

AVMA Veterinary Specialty Organizations Committee (VSOC) Updates August 2024 Quarterly Meeting (Zoom)

From Your VSOC Representative:

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VSOC Executive Subcommittee:

- *Dr. Leslie Sinn (ACVB Rep.) – Chair*
- *Dr. Kris Clothier (ACVM Rep.) – Chair-Elect*
- *Dr. Daniel Almeida (ACVAA Rep.) - Member-at-Large*
- *Dr. Tod Drost (ACVR Rep.) – Past Chair*

AVMA Staff Supporting VSOC & ABVS:

All correspondence pertaining to annual and triennial reports to ABVS should be directed to Ms. Anne Czeropski (aczeropski@avma.org), who serves as the Administrative Assistant to VSOC & ABVS **and** Dr. Ed Murphey (DACVS) (emurphey@avma.org), AVMA Associate Director of Education & Research.

News and Updates

VSOC minutes from May 31, 2024, meeting were approved.

AVMA update Dr. Jim Weisman VSOC Liaison

1. AVMA Residency oversight meeting to be held Aug. 6
2. An announcement for the first AVMA DEIW Summit to be held Nov. 7-9, 2024, was sent to AVMA members. Spots are expected to fill quickly.

Subcommittee Reports

1. Best Current Practices Subcommittee: Drs. Drost (Chair), Chinnadurai, Cowgill – nothing to report
2. Advocacy and Communications Subcommittee: Drs. Byers (Chair), Barton, Sinn - AVMA MarCom – Angela Roberts, AVMA Chief Marketing and Communications Officer (aroberts@avma.org) presented slides with the MarCom's activities in promoting veterinary medicine and AVMA activities; ways to enhance visibility and promotion of specialty college members:
 - i. Current information on specialist input and highlighting outreach; can target a general audience and AVMA members
 - ii. Proactively pitch & post information on multiple social media platforms
 - iii. Profiles of specialists; possibly rotating around RVSO's to enhance public awareness of what specialists provide
 - iv. Smartbrief is not AVMA controlled so there's no way to review or edit what is sent in the newsletter
 - v. Slide deck and future opportunities for highlighting RVSO's will be shared with VSOC

Updates

1. Training Program Oversight Stakeholder meeting being held Aug 6; Drs. Lairmore and Campbell will be participants; only attendees will be allowed to participate; VSOC members and Board Members from specialty colleges are allowed to listen in but not to participate; Dr. Murphey provided the link to VSOC members
2. Specialist Shortage in Academia Task Force – VSOC had submitted a recommendation to the AVMA Board recommending AVMA address this need; at their April meeting, the BOD approved the recommendation to create a task force to consider the issue and identify potential solutions. Efforts to recruit task force members will likely begin in early fall.
3. VSOC recommended revisions of AVMA policies related to internship and residency programs will be considered by the AVMA BOD at their September meeting.

Old Business

1. ABVS ad hoc committee on Fellowship recognition (Drs. Chinnadurai & Dr. Byers & Odunayo) – the committee conducted a short survey of VSOC members requesting input on the fellowships offered and focus of training so they can create a list of existing Fellowships; plan is to for the committee to consider individual RVSO guidelines for already existing fellowships to determine if a list of standards could be developed for a potential process for ABVS recognition of specialty Fellowships.
2. Definitions for RVSO annual report forms - ABVS will discuss this issue at the October meeting
3. AI effects on veterinary practice (Dr. Drost & Dr. Lairmore) – The National Academy of Medicine produced a document discussing AI in Health, Health Care, and Biomedical Sciences <https://nam.edu/artificial-intelligence-in-health-health-care-and-biomedical-science-an-ai-code-of-conduct-principles-and-commitments-discussion-draft/>
 - i. Veterinary medicine is not included in the discussion
 - ii. VSOC approved a motion for a Chair-to-Chair letter to be sent to AVMA requesting contact with authors to encourage veterinary medicine participation in these discussions; Dr. Weisman will also bring this up to the AVMA Board

Dates for next meetings

1. VSQA meeting outcomes discussion Sept 11, 2024 – Zoom, 9-11am Central Time
2. Friday, November 8, 2024 – Zoom; 9-11AM Central Time
3. Monday, March 3, 2025 – In-person at AVMA Headquarters in Schaumburg, IL

As always, if you would like the VSOC to discuss / review a specific topic, please let your VSOC Representative know.