

# Achieving Broad Involvement Building a Constituency

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# ANIMAL WELFARE

What are we dealing with?



# The Greatest Challenges

....this next century



Animals for companionship



Animals for food



Animals for utility



Animals for sport



Animals for entertainment



Animals in the environment

# Veterinarian's Oath

Being admitted to the profession of veterinary medicine,

I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of **animal health, the relief of animal suffering**, the conservation of livestock resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge.

I accept as a lifelong obligation the continual improvement of my professional knowledge and competence.

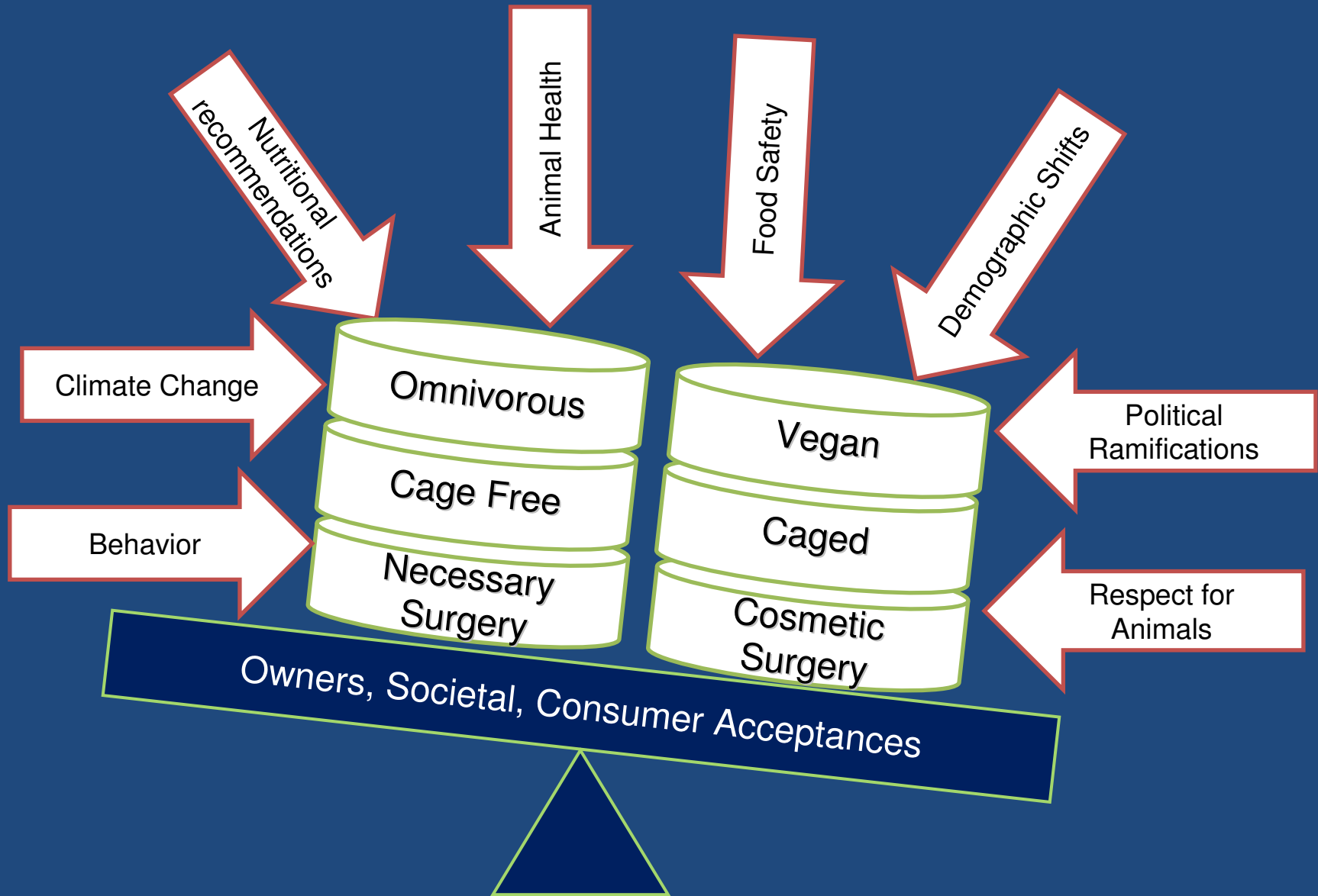
# Where has veterinary medicine been and where are we headed as a profession?

## DRIVERS

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- Traditional
  - Animal Owners
- Demographic Interests
  - Pet owners – companionship
  - Service animals
  - Food interests
    - Nutrition
    - Vegan
    - Retailers
    - Consumers
    - Healthy animals
  - Politicians
    - Food safety (recall)
    - Guardianship vs. ownership
    - Animal Owners

# VETERINARY MEDICINE BALANCING ACT



How do we organize and march forward?



Global Challenge

# The Path Forward

## What's been done?

- AVMA animal welfare committees
- Activities/symposia and workshops
- AAVMC programs
- ILAR work groups and reports
- State veterinary medical association's roles

# Define the profession's role in animal well-being

- Establish core values to provide:
  - Freedom from hunger and thirst
  - Freedom from injury and disease
  - Freedom from fear, stress and discomfort
  - Freedom to express normal behavior

# AVMA Policy

## Responsible use of animals for human purposes

- Resolved, that the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) affirms the responsible use of animals for human purposes, such as companionship, food, fiber, education, exhibition, and research conducted for the benefit of humans and animals, is consistent with the principles of the Veterinarian's Oath. The principles include:
  - The protection of animal health,
  - The relief of animal suffering,
  - The conservation of animal resources,
  - The promotion of public health, and
  - The advancement of medical knowledge.

# California Veterinary Medical Association

The CVMA's Eight Principles of Animal  
Care and Use

# Veterinary Medicine's Constituencies

## Organized Veterinary Medicine Academic Veterinary Medicine

### – AVMA/State VMAs

- National standing committees
- Symposia
- Continuing education
- Press releases
- Animal Welfare
- Political action committees

### Allied Animal Organizations

- American Kennel Club
- Livestock & poultry associations
- Consumers
- Retailers
- Breed organizations

### – AAVMC

- Individual colleges
- Veterinary science departments
- Companion medicine departments
- Courses
- Clubs
- Seminars
- Continuing education

### – Registered veterinary technician programs

# Building constituency

- Assign committees/councils involving the following individuals or groups to assess principles and guidelines of animal welfare/well being.

Veterinarians

Animal scientists

Animal behavioralists

Ethicists

Physiologists

Nutritionists

Farmers

Animal health specialists

Sociologists

Animal Welfare/Well-being advocates

Species specialists

Pharmacologists

Anesthesiologists

Consumer representatives

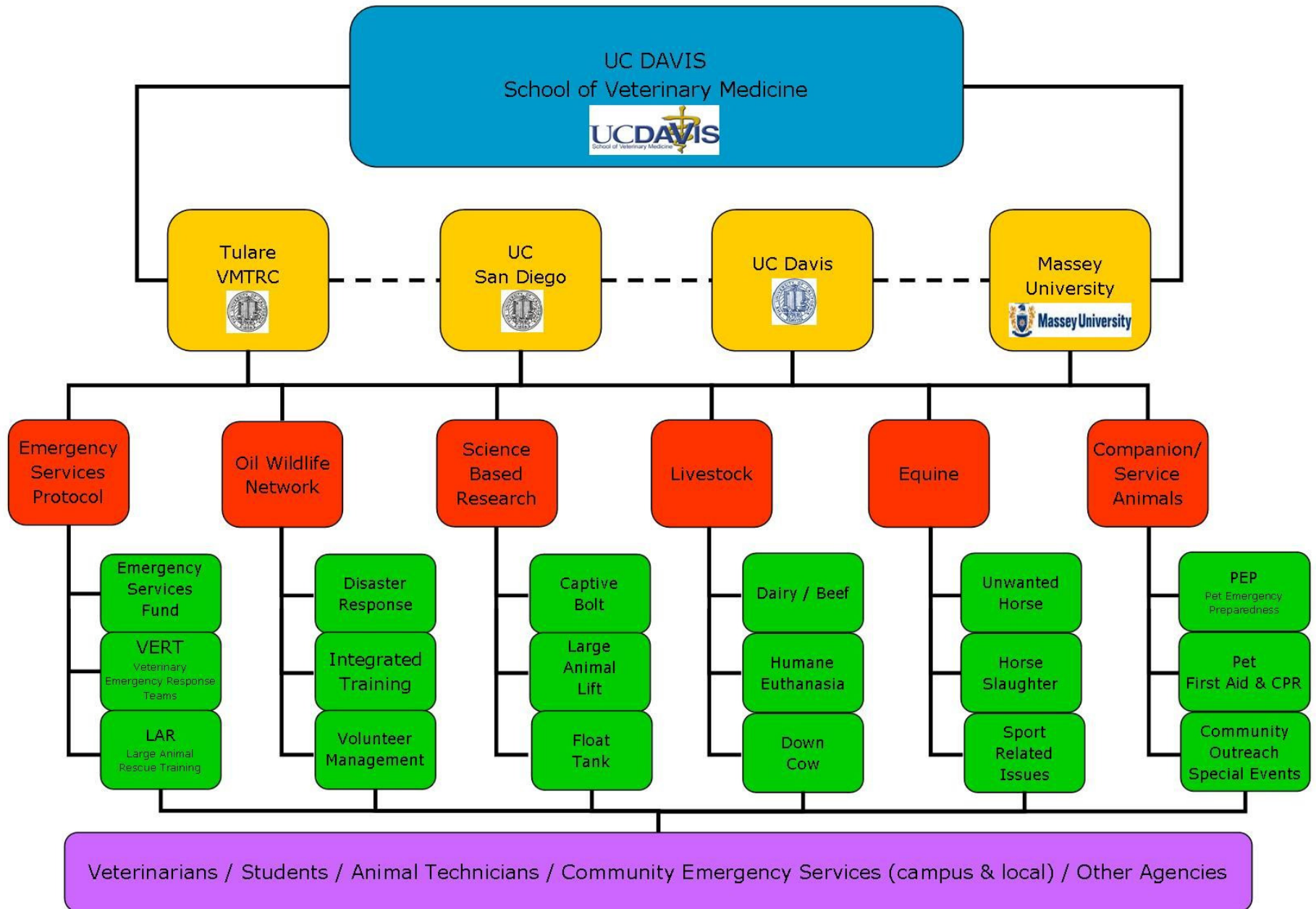
Economists

Ecologists

# Identify Issues

- Issues are many
- Must prioritize
- Need decision making body

# International Animal Welfare Training Institute



# UC ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Mission

The mission of the University of California's Animal Welfare Council is to serve as a forum for the discussion and review of the best management practices for animal agriculture based on sound science. The Council will review production practices and white papers addressing animal agriculture practices, identify gaps in knowledge, and make recommendations on the issues needing additional study. The Council will also develop recommendations for use by the University to direct outreach, education and research efforts, and by industry as they develop statewide, science-based standards and auditing procedures.

# Addressing Issues

- Gather information; listening sessions; Webinars, etc.
- Assess current literature – white papers
- Identify the gaps in knowledge – research
- Develop educational models
  - Establish train-the-trainer outreach modules
  - Develop curricular offerings; core and species specific
  - Publish information for scientific and lay audiences
  - Provide continuing education for veterinary profession and society

# Distribute information and recommendations

- AAVMC for inclusion in academic programs
- AVMA constituent organizations and practitioners
- State veterinary medical associations and constituents
- Inform stakeholders/consumers/society

# Summary

- Animal welfare is the major challenge for the profession for the first part of this century
- The United States has largely overlooked the importance and implications of society's concerns over treatment and handling of animals
- The AVMA/AAVMC organizations have been the leaders of the profession for bringing this to the attention of the profession and society

# BE PROACTIVE

For the health and well being of humans and animals

