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Dr. DeHaven reported on AVMA Activities – nothing of ACPV importance

AVMA legal council report – petition for a new specialty: regarding rights to use their own name and acronym- American College for Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation claiming the name was stolen from her without permission. So do specialty colleges have the right to use their own name? A separated member took name and had it copy written so existing and new colleges need to consider what they want to do to secure their name. So they are going to try to include in the P&P to ensure AVMA is indemnified in the case this is challenged. Should we register our trademark with USPTO or other way? Have we already done due diligence regarding the use of the name? May be difficult to get a principle registration for name because it is descriptive which won't fly but we can get a supplemental registration. Expect this to cost \$2-3000.

D. Contents for a petition for a new veterinary specialty organization

11. Any organization seeking AVMA recognition as an RVSO, RVS, or RVSS, must represent to the AVMA that it is the owner of its name and is entitled to use its name and acronym in commerce; and that to the best of its knowledge and belief, no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use its name in commerce, either in identical for or in such near resemblance thereto as to be likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception. In conjunction with submitting a letter of intent, a petition for recognition, or any seeking continued recognition from the AVMA, the RVSO, RVS, or RVSS must agree to defend, indemnify, and to hold the AVMA harmless from and against all claims, damages, and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) arising from any claim that the AVMA's use of the specialty organization's name or acronym infringes the intellectual property rights of any third party.

Include the following in all reports:

By submitting this report, the (insert name of specialty organization here) hereby agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold the AVMA harmless from and against all claims, damages, and expenses including reasonable attorney fees arising from any claim that the AVMA's use of the name or acronym of (insert name of specialty organization) or any of its specialty or subspecialties infringes the intellectual property rights of any third party.

Some felt very uncomfortable releasing AVMA from any responsibility for an organization under their umbrella. The P&P Committee reviewed and reported on this and are including verbiage in the document that there is an expectation for new Colleges to have done due diligence of their right to own their name, acronym, and logo as a part of their letter of intent to the ABVS. There will likely continue to be a push for all Colleges to be able to secure ownership of their identification. The statement indicating the Colleges indemnify the AVMA in the case of a challenge was not approved by the ABVS and so this will go forward to the AVMA Executive Board without that statement. Stay tuned.

MyVeterinarian.com – an AVMA initiative to allow people to search for a veterinarian with abilities in various areas. There is a category for poultry! This is being marketed to the public as a resource. They may come to the college to ask for funding to support some listing here as diplomates. The thought would be the total of around \$10,000 split between the AVMA and the colleges (about \$500-\$1000 per). There was discussion about which colleges this would be a positive for and which would reap no benefits and perhaps even set themselves up for harassment. This cost would be a one-time expense to build the site. It was felt that this needed to go back to the colleges for decision. We need let the AVMA know by April 1 if we want to participate or not. What we would get would be a direct public resource for the public to find a specialist and/or determine if their veterinarian is a specialist.

Shelter Medicine has been embraced by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners as a Recognized Veterinary Specialty. This proposal will soon be sent out for public comment.

AVMA now has direct submission of conference program thru www.avmaconvention.org. This probably won't affect the AAAP program as they develop their program independently but if we ever wanted to help the rest of the AVMA to better understand what we do then we might go through this. That said AVMA would prefer if all programming went through this process.

Discussion on redesigning the ABVS logo and being able to post the AVMA-ABVS logo on the ACPV web site to indicate that we are an AVMA recognized specialty. BUT there is a movement to change the AVMA logo and until then the ABVS logo redesign will not occur. In the meantime we can add a phrase on our web site stating we are an AVMA recognized specialty.

There was a discussion about covering expenses for this meeting. A few years back the decision was made to split 50/50 the costs of attending this meeting with the specialty colleges. The AVMA staff time to manage this split is not cost effective. A motion was made and seconded that all expenses covered by AVMA (airfare, limo to and from O'Hare Airport, hotel, meals during meeting) not require reimbursement from the College's and the Colleges cover the costs of the liaisons out-of-pocket expenses (mileage to and from airport, airport parking, and any food during travel). This will be taken to the executive board. This should reduce the financial support expected of the College's and make expense reimbursement simpler. The liaison's will then only need to submit their out-of-pocket expenses to their College and no funds would be transferred to AVMA from the College's.

They are planning to draft legislation for the states (that don't already have this in place) to limit/control the use of the term veterinary specialist. An AVMA staffer will work with state veterinary organizations to lobby to the appropriate body (licensing board) to get this implemented. However, for this to go all the way through would require opening up the Practice Act through the legislature and this has all sorts of concerns associate with this.

International Activities Committee – Encourage individual RVSO's be more open to sharing what they are doing. There is little info from ABVS liaisons regarding the activities of the individual RVSO's so we are not giving them the most complete info. We are being asked to reach out to our European counterpart to share ideas and information. The European Poultry College is small (20 diplomates) and

it is not yet fully recognized. This would increase collaborative efforts between the two entities. A motion was made and seconded for the International Activities Committee to survey the ABVS representative with the expectation they will forward this to the Board of Directors to determine any international collaborations.

Work Force Study – is in process. Question was asked which colleges would be involved in the next step which would look at what are the specialist's needs. Discussions worked around what would be the focus of this next step and while no one really knew much the thought was it would be most focused on clinical specialties. However, there was concern that the work force study should look at all veterinary careers.

Discussion on the COE/AVMA potential separation

ABVS is the recognized accreditation agency for veterinary specialties. If independence is a critical aspect of the ability of an accreditation agency to conduct its work effectively and fairly, ABVS deserves to have the same 'fire-wall' to ensure independence (Dr. Granstrom's phrase) that COE has regarding accreditation of veterinary schools. Clearly, this is not currently the case, as decisions made by ABVS require ratification by COE and by the AVMA Executive Board, and ABVS decisions on several topics have been overturned in recent years.

ABVS is not really an accrediting body! We work with certifying bodies. There has been discussion about removing the COE oversight step.

A task force had been created to modify the policy on Internship and Residency Programs and ABVS was not included. There was a lot of discussion on whether COE or ABVS should have oversight of these programs. There is no body truly overseeing internships and residencies and there have been concerns/complaints of some private practice internships. Currently each College makes the decision whether they want to "approve" residencies (not all do!). There was a motion made to move management of residencies from COE to ABVS. There was a lot of disagreement and was eventually voted down and the final decision was to send a memo to the AVMA Executive Board that ABVS should be included in the future that ABVS be included in policy discussions pertaining to internship and residencies.

New York State Education Department has implemented a requirement for any CE to be accepted towards maintenance of licensure which means any CE offered by ACPV will not count towards our New York diplomates. It costs \$900 for 3 years for our organization to be recognized by NY as providers of acceptable CE programs. California is also looking at this and it could spread even further. If we chose not to be approved we should provide a disclaimer that ACPV CE credits will not be accepted by New Your Licensing Board. There is a web site www.op.nysce.gov for a list of organizations. AAAP has become approved. It may be possible for us to get approved as an AAAP affiliate and there are many corporate sponsors listed so we may be able to get included if they sponsor the conference (there is an option as an affiliate to negotiate this connected approval).

Regarding the maintenance of Certification process (Recertification) we need to either announce ahead so folks in the policy does not catch folks in the pipeline unprepared so once we have a set date for implementation we should post the info on our web site and advise our approved training programs.

ABVS conference call – follow up: 2 pm EST Wednesday May 15

Dates for future meetings:

2014 – February 21 – 22

2015 – February 20 – 21 (tentative)