

Proposed Amendments to the AVMA Bylaws

In compliance with Bylaws Article XV, the following amendments are submitted. ~~Type that has a continuous line through it is proposed for deletion.~~ Proposed new wording is underlined. The 2006 AVMA Bylaws are published in the 2007 *AVMA Directory and Resource Manual* on pages 25-35. Members are encouraged to review the AVMA Executive Board's actions and recommendations regarding proposed amendments in the July 1, 2007 *JAVMA* issue.

1 Amend Bylaws Article VII—House of Delegates, Section 8—Appointment of Delegates and Alternate Delegates, Section 10—Annual Session, Section 11—Special Session, Section 12—Notice, and Section 19—House Advisory Committee, subsection c—Duties, sub-subsection 4, to identify two regular sessions of the House of Delegates rather than one annual session.

Present and Proposed Wording

Section 8. Appointment of Delegates and Alternate Delegates. All organizations entitled to representation in the House of Delegates shall submit the names of their Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the House of Delegates by October 1 of each year. ~~prior to each annual session of the House of Delegates.~~

Section 10. Annual Regular Sessions. The House of Delegates shall hold a regular annual session in conjunction with the Association's annual convention and a regular winter session in conjunction with the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference.

Section 11. Special Sessions. Special sessions of the House of Delegates may be called (i) by the Chair of the House Advisory Committee, provided such request must be presented during ~~the annual~~ a session of the House of Delegates, include the specific purpose for such special session, and be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegates or (ii) upon written petition presented to the Secretary by a majority of the organizations represented in the House of Delegates stating the place, time, and purpose for which such session is requested, provided, however, such request must be made at least sixty (60) days prior to the date specified in the request for such special session. Business conducted at any special session shall be limited to the specific purpose stated in the request for such session, and any such additional business as requested by either the Executive Board or the House Advisory Committee.

Section 12. Notice. Notice of any ~~annual or special~~ session of the House of Delegates shall state the time, date, place, and purpose of the session and shall be published either in print or on the Association's Web site at least thirty (30), and no more than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the session, unless otherwise required by the Manual of the House of Delegates.

Section 19. House Advisory Committee. The House Advisory Committee shall consist of an aggregate of seven (7)

Delegates and Alternate Delegates elected by the House of Delegates at its annual session.

c. **Duties.** The House Advisory Committee shall have such duties as set forth in these Bylaws, and as shall be assigned to it by the House of Delegates, which shall include, without limitation, the following:

4. Meet sufficiently in advance of ~~the annual~~ each session so that its recommendations can be prepared for presentation to the delegates prior to or at the time the House of Delegates convenes;

2 Amend Bylaws Article VIII—Committees/Councils/Task Forces, Section 2—Councils, to include information on all seven current AVMA councils in the Bylaws.

Present and Proposed Wording

Section 2. Councils.

a. Judicial Council

1. **Composition.** The Judicial Council shall consist of ~~such number of~~ five voting members of the Association ~~as shall be determined by the House of Delegates.~~ The Executive Vice President, or his or her designee, shall be the secretary of the Judicial Council.

2. **Responsibility.** The Judicial Council shall:

(i) Investigate all matters concerning allegations of unethical conduct on behalf of members of the Association and take action regarding disciplinary action and dismissal of members in accordance with the Association's Rules of Disciplinary Procedures, as may be amended by the Executive Board;

(ii) Advise on all questions of veterinary medical ethics;

(iii) Advise on all questions relating to interpretation of the Bylaws; and

(iv) Investigate general professional conditions and all matters pertaining to the relations of veterinarians to one another or to the public and make such recommendations to the Executive Board, House of Delegates, or the organizations represented in the House of Delegates as it deems necessary.

b. Council on Education

1. **Composition.** The Council on Education shall consist of ~~such number of~~ fifteen voting members of the Association, four additional members who are not voting members of the Association, and a liaison member who is not a voting member of the Council on Education ~~and members of the public as shall be determined by the House of Delegates.~~

(i) The fifteen members of the Council on Education who are voting members of the Association shall represent the following areas of veterinary medical activity:

(a) Basic science (two individuals active in this field who are members of the faculty of a university having an accredited school or college of veterinary medicine or a department of veterinary science);

(b) Large animal clinical science (one individual in this field who is a member of the faculty of a university having an accredited school or college of veterinary medicine);

(c) Small animal clinical science (one individual in this field who is a member of the faculty of a university having an accredited school or college of veterinary medicine);

(d) Postgraduate education (one individual who is actively directing post-professional students in an accredited school or college of veterinary medicine or in a university department of veterinary science);

(e) Veterinary medical research (one individual who is actively engaged in veterinary research for the majority of the time or who is the close director of others who are);

(f) Private food animal clinical practice (one individual whose veterinary endeavor is exclusively food animal practice);

(g) Private mixed clinical practice (one individual whose veterinary endeavor is clinical practice with several species of animals including both food or equine and small companion animals);

(h) Private small animal clinical practice (one individual whose veterinary endeavor is exclusively small animal practice);

(i) Private equine practice (one individual whose veterinary endeavor is exclusively equine practice);

(j) Private clinical practice, not further specified (two individuals whose veterinary endeavor is exclusively private clinical practice);

(k) Veterinary preventive medicine (one individual whose veterinary endeavor is in the field of epidemiology, public health, regulatory, or military veterinary medicine);

(l) Non-private practice, non-academic veterinary medicine (one individual); and

(m) At-large (one individual).

(ii) The four additional members of the Council on Education who are not voting members of the Association shall be as follows:

(a) Representatives of the public (three individuals who are not veterinarians appointed by the Council for terms of six years); and

(b) A Canadian veterinarian appointed and funded by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association for a term of three years.

(iii) The liaison member of the Council on Education shall be a veterinarian appointed and funded by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges for a term of three years.

2. **Responsibility.** The Council on Education shall:

(i) ~~Have~~ Have ~~autonomous authority to evaluate schools and colleges offering a professional degree in veterinary medicine, according to established standards; make accreditation decisions; and assign a classification of accreditation to each such school or college; and have such additional duties and responsibilities as provided in the Association's rules and procedures.~~

(ii) Meet the needs of society by promoting active programs in veterinary medical education by, among other things, encouraging and assisting schools and colleges of veterinary medicine to meet the requirements for full accreditation;

(iii) Study and recommend methods of instruction and promote the continual improvement of veterinary medical education in all its facets;

(iv) Recommend standards for accredited schools and colleges offering a professional degree in veterinary medicine; such standards shall pertain to organization, finances, physical facilities and equipment, clinical resources, library and information resources, students, admissions, faculty, curriculum, research programs, and outcomes assessment;

(v) Publish a list annually of the schools and colleges of veterinary medicine showing the current accreditation status of each;

(vi) Provide consultation to proposed, developing, and existing schools and colleges of veterinary medicine;

(vii) Review and make recommendations to the Executive Board concerning the activities of committees concerned with veterinary specialties, veterinary technicians, graduates of foreign colleges of veterinary medicine, and licensing examinations; and

(viii) Recommend curriculum changes that will enhance the veterinarian's ability to meet changing professional demands and societal needs.

c. **Council on Research**

1. **Composition.** The Council on Research shall consist of ten voting members of the Association representing the following areas of veterinary medical activity:

(i) Veterinary medical research (six individuals who are predominately engaged in active research at the time of the election);

(ii) Private clinical practice, not further specified (two individuals who are predominately engaged in private clinical practice); and

(iii) Veterinary medical colleges (two individuals who serve as dean or associate dean/director of research at an AVMA-accredited school or college of veterinary medicine).

2. **Responsibility.** The Council on Research shall:

- (i) Recommend, coordinate, evaluate, monitor, and promote veterinary medical research;
- (ii) Emphasize to the veterinary profession the importance of AVMA's role in supporting veterinary research and the continuing need for basic and clinical research information to advance all segments of the profession;
- (iii) Communicate with the veterinary profession, the biomedical research community, public agencies, and the general public to publicize and promote the role, significance, and relevance of veterinary biomedical research in improving animal and human health;
- (iv) Identify and recommend strategic alliances among groups within and outside of veterinary medicine to support and encourage research that advances animal and human health;
- (v) Provide recommendations on research policies and priorities;
- (vi) Recommend individuals for research awards; and
- (vii) Promote the communication and dissemination of research information through such vehicles as the *American Journal of Veterinary Research*; collaborate with the *AJVR* Editor-in-Chief in determining broad journal policies; and assist, along with other reviewers, the Editor-in-Chief in the evaluation of manuscripts submitted to the *AJVR* for publication.

d. Council on Veterinary Service

1. **Composition.** The Council on Veterinary Service shall consist of ten voting members of the Association representing the following areas of veterinary medical activity:
 - (i) Private practice, exclusively small animal (two individuals);
 - (ii) Private practice, exclusively equine (one individual);
 - (iii) Private practice, exclusively food animal (one individual);
 - (iv) Private mixed practice, predominantly food animal or equine (two individuals);
 - (v) Academic clinical science (one individual);
 - (vi) At-large (two individuals); and
 - (vii) Recent graduate (one individual).
2. **Responsibility.** The Council on Veterinary Service shall:
 - (i) Assemble and make available facts, data, opinions, and recommendations with respect to timely and adequate rendition of service to the veterinary profession and to the public;
 - (ii) Study and suggest means for the delivery of high-quality veterinary service to the public;
 - (iii) Investigate matters pertaining to the economic and social aspects of veterinary service; and
 - (iv) Advise and assist organizations represented in the AVMA House of Delegates on matters concerning veterinary service.

e. Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents

1. **Composition.** The Council on Biologic and Therapeutic

Agents shall consist of twelve voting members of the Association representing the following areas of veterinary medical activity:

- (i) Microbiology (one individual);
- (ii) Immunology (one individual);
- (iii) Pharmacology (one individual);
- (iv) Clinical pharmacology (one individual);
- (v) Private clinical practice, predominantly small animal (one individual);
- (vi) Private clinical practice, predominantly food animal (one individual);
- (vii) Private clinical practice, predominantly equine (one individual);
- (viii) Epidemiology (one individual);
- (ix) Industry, exclusive (one individual); and
- (x) At-large (three individuals).

2. **Responsibility.** The Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents shall:

- (i) Advise the Executive Board in the promotion of interest in the efficacy and proper use of biologic and therapeutic units in the practice of veterinary medicine;
- (ii) Serve as an informational and advisory resource for the various agents of the Association on issues pertaining to biologic and therapeutic agents;
- (iii) Advise the Executive Board in formulating positions concerning proposed or existing rules, regulations, and legislation and maintain awareness of activities and proposed actions by divisions of state and national governments concerned with veterinary biologic and therapeutic agents; and
- (iv) Advise the advertising manager of the Association journals as to the acceptability of advertising pertaining to biologic and therapeutic agents.

f. Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine

1. **Composition.** The Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine shall consist of ten voting members of the Association representing the following areas of veterinary medical activity:
 - (i) Public health agencies or the armed forces (four individuals);
 - (ii) Agricultural agencies (four individuals); and
 - (iii) At-large (two individuals).
2. **Responsibility.** The Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine shall:
 - (i) Give continuous study to problems of production, processing, and distribution of foods of animal origin as they relate to the assurance of an adequate supply of such food that is clean, sound, wholesome, and free from adulteration;
 - (ii) Recommend and encourage programs that will ensure proper participation by veterinarians in protecting consumer interest and will contribute to a continued market for livestock and livestock products;
 - (iii) Receive, collect, and dispense information on

- diseases of animals transmissible to human beings;
- (iv) Encourage greater participation by veterinarians in the field of preventive veterinary medicine as it relates to public health and agriculture;
 - (v) Recommend and encourage the development and support of programs designed to prevent, control, and eradicate animal diseases at the local, state, and national level, with the participation of local practitioners; and
 - (vi) Keep before the profession the responsibilities shared by all veterinarians to (a) safeguard animal and human health by diagnosing and reporting "reportable" diseases; (b) meet all applicable requirements in certifying to the health of animals; and (c) participate in accordance with applicable regulations in organized programs for the prevention, control, and eradication of animal diseases.

g. Council on Communications

1. **Composition.** The Council on Communications shall consist of ten voting members of the Association representing the following areas of veterinary medical activity:
 - (i) Private practice, predominantly small animal (two individuals);
 - (ii) Private practice, predominantly food animal (one individual);
 - (iii) Private practice, predominantly equine (one individual);
 - (iv) Non-private practice (one individual);
 - (v) Public health or regulatory veterinary medicine (one individual); and
 - (vi) At-large (four individuals).
2. **Responsibility.** The Council on Communications shall:
 - (i) Envision and oversee internal and external communication programs that are strategic, focused, and timely;
 - (ii) Foster a positive public image of the AVMA, AVMA members, and veterinary medicine to AVMA's publics;
 - (iii) Maintain and enhance relationships between the AVMA and its publics;
 - (iv) Utilize marketing analysis to aid in the creation and refinement of communication programs; and

- (v) Support and assist the Executive Board in developing resources to accomplish communication programs.

- eh. **Additional Councils.** Additional councils may be established by the House of Delegates to support the purposes of the Association. The Association's councils shall, at a minimum, include the following: (i) Council on Research; (ii) Council on Veterinary Service; (iii) Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents; (iv) Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine; and (v) Council on Communications. The specific names of such councils may be modified by the House of Delegates as it deems necessary.
- d. **Authority.** The councils shall have such responsibility as may be delegated to them and may not take any action binding on the Association without express authorization as specified in the Manual of the House of Delegates.
- e. **Composition of Councils.** Except as otherwise set forth herein, existing policy or the The action establishing a council shall set forth such council's purpose and composition and responsibilities as specified in the Manual of the House of Delegates.
- f. i. **Qualifications.**
- gj. **Term.**
- hk. **Elections.**
- il. **Meetings.**
- jm. **Policies and Procedures.**
- kn. **Quorum and Manner of Acting.**

3 Amend Bylaws Article VIII—Committees/Councils/Task Forces, Section 2—Councils, subsection j—Policies and Procedures, to clarify that the Executive Board does not develop or approve policies and procedures for the Council on Education.

Present and Proposed Wording

Section 2. Councils.

- j. **Policies and Procedures.** The Executive Board shall develop and approve policies and procedures for the operation of all councils, except for the manual titled Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education that is established by that council. All councils shall report to the Executive Board.