

VECCS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
September 10, 2024
IVECCS
St. Louis, Missouri

1:25 pm CST Call to order – Ken Yagi – VECCS President

VECCS General Membership meeting September 2023

- Motion to approve minutes from 2023 VECCS General membership meeting. Approved without any further discussion. No opposed. Motion passed.

1:26 pm CST VECCS CEO Report - Chris Gray

- <https://www.flipsnack.com/veccs/2023-veccs-annual-report/full-view.html>
- Annual report is on website
- Report discusses VECCS Membership demographics and growth, review of Spring 2023 meeting and IVECCS 2023
- Updates VECCS operations 2023
 - Chris works remotely, San Antonio 3-5 days/month
- Team growth to 14 members in VECCS office
 - Increased membership growth and initiatives as well as IVECCS growth
- VECCS Financial audit
 - Full audit performed in 2022, Accountant review in 2023, no concerns flagged
- Support of Asian colleagues JaVECCS
 - JaVECCS meeting, BOD approved financial support of \$75,000 for JaVECCS over 5 years. Chris Gray, Steve Epstein, and Ken Yagi attended 1st JaVECCS international conference, which was very successful and exceeded expectations
- New Building/VECCS headquarters
 - BOD approved purchase of a building in San Antonio
 - Acknowledgements to VECCS Team, Sarah Kokernot, Lauren San Martin and Ridgley Callahan
 - Opening ceremony and ribbon cutting held in April
 - Teaching lab planned in lab space in December 2024
- Member services
 - Headspace - 800 members enrolled
 - Vetstream library of materials at discount for VECCS members
 - Mentor/mentee
 - 50% discount Purdue DEI certificate program
 - Currently in discussion to a clinical point of care app for members
 - Careers board is busy, member discount on posting
 - Monthly webinars
 - Priority IVECCS early discount and exclusive registration for Spring meetings
 - 40% Discounted registration for RECOVER on-line courses
- Spring meeting
 - Held in Negril, Jamaica

- Power of Ten
 - 2nd Leadership cohort graduated this week
 - Continuing Power of Ten again upcoming year
- Membership
 - End of August 2024 - 7128 members
- IVECCS 2024
 - 2024 IVECCS not as well attended as Aurora, CO 2023
 - CO destination venue and also directly after COVID
- 2024 IVECCS
 - 4990 registrations by end of August, now over 5000 registrations total, on site 4200 persons, 3100 attendees after subtraction of guests and exhibitors
- Virtual attendees has decreased this year (15% virtual versus 20% in 2022)
- Exhibitors – highest number of exhibitors ever – 312 booths and 60 exhibitors at Career Fair
- Presence at other venues
 - VMX, Western Veterinary Conference, EVECCS, London Vet Show, WSAVA, PaVECC, LAVECC
 - Professional growth and development Expo Expo Trade Show, Southwest Marriott Exchange and IAVE leadership Institute

1:32 pm CST VECCS Financial Update – Ridglea Callahan Director of Finance

- Increase in assets in 2023 from 2022 due to success of IVECCS 2023
- Increase liabilities 2023
 - Loan for office completion, paid off in full in 2024
- Profit and Loss statement
 - Operational costs have increased
- Graphical numbers from 2022 and 2023 projected against budget
 - In September VECCS recognizes all of income from IVECCS and expenses and – is on same trajectory as usual
- 2024 Highlights
 - Completed construction of office, moved in March 1
 - Negril, Jamaica in March
 - Grand Opening and Ribbon cutting in April 2024
 - 3 additional staff members to serve the growing membership and society
- Future BOD meetings, IVECCS Planning meetings, labs and other events are planned for last quarter of 2024 in our new VECCS office

1:36 ACVECC and VECCS Joint Educational Initiatives - Nicolette Zarday

- Dr. Zarday entered role as Director of Certificate programs along with Dr. Elise Boller, as program developed jointly with ACVECC
- 3 levels for ER Veterinarians
 - Foundations in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care (FVECC)
 - All e learning and self-paced
 - Covers broad array of ER topics

- Early Career/Intermediate Level
 - Program accreditation- program for employer-delivered training programs, this is not a direct training program for veterinarians
- Advanced Emergency Veterinarian Certificate Program
 - Is currently in design
 - 2 year cohort-based program for experienced veterinarians
 - Is not yet prepared for launch date
- Developed a Competency Framework with 3 proficiency/milestone levels
- Foundations – has launched
 - 40 modules of on line e learning each ~ 1 hour to complete
 - Target audience students recent grads, new ER doctors, or doctors that want to refresh or update knowledge as well as persons to ER or people who see ER cases in general practice
 - Learning.acvecc.org
 - More than 50% of modules are completed, with the remainder to be released in the next 4 months
 - All are available for RACE credit for professionals
- Intermediate Program
 - Accreditation program for employer delivered programs
 - Meet standards of ACVECC and VECCS
 - Aligns with the competency framework on the milestone level
 - Focus to raise awareness and visibility of high-quality early ER Veterinary programs
 - Plan to launch in ~ 6 months
- Advanced Program
 - Is least far along in development
 - Purpose to give experienced ER vets opportunities for professional development and work synergistically with Diplomates
 - 2 year program with 1 month long units
 - Geared for people to do while they work in emergency and so is reinforced with clinical work
- There is no final summative exam but will be assessments along the way
 - Assessment incorporates previous learning
 - Delivery of psychomotor skills is important
- Not ready yet to publish timeline for enrollment and launch
- Aligned to Advanced milestone of competency framework
- Dr. Zarday thanked the many members of VECCS and ACVECC and others who have supported this endeavor
 - Question: Would there be a potential for collaboration of the middle certificate with AAHA who certifies Emergency Facilities?
 - Answer: AAHA provides a good example on how to do facility certification, however we are looking at VECCS Facilities certification as the leaders as to how to accreditation

- Dr. Karl Jandrey discussed that at the ACVECC Business meeting, advertising to the 10-12 developing veterinary schools in the next 5-10 years, who may not be able to staff faculty
 - Recommends marketing to AAVMC and leaders; partnering with vet schools is a good consideration
 - AAVMC meeting is in early April 2025 – Dr. Jandrey to help bring information to that meeting

1:47 Practice Leadership Committee Report – Bo Compton – Committee Chair

- Increase leadership presence in VECCS leadership
- In survey July 2024, 55% of response identified as leaders or managers within a practice (majority of our members identify as leaders in their practice)
- Improve colleague connection for ECC providers – VECCS Leadership Connection (started in 2022, solidified through 2026)
- Roundtables presented in field of leadership
- Highlight contributions of ECC – Practice leader of the year Dr. Megan Seekins, DACVECC
 - Is the first time that a veterinarian has been given this award
 - Dr. Seekins also was awarded Portland OR Veterinarian of the Year
- Mentor Power of Ten leadership – cultivate next generation of leaders within veterinary medicine
- Goal of Committee is to actively maintain a diverse group of leaders including historically marginalized identities, expression of all positions in the hospital from different backgrounds
- Feliza Lopez VTS ECC from AMC Joined

1:52 Publication Committee Report – Steve Epstein, VECCS President-Elect

- JVECCS submission static year to year
- Impact factor 1.1 in 2024 (Compared with 1.3 in 2022)
- Review articles are cited the most
- Transition from Dr. Dan Chan to Dr. Jamie Burkitt is completed
- Dr. Chan is staying on as Associated Editor, staying on consensus guidelines
- Dr. Ben Brainard to fill in for Editor-in-Chief for Dr. Burkitt if she has a conflict-of-interest
- Thanks to Drs. Diana Hassel, Jennifer Prittie and Marie Holowaychuk who are stepping down as Assistant editors
- Welcome to three new Assistant Editors Dr. Lily Parkinson and Amelia Musterman and Alicia Mastrocco

1:55 DEI Update – Chris Gray for Lori Waddell

- DEI Committee is a Joint Committee with ACVECC
- Organized DEI stream at IVECCS this year and DEI Happy Hour

- BLENDvet Pathway program – focus to introduce underrepresented members/students to veterinary medicine, High school in St. Louis September 10, 2024
- Produces a monthly newsletter – Critically Diverse sent to VECCS and ACVECC members
- Dr. Adesola Adunayo is stepping down as Chair and Dr. Ames Alwood is stepping up as Chair
- Dr. Lisa Branner to co-Chair for VECCS
- Committee to focus on new items pulled from VECCS Strategic Plan after IVECCS 2024

1:57 Education Committee Report – Julie Dechant

- Thanks to members of the Education Committee
- Monthly Zoom meetings
- Key Achievements in past year
 - Case presentation discussion for Monthly mingles
 - Developed committee SOP
 - Created speaker selection rubric
 - Short course development for VECCS Lab Space in new office
 - VECCS/VIN Webinar – added 2 large animal sessions
 - Reviewed value and merit of external educational resources/proposals for members
- Developed VECCS Tracks at other conferences
 - VMX 2025 – Drs. Tori Miller and Elke Rudloff
 - ACVIM 2025 Dr. Gary Magdesian (Large Animal) and Dr. Ashley Allen – Durrance (Small Animal)
- VECCS Spring Symposia for 2025
 - Hilton Head – March 20-23
 - Dr. Amanda Cavanagh (transfusion medicine), Dr. Marc Seitz (Diagnostic Imaging)
 - Monte Carlo, Monaco – April 3-6, 2025
 - Giacomo Stanzani – resuscitation, hemorrhage, sepsis, critical illness
 - Alex Lynch – hemostasis, trauma, resuscitation, scoring systems, drug interactions

2:01 Facility Certification Committee- Dr. Amanda Hilliard

- Updated guidelines for facilities certification
- Streamlined the online application process, is a much more user-friendly experience
- Currently, 43 certified facilities (including 1st Facility certified in Korea), 29 applications have been submitted this year (1 pending judging), 39 applications are in progress
- Educational component has been added to help facilities understand the concepts behind the guidelines for certification
- Hard launch of VECCS Facilities Certification this week at IVECCS 2024

2:05 VECCS Gives Committee Report – Bob Messenger on behalf of Deanne Pawlisch

- Donated \$10,000 each to two Brazilian organizations for disaster-relief post-flooding

- Awarded \$25,000 Access-to-Care Grant to Dr. Ashley Allen-Durrance for Home Care and Outpatient Protocol for cats presenting for Emergency urethral obstruction (HOPE)
- Awarded Community care grant of \$2,500 was awarded to Dr. Laura Hokett for work as a street veterinarian for homeless in Fayetteville, AK
- Donated NAVEMS \$ 5,000 to continue pre-hospital training to local OpK9 handlers from St. Louis metropolitan area
- Over 60 IVECCS 2024 attendees from all over the world provided free pet care for more than 125 pets for housing insecure persons
- VECCS Gives Raffle raised \$20,343 during IVECCS 2024, which will be contributed to the Bistate Pet Food Pantry, and organization that helps economically challenged pet owners feed their pets
- VECCS Gives Committee provides care for animals in need, support for pet owners in at-risk communities, improving safety and welfare for working dogs, provides targeted educational training programs and aids animal care providers in the aftermath of natural or human made disasters

2:10 pm CST IVECCS Program Committee – Andrea Steele

- IVECCS 2025 Sept 4-8 San Diego
- Oct 17 and 18 in-person IVECCS Planning meeting and then June 2025 virtual meeting
- Program grid for IVECCS 2025 will be finalized at October meeting
- Seeking new members for a Member at Large position (4 year term) – call for members will be posted after IVECCS
- Looking for an ACVECC member veterinarian that lives in San Diego area to help with finding staff, technicians and veterinarians to help staff labs, provide supplies, animals, etc. animals for the IVECCS 2025 labs
- IVECCS 2024 is a success, please give feedback
- Theme for IVECCS 2025 is Cardiovascular

2:15 CST New Business –Ken Yagi

- Recognition of current BOD - Steve Epstein, Elisa Mazzaferro, Matt Booth, Lori Waddell, Alyce D’Amato, Trish Farry Nicolette Zarday
- For tenure of Presidency, focused on association growth and structure of the VECCS as a business, while still focusing on the legacy and standards that VECCS has had from the beginning
- VECCS team members make it wonderful
- Thanks and presentation of gifts to outgoing BOD members Dr. Matt Booth (Treasurer) and Dr. Elisa Mazzaferro (Past-President)
- Passed the gavel to Dr. Steve Epstein
 - Announced new members: Alyce D’Amato (Treasurer), and Dr. Gaby Riccio (Member-at-Large) , Dr. Armi Pigott (President-Elect)
 - Thanks and presentation of gift to Ken Yagi as outgoing VECCS President
 - Next VECCS General Business Meeting scheduled for September 7, 2025 in San Diego, CA, IVECCS 2025
- Motions to adjourn, no discussion, no opposed, motion passed

2:21 CST Meeting adjourned