

Avs meeting minutes

Need to take driving licence and proof of address and passport and utility bill/bank statement to NatWest so can be a signatory.

Senior Rep Update

Nottingham congress tidy up, surveys

Cambridge surveys handover money

Edinburgh surveys, new rep, not here

Bristol Sports surver

London BVA survey waiting for holiday to be over, elections pending need to elect a new junior

Some years more responsive than others in all unis.

Presiden'ts report

BVA is on 2nd April me and Jules to go

Need to do hoodies after ski rep thing sorted...but when get them out: 2nd meeting decided too late as miss Freshers' week in most unis

SVP report

Heather has been tidying up loose ends for the last five weeks, handing over to Julie. Went to Cam to address the dropping membership over this week, hopefully sorted. Handed over to Karmen at Cam and tidied up Raw Meaty Bones hopefully once and for all,

Was invited to talk at VPH council 'joy of joys' was a final thing, not ongoing.

Tidy up with BVA stuff

Helping with Sports

ABTIW Congress to come

Treasure Report...later as Heather not here yet

£5000 has been given to Bristol for Sports. After this there is £7000 in the bank plus £2000 to come from Nottingham today. Receipts all organised. £12000 on the reserve account.

JAVS

Really good response with articles. Won't be out till just after Easter. Jill who is the BVA Editorial dept...has got hold of some Black's Vet Dictionaries to give away as prizes... need to think how to use them. E-mail Emma if you can think of anything. Already a best article and a prize for letters £20

IVSA

Have updated the committee and now two cam reps and one more London. Edinburgh junior and new Bristol senior. But need a Webmaster. To give Jules to a committee member list. BVA have sponsored for £20/year to include Ghana as part of IVSA important as Ghana vet in influential position.

Dev fund money that IVSA produces every year to send books to Mongolia vet school.

No Group exchanges yet, Edinburgh keen but... have Symposium so bit busy.

Individual exchanges presumed ok as exchange officers have nothing to report.

Funding is left to individual unis. Sponsorship? Loan for BVA for accommodation deposit, thanks BVA!

Symposium 80 people coming in 29th December- 5th January, 10 will be UK organisers. A max of 10 students from each country can go. But hoping to open up some nights e.g. New Year's to more UK students.

WEBSITE

Final draft stage before the launch. Need to get link to look at new design. Could Bristol do a blurb about rough idea of Sports. Need dates for Sports and Congress. Liverpool don't know they're doing it as not here!

Heather helped plan co-ordinated response with BVAs website.

Need Welfare blurb.

Intercalation article up.

Residencies not yet written up...John Bristol was supposed to do...but post grad clinical training hard to find out about because no specific co-ordinator in each Uni. Systems are very complicated, we were wondering if this is too complicated to be feasible. It's thought that individuals can probably research themselves using Vet Record, maybe reference on website. Nice idea but too many available to list them all. Maybe have an advertisement section where unis could advertise their placements. Maybe have a point of contact for people to e-mail. Not enough structure and similarity between courses to have general information about them. Also too many names for a residency! Johns to chat in pub

Need an IVSA link (in addition or instead of Residency link?). Global residency info to be provided perhaps?

Student Funding

Post-grad and international fee data collated (Edinburgh's baby). There was a meeting, but became un-productive so little progress has been made. Don't know who makes the decisions on this subject. Too much bureaucracy, nobody in charge, little progress.

EMS leaflets

To have a link on the website.

Missing Liverpool and Glasgow EMS data. The rest has been analysed and is to be prepared by Heather for presentation

BVA AVS Survey

Edinburgh all back

Bristol about to be sent back
Cambridge to get theirs done by the end of the week
To be looked at over Summer
To give Tim a shout if there are any problems

Sports Weekend

Sports weekend booked for Sat Sat night at Student Union. Friday night probably to be in the same place as Sat due to problems in Bristol of finding sufficient

Hockey netball rugby football etc. Have got Astroturf and 9 5 a side at a sports college. A lot is indoors to hope people stay for sports. Indoor fully licensed bar for lunch. Publicity is Emma's job, sorting out posters and flyers to be ready for first campaign in May and another in October. Try and max distribution. Senior Reps to give Alana addresses to post publicity to in respective unis.

Sponsorship on its way

Accomm and stewarding first e-mails out last week, sign up sheets next term. All to plan

Treasury bank up and running with loan from BVA

Local charity: Wallace and Gromit Grand Appeal for a neonatal care unit in
Pets as therapy: national charity, not chosen by committee as Sponsors wished to know in advance what the charities were before giving money. Alana to send out blurb and weblinks.

All to plan so far.

Ski Rep

Last year not so good, poor turnout, got tagged on to Loughborough uni trip. But don't want this to happen again.

Reasons for low uptake: too expensive, don't like skiing, snow conditions not so good as season is now usually later than Dec. Bristol clashes with fourth and fifth year EMS. Bristol have own ski club, unlikely to use AVS, same in Nottingham.

Alana reckons better publicity: two campaigns a la Sports, might help. But also have Easter and New Year trips!

Cambridge (Nat) Vet school do own New Year trip. RVC do not have a ski club and have tagged on to Cams.

Need personal interest from Uni reps who get a free place, get their friends to go.

Dublin clashes with exams. Also difficult to fly via Heathrow for Edinburgh or Dublin.

Maybe give a bus to get unis there. But North and Dublin still easier to fly. Look at companies to give more all inclusive travel options that are easier. Own transport is less hassle and £30 cheaper, but is it worth it? At least 3 hrs by bus to resorts when you get there.

Nott do an Easter trip and advertise from Freshers' week.

Dave: skiers will go, not skiers won't. Probably skiers are going to be tempted to go at convenience with friends, uni, family, NOT AVS!

Bit of a minority sport and still expensive even with the discount. AVS is not a pull for skiers. Need to make the AVS factor more of a pull.

More scope in having say a Beach holiday but maybe a summer is a bad time for EMS. Need lots prior warning. Problems with final years' holidays...maybe another event instead. Adventure week in Wales? Summer is an obvious gap. Lie the Final Year seminar in first/second week of September. Maybe bi-annual would be better just to get a good one.

Need to know peoples terms and exams. And re-sits. Problem with clinicals attending due to EMS. But hopefully can make it annual and different every year.

Vote unanimous that skiing not so good.

Vote for summer event was unanimous.

Alternating event probably see how it goes. See what happens with uptake. Maybe build back up to a ski trip. Do summer 2009 as will take some time to organise. Need good publicity.

Jo Shelmerdine to organise. Rep title: holiday/fun rep! Holiday or tour rep. 'AVS on Tour Rep'

(Jack arrives post finals and train delays and possibly)

CONGRESS

Jack about to leave and do Rotations. John to leave and come back to RVC. Not much committee in Liverpool yet. Liverpool would defer to Cambridge for 2009? To liase with Junior (Charlotte) and decide to give to Cambridge definitely.

Whoever does Congress, need to give date asap to make sure no clashes. End of January or first weekend of February. Dermatology fifth year exam a difficulty in Cambridge... talk to exam board about moving it?

Need to decide who is doing it and then get on with other quibbles.

Nottingham

There was a profit £1731.72 and some money coming from Dublin on top of that. Need to pay BVA loan back. 1/3 to AVS 1/3 to AVS Nottingham and 1/3 to go to a charity to be decided by Notts.

AVS Congress to be in Cambridge this year. (2009)
Liverpool junior to be aware of doing it 2010

CLINICAL CURRICULUM BALANCE.

Bristol 5th years. Can get away with only 1 week of Farm Animal stuff. Rotations and EMS are possibly. 6 weeks of rotation based in the farm animal science one is week off one is public health one is first opinion practice: only hands on stuff. Rest is hospital practice but v dependednt on whats in and if there are any movement restrictions. preventative medicine week herd health. Reproduction week.

No set period of farm animal weeks for EMS in Bristol. Liverpool say there isn't enough on anything other than cows and sheep. What about **camelids**? Jack has no f**cking clue about alpacas.

Bristol thinks this is a problem of individuals. Maybe because of foster practice being SA exclusively? A Bristol thing.

Jack, EMS is on your head. So it's lectures that we can do something about. It's up to individuals

Survey how many hours of clinical lectures there are on each species. Problems of extending curriculum even more! Maybe just get a record for now. Bristol to decide what to do about the complainers who are a few finalists wishing to go into Farm Animal. Just bring it to attention to flag it up next time if it arises? A waiting game to see if unis follow Notts in simplifying committee and shaking up the course. Probably better to do own reading and research as unis might not be able to find specialist lecturers (Nat). What are the first day expectations? If camelids don't fall on these, we are entitled to support in that field on our first year etc. RCVS might need to review first day competencies.

Maybe get exotic animal societies to write features for JAVS as a way of raising awareness of rare breeds.

Leave it to lie until it comes up again. If it becomes a widespread issue, then maybe

Cats also undertaught at London and Liverpool. Cat anatomy. No dissection in Bristol. More rabbits?

Show of hands who thinks there isn't enough cat: Liverpool, RVC, Dublin (?). With rising numbers of cats, this might actually be an issue.

Individual vet societies to look for holes in course to start with and if there is a general pattern then to make it an AVS matter. BVA survey will provide data. Over the years, you pick things up on rotations. Jack is worried about his lack of knowledge on cat penis.

10 min break.

EMS SKILLS REVIEW

Nat and Claire from Cam have left. Maiyanne informs us that she and Emma smell and that is why.

This is a suggested list of things to do on EMS.

Add-ons:

'Spay' split into cat and dog species. Make it clear that you don't have to be able to do a bitch spay from day one. Say that you get help and you get help.

Microchipping a horse should be on it.

Ideally we should end some ultrasounding...bovine repro tract, equine distal limb, and small animal. Even not a day 1 competency but should probably try to get some exposure.

Rectalling a horse: what is the legal deal with students. Liverpool have a rectal horse.

Maybe equine repro tract is a bit niche. Something you should see rather than do.

Correct typos!

Make the number you need to have done perhaps lower. 3 to do or less.

Get a copy of lists together and make something that reads better and is user-friendly. And particularly for RVC who don't get a very good list. In addition to or instead of the university provided check list. Need to revive this as is a bit of a muddle and doesn't include Nottingham.

OUT OF HOURS WORK

Need to e-mail information on quantity done to Julie plus loop if you haven't already. Compile a bit of writing saying how much each uni does. Can put pressure if get over-demanding at some institutions. But don't want to piss anybody off as we recognise is helpful to uni and to our own education. Is an issue throughout the profession. Comparisons with medics show vets draw short straw. Just the way it is?

Flood from RVC John, obviously been putting too many hours in at Liverpool.

Wednesday afternoons for sport is agreed at Students' Union. Should Wed afternoons be considered out of hours?

To look at any disparities next week.

AOB

...Myf needs info for welfare. How it works and if there are problems. Senior rep conversations? With minutes.

...The RVC Greyhound controversy in the Sunday Times. 1st March. Does this warrant a response? Shall we let sleeping dogs lie until something else happens and it escalates.

Vote to wait is unanimous. Maybe start compiling a response in preparation.

At the moment need to send round link for Times article and RCVS response. Dave to do this. May be worth writing an AVS account saying recognise the need for dissection, and thank owners for willingly donating their animals, but that the students trust Universities to source animals with respect to animal welfare concerns. Absolve students from blame

...EMS LAVA Banfield: American, Meriel, Intervet not so good at the mo and can't do wrist bands! Bowringer Ingelheim: the pig people.

John to forward RVC information. Most on offer have a research skew, look out for ones that are not. Need to put on AVS site.

...Contacts Directory need to think about Data Protection for releasing reps' contacts to companies. Keep e-mail address more private on web. "info@" style address for Dave to forward on. Decide that this would probably be the best route. People who object to details being passed on for a specific purpose should speak to Jules or Karmen asap.

...Tim, everyone on the committee must be a member. Sponsorship of student events. Vet school visits from the President.

Young vet network update:

A graduate support scheme from May 2007 for final years and first 8 years after qualification. Send a guide to help with writing CV, application letters, finding a job, dealing with clients. Graduate forum for discussion of issues. Two grad reps sit on council to raise any issues necessary with the BVA. Two new things approved are a program of free equine CPD for graduate members i.e. finalists this year for March to September. Talks, practicals, and a buffet. Run with Newmarket Animal Health Trust. Small Animal division is to run a similar even if the equine thing is approved. Hopefully some work on getting specialist free CPD in Large Animals.

Vetstream all grads in first two years have free entry. Major discounts for all the YVN members. Handy information source.

Incentives to keep people BVA members after graduation.

Junior rep on council will be leaving in October and the post will be advertised within the next month applicants must be in by next July and can nominate yourself. Can be up to 3 year qualified to attend council, visit vet schools, handle the media side...free registration to BVA congress whilst in post. Is a two yearly post.

Vets TV and online channel to pilot in April for four months. Look for feedback from members. Launched 2nd April at BSAVA Congress. Vets.tv Two programs commissioned so far 'stress management and MRSA' plus some other specialist info. Competition to win a laptop on the stand at the congress.

Survey on Off the Record, the monthly newsletter within In Practice. Would like us to return some feedback via post or via website. Even if it's invisible to you!

Considering allowing basic student membership to include online access to Vet Record and In Practice.

Thinking of revamping the website.

...Derek. Can each of Senior reps take travel grant leaflet. Hotel info.

...Una Dublin have a problem with repeat exams. Christmas and Summer exams. Christmas fails go with repeats in summer. But there will be no resits for Summer exams (May/June). There are no Autumn repeats so there is no way you can progress to the next year if you fail a summer exam and have to go out for a year. AVS can write a letter. This is probably lecturers being lazy plus teething problems with the modularisation of the system, starting in 2005. Grainne and Una to write some sort of report to make letter stronger. Particularly to highlight welfare issues caused. Heather retells the case of 'cherry-picking' where you had to resit all of your exams if you failed one. A trend of higher failure rates in the years first experiencing modularisation plus less opportunity of re-take. Student finance problems.

...Jack donkey advert for

Fitness to Practice, at a student level and graduation? If you mess up or get signed off early for EMS e.g. by OVS then you can get struck off or fined before you've even started. Problems of students grassing up other students. Is there anything we can do about this. Jennifer and the bitchy late complainer...Toby? Hard for AVS to back this problem as it looks like we are against transparency. Should be dealt with internally.

Jenny... IVSA struggling for funds. All subs from AVS go to global membership funds. Central committee get no more money for travel expenses etc. maybe need to get more subs to IVSA? But this may not be up to AVS as it makes difficulty of getting people into AVS in the first place. Edinburgh get their subs paid for them. Maybe best to target the institution's own vet societies. Edinburgh could maybe fund this discrepancy! Reps to be asked by Jenny to get feedback on IVSA activities.

...Heather. Abattoir work...RCVS know that we are being signed off early, this is not so good. Must do what you are told! Or else face the consequences.

Get the AVS powerpoint out earlier for Freshers' week. Maybe with some video embedded. The queen's/president's speech. And possibly some guest material from Toby who would like to produce it! Jenny wants to get the rest of the committee dancing behind Jules on a phone camera...hmmm.