The Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) met on November 2 – 5, 2017 and April 26 – 29, 2018. The meetings were chaired by Dr. Kimberly Kratt, and Dr. Kelly Black served as vice chair.

Accreditation of Veterinary Technology Programs
The CVTEA reviewed and granted re-accreditation to 44 veterinary technology programs, granted initial accreditation to seven new veterinary technology programs, and withdrew accreditation from 16 programs. In addition, the CVTEA reviewed 51 annual reports, 33 biennial reports, 59 interim reports, and nine terminal reports. There are currently five programs on terminal accreditation due to voluntary closure. There are 12 veterinary technology programs that have submitted applications for initial accreditation.

The CVTEA completed 53 site visits in 2017. To date there are 43 site visits scheduled in 2018 and 42 for 2019. The CVTEA allows a maximum of 50 site visits annually, unless approved by the CVTEA. Each site visit is approximately 2.5 days in length. Each site team is composed of four 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.

Currently there are 205 AVMA CVTEA-accredited veterinary technology programs, which are classified as follows: 152 at Full Accreditation, 47 at Initial Accreditation, nine on Probationary Accreditation, and five on Terminal Accreditation.

The list of accredited veterinary technology programs is available on the AVMA website, https://www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/Accreditation/Programs/Pages/vettech-programs-all-programs-list.aspx

For the 2017-2018 academic year, there were approximately 12,727 veterinary technology students enrolled in campus-based programs and 15,993 enrolled in distance-learning-based programs. There was a total of 4,790 graduates for July 2016-June 2017. Of that amount, 161 graduated with a bachelor degree.

Accreditation Standards – The Committee amended the implementation date of Standard 11d that a program’s three-year rolling average Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) pass percentage for first time test takers must be 50% or higher. Compliance with the Standard was changed from September 1, 2017 to September 1, 2020.

The CVTEA cyclically reviews its Standards of Accreditation and Essential Skills and Equipment every three to five 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 Committee meets each fall with stakeholders from the American Association of Veterinary State Boards, the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA), the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators, and the Registered Veterinary Technologists and Technicians of Canada 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, Drs. Kratt and Black attended the AVMA/NAVTA Leadership Committee meetings held during the 2017 AVMA Annual Convention and the January 2018 meeting held via conference call.

The Committee is in the process of exploring a new accreditation model. Other goals identified include:
- Achieving Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) recognition
- Proceeding with deployment of the Board of Directors-approved CVTEA Selection Committee that is charged with appointing 16 of 20 CVTEA members
- Continued implementation of the accreditation software management system