Message from the WVA President

Dear colleagues,

The WVA is working harder than ever during this very busy time on several initiatives. However, I want to concentrate on three issues.

First, the WVA has reached its capacity in both revenue and personnel for any further growth in service to the veterinary profession and our Members. Therefore, this year’s General Assembly will see a well-reasoned Proposal for increased WVA membership fees for 2018. The Finance Committee worked several months to determine the best proposal that would be as fair as possible to all Members and provide a stable financial budget.

Increasing membership fees always is a tough topic, but it is a necessary one. Our 2016 Activities Report clearly shows the excellent work of the WVA. We have attained a much greater visibility and credibility on the global level, but for the WVA to continue its work on behalf of global veterinary medicine and our Members, we must have greater revenue and representation from more associations in more countries.

As the world becomes more densely populated with greater risk to animal and public health, it is more important than ever to have a strong WVA represent the views of the veterinary profession in policy on education, animal welfare, responsible use of medicines, zoonotic diseases, and the production of safe and nutritious animal source foods.

To those associations who are Members, we thank you. We can be so much effective with a large membership supporting each other in advancing the veterinary profession worldwide.

Second, we cannot expect growth in membership without member value. What is the value for associations to be members of the WVA? Listen to the membership benefits video on the WVA homepage.

- We help protect the authority for veterinary professionals through strong legislative statues on the roles of veterinarians and paraprofessionals in the form of clearly stated practice acts.
- We provide online continuing education and registration of CPD requirements for continuing certification (registration or licensing) through the WVA Education Portal;
• We strive to assure veterinary oversight of animal medicines for the protection of animal and human health against antimicrobial resistance.

• We promote high-quality veterinary medical education programs throughout the world with assessment outcomes to assure a veterinary workforce with basic core competencies; and

• We strive to educate the public about the value of veterinary services in both preventive and sick animal care.

These are all issues which directly affect your daily work, issues for the future of our profession that need to be dealt with in a proactive manner to retain public trust and protect animal and public health. We will help you.

Third, the WVA has begun to re-brand the World Veterinary Association Congress as the only global veterinary medical conference for all veterinary medical professionals. Please consider making this a regular meeting for your members and a chance to experience new countries and cultures while learning more veterinary medicine.

This year, the 33rd WVC is taking place in an exciting venue in Incheon, Korea. The WVA is organizing a number of activates on Animal Welfare, Veterinary Education and Antimicrobial Resistance (click here for more info). Registrations to the WVC2017 can be made HERE. We hope to welcome you in Incheon, Korea from 27-31 August for great continuing education seminars, exhibition hall, and social events!

It is time to make a leap to the next level of productivity for WVA through an expanded budget, customized member benefits, and a global veterinary profession’s annual WVA Congress. Thank you all for your support of and participation in the World Veterinary Association - protecting animal and public health through a One Health approach.

René Carlson,
WVA President 2014 – 2017

We need your expertise and participation for the world to hear our message about our role as veterinarians for the global public good. We need your input as Constituent Members or Observers for our discussions. Don’t be left out of the process!

Please forward this info-news to your individual members