctor online for a fee. Medem claims that the service meets eRisk guidelines for online medicine, which have been endorsed by 33 malpractice carriers, the AMA, and other medical societies. The service is meant for patients already under the participating doctor's care and expands Medem's "secure messaging" option, which

lets patients request appointments and prescription refills and ask brief questions for no charge. Roughly 10 percent of Medem's 80,000 doctor users offer the messaging option. Once doctors enroll in the service through Medem, patients will register with their doctor and obtain a password. The doctor's terms of service will detail the cost and the expected response time. Patients will pay for e-mail consultation with a credit card. Those payments will be largely private, since e-mail consultations generally are not reimbursed by insurers.

UCLA Med Mobilizes Student Web Applications

Syllabus News, Resources, Trends for April 30, 2002

The UCLA School of Medicine is mobilizing its web infrastructure to enable key student information to be made accessible to medical students via their personal digital assistants. The school installed a wireless server and developed custom applications, such as handbooks for clinical clerkship rotations, Office of Student Affairs information and emergency guidelines. Other applications being rolled out include a patient log application and a course and rotation evaluation survey application. Bob Trelease, associate director of the school's instructional design and technology Unit said students, "are extremely mobile by their third year of medical school," adding that "PDAs will be as common as the stethoscope" in medicine in the future. To set up the wireless program, the school installed wireless enterprise server software from AvantGo Inc.

MEETINGS & EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

AVMA Veterinary Informatics Standards Development and Harmonization Meeting

The AVMA Committee on Veterinary Medical Informatics (CVMI) invites you to an informal discussion on the status and application of veterinary health information standards, to be held Monday July 15, 2002 at the AVMA Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. Since 1996, the Standards Subcommittee of the CVMI has been working on the development of standards in the areas of terminology and electronic data transmission. The work has advanced to the point where these standards are ready to be implemented to address specific needs in veterinary medicine.

Meeting Details

What: AVMA Veterinary Informatics Standards Development and Harmonization Meeting

Where: 2002 AVMA Annual Convention Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center Nashville Nashville, Tennessee

When: Monday July 15, 2002
4:00 - 5:30 pm

Room: Delta Isle B/C (room subject to change)

Convention Details: please consult the AVMA Web site, www.avma.org for Convention-related information (hotel reservations, etc.)

The purpose of this meeting will be to provide a brief overview of the progress that has been made and to determine how these standards may best be applied to assist veterinary related

groups in meeting their information needs. We encourage all attendees to participate fully in this discussion by sharing information about their needs and exploring opportunities for applying data standards to the work of their organizations.

Questions for Consideration (aka "Homework"):

Please take a few moments to consider the following questions prior to the July 15 meeting:

1. What health data standards related efforts are currently ongoing in your organization?
2. Do you perceive a benefit in creating a national or international set of standards for animal health information?
3. What are the major obstacles in your specialty area that may prevent the incorporation and use of standardized health information?
4. Would your group be willing to participate in a standards consortium to facilitate the universal application of animal health data standards in all areas of veterinary medicine?

We would greatly appreciate your feedback in relation to these questions in advance of the meeting if possible. Please email your comments to ajones@avma.org if your schedule allows; otherwise please bring your comments and thoughts with you to the meeting.

If you would like further information, please contact Dr. Althea A. Jones, (847) 925-8070, ext. 6609, or email ajones@avma.org.

Allen Hahn, DVM
Chair, Standards Subcommittee of the CVMI

SUGGESTED READING

Expert Systems

<http://www.blackwellpublishers.co.uk/asp/journal.asp?ref=0266-4720>

Expert Systems is a quarterly journal devoted to all aspects of artificial intelligence and advanced computing. The journal's readers include knowledge engineers, artificial intelligence researchers, project managers, computer scientists and managers. It is written for those who need an international perspective on expert systems and neural networks, whether as developer, supplier or potential user.

Expert Systems acts as a forum for the expert systems and neural networks community increasing awareness of what these technologies are and of the potential they have for decision-makers in industry, business and government.

Subscribers have access to full-text articles.

Edited By: James L. Alty, Gordon Rugg and Peter McGeorge
Email: newmedia@blackwellpublishers.co.uk

CLOSING BITS

Older Than Dirt Quiz

Count all the ones that you remember- not the ones you were told about! Ratings at the bottom.

- 1 Blackjack chewing gum
- 2 Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water
- 3 Candy cigarettes
- 4 Soda pop machines that dispensed bottle
- 5 Coffee shops with tableside jukeboxes
- 6 Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard stoppers
- 7 Party lines
- 8 Newsreels before the movie
- 9 P.F. Flyers
- 10 Butch wax
- 11 Telephone numbers with a word prefix (Olive - 6933)
- 12 Peashooters
- 13 Howdy Doody

- 14 45 RPM records
- 15 S&H Green Stamps
- 16 Hi-fi's
- 17 Metal ice trays with lever
- 18 Mimeograph paper
- 19 Blue flashbulb
- 20 Beanie and Cecil
- 21 Roller skate keys
- 22 Cork popguns
- 23 Drive-ins
- 24 Studebakers
- 25 Wash tub wringers

- If you remembered 0-5 = You're still young
- If you remembered 6-10 = You are getting older
- If you remembered 11-15 = Don't tell your age
- If you remembered 16-25 = You're older than dirt!