

Editor: TIM NUTTALL, BSc BVSc PhD CertVD Clliol MIBiol MRCVS
LECTURER IN VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY,
THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL SMALL ANIMAL HOSPITAL,
CROWN STREET, LIVERPOOL, L7 7EX. UNITED KINGDOM.
TEL: +44 151 794 4290; FAX +44 151 794 4304; EMAIL: timn@liver.ac.uk

December 2004

Letter from the Treasurer; membership fees are due now!

Dear Members,

The heat of the summer is becoming a memory and we are heading into winter now. I am afraid it is that time of year again to renew subscriptions for ESVD. As you know, the Society publishes its own journal (Veterinary Dermatology), regular bulletins and other communications during the year and we also arrange a number of workshops for members. In addition, we have an annual Congress with presentations by experts in various aspects of Veterinary Dermatology catering for all levels of expertise. The congress is an opportunity to meet colleagues with similar interests to discuss problem cases, novel therapies and other professional matters. It is also of course an opportunity to enjoy oneself at a number of social events arranged for each congress.

Included with this bulletin is the membership fees payment form. Please remember to return this to the treasurer before **14th January 2005**. Everyone is encouraged to renew membership subscriptions as soon as possible. Non- or late-payment costs the society a fair sum. Members not paying on time will not receive Veterinary Dermatology until the fees are settled.

Early renewal of your subscription using the attached forms will allow you to continue to take advantage of all of these benefits of membership. Please fill the forms out carefully and extremely legibly. Different countries write numbers in slightly different ways and this can be confusing particularly with Visa payment. Please take care with this and give all the information that is asked for. Take particular care if paying by bank transfer to make sure that we know who the bank transfer is from otherwise we cannot credit the money to your membership.

A small number of members each year have difficulty with their membership renewal. Up to 30 memberships are linked to bank transfers BUT we have no information about the members identity! This can manifest itself in a number of ways including the lack of delivery of our journal, Veterinary Dermatology, failure to receive bulletins and possibly annual reports and occasionally omission from the membership list in the annual report. With any organisation, it is always possible that this is due to an administrative error but the vast majority of these problems are associated with payment of membership by bank transfer. Whenever a bank transfer is credited to our account, the bank in Luxembourg sends us details taken from the transfer order. The most important part of the detail, from our point of view, is the name of the member for whom the payment is being made. There are between 20-30 bank transfers every year which have no indication at all as to the member to which the membership should be credited. I do not know whether this is the fault of the member not filling in the form in sufficient detail or whether it is the member's bank that does not forward the appropriate details. Irrespective of the cause, some members pay their subscription but we cannot identify who they are. I would ask you to make sure when filling out bank transfer details to include your name in as many places as appears to be necessary to get the appropriate details through to us. If you do not receive Veterinary Dermatology within a reasonable time from the

continued on page 2

beginning of the year, then please contact us to check if we have received a membership fee from you. There have been some administrative errors in keeping the list of full members up to date and this has regrettably led to some members not having an opportunity to vote or stand in the elections. It would be helpful if members could keep us up to date with their email addresses – please send them to treasurer@esvd.org.

Don't forget, the 2005 Congress is in Chalkidiki in Greece and our Greek hosts have planned an excellent meeting and excellent social events.

Trevor Whitbread
ESVD Treasurer,
Abbey Veterinary Services,
89 Queen Street,
Newton Abbot,
Devon,
TQ12 2AB,
UK.

EDITORIAL

Thanks to the modern wonders of handheld computer technology I am starting this post-WCVD editorial perched on a rock looking at the Stubai glacier in the Tirol (pedants among you will no doubt point out that this makes the first few sentences a pre-congress report). And, no I'm not a techno-geek; a geek would have sent this in using Bluetooth™ (although a techno-geek would have been unlikely to have climbed up to the Glacier in the first place). Before I get completely carried away by the natural wonders around me and the question of why the people most keen on wireless technology are also the least likely to stray from a wired environment, I should get back to the main business. A world congress provides a great excuse to visit some of the most beautiful and spectacular parts of the world, witness Bordeaux, Montreal, Edinburgh, San Francisco and Vienna with Hong Kong to look forward to in 2008. Vienna was a wonderful venue and from speaking to the delegates I know many took the opportunity to visit the Alps, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Graz, Bratislava, Budapest and more. Apart from the mountains my highlights were the Klimts, the Venus of Willendorff and the Hofburg palaces. And the food. And the beer. And trains that are cheap, clean and run on time (Network Rail take note; it can be done).

The full congress reports will appear as usual in the Spring bulletin (I'm also happy to receive any unsolicited 'unofficial' reports and comments). Personally, I was overwhelmed by the venue; how often do you get to speak in a Royal Palace that one would normally pay to be guided around? If my attention wandered during some of the sessions it can only have been due to the splendour of the surroundings. The organisers are to be congratulated on a magnificent job well done. My only complaint? That the programme was so packed with quality that I was occasionally left wondering what I'd missed rather than gained.

The scientific proceedings from the World Congress are available on-line from Blackwell Publications; go to www.blackwellpublishing.com/VDE and click on 'tables of contents' to follow the links to Supplement: 1, August 2004.

A substantial number of members indicated that they would prefer to still receive a paper copy of bulletin. This will therefore continue for the foreseeable future. Printing and distribution of the bulletin is now sponsored by Hill's and we are very grateful for their support. A PDF version of the bulletin will also be placed on the website for browsing and downloading.

Membership fees

Included with this bulletin is the membership fees payment form; remember to return this to the treasurer before 1st January 2005. Please renew your membership as soon as possible as non- or late-payment costs the society a fair sum; see Trevor Whitbread's letter outlining the many benefits that membership brings. Please note that members not paying on time will not receive Veterinary Dermatology until the fees are settled.

Abstract watch

The abstracts in this bulletin are the last from Ralf Mueller. Ralf has done an excellent job over the last few years distilling the content of key papers in medical and veterinary dermatology into a few pithy sentences. He has now taken on curriculum responsibilities and rightly feels that some jobs have to go (having a similar task at Liverpool my sympathies are with Ralf!). We are therefore looking for someone to take on the abstract watch. This essentially involves providing a short summary of 5-6 interesting papers from journals that members in practice are perhaps less likely to come across. Please contact me if you're interested.

20th Annual Congress of the ESVD-ECVD; Chalkidiki, Greece, 8th-10th September 2005

The 20th Annual Congress of the ESVD-ECVD will take place at the Athos Palace-Pallini Beach hotel complex, located on the most beautiful beach of Cassandra, Chalkidiki from 8th to 10th of September 2005. The scientific programme has been designed to cover the important aspects of *Staphylococcus intermedius* colonisation and infection, canine allergies and aeroallergens, feline autoimmune alopecias, follicular diseases, keratinisation disorders, leishmaniosis, cutaneous inflammation and feline eosinophilic dermatoses. Internationally recognised speakers will provide a continuing education programme of updates on exotic animal dermatology, diagnostic dilemmas in canine hypothyroidism, elimination diets, otitis externa, cytology, histopathology and other clinically oriented topics.

Abstracts for free communications and posters are more than welcome. The submission deadline is the 1st of March 2005; see the website for further details.

Chalkidiki is a wonderful location to experience the famous Greek welcome and hospitality. Delegates will no doubt enjoy sun bathing and swimming whilst recalling Homer's bronze sky and wine-dark sea. There will also be an unforgettable barbecue and folklore night as well as the traditional gala dinner. The antiquities of the ancient city of Thessaloniki and other sites are only 60km to the north. Agio Oros or Holy Mountain, which is famed for its covering of Byzantine monasteries, is even closer.

Further details are available at the web site www.esvd2005.gr. The early registration (i.e. cheaper) deadline is the 15th May 2005.

You can contact the organising committee by mail (Dr. A. Koutinas, PO Box 16039, GR-54401, Thessaloniki, Greece) or by email (Dr. M. Saridomichelakis at msarido@vt.lauth.gr). The congress secretariat is:

EPSILON, I. Papapanayotou - V. Vourazeris OE,
4 Papadiamantopoulou Str, GR-115 28, Athens, Greece.

Tel. - ++30 21 0 7254360
fax. - ++30 21 0 754363
email - epsilonb@hol.gr

Main sponsor: Janssen Animal Health

Future congresses

- 21st Annual Congress of ESVD-ECVD: Lisboa, Portugal, 6th-9th September 2006 (please note that these dates are not yet fully confirmed)
- 22nd Annual Congress of ESVD-ECVD: Prague, Czech Republic, 2007
- 6th World Congress in Veterinary Dermatology: Hong Kong, November 2008

ESVD Board news

The ESVD Board for the coming year is:

Luc Béco	Meetings secretary
Aiden Foster	Secretary
Ralf Mueller	Publications and Grant secretary
Chiara Noli	President
Margreet Vroom	Past president
Trevor Whitbread	Treasurer and Membership secretary

Congratulations to Luc Béco and Ralf Mueller on their election to the ESVD Board and a big welcome. Thanks were offered to Zeineb Alhaidari and Dominique Héripret, who are retiring as meetings secretary and past president respectively, for their service to the ESVD and their hard work for the board. Chiara Noli thanked Margreet Vroom for all her work on the board and stated that she was very pleased and honoured to be the new president of the board.

The next ESVD AGM will be held on Friday 9th September 2005 at 13.45 during the 20th Annual Congress of the ESVD-ECVD, in the Athos Palace-Pallini Beach Hotel, Kalithea, Chalkidiki, Greece.

ECVD Corner

A new feature in this bulletin is the specific ECVD corner. All communications from the ECVD will be reported here. Please note that the ESVD and ECVD are separate organisations although they do work together very closely. All queries over diploma accreditation and examinations should be directed to the ECVD not ESVD.

Veterinary Dermatology

Veterinary Dermatology continues to go from strength to strength under the stewardship of Joan Rest, the Editor in Chief, ably assisted by her co-editors and editorial board. Figures for 2003 reveal that the Journal's impact factor increased to 1.068 (up from 0.952) its standing in the Veterinary Sciences category went up to 23 (from 36) out of 121. The fact that the impact factor is now over 1 is brilliant news; well done to everyone concerned.

There are plans to appoint three additional co-editors and extend the number of pages to reduce publication time. There will also be on-line submission for articles in due course. There are a number of back issues of the journal which could be used at annual congresses and other veterinary dermatology meetings to help to attract new members. Some could also be sent to third world countries with limited resources for paying for library resources and journals.

Related news is that the list of veterinary dermatology publications compiled by Thierry Olivry will be available on the ESVD website (www.esvd.org) and follow the link to ESVD online.

New Full Members

The new Full Members proposed and accepted at the Annual General Meeting in Vienna are:

Cordula von Well; Germany
Aud Thelin; Norway
Stephen Shaw; UK
Stephanie Kobrich; Germany

Anna Rathe; Norway
Peri Lau; UK
Ursula Mayer; Germany
Christina Colonna; Italy

Full Members have full voting rights and can stand for the ESVD board after two years of full membership. Application forms for full membership can be downloaded as a word file from the ESVD website (www.esvd.org - follow the 'about the ESVD link' and click on 'membership'). Application forms must be submitted at least six weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

Putting faces to names

The Annual Report each year contains a list of members with their contact details. This will now be published and distributed as a separate list. For the first time we are able to include photos of each member too. Digital photos should be sent to Trevor Whitbread (email - treasurer@esvd.org) for inclusion. This facility has been made possible by generous sponsorship by Hill's.

Charitable status for the ESVD

Charitable status was proposed at the AGM. The reasons for this are complex, but briefly the current status of the society means that the board members can be held personally liable for any losses that the ESVD incurs. Forming a limited liability company with charitable status in the UK would avoid this. Full details of the proposal and explanatory notes should be available on the ESVD website soon. You have until the 1st April 2005 to send any comments to Aiden Foster (email - secretary@esvd.org).

Further Education

The recent workshops on therapeutics and skin biology were financially profitable and well received by all concerned. This is my last report as Further Education Secretary. It has been a pleasure to belong to the board and to have been involved in organising events. I sincerely hope you have enjoyed them. I have no doubt that Luc Beco who is succeeding me will do a great job. I wish him all good luck and success.

Zeinab Alhaidari

Future workshops:

Dermatopathology: Cremona (Italy), May 3rd to 6th 2005

Maximum attendants 40. This workshop includes a practical wetlab. The speakers are Verena Affolter, Claudia von Tscherner and Julie Yager. The local organisers are Fabia Scarampella and Paola Roccabianca; please contact Elena Piccioni at SCIVAC (socspec@scivac.it) for further information.

Registration fee: 550 euros+VAT for ESVD members; 660 euros+VAT for non-members

Tuesday 3rd May

- | | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| 9.00- 13.00 | Patterns of inflammation in Skin Biopsies
Perivascular dermatitis and the dermatitis reaction
Cutaneous vasculitis and vasculopathy | <i>Claudia von Tscharner
Julie Jager
Verena Affolter</i> |
| 14.00- 18.00 | Slide sets for beginners and experienced participants
Laboratory Session: comparison of vasculitis and perivascular dermatitis | |
| 20.00 | Social programme | |
-

Wednesday 4th May

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 9.00- 13.00 | Interface dermatitis
Vesicular and pustular diseases of the skin
Current techniques to evaluate skin specimens | <i>Julie Yager
Verena Affolter
Verena Affolter</i> |
| 14.00-18.00 | Slide sets for beginners and experienced participants
Laboratory Session: comparison of interface and vesiculo- pustular dermatoses | |
-

Thursday 5th May

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 9.00-13.00 | Inflammatory diseases of hair follicles
Nodular and diffuse dermatitis | <i>Claudia von Tscharner
Verena Affolter</i> |
| 14.00-18.00 | Slide sets for beginners and experienced participants
Laboratory Session: comparison of nodular to diffuse dermatitis and hair follicle dysplasia | |
-

Friday 6th May

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 9.00-13.00 | Atrophic dermatosis
Equine dermatopathology | <i>Julie Yager
Claudia von Tscharner</i> |
| 14.00-18.00 | Case presentations from the advanced participants and discussion of their slides | |
-

2005 (November/December) – Immunology; Edinburgh, UK.

Peter Hill and Michael Day.

Local organiser – Tim Nuttall: timn@liv.ac.uk

Day 1 (Half day)*Review of the skin immune system*

- Cells of the immune system
- Antibodies
- CD markers and adhesion molecules
- Cytokines and chemokines

Immunodeficiency

- Recognised syndromes
-

Day 2*Pathogenesis of atopic dermatitis*

- Role of T-cells, cytokines and chemokines
- Immunotherapy and tolerance
- Biological activity of environmental allergens
- New therapeutic options

Adverse food reactions

- GIT immune system
- Oral tolerance
- Hydrolysed diets
- IDAT and serology to food antigens

Immunity to cutaneous microorganisms

- Hypersensitivity to staphylococci and *Malassezia*
 - Hygiene hypothesis and development of the immune system
 - Superantigens
-

Day 3*Immune-mediated diseases*

- Mechanisms of drug reactions
 - Pemphigus complex
 - Vasculitis and vasculopathies (including DLE, SLE, dermatomyositis)
 - Immune-mediated blistering diseases
 - Erythema multiforme complex
 - Diseases of the hair follicle
 - Lymphocytic proliferative diseases
 - Histiocytic proliferative diseases
-

Day 4 (Half day)*Immunodiagnosics*

- Assessing immune function
- Serology (ANA, RF, cold agglutinins etc.)
- Coombs tests
- Immunoblotting
- Immunohistochemistry

Therapeutics

- New immunomodulating and immunosuppressive agents
-

2006 – Endocrinology, June; Spa, Belgium

Héripret: luc.beco@skynet.be and dheripret@fregis.com

2006 – Canine Dermatology; Germany

Local organiser – Ralf Mueller: Ralf.Mueller@med.vetmed.uni-muenchen.de

2004 ESVD Research Award

The winner of this year's ESVD research award is Claude Favrot with a project entitled 'Evaluation of formalin fixed, paraffin-embedded tissues from canine and feline squamous cell carcinoma for papillomavirus DNA'.

Apply now for an ESVD Research Grant!

ESVD wishes to encourage high standards in all aspects of veterinary dermatology and to promote the development of related research. Therefore, an annual research grant is awarded by the ESVD for basic or clinical research in veterinary dermatology. **The value of this grant has been increased to € 10,000.**

Ordinarily projects are expected to be of one to two years duration. Applicants are expected to propose a project of scientific merit that is applicable to veterinary dermatology. Grants are evaluated on scientific merit, feasibility and usefulness. Guidelines for preparation of the grant application are available at www.esvd.org (follow the research link) or from the ESVD Grant Secretary.

Four copies of the research proposal should be sent to the current ESVD Publications and Grant Secretary at the address below. The deadline is the 1st April 2005.

Dr. Ralf Mueller,
Medizinische Tierklinik,
Veterinaerstr. 13,
80539 Muenchen,
Germany.

Email - publications-grants@esvd.org

Previous award winners

2001

Claude Favrot; the serological immunodiagnosis of canine subepidermal autoimmune blistering skin diseases. See: Favrot, C., Dunston, S., Deslandes, J., Paradis, M., Olivry, T. (2002) Effect of substrate selection on indirect immunofluorescence testing of canine autoimmune subepidermal blistering diseases. *Canadian Journal of Veterinary* **66**, 26-30; Favrot, C., Dunston, S.M., Paradis, M., Olivry, T. (2003) Isotype determination of circulating autoantibodies in canine autoimmune subepidermal blistering dermatoses. *Veterinary Dermatology* **14**, 23-30.

2002

no award.

2003

Petra Roosje; Investigations on the immunopathogenesis of recurrent urticaria in horses. Dr. Roosje has had a paper describing her findings accepted for publication in *Veterinary Dermatology*.

Dermatology meetings

French dermatology meetings

Seminar on histopathological diagnosis, 28th - 30th January 2005 in Paris

Lecturers: Zeineb Alhaidari, Didier Carlotti, Eric Guaguère and Frédérique Degorce

The programme will concentrate on the pattern analysis approach with practicals (microscopes will be available).

Annual congress, 20th - 22nd May 2005 in Paris

The advanced level programme is (intriguingly) titled 'Around the skin'.

Seminar on diagnosis, 14th - 16th October 2005 in Paris

Please note that all these meetings are in French without translation.

To register contact AFVAC; tel - ++33 1 53 93 91 60

For more information contact Emmanuel Bensignor; email - emmanuel.bensignor@wanadoo.fr

German dermatology meetings

Annual Conference of the German Society for Veterinary Dermatology, 10th - 12th June 2005 in Aufkirchen near Munich

Lecturers: Wieland Beck, Sonya Bettenay, David Church, Janet Littlewood, Ralf Mueller, Stefanie Peters, Claudia Reusch, Kurt Sick, Claudia von Tscherner

The programme will concentrate on causes of alopecia in small animals and horse dermatology. Meeting registration information is available from Dr. Ralf Mueller, Medizinische Kleintierklinik, Veterinärstr. 13, 80539 München, Germany, email: Ralf.Mueller@med.vetmed.uni-muenchen.de.

Please note, that the majority of the small animal sessions and the research abstracts presented will be in German without translation.

International Society for Veterinary Dermatopathology

The Annual Meeting of the International Society of Veterinary Dermatopathology (ISVD) will be held on the 6th April 2005, in conjunction with the 20th AAVD & ACVD Annual Meeting (7th-10th April 2005) in Sarasota, Florida. Deadline for the brief communication session is the 15th January 2005. Abstracts should be sent to Monika Welle (email - Monika.Welle@itpa.unibe.ch.)

Information regarding membership and goals of the ISVD, program details, and abstract guideline can be found at www.ISVD.org.

Meeting registration information can be obtained from the website of the AAVD/ACVD meeting (www.acvd.org/public/kc.htm).

Abstract Watch

Evaluation of serum obtained from atopic dogs with dermatitis attributable to *Malassezia pachydermatis* for passive transfer of immediate hypersensitivity to that organism

Morris DO, DeBoer DJ. *American Journal of Veterinary Research* 2003; 64: 262-6.

This study determined the functionality of canine anti-*Malassezia* IgE via the passive transfer of immediate hypersensitivity localized to the skin from atopic dogs with dermatitis attributable to overgrown *Malassezia pachydermatis* to healthy recipient dogs by use of the Prausnitz-Küstner technique. In addition, the authors found no difference in the concentration of serum anti-*Malassezia* IgE between normal dogs, atopic dogs with *Malassezia* infection and atopic dogs without evidence of yeast infection.

MDR 1-deficient genotype in Collie dogs hypersensitive to the P-glycoprotein substrate ivermectin.

Roulet A, Puel O, Gesta S, Lepage J-F, Drag M, Soll M, Alvinerie M, Pineau T. *European Journal of Pharmacology* 2003; 460: 85-91.

It was long known, that administration of ivermectin to sensitive Collie dogs results in severe neurotoxicity and death. Recently, evidence was presented, that P-glycoprotein, a drug carrier protein, was responsible for the protection of the nervous system against ivermectin and that a deficiency in the MDR 1 gene encoding this protein was associated with neurotoxicity in mice receiving ivermectin. In this study, the gene was sequenced and a homozygous mutation in sensitive Collie dogs demonstrated.

Multicenter case-control study of risk factors associated with development of vaccine associated sarcomas in cats.

Kass PH, Spangler WL, Hendrick MJ, McGill LD, Esplin DG, Lester S, Slater M, Meyer EK, Boucher F, Peters EM, Gobbar GG, Htoo T, Decile K. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 2003; 223: 1283-1292.

This prospective multicenter case-control study did not support the hypotheses that specific brands or types of vaccine within antigen class, vaccine practices such as reuse of syringes, concomitant viral infection, history of trauma, or residence either increase or decrease the risk of vaccine-associated sarcoma formation in cats. There was evidence to suggest that certain long-acting injectable medications may also be associated with sarcoma formation.

Influences in allergy: Epidemiology and the environment.

Von Mutius E. *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* 2004, 113:373-379.

This article covers the conceptual cornerstones of using epidemiology to study and understand allergies in human beings. It covers the host factors, influence of environmental and microbial exposures, natural history of atopic diseases, and gene-by-environment interactions and as such makes interesting reading for us. Such epidemiological studies have not been undertaken in veterinary allergy to date.

Immunotherapy in human medicine

For those of us who are interested in allergen-specific immunotherapy, the June issue of this year's *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* was a treasure box. Philip Norman reviewed the last 5 years of human immunology (Norman P. Immunotherapy: 1999-2004, *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* 113: 1013-1023), Till et al. reviewed the mechanisms of action of this treatment (Till SJ et al. Mechanisms of immunotherapy, *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* 113: 1025-1034) and there was an editorial on the future prospects (Casale TB. Status of immunotherapy: Current and future, *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* 113: 1036-1039).

Correction

One of the abstracts in the last bulletin was incorrectly referenced. The correct reference is: Leung, D.Y.M. and Bloom, J.W. (2003) Update on glucocorticoid action and resistance. *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* 111, 3-22.

Sorry.

New French language journal in veterinary dermatology

Informations Dermatologiques Vétérinaires (IDV) is now one year old. This new journal is entirely devoted to veterinary dermatology. It is published in French although summaries of the articles in English will be available in subsequent issues. There are four issues of 34 pages published each year.

The journal is peer reviewed and submissions from both dermatologists and non-dermatologists in any field concerned with veterinary dermatology are welcome. Previous articles have included clinical and scientific reviews, basic dermatology, research papers, clinical cases, technical procedures, bibliographic reviews and symposia reports. Six issues have been published so far with a number of prestigious authors participating. Any kind of document can be sent for publication in any language (if accepted the article will be translated in French for publication).

For further information contact Prof. Patrick Bourdeau (bourdeau@vet-nantes.fr).

ECVD Corner

ECVD Examination Results

The following people have successfully passed the:

Alternate Route Qualifying Examination:

Dr. Christa Horvath (Austria)
Dr Gila Zur (Israel)

ECVD Diploma exam:

Dr Kerstin Bergvall (Sweden)
Dr Silvia Colombo (Scotland/Italy)
Dr Alexander Koutinas (Greece)
Dr Catherine Laffort (France)
Dr Annette Loeffler (UK)



Under new regulations, approved by the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation, the following people have been admitted to the ECVD under equivalency:

Dr Ralf Mueller (Germany)

Dr Sonya Bettenay (Germany)

Course/seminar accreditation

The ECVD wishes to remind colleagues that the following courses have routine permanent recognition by the College: and have been approved:

ESVD seminars/workshops

ESAVS courses

CES courses

Other courses have also been approved during the past year on an occasional basis.

In 2004, the ECVD widened its criteria for course approval which may now include meeting approval: relevant persons may apply to have courses and meetings approved on a routine or an intermittent/one off basis. Detailed guidelines to have a course/seminar approved by the ECVD are available on the ECVD web site: www.ecvd.org. In case of difficulty, please contact Dr Rosario Cerundolo,

R. Cerundolo, Chair of the Education & Credentials Committee

Title abuse

The President of the European College of Veterinary Dermatology would like to remind all persons who have successfully passed the Alternate Route Part I exam of the ECVD (now termed the "Alternate Route Qualifying Examination"), that the College does not allow the use of any title in relation to this examination whatsoever.

The use, in any way, of titles such as "ECVD Certificate Holder", "ECVD Part I Diploma Holder", 'ECVD Alternate Route Qualifying Examination Holder' etc. is therefore absolutely forbidden by the College.

K. L. Thoday, President ECVD

Dermatology residencies available

Please check the ECVD web site: (www.ecvd.org) for details of approved residencies.