



# **World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine**

**General Assembly Meeting  
Saturday 30. July 2016  
13.30-15.00  
University of Veterinary Medicine  
Vienna, Austria**

## **Minutes**

### **1 Welcome and opening comments by President Abigail Woods.**

#### **2 Preliminaries**

##### **Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted

##### **Announcements**

Abigail Woods informed the delegates that two members of the association, Christian Stanek and Paul Leeflang, had passed away.

Naudy Trujillo Mascia and Tamay Basagac Güll had informed that they could not attend the General Assembly. The Turkish delegates were unable to attend due to the political situation.

### **3 Ratification of the minutes of the General Assembly held in London on 13. September 2014**

The minutes of the meeting in London were accepted.

### **4 Presidents report**

Abigail Woods presented new activities in order to revitalize the society. These are detailed on the attached document.

## **5 WAHVM Financial reports and Auditor's Report 2015**

The accounts for the year 2015 and 2016 until 1. July were presented (see enclosure for details).

In 2015 the total income, mainly membership fee, was 1743,39 Euro and the expenses were 1647,17 Euro, giving a positive result of 96,22 Euro.

The figures for the first half of 2016 were an income of 2870,33 Euro and expenses so far 354,12 Euro.

The balance at the end of 2015 was 25 859 Euro.

The financial report had been approved by the audit committee.

The General Assembly approved the financial reports for 2015 and for 2016 until 1. July.

Junya Yasuda and Stephen Häslar was elected as audit committee for 2016-2018

## **6 WAHVM Adoption of budget and fees for 2016 and 2017**

The budget for 2016 and 2017 was presented. Due to increased activity money is transferred from the savings account to the budget. See enclosure for details.

The dues are as follows:

National associations with 50 or less active members: 4 Euro per member,

National associations with 51-100 active members: 3 Euro per member

National associations with more than 100 active members: 2 Euro per member

Institutions and museums: 35 Euro

Individual members: 20 Euro

The budget was adopted.

## **7 WAHVM Membership and National Society Contact Information**

The board will send mail to all member countries in order to get updated information about the board in the national associations, the number of members and other relevant information.

## **8 Young Scholar Awards**

Altogether 14 proposals were assessed, most of them with good quality. The three winners were:

1. Karl Bruno, Sweden
2. Kit Heintzman, USA
3. Julie Hipperson, United Kingdom

## **9 Future International Congresses.**

The information that Brno cannot arrange the 43<sup>nd</sup> congress created some problems. The Norwegian Association has been asked to be a substitute. In a note from the board of the Norwegian Association it is concluded that the economic issue has to be solved before a final answer can be given.

The WAHVM conference in 2020 will be held in South Africa.

There are so far no candidates for the 2022 conference.

## **10 Election of Secretary.**

One candidate was nominated: Andrew Gardiner.

Only delegates of WAHVM were allowed to vote.

The results of the election were as follows:

Andrew Gardiner was unanimously elected.

**11. Closing remarks: The President**

Abigail Woods thanked the General Assembly and promised to work for further development of WAHVM.



**World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine**  
**Joint Meeting of the Board and the Liaison Committee**  
**Wednesday, July 27 2016**  
**14.00-17.00**  
**University of Veterinary Medicine,**  
**Vienna, Austria**

## **Minutes**

### **1 Welcome and opening comments by the President.**

Present: Abigail Woods, President (United Kingdom); Peter Koolmees, Past-President (The Netherlands); Johann Schäffer (Germany); Gerhard Forstenpointner (Austria); Andreas Pospischil (Switzerland); Joaquin Sanchez de Lollano Prieto (Spain); Tijmen van de Vuurst, (The Netherlands); Junya Yasuda (Japan); Gareth Bath (South Africa); Myung-Sun Chun (South Korea); Roar Gudding (Norway)

### **2 Adoption of the proposed agenda**

The agenda was adopted

### **3 Announcements**

Abigail Woods informed the delegates that two members of the association, Christian Stanek and Paul Leeflang, had passed away. Gerhard Forstenpointner spoke to the memory of Stanek and Peter Koolmees to Leeflang

### **4 Correspondence received**

Naudy Trujillo Mascia had informed the president that there were no delegates from Venezuela, owing to the political and economic situation of the country. He sent greetings to the conference.

R. Tamay Basagac Gul had informed the president and the organizers that she and other participants for Turkey did not attend the conference due to the political situation in their country.

## **5 Ratification of the minutes from the Joint Meeting held 10. September 2014 in London**

Junya Yasuda informed about a misspelling of his name.

The minutes of the meeting in London were accepted.

## **6 Membership report**

The delegates from the different countries had short reports of the status in their own country.

Education and research in veterinary history vary in the different countries. However, there are some common features, challenges and opportunities

- Most national associations have relative few members. Most members are veterinarians and some of them are retired. Membership is declining as older members die and the younger generation does not join.
- There is often institutional resistance to teaching veterinary history to veterinary students, and to employing veterinary historians in veterinary faculties.
- Societies have a core of enthusiastic members who sustain their publications.
- There are opportunities to draw new people into veterinary history, such as veterinary students, and historians whose work on animals, agriculture and human health connects to veterinary history. These people should be encouraged to become individual members of WAHVM.

## **7 Financial Reports**

Accounts for the year 2015 and 2016 (until 1. July) presented by the treasurer Tijmen van de Vuurst

In 2015 the total income, mainly membership fee, was 1743,39 Euro and the expenses were 1647,17 Euro, giving a positive result of 96,22 Euro.

The figures for the first half of 2016 were an income of 2870,33 Euro and expenses so far 354,12 Euro.

The balance at the end of 2015 was 25 859 Euro.

Proposal for the budget and fees 2016 and 2017.

The budget for income based on membership fees for the years 2016 and 2017 is 2800 and 2000, Euro, respectively.

The activity in 2016 and especially in 2017 will increase (see later). The total budget for these two years is 5060 and 8250 Euro, respectively, meaning that the budget is balanced with transfer from the savings account.

The dues are as follows: 50 or less active members: 4 Euro, 51-100 active members: 3 Euro and more than 100 active members 2 Euro.

**7a The Liaison committee**

The liaison committee was established several years ago in order to improve exchange of information among the member states. Members are nominated by national societies. Some are more active than others. Communications are often difficult. The president asked how can the committee work more effectively.

After a long discussion the conclusion was that the WAHVM board should be confined to the officers (president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary). It will be supported by an active liaison committee whose members should be re-nominated every two years and supplied with a job description. National societies will continue to nominate a representative. The committee will also co-opt individual members who are willing and able to help WAHVM achieve its goals.

**8 Cherion Awards.**

There was no candidate presented before the meeting. However, one candidate was nominated at the meeting, but it was decided not to make an award, and to discontinue this competition.

## **9 Young Scholar Awards**

Altogether 14 proposals were assessed, most of them with good quality. The three winners were:

1. Karl Bruno, Sweden
2. Kit Heintzman, USA
3. Julie Hipperson, United Kingdom

It was agreed that in the future, the monetary value of these awards will be reduced by 50%. This brings them in line with other student awards and will not diminish the prestige of the prize.

## **10 Matters relating to the congress in Vienna:**

The arrangement of a scientific conference is a challenge, both concerning work load and economy.

The conference fee was relatively high, and that might have contributed to a lower number of participants than expected.

The problem with the cancellations of the participation from Turkey was discussed.

Gerhard Forstenpointner was asked to try to find an acceptable compromise.

## **11 Discussions of future congresses.**

The information that Brno cannot arrange the 43<sup>nd</sup> congress has created some problems. The Norwegian Association has been asked to be a substitute. In a note from the board of the

Norwegian Association it is concluded that the economic issue has to be solved before a final answer can be given.

The liaison committee considered the proposal from Prof Gareth Bath that South Africa host the WAHVM conference in 2020. It was agreed to adopt this proposal.

## **12 Future WAHVM initiatives.**

It is important to make WAHVM a more vibrant organisation by expanding its activities, broadening its membership base, and improving its communication strategies. Members of the new liaison committee will be expected to assist in achieving these objectives. Various initiatives were discussed and the following actions were agreed:

1. To launch a survey of existing, past and prospective WAHVM members in order to understand their roles within veterinary history, their attitudes to it, their degree of engagement with WAHVM, and their view on its future activities. This survey is accessible at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RS75TDD>

The deadline for responses is 20. September 2016. Responses will be collated and communicated via the website, and a plan of action drawn up by the start of 2017.

2. To start work on the following. This will be adjusted in the light of the survey results, and according to the available human and financial resources. Work will be directed by the WAHVM officers and conducted by a secretarial assistant, with input from liaison committee members. We aim to make substantial headway by August 2017.
  - a) To re-start the newsletter.

- b) To develop for the website a list of journals that publish veterinary history articles and guidance on how to publish in them.
  - c) To collate in English a list of titles of articles published in dedicated veterinary history journals. To refresh this list when journal issues are produced.
  - d) To refresh and extend the website's existing list of veterinary history museums, archives and special collections.
  - e) To invite colleagues who teach veterinary history to supply in their own language, for posting on the WAHVM website, a selection of teaching materials, reading lists and web links.
  - f) To transcribe the oral history recordings produced at the 2014 WAHVM Congress in London and to add written and (if possible) oral excerpts to the WAHVM website.
  - g) To invite WAHVM members to contribute individually to a regular website blog that will showcase veterinary collections, events, and publications from the world.
  - h) To invite existing members of WAHVM to identify areas of specialism, and to opt into a list of names which could be supplied on request to external parties seeking veterinary historical expertise.
- 3) To expand the membership base. A strategy will be developed once 2) is underway. Target audiences include:
- a) National veterinary history societies that have recently left the WAHVM
  - b) National veterinary history societies that have never joined the WAHVM
  - c) Veterinary students
  - d) Experts working in museums, archives, libraries and special collections
  - e) Academic historians, eg historians of medicine, agriculture, animal and animal health

### **13 Reports of the National Societies**

See point 6.

## **14 Cooperation with the World Veterinary Association**

WAHVM has now an observer status in WVA. That means no member fee to WVA, but access to relevant information.

## **15 Nominations for new members to the board**

A new secretary shall be elected at the General Assembly. Andrew Gardiner is nominated for the position. He is a veterinarian with a PhD in veterinary history who works at the Royal (Dick) College of Veterinary Medicine in Edinburgh, UK. Andrew Gardiner is an active member of WAHVM.

## **16 Closing remarks by the Presidents**

The president, Abigail Woods, thanked for the attendance and for constructive discussions. She also thanked the Treasurer for his efficient work in organizing the WAHVM finances, and the outgoing Secretary for his many contributions to the organization

## **17 Composition of the Board before the election at the General Assembly**

Abigail Woods, President (United Kingdom)  
 Joaquin Sanchez de Lollano Prieto (Spain)  
 Tijmen van de Vuurst, (The Netherlands)  
 Roar Gudding, Secretary (Norway)  
 Susan D. Jones, Co-President (United States)  
 Peter Koolmees, Co-President (The Netherlands)  
 Myung-Sun Chung, At-large Board Member (South Korea)  
 Tamay Basagac Güll, At-Large Board Member (Turkey)  
 Johann Schäffer, At-large Board Member (Germany)  
 Daniela Haarmann, Representing Local Organizing Committee (Austria 2014-2016)

## **18 Composition of the Liaison Committee:**

Pavel Brauner (Czech Republic)  
 Kurt Jensen (Denmark)  
 Ilkka Alitalo (Finland)  
 Christoph Degueurce (France)  
 Siegfried Graf (Germany)  
 Péter Sotónyi (Hungary)  
 Junya Yasuda (Japan)  
 Miguel Márquez (Mexico)  
 Jons Startman (The Netherlands)

Roar Gudding (Norway)  
Joaquin Sanchez de Lollano Prieto (Spain)  
Gareth F. Bath (South Africa)  
Göran Jönsson (Sweden)  
Myung Sun Chung (South Korea)  
Stephen Häslер (Switzerland)  
Tamay Basagac Gül (Turkey)  
Lesley Ann Gentry (United States)  
Naudy Trujillo Mascia (Venezuela)

Ivan Katić (Denmark, WAHVM member)  
John O. Broberg (UK, WAHVM member)  
Guus Mathijssen (The Netherlands, Honorary President)