THE COMMITTEE ON VETERINARY TECHNICIAN EDUCATION AND ACTIVITIES

The Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) met on November 7 – 10, 2019 and April 23 – 25, 2020. The November 2019 meeting was held at AVMA Headquarters and the April 2020 meeting was held virtually. The meetings were chaired by Dr. Kelly Black and Tracy Blais, BS, CVT, MEd served as vice chair.

Accreditation of Veterinary Technology Programs
Within the above meeting timeframe, the CVTEA reviewed and granted re-accreditation to 31 veterinary technology programs, granted initial accreditation to 10 new veterinary technology programs, and withdrew accreditation from 2 programs. In addition, the CVTEA reviewed a total of 58 annual reports, 32 biennial reports, 35 interim reports, and 8 terminal report. There are currently 2 programs on terminal accreditation due to voluntary closure. There is a total of 13 veterinary technology programs that have submitted applications for initial accreditation.

The CVTEA completed a total of 46 site visits in 2019. There is a total of 25 site visits scheduled in 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a total of 8 site visits were re-scheduled and one site visit was held virtually. The CVTEA allows a maximum of 50 site visits annually, unless approved by the CVTEA. Each site visit is approximately 2 - 2.5 days in length. Each site team is composed of a total of 4 members including the site team chair who is a member of the CVTEA, a state veterinarian, a state veterinary technician, and a public representative. An AVMA staff member attends each site visit as well.

There is currently a total of 211 AVMA CVTEA-accredited veterinary technology programs which are classified as follows: 165 at Full Accreditation, 41 at Initial Accreditation, 3 on Probationary Accreditation, and 2 on Terminal Accreditation.

The list of accredited veterinary technology programs is available on the AVMA website, https://www.avma.org/education/accreditation/programs/veterinary-technology-programs-accredited-avma-cvtea

For the 2019 - 2020 academic year, there are approximately 34,955 veterinary technology students enrolled in campus and distance learning-based programs. There was a total of 5,212 graduates for 2018-2019. Of that amount, 344 graduated with a bachelor’s degree.

Accreditation Standards
The CVTEA cyclically reviews its Standards of Accreditation, Essential Skills, and Equipment and Resources List every 3 to 5 years. The Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities manual is typically updated twice each year in January and July.

The Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities manual is available on the AVMA website: https://www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/Accreditation/Programs/Pages/cvtea-pp.aspx
Activities Report

The CVTEA meets each fall with stakeholders from the American Association of Veterinary State Boards, the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America, the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators, and the Registered Veterinary Technologists and Technicians of Canada (RVTTC) to discuss topics of mutual interest, the state of the veterinary technology profession, and to foster communication among the entities.

On behalf of the CVTEA, Dr. Kelly Black and Tracy Blais, BS, CVT, MEd attended the AVMA/NAVTA Leadership Committee meeting during the 2019 AVMA Annual Convention in Washington, DC and the 2020 Leadership Meeting in Chicago, IL. In addition, CVTEA members Dr. Elizabeth Thompson and Kelly Foltz, BA, LVT, VTS (ECC) represented CVTEA on the AVMA Veterinary Technician Utilization Task Force.

The CVTEA continues its process of developing an enhanced accreditation model. Other goals identified include:

- Achieving Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) recognition
- Continued implementation of the accreditation software management system