



World Association of Veterinary Anatomists WAVA

Association Mondiale des Anatomistes Vétérinaires AMAV

Weltvereinigung der Veterinäranatomen WVVA

Asociación Mundial de Anatomistas Veterinarios AMAV

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**Minutes of the informal meeting of WAVA-members at the
XXVIth Congress of the European Association of Veterinary Anatomists,
July 22, 2006**

The informal meeting of WAVA members was held at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Messina, Italy. The president calls to order at 2 PM.

I. Attendance

The roll was taken by secretary general Michael H. Stoffel

Present were:

President	Prof. Larry Freeman, USA
Vice-president I	Prof. Helmut Waibl, Germany (left earlier)
Secretary general	Dr. Michael H. Stoffel
WAVA members	Davies A (New Zealand), Gutierrez JC (USA), Henry B (USA), Hullinger R (USA), Inpanbutr N (USA), Lakomy M (Poland), Leiser R (Germany), Michel G (Germany), Saber AS (Egypt), Salazar I (Spain), Simoens P (Belgium), Taniguchi Kazumi (Japan), Taniguchi Kazuyuki (Japan), Van den Broeck P (Belgium), Vodenicharov A (Bulgaria), Weyns A (Belgium)
Others in attendance	Bjerkas I (Norway), Brehm R (Germany), Bridger P (Germany), Casteleyn C (Belgium), Cornillie P (Belgium), Ilieski V (Macedonia), Pendovski L (Macedonia), Plendl J (Germany), Poulsen Nautrup C (Germany)

2. Welcome

The president acknowledges the outstanding organization of the congress and expresses his gratitude for the opportunity to hold this informal meeting.

He introduces himself as well as the secretary general.

3. ICVAN **(Prof. H. Waibl)**

Prof. Waibl informs that the 5th Edition of the NAV has been published and is accessible for free on the WAVA homepage.

He expresses his gratitude to all the members of the International Committee on Veterinary Anatomical Nomenclature ICVAN for their work and in particular to its secretary, Prof. H. Gasse for his outstanding support. He also acknowledges the immediate publication of the NAV on the website.

Work on the NAV was accomplished in close collaboration with Prof. Simoens, president of the International Committee on Veterinary Embryological Nomenclature ICVEN. The current edition of the NAV is the result of a comprehensive revision. Yet, further work needs to be done. Therefore, any members being interested in actively contributing to this task are encouraged to come forward.

Prof. Waibl also transmits the following message from Prof. H. Gasse:

The secretary's major concern is about the striking lack of active members in the Committee. The number of colleagues who declared themselves ready to participate is in fact too small in some of the subcommittees, for instance in Splanchnologia. A major reason for this might be that many colleagues were afraid of a heavy workload, particularly during the period when the new edition of the Nomina was prepared. However, now that the 5th edition has been published, some of you may feel encouraged to join.

As president of region I, Prof. Waibl is concerned about the lack to contacts with African members. Therefore, he suggests that our colleagues from the African continent should consider establishing an African Association. As this would increase the number of regions and, consequently, the number of vice-presidents, an amendment of the constitution would be required. Therefore, he invites Prof. Saber to fathom out the issue with his colleagues so as to be prepared to table a motion for the next general assembly.

4. ICVEN **(Prof. P. Simoens)**

The International Committee on Veterinary Embryological Nomenclature ICVEN was appointed in 2003 in Knoxville. The 2nd edition of the NEV is dedicated to the memory of Prof. W. O. Sack who devoted his life to promoting veterinary morphology and who had also contributed decisively to the advancement of the NEV as a member and chairman of the ICVEN. Prof. Sack passed away in 2005 and Prof. Simoens calls to hold a minute's silence to commemorate Prof. W. O. Sack.

With respect to the constitution of the ICVEN, Prof. Simoens would value the inclusion of more members from outside Europe.

Prof. Simoens acknowledges the support of all the people who contributed to accomplishing the revision. The NEV is accessible on the WAVA website.

The 2nd edition of the NEV constitutes a thorough revision. Notwithstanding, a number of questions will need to be addressed. These include species coverage (rabbit, birds), improvements in the classification as well as the elimination of ambiguous and contradictory terms. To meet this challenge, the formation of subcommittees with specific tasks should be considered (Termini generales et Reproductio mammalium (& avium?); Embryogenesis; Organogenesis; Membranae fetales; Dysmorphia). However, progress will not be possible without new active members from different regions of the world.

Besides convenient accessibility, saving money was a reason for publishing the NAV and the NEV on Internet. However, Prof. Simoens found a printing house, that would be willing to print these books on demand and for free. The copyrights of the WAVA would not be touched upon and costs for shipping and handling would be minimal. Prof. Simoens would be willing to add an index and, thus, the Nomina would also be available as hardcopies for any interested colleagues. A consultative vote reveals that all the attendants gratefully welcome this initiative. The president expresses his sincere gratitude to Prof. Simoens for providing and arranging this unique opportunity.

5. O. Zietzschmann Award (Prof. P. Simoens)

The Otto Zietzschmann prize was awarded

- in 2003 to Prof. Dr. Dr. Fred Sinowatz from Munich, Germany
- in 2004 to Prof. Dr. Deryl L. Troyer from Kansas, USA and
- in 2005 to Prof. Dr. J.-C. Park from Gwang-ju, Korea.

The award is linked to *Anatomia, Histologia, Embryologia*, the official journal of the WAVA. So far, this journal basically published conventional research whereas more innovative studies generally are submitted to highly specialized, top-ranking journals. It is therefore important that high-quality manuscripts based on a broad range of different technical approaches are submitted to *Anatomia, Histologia, Embryologia* as well.

6. Anatomia, Histologia, Embryologia (Prof. F. Sinowatz)

More information will be provided at the EAVA meeting.

Prof. Henry mentions that the best way to support AHE and to improve its impact factor is to send good manuscripts to AHE and to cite this journal whenever possible.

7. Establishment of the Asian Association of Veterinary Anatomists (Prof. K. Taniguchi)

Prof. K. Taniguchi, the president of both the Japanese Association of Veterinary Anatomy and the Asian Association of Veterinary Anatomy provides comprehensive information on the establishment of the Asian AVA. He summarizes the history of JAVA and AAVA. The AAVA applies to be formally admitted as a regional section of the WAVA much like the EAVA and the American Association of Veterinary Anatomy. A consultative vote unanimously asks the executive board of the WAVA to take all the necessary steps for this application to be dealt with at the next general assembly. More informations on the Asian AVA and its statutes are available at <http://www.jpn-ava.com/aava/index.html>

8. Next General Assembly of the WAVA

According to the constitution, regular assemblies must be held in conjunction with the World Veterinary Congress WVC or meetings of the International Federation of Anatomy IFA. The question has been raised whether this restriction should not be lifted.

Prof. Henry is in favour of untying the mandatory link between the WAVA general assembly and the WVC and IFA, respectively. He suggests this question to be decided on as soon as possible.

Prof. Hullinger advocates considering very carefully the reasons why this link was established originally. The intention of the founders of the WAVA was to link anatomy to veterinary medicine.

He emphasizes the importance of tight bonds between veterinary anatomists and veterinary clinicians. Therefore, the WAVA can meet in combination with any other professional organization but the official meetings should remain linked to the WVC to make evident that we feel connected to the veterinary profession.

Prof. Simoens suggests that the link between WAVA on the one hand and WVA or IFA on the other hand shall remain a privileged one but that the range of Associations with which WAVA general assemblies may be held should be extended by including the regional Associations of the WAVA (such as for instance the EAVA, AAVA or the Asian AVA).

Loosening of the link between WAVA-meetings and either the WVA or the IFA necessitates an amendment of the constitution. An amendment of the constitution requires a mail vote and the corresponding envelopes must be opened in the presence of a General Assembly.

The next World Veterinary Congress will be held in Vancouver in summer 2008, the next meeting of the IFA in 2009 in South Africa. Elections are due at the upcoming WAVA general assembly and nominations need to be solicited 18 month prior to the date of the election. The president, therefore, suggests holding the next general assembly in conjunction with the World Veterinary Congress in Canada.

A consultative vote reveals that a majority of those present is in favour of holding the next general assembly in conjunction with the WVC in 2008 and of putting the question of extending the range of permissible meetings for WAVA general assemblies to a mail vote.

Therefore, the following topics shall be prepared and put on the agenda:

- Formal admission of the Asian Association of Veterinary Anatomists as a regional section of the WAVA (region 4)
- Possibly an Amendment of the constitution with respect to splitting Region I (establishing a separate region for Africa)
- Poll (mail vote) on an Amendment of the constitution with respect to the link between WAVA general assemblies and the World Veterinary Congress or the International Federation of Anatomy, respectively
- Elections

Prof. Freeman adjourned the meeting at 3 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael H. Stoffel
Secretary General