

2016 VPHA & AGV Autumn Conference

The 2016 VPHA & AGV Autumn Conference took place on Sat 5th November 2016 in the Haycock Hotel Wansford Peterborough.

The themes of the Conference were Sustainability & Veterinary Surveillance roles in an ever changing world.

The event attracted an audience of over 100 delegates from a variety of backgrounds, veterinarians and non- veterinarians working in public Health, Government, registered Charities and refreshingly, some veterinary undergraduates. We were also fortunate to be joined by Gudrun Ravetz, President BVA and Nigel Gibbens CVO. The attendees listened to and participated in a series of mind stimulating presentations given by experts in their various disciplines.

Bhavisha Patel, a veterinary student from Bristol, started the conference with an excellent talk on what current students want from the veterinary curriculum given the expanding fields of veterinary medicine in our changing world.

An outstanding presentation was delivered by George Lueddeke PhD, Chair of the One Health Commission who concluded that “The veterinary Community working alongside other health and environmental professions is pivotal in incorporating One Health values and Principles across the educational and research arenas.”

The One Health concept was expanded to encompass One Welfare by Rebecca Garcia and Kate Sharpe from the Association of Government Veterinarians. They described how vets delivering One Health and One Welfare could improve not only the health and welfare of animals, but also the health and welfare of society in general.

The afternoon speakers described the changing world we are working in from the impact of Brexit to changes in technology and communication and how these are presenting new challenges and opportunities for veterinary surveillance to monitor animal health threats.

The Association Dinner in the evening was followed by music ably provided by Eddie Grant to round off an excellent Conference.

Once again, the good mixture of delegates underscored the added value achieved by organising a joint conference allowing the organisers to explore a much wider range of relevant topics.

Copies of the presentations can be obtained from Wojciech Dec at Eville & Jones Tel: 01132 840400.

We look forward to another good attendance at our joint VPHA/AGV Spring One Health Conference on 17th & 18th April in Cambridge sponsored by BAYER and focussing on the control of parasites affecting both Public Health and Animal Health.

Further details will be available on the VPHA and AGV Websites at <http://www.vpha.co.uk> and <https://www.agv.org.uk/>

Lewis G. Grant President VPHA

Kate Sharpe President AGV