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EDITORIAL

I was unable to attend the Nice meeting. Missing my first ESVD meeting since Barcelona in 1995 has left an odd gap. The annual meeting is one of the events that marks the passage through the year; the milestones by which I measure the pace of life. Are they scientific or social occasions? I would argue both. ESVD meetings are a valued social outlet. I have felt strangely cut off from the many friends I meet at congress; email is just not the same. These meetings also give one an overview of the developments in veterinary dermatology over the last year and every year the advance is further across a broader field. Beyond the scientific programme I often find that a great deal of new information is gained by the exchange of insights and experiences over a jar or two at the end of the day. The breadth and depth of knowledge increases each year. There are areas I already regard as not quite my thing and the reality of sub-specialities within veterinary dermatology is probably not far off. This achievement is reflected in Veterinary Dermatology's impact factor going from 0.658 to 0.934. Now these may seem arcane and frankly small numbers, but 0.934 is an excellent rating for a specialised veterinary journal. Credit is due to the editors, Ian Mason, Karen Moriello and Peter Hill, the editorial board and the authors who contribute high quality articles to the journal (i.e. the veterinary dermatology community in general). Well done!

Good news for UK taxpayers

ESVD membership fees are now officially tax deductible for UK tax payers. The UK inland revenue state 'that the Society has been approved by the Board of Inland Revenue under section 201 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 with effect from April 6th 2002'. A second letter continues 'the Society's name will appear in the list of approved bodies, which is due to be updated later this year. Inspectors of Taxes will not receive notification of the Society's approved status until then. Therefore if members wish to obtain a deduction for their annual subscription before the list is updated, they should explain when contacting their local Tax Inspector that the society has only recently been approved and quote the Head Office reference number SAPP/T1644/44/2002/JEM'.

This is great news; we can thank Keith Thoday for raising the matter at the last AGM and Aiden Foster for pursuing it with the Inland Revenue.

ECVD exams

The Spring Bulletin should contain details of the 2005 ECVD diploma exams. There will, however, be some changes to the present committee structure to create a single committee combining both education and credentials. Publication of the examination details has therefore been postponed to the Autumn bulletin. General information about the diploma exams can be found on the ECVD website (www.ecvd.org) although parts of this are presently under construction.

Ulli Runge Harms award

Many will remember Ulli Runge Harms who was tragically killed in a car accident whilst visiting the dermatology group at the University of Edinburgh. Her enthusiasm and determination to specialise in veterinary dermatology was exemplary. A group of Ulli's friends have contributed to an award in her memory, which will be known as the Ulli Runge Harms award. The ESVD board are pleased to announce that:

1. The URH Award will be given to inspire and support veterinary surgeons pursuing specialisation in veterinary dermatology. The award will be given at the annual ESVD congress as part of a formal ceremony starting in 2003.

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2. Candidates should have been in practice for a minimum of one year before enrolling in a residency programme acknowledged by the ECVD. The award will be given for an outstanding contribution (free communication, poster, paper or project) produced as part of the residency programme.

3. The award consists of a certificate provided by the award committee and free registration for the annual ESVD meeting.

4. A fund called the URH Award Fund, created by Ulli's friends, will support the awardee's travel and accommodation costs for the annual meeting. This additional support will be subject to the individual award winner's needs, the availability of funds and is at the discretion of the award committee.

5. Candidates can apply for the award directly or be proposed by ESVD members. Applications or nominations should reach the award committee three months prior to the annual ESVD congress.

6. The winner will be selected by an award committee consisting of three ESVD members. The current members of the award committee are David Lloyd, David Grant and Patricia Wehrhahn. Please send nominations or applications to :

David H. Lloyd,
61 St Albans Road East, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL10 0EJ, UK.
e-mail: david-lloyd@ntlworld.com

• Contributions to the Ulli Runge Harms fund are most welcome, please contact:

Otto Fischer,
Feldgasse 8, A 2100 Korneuburg, Austria.
e-mail: owfischer@aol.com

• or donate directly to the fund account:

Arbeitskreis Veterinärdermatologie,
Erste Bank, BLZ 20111, account number: 41036004288, Wienerstrasse, A 2100 Korneuburg, Austria.

2003 ECVD-ESVD Congress – Tenerife, 4-6th September 2003

The 19th ESVD-ECVD congress will be held in Tenerife in the Canary Islands. The continuing education programme includes sessions on ear disease, nail disease, mycoses and anti-fungal therapy, camelid and ruminant dermatology, newly recognised infectious and non-infectious dermatoses, immunomodulatory therapy and the diagnosis and treatment of pruritus. The scientific programme will include sessions on new trends in cutaneous immunology and pathology, atopic dermatitis, *Leishmania* and other infectious diseases and new therapeutic options for cutaneous tumours. As usual there will be a comparative component with specially invited medical speakers as well as well known veterinary dermatologists.

Tenerife also offers a balmy climate with interesting geology, land and seascapes as well as interesting bird and plant life thanks to its position deep in the Gulf Stream. So forget its package holiday reputation and come ready to enjoy.

• The Spanish Veterinary Dermatology Society is hosting the meeting. For further information about the meeting or to register interest, please visit the web site www.esvd2003.org

Future congresses

- 2004 - WCVD5, Vienna, Austria (see below)
- 2005 - Chaldiki, Greece

WCVD 5 5th World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology; 25th-28th August 2004, Vienna, Austria

The world's biggest event in Veterinary Dermatology is well on its way; be sure to find your way there too! The following Companies are leading the path to Vienna and the Fifth World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology as Sponsors:

- Principal Sponsors: Virbac, Royal Canin, Bayer, Pfizer and Novartis
- Major Sponsors: Vétoquinol, Hill's, Schering-Plough, Iams, Merial, Intervet and Janssen
- Supporting Sponsors: DVM
- Sponsors: DermaPet

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WCVD 5 *continued*

You can be sure that the best update available in the field of Veterinary Dermatology will be when we all meet in Vienna next year... and remember, this all happens in August 2004 from the 25th-28th in the magnificent splendour of Vienna's Hofburg Conference Centre (if you don't believe me have a look at the photos on the website - www.vetdermvienna.com). It is appropriate that WCVD5 should visit Vienna, where Hugo Schindelfka published the first text on veterinary dermatology. Nearly 100 years later Veterinary Dermatology is one of the most rapidly growing disciplines in Veterinary Medicine. WCVD5 celebrates the beginning of the second century of Veterinary Dermatology and is a wonderful opportunity to meet opinion leaders, experts and friends from all over the world.

The congress will have five main scientific themes – immunology with a focus on atopic dermatitis; therapy and immunomodulatory drugs; infectious and parasitic diseases, especially mycobacteria; skin biology and wound healing; nutrition, antioxidants and free radicals. There will also be workshops on Leishmania, therapy of fungal diseases, equine allergic dermatoses, parasitic dermatoses, genodermatoses and genetic causes of alopecia, cutaneous neoplasia and paraneoplastic syndromes, new therapies for adverse food reactions, atopic dermatitis and recurrent pyoderma, topical therapy, hypothyroidism and new dermatological diseases. And, as if that's not enough, there will be a continuing education programme on two levels: an advanced level for veterinarians with special interest in dermatology and comprehensive level for general practitioners. Topics will include diagnosis and therapy of dermatological conditions, including equine dermatology, as well as special wound healing and dermatopathology sessions.

There will also be a special Japanese programme with full translation, a full programme for veterinary nurses and technicians as well as free communication and poster sessions.

Supporting papers and abstracts are welcome; see the submission guidelines in this bulletin. Please note that the abstracts must be submitted online – go to www.vetdermvienna.com and follow the instructions.

All this, together with an extensive and very special social program with the traditional Viennese hospitality, will enable you to bring yourself up-to-date whilst also taking time to relax and enjoy one of the most beautiful cities of Europe.

- For further details see the website at www.vetdermvienna.com
- To register further interest email the congress office – office@vetdermvienna.com

Your bulletin needs you!

In every bulletin I ask, nay beg, for input from ESVD members and yet get next to no interest. Remember that this is your society and that the bulletin is an excellent arena to raise issues of concern or interest. There are some issues in this bulletin that I feel should have some comment and feedback and I welcome contributions to the bulletin to further debate. These items (and this is not an exhaustive list – feel free to comment on anything that catches your attention) include:

- The apparent decline in membership and attendance at ESVD meetings; are there fewer dermatologists or has the ESVD become less attractive to them. How can this trend be reversed? What do you think?
- Reduced registration fees for residents and post-graduate students; supporting veterinary dermatology and education or freeloading off the busy practitioner?
- Receiving the bulletin by email; a quick, cheap and paper-free distribution or do you prefer something more tangible?
- Commercial sponsorship of the bulletin; a prudent decision or a Faustian pact?
- Location, style and content of future annual congresses and workshops; what would you like to see? How can we do it better?

Remember to check our website – www.esvd.org

ESVD AGM ESVD Acropolis Centre, Nice, September 27th 2002

Margreet Vroom, President of ESVD opened the meeting with a welcome to all members.

Treasurer's Report

There have been considerable delays in processing membership enquiries. This has been due in part to a number of factors:

- Resignation of the membership secretary.
- Blackwells have been slow in sending *Veterinary Dermatology* after they have received notification. They have had some changes in computer arrangements that have affected posting of the journal.
- Address changes have not been updated; members are encouraged to notify ESVD of a change of address as soon as possible.
- Members are encouraged to review their bank details; in some cases ESVD does not know the source of bank transfers and it can be difficult to link a bank transfer to the name of a member.
- Members using VISA credit cards must give the card information accurately to avoid any delay in processing membership payments.
- Members are advised that it may take four weeks to receive copies of *Veterinary Dermatology* once the membership payment/application has been received and processed.

Some member's names were missing from the 2002 annual report due to a secretarial mistake. The error is regretted and apologies are offered.

It would be feasible to send the bulletin, annual report and other post to members by email, which would save ESVD a considerable amount of money (approximately 1500-2000 Euros per annum). No decision has been taken on this and your comments are welcome.

Comments from the floor:

- One member suggested receiving a receipt acknowledging payment – once the new membership secretary is in place email acknowledgement will hopefully be sent out.
- ESVD is not registered as an organisation that is entitled to a tax deduction for membership fees in the UK – could this be considered? [ESVD membership is now tax-deductible; see note in this bulletin.]
- Commercial companies may be willing to provide support towards the costs of mailing the bulletin to members.

2001 ESVD congress in Copenhagen

A payment of 28,000 Euros has been made to the local organising committee for the ESVD annual meeting in Copenhagen and the financial report initiated discussion about the reasons for such a loss. Currently the scientific committee of the local organising committee includes members of the ESVD/ECVD boards. The ESVD board also reviews the budget for the annual meetings and offers advice. In order to avoid losses in future meetings the treasurers from the ESVD and ECVD boards will be seconded to the local organising committee to provide assistance.

Dr. Flemming Kristensen offered the following comments as chair of the local organising committee in Copenhagen: the predicted delegate numbers included people from Eastern Europe who did not arrive, so instead of 700 delegates only 600 attended; a free Danish dermatology meeting held shortly before the congress exacerbated the situation; printing costs were over 100% higher than originally quoted; and there are books in stock for nurses valued at 15,000 Euros to add back to the budget and two sponsor guarantees remain to be paid (total 23,000 Euros).

In view of the budget loss for the annual meeting in Copenhagen the board was invited to consider adoption of an insurance policy to enable local organising committees to avoid risk associated with financial losses, especially due to factors beyond their control. The matters of limited liability, charitable and tax status of the ESVD, and how we can cover possible financial losses is under consideration by the board.

Residents' registration fees

Registration fees for residents pursuing the alternative route for ECVD accreditation were also discussed. The ESVD board decided before the AGM to continue with free registration for residents; undergraduate and postgraduate students in dermatology or related disciplines and alternative route residents pay 50% of the registration fee. Factors to consider include the gradual decline in the number of delegates for the annual congresses so that free registration may not be feasible in the future and whether for future meetings all types of residents and postgraduate students will have to pay the full fee or only a percentage of the registration fee.

ESVD AGM *continued*

Membership secretary's report

There were five applications for full membership and they were accepted on a vote. Trevor Whitbread informed the meeting that there were 514 members of ESVD with an additional 90 that had not renewed so far. It was suggested that a web-based questionnaire survey could be sent to people that do not renew membership.

Publication secretary's report (Chiara Noli)

Veterinary Dermatology – the citation index has risen from 0.658 to 0.934 in the past year and from position 45 to 30 in the list of veterinary journals. Selected abstracts from the ACVD/AAVD and ESVD/ECVD annual meetings will be published from this year onwards. Special issues are also planned for the journal.

Tim Nuttall was thanked for his hard work as editor of the ESVD Bulletin.

Web page (www.esvd.org) - this has been updated and will undergo further revision to make it more useful for members as well as advertising the work of the ESVD. David Lloyd was thanked for his part in assisting with the web page.

Further Education Committee's Report (Zeinab Alhaidari)

The next annual meeting will be held in Tenerife – see material in this bulletin.

Future Annual congresses:

2004 – WCVD5 Vienna, Austria (see material in this bulletin)

2005 Chalidiki, Greece

No decision has been made on congresses after 2005; members are welcome to suggest suitable venues for future annual meetings.

Future workshops include:

Therapeutics: 3-6th November 2003, Cremona, Italy – see note in this bulletin.

Skin biology: 28-30th January 2004, Lyons Cancer Research Centre, France.

ESVD workshops are run to help the members to improve their understanding and knowledge in veterinary dermatology. We welcome suggestions for future topics and possible venues.

Research committee report and award of the ESVD research grant (Chiara Noli)

Unfortunately the reviewers were unable to agree on the two applications submitted for funding. Consequently the award will be postponed until 2003, when it may be possible to fund more than one project.

Any other business

Those members present adopted the ESVD bye-law changes that were previously published in the bulletin.

There was considerable debate about how to commemorate the death of Ulli Renge Harms. The ESVD board offered a free annual meeting registration for the recipient of an award that will seek to commemorate her death (see note in this bulletin).

An agenda item for future AGMs may include a detailed report, including financial details, of the ESVD annual meeting.

Aiden P Foster
ESVD Secretary

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Fifth World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology

Vienna, 25th - 28th August 2004

The World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology is held every four years and is the largest international meeting of the discipline. We invite our global colleagues in related disciplines such as microbiology, immunology, internal medicine, parasitology, oncology, and pathology to submit abstracts for presentation at the Congress in Vienna, 25-28 August, 2004.

Abstracts may be submitted under either of two categories: **Supporting Original Studies** (high-impact studies of broad general interest in veterinary dermatology: these require an abstract, oral presentation at Congress and manuscript; full travel, accommodation and registration costs are paid by the Congress) and **Free Communications/Posters** (studies of more limited scope or narrower interest: these require only an abstract; oral or poster presentation at Congress; no travel or registration costs paid). All abstracts will be reviewed in a competitive manner by the Program Committee.

Abstracts related to one of the five plenary themes (Immunology/Atopic Dermatitis, Infectious and Parasitic Diseases/Mycobacteria, Nutrition and the Skin/Antioxidants and free radicals, Skin Biology/Wound healing, Therapy/Immune modulating drugs) are preferred for the Supporting Original Studies.

The absolute deadline for receipt of abstracts by the Program Committee is 15th November 2003 for the Supporting Papers and 15th January 2004 for the Free Communications and Posters. Abstracts must be submitted via internet through the web page www.vetdermvienna.com. Complete information on abstract submission, preparation instructions and a model of the required abstract format, along with additional information about the Congress itself are available online from the Congress web site at www.vetdermvienna.com

Details on Submission of ABSTRACTS

1. Deadline. The deadline for the electronic receipt of completed abstracts, is midnight November 15, 2003 for the Supporting Original Studies and midnight January 15, 2004 for the Free Communications and Posters.

In fairness to other authors and to meet a tight production schedule, we regret that NO EXCEPTIONS will be made to this deadline. All submissions will be acknowledged by e-mail.

2. Requirement. For the Fifth World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology, all authors are REQUIRED to submit their abstract on-line through the Congress web site at www.vetdermvienna.com. Abstract submissions may NOT be submitted by diskette, in printed (hard-copy) format, by fax or by e-mail. Instructions for submission are detailed in the Abstract Guidelines, which are also available on the Congress web site at: www.vetdermvienna.com

3. Please follow instructions. Authors are asked to carefully follow the exact guidelines of the abstract submission. All formatting (font, style, etc.) has been pre-set in the abstract document template for each subsection (title, authors, author affiliation, abstract text, and funding). **ABSTRACTS NOT CONFORMING TO THE FORMATTING OR EXCEEDING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF WORDS ALLOWABLE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

4. Submission address. Abstracts must be submitted on the abstract document template that will be e-mailed to authors once they have registered (STEP 1 of abstract submission process). When authors are ready to submit their abstract, they should go to the congress website (www.vetdermvienna.com), click on the "Abstract guidelines and submission" link, click on "Submit - SUPPORTING ORIGINAL STUDIES" or "Submit - FREE COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTERS", and proceed to STEP 2.

5. Withdrawals and revisions. Submitted abstracts must be complete and are regarded as final. Revisions may only be initiated by the Programme Committee. Abstracts may be withdrawn until February 15, 2004, by notification of the Programme Committee Chair at the e-mail address: chiara.noli@vetdermvienna.com. No withdrawals are possible after this date. Abstracts may have minor editing by the Programme Committee and authors will not always have an opportunity to review such editing before publication of abstracts in the supplement to Veterinary Dermatology. Authors will be informed of any editing that affects the scientific content and interpretation of an abstract, and will have an opportunity to review such editing prior to publication.

6. Disclosure statement. The primary author is required to complete and submit the disclosure statement during Step 1 in the "Abstract registration". Please note that **NO ABSTRACT WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT COMPLETION AND ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, EVEN IF THERE ARE NO DISCLOSURES TO BE MADE.**

7. Clinical case reports. Authors are advised that case reports describing only one animal (rather than a case series) are unlikely to be selected for oral presentation, but will be welcome as submissions for the poster session.

8. English. Abstracts will not be accepted unless written in clear English. It is strongly recommended that international authors have their submissions checked and read for clarity by an individual who speaks English as a primary language.

9. Original material only. Abstracts submitted for any type of presentation must be unpublished, original material that has not been previously presented, in part or in complete form, as a short communication or poster at national or international veterinary, medical, or scientific meetings.

Abstract Guidelines

Authors are asked to carefully follow the exact guidelines of the abstract submission. All formatting (font, style, spacing, etc.) has been pre-set in the abstract document template for each sub-section (title, authors, author affiliation, abstract text and funding). **ABSTRACTS NOT CONFORMING TO THE FORMATTING OR EXCEEDING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF WORDS ALLOWABLE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

When the abstract document template is received as an attachment following registration, the document should be saved by the author as a Word document (.doc). Each subsection of the abstract must be completed by clicking on the heading and entering the necessary information - do not change the formatting. The abstract text may be entered free style or using "cut and paste" functions. Once the author has completed the abstract document template, the abstract is submitted as per the instructions in 5 above.

The following information describes the format and style that have been pre-set in the abstract document template.

- A. Use single line spacing. Use 10 point Times New Roman font for all text.
- B. Do not use carriage returns (Enter key) at the ends of lines within a paragraph... use the software's word-wrap feature. If your software has a hyphenation feature, turn this option OFF.
- C. **Title:** Use **Bold Letters** for the title (e.g. **Changes in cutaneous pH under conditions of stress**). The title should be brief and descriptive.
- D. **Authors:** Use CAPITAL LETTERS for all authors and include only initials and last name (e.g. A.N. OTHER, J. DOE).
- E. **Author affiliations/addresses:** Use *Italics*. Include Institution/Company/Practice, City, State/Province, Country (e.g. *College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Abcde, City, State, Country; Fghij Corporation, City, State, Country*). When listing authors from different institutions, list the affiliations by author.
- F. **Abstract text:** The body of the abstract should contain the study objective, a brief statement of methods, statement of results, and conclusions, as separate paragraphs. Results stated in the abstracts must be complete (though concise) and final. It is not acceptable to state "results will be discussed." Results presented at the Congress in oral or poster format must match those presented in the abstract.
- G. **Spell out any abbreviation in full** on the first mention, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses.
- H. **Funding:** Use *Italics* (e.g. *Funding Klnnop Corporation, University of Stuvv, Self-funded*).
- I. **When finished with your abstract, count the words** to ensure you have not exceeded the prescribed limit. Abstracts may not exceed 500 words if submitted as Supporting Original Studies or 250 words if submitted as Free Communications and Posters (EXCLUDING title, author list, and affiliations). Abstracts exceeding these limits will not be accepted by the program.
- J. **Take care not to use "l" (ell) for "1" (one), "O" (capital O) for "0" (zero), or "ß" (German esszett) for "B" (Greek beta).**
- K. We regret that **figures, graphs, tables, illustrations and references are not permitted** in the abstract due to space constraints.

ECVD workshop on Skin Biology

International Agency for Cancer Research (IACR), Lyon, France, 28th - 30th January 2004

ESVD is organising a skin biology in Lyon at the end of January 2004. We hope that many of you will take the opportunity to attend. Each speaker is a world renowned specialist in their field and we know that they will take us on a tour through the classical and less well known aspects of skin biology; new information arises all the time. We also trust that our sponsors will help provide a welcoming nice atmosphere, and we thank them in advance. There are plenty of inexpensive hotels around the IACR that will be listed in the official announcements.

If you need further information, don't hesitate to contact me:

Dr Zeineb Alhaidari, Clinique Vétérinaire, Cidex 248, RN 85, 06330 - Roquefort les Pins, France.

e-mail : z.alhaidari@atsat.com fax : 33 493 77 62 48

Wednesday 28th January

- 08.00 - 09.00 Registration and welcome
 09.00 - 10.30 Update on epidermal differentiation and keratinisation
 J. Kanitakis (INSERM UNIT 346 (Human skin and Immunity), Lyon, France)
 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break
 11.00 - 12.00 Update on stratum corneum and desquamation
 M. Haftek (INSERM UNIT 346 (Human skin and Immunity), Lyon, France)
 12.00 - 13.00 Update on corneodesmosin
 G. Serre (Laboratory of Cellular Biology and Cytology, Toulouse, France)
 13.00 - 14.30 Lunch
 14.30 - 16.30 Update on cellular adhesion molecules
 P. Rousselle (Institute of Biology and Chemistry of Proteins, Lyon, France)
 16.30 - 17.00 Coffee break
 17.00 - 18.00 Update on epidermal cytokines and keratinocyte activation
 D. Jullien (Hopital Edouard Herriot, Dermatology Department, Lyon, France)

Thursday 29th January

- 09.00 - 10.30 Update on the skin immune system
 F. Berard (Centre Hospitalier Lyon Sud, Clinical Immunology and Allergology Unit, Lyon, France)
 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break
 11.00 - 12.00 Update on the Langerhans cell
 C. Dezutter Dambuyant (INSERM UNIT 346 (Human skin and Immunity), Lyon, France)
 12.00 - 13.00 Update on skin vascularisation
 D. Jullien (Hopital Edouard Herriot, Dermatology Department, Lyon, France)
 13.00 - 14.30 Lunch
 14.00 - 16.30 Update on skin matrix and collagens
 D. Herbage (Institute of Biology and Chemistry of Proteins, Lyon, France)
 16.30 - 17.00 Coffee break
 17.00 - 18.00 Update on elastic fibers
 P. Sommer (Institute of Biology and Chemistry of Proteins, Lyon, France)

Friday 30th January

- 09.00 - 10.30 Dermo-epidermal junction: update on hemidesmosomes
 L. Borradori (Hopital cantonal, Dermatology Department, Genève, Suisse)
 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break
 11.00 - 12.00 Dermo-epidermal junction: update on other structures and functions:
 P. Bernard (Hopital Robert Debré, Dermatology Department, Reims, France)
 12.00 - 13.00 Update on skin innervation
 D. Jullien (Hopital Edouard Herriot, Dermatology Department, Lyon, France)
 13.00 - 14.30 Lunch
 14.30 - 16.30 Update on the follicular unit B. Bernard (Hair Biology Group, L'Oréal, Clichy, France)
 16.30 - 17.00 Coffee break
 17.00 - 18.00 Update on the follicular unit B. Bernard (Hair Biology Group, L'Oréal, Clichy, France)

The maximum number of attendants is 40; ESVD members will have priority until October 31st 2003.

Registration fees (inclusive of lunch, coffee breaks and proceedings):

ESVD members 300 euros Non members 410 euros

German Dermatology Meeting

The 6th National Congress of the German Society of Veterinary Dermatology will be held from 27th - 29th June 2003 in Bremen at the Atlantic Hotel Universum. The main speakers are Erik Teske, Ch. Stockhaus, Dr. Krautwald, S. Schleifer, M. Sloet and Prof. Leibold R. Muller.

The major sponsor is Virbac – Thank you!

Programme

Friday 27th	Cytology workshop	Digital photography
Saturday 28th	Pruritic dermatoses of horses, dogs, cats and birds	
Sunday 29th	Case presentations, news from pharmaceutical industry	

For further information please contact:

Dr. Margret Heineking-Ehlers, Regensburger Str. 75, D-28215 Bremen, Germany.

email - HeinekingE@aol.com

Please note that this meeting will be in German.

Belgian Dermatology Meeting

The annual meeting of the Belgian French speaking Veterinary Dermatology group (GTDV) will be held in Brussels on 28th September 2003. The programme will be:

Dermatite atopique canine: actualités; Ralf Mueller (Colorado State University)
Vasculopathies et dermatology; Jacques Fontaine (Dip ECVD-Bruxelles) and Marianne Heimann (IMP Loverval)
Histiocytome, histiocytose, réactions histiocytaires; Luc Beco (Dip ECVD-Spa)
Réactions cutanées induites par l'alimentation; Isabelle Remy (Profondeville)
Echecs thérapeutiques lors de pyodermites; Eric Fauvel (Wavre)
Traitement des dermatophytoses: actualités; Isabelle Remy (Profondeville)
Otitites externes: options thérapeutiques; Isabelle Remy (Profondeville)
Cyclosporine : nouvelle option thérapeutique; Jacques Fontaine (Dip ECVD-Bruxelles)
Les maladies des ongles; Ralf Mueller (Colorado State University)

For further details please contact:

Jacques Fontaine DMV Dip ECVD, 425 av Brugmann, B1180 Bruxelles, Belgium.

email - fontaine.jacques@ping.be

If you haven't already guessed, this meeting will be held in French.

TESA – 3rd European Aerobiology Symposium

www.worc.ac.uk/TESA

30th August – 4th September 2003; Worcester, UK

The Third European Symposium on Aerobiology (TESA) will be held in Worcester, an historic Cathedral city on the river Severn, set in beautiful countryside close to Shakespeare's home town of Stratford-Upon-Avon. The Symposium will be held on the University College's parkland campus which is a short distance from the city centre. Cheap accommodation is available on campus or the city with hotels ranging from economy through to luxury. It is easy to get to Worcester from Birmingham airport or from London airports.

The symposium will include an interesting mixture of traditional aspects of aerobiology and also novel ones that are becoming increasingly significant. The emphasis will be on applied aerobiology as this is one of the most productive fields of current research and collaboration. There will also be a comparative stream discussing allergies in companion animals.

British Veterinary Dermatology Study Group Autumn Meeting

The BVDSG autumn meeting will be held at the Thistle hotel, East Midlands airport on the 8th-9th November 2003. The theme is Dermatological Diagnostics. The programme will highlight new diagnostics techniques and points of controversy in veterinary dermatology; there will also be the traditional comparative view from human dermatology. Even more traditional is the Saturday night knees up! See the website for further details: pcwww.liv.ac.uk/~timn

To register contact:

Class Events; 20 Magnus Drive, Hatch Warren, Basingstoke, Hants., RG22 4TX, UK.

Tel: +44 (0) 1256 325464

Fax: +44 (0) 1256 346975;

email: classevents@msn.com

Wound healing

The 6th Annual Conference of the Veterinary Wound Healing Association will be held in Cardiff, November 1st-2nd 2003. The topic will be tumour and trauma with state of the art lectures, supporting papers, free communications and a wound healing workshop exploring the use of wound management materials.

Further details from:

Chris Cochrane, Department of Veterinary Clinical Science,
University of Liverpool, Leahurst, Cheshire, CH64 7TE, UK.

Tel: +44 (0)151 794 6123

Fax: +44 (0)151 794 6005

email: c.a.cochrane@liverpool.ac.uk

Further details are also on the VVHA website – www.vvha.net

Fancy a trip down under?

The new Australian Dermatology Chapter has an inaugural dermatology program at Science Week which runs 4th - 6th July 2003 at the Gold Coast Queensland. Science Week is the official conference week of the Australian College of Veterinary Science. All the Board (Fellowship) exams are conducted earlier in the week and then all the specialist chapters surgery, medicine, equine etc etc have their individual meetings over the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. So, it is a very busy, dynamic and well organised meeting. The dermatology program is scheduled for the 5th. Dr. Helen Power is speaking this year and the theme is 'Nails and Noses'. This is a beautiful time of the year to be on the Queensland coast.

For further details please contact:

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...or Quebec in 2004?

The 7th International Veterinary Immunology Symposium (7th IVIS) will take place in Quebec City, 25th - 30th July 2004. The website is www.ivis2004.org - please visit the site to learn more about the 7th IVIS. The organisers are confident that this will meet and surpass the standards of previous meetings in the series and be meeting in the field in an unrivalled setting. I can vouch that the last IVIS meeting in Sweden was excellent; interesting, friendly and highly informative. There is always a strong companion animal stream and immunologists have a genuine fascination and interest in clinical problems. This is definitely the place to be in 2004 for anyone with more than a passing interest in immunology.

Atopic Dogs wanted for Chinese Herbal Therapy Trial

Several centres in the UK and France are currently involved in a clinical study that is looking at a plant-based product known as P7v to see which dose has the best effect on dogs with atopic dermatitis. Two small studies have indicated that this product might be an effective treatment for atopic dermatitis, but this needs to be confirmed with a larger group of dogs. Treatment costs and consultation fees will be waived during the study period.

- Eligible dogs:** Older than 18 months, any breed and a history of year round pruritus.
Clinical diagnosis of atopic dermatitis.
- Study arrangements** Enrolment visit; to check eligibility criteria, further investigation as required
Randomly assigned to one of four groups; placebo, low, medium or high dose
12 week trial with a clinical evaluation every four weeks
Final assessment by telephone two weeks after last dose
12 week open label supply of the active ingredient
- Final assessment** Positive intradermal test or Allercept® ELISA to one or more non-seasonal allergens.

Further details: If you have any clients that would like to be involved in this study or you would like more information then please contact Phytopharm plc. Tel. +44 (0)1480 437697; Fax. +44 (0) 1480 417090;
Web - www.phytopharm.co.uk.

UK

Neil McEwan
Small Animal Hospital, University of Glasgow
Tel No. 0141 3305848

Anita Patel
Dermatology Referrals, Croydon & Sevenoaks
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Judith Joyce
Croft Veterinary Surgeons, Newcastle
Tel No. 0191 2170123

Anke Hendricks
Wey Referrals, Woking
Tel No. 01483 729194

Julie Henfrey
Sheriffs Highway Veterinary Hospital
Tel No. 0191 4877319

Pet Doctors Chandler's Ford, Southampton
(contact Charlotte Salmon)
Tel No. 02380 255565

Tim Nuttall
University of Liverpool Small Animal Hospital
Tel No. 0151 7944290

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Chris Dale
Prospect Veterinary Centre, W. Yorkshire
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David Scarff
Anglian Referrals, Norwich
Tel No. 01603 743415

Janet Littlewood
Veterinary Dermatology Referrals, Cambridge
Tel No. 01223 441539

Ewan Ferguson
Royal Veterinary College, London
Tel No. 01707 666366

Italian Dermatology Residency

1st September 2003 - 30th June 2006)

Studio Dermatologico Veterinario, Milano, Italia

The applicant must:

- Have authorisation to work as a veterinarian in Europe
- Have a good to excellent knowledge of Italian and English
- Have successfully completed an internship or have equivalent professional experience
- Undertake the diploma examination of the European College of Veterinary Dermatology at the end of the residency program

Please send two copies of a curriculum vitae by the 30th June 2003 to:

Fabia Scarampella/Laura Ordeix,
Studio Dermatologico Veterinario, Via Sismondi 62, 20133 Milano, Italia.

For further information please contact:

Fabia Scarampella; email Scarampella@iol.it

Report from The ESVD/ECVD Congress in Nice, September 2002

The 18th Annual Congress of the ESVD/ECVD was held in Nice on September 26-28 2002. After what was a dismal summer in Scotland, the prospect of a few sunny days in Nice was particularly attractive and I am happy to say that we were not disappointed with perfect temperatures and three days of glorious sunshine. Apart from arranging the weather, well done and thank you to the organising committee for putting together an excellent programme and for assembling an array of fine speakers to cover many of the current topics of the discipline. The scientific streams concentrated on the hair follicle, new drugs in dermatology, the dermo-epidermal junction and the pigmentary system. Highlights included the unravelling of some of the confusion surrounding the use of the terms follicular dysplasia and follicular dystrophy and an excellent presentation on current usage of cyclosporine, or for those of you on the continent, ciclosporine. The clinical streams included a full day on feline dermatology as well as parasitology, oncology and small mammal dermatology.

In addition to the lectures there were three interesting days of free communications which nicely complimented the scientific and clinical content.

No congress would be complete without a social programme and this one made the most of what the wonderful city of Nice and it's surrounding area have to offer. Again, well done and thank you to the organisers and roll on Tenerife!

Peter J. Forsythe

The History of Veterinary Dermatology

Ken Mason suggested that it would be a good idea to write a history of our speciality particularly as many of the major figures in veterinary dermatology are still active. Chris Chesney has kindly agreed to collect and collate material. Tommy Thomset and Ken Baker have already made a start but mainly concerning developments in the UK. We would like to build on this and collect material from other parts of the world.

If any of you can supply information on the development of veterinary dermatology in your country including anecdotes and stories of the people concerned could you please contact Chris at: chris.chesney@tesco.net