

AAVLD Strategic Plan – 2010-2013

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Vision

The AAVLD is a world leader in advancing the discipline of veterinary diagnostic laboratory science to promote global animal health and One Health.

Mission

The AAVLD promotes continuous improvement and public awareness of veterinary diagnostic laboratories by advancing the discipline of veterinary diagnostic laboratory science. The AAVLD provides avenues for education, communication, peer-reviewed publication, collaboration, outreach, and laboratory accreditation.

Motto: Advancing veterinary diagnostic laboratory science

Core values

The AAVLD is committed to these core values:

- Continuous improvement
- Engagement of members
- Effective communication
- Collaboration
- Support of One Health

Goals

1. Advocate for the role of veterinary diagnostic laboratories in global health
2. Foster the continuous improvement of diagnostic laboratory techniques and processes, personnel qualifications, and facilities
3. Promote the continued professional growth of members
4. Disseminate information concerning the diagnosis/monitoring of animal health and disease surveillance
5. Provide a formal accreditation process for veterinary medical diagnostic laboratories

Strategies

Goal 1. Advocate for the role of veterinary diagnostic laboratories in global health

Strategies	Actions
1.1 Promote external awareness of the AAVLD and expertise available through its accredited laboratories and individual members.	1.1.a President's letter to external partners and allied organizations. 1.1.b Build a database of members listing special laboratory skill-sets that can be searched by non-members needing their expertise.

Strategies		Actions
1.2	Provide expert consulting support and guidance to state and federal laboratories, USAHA, NAHLN, FERN, LRN, and professional animal health associations through our membership and our committees.	1.2 President's letter to external partners and allied organizations.
1.3	Continue the annual joint scientific meeting with USAHA, and continue to foster interaction in areas of overlapping interests.	1.3 Recurring annual activity.
1.4	Champion the participation of AAVLD laboratories in: detection of endemic, zoonotic and emerging diseases, food safety, environmental pathogen surveillance, bioterrorism detection, and emergency response.	1.4.a President's message. 1.4.b Continued support and participation in the NAHLN.
1.5	Be actively involved in policy development concerning good laboratory practices, including diagnostic specimen shipping, workplace safety, BSL requirements for veterinary diagnostic procedures, and acceptable laboratory waste disposal methods.	1.5 Complete and implement the Biosafety Guidance Document for Clinical Microbiology laboratories.
1.6	Encourage and promote engagement of members, committees, and the Executive Board in supporting the Vision and Mission of AAVLD.	1.6.a. Highlight the Vision/Mission/Values on the AAVLD homepage. 1.6.b. Ensure that AAVLD Core Values are disseminated to members and their laboratories. 1.6.c. Publicize the current Strategic Plan in the AAVLD Newsletter, and post on the website
1.7	Foster collaboration with allied organizations.	1.7 Liaise with ACVP, ACVM, and others.
1.8	Be actively involved in laboratory networks, adhering to testing and biosafety protocols, and provide routine testing and support in surge capacity, e.g. NAHLN, FERN and LRN.	1.8.a. Confirm effective functioning of the joint AAVLD/USAHA Committee on the NAHLN. 1.8.b. Monitor effectiveness of the combined AAVLD-NAHLN Laboratory Directors' Committee.

Goal 2. Foster the continuous improvement of diagnostic laboratory techniques and processes, personnel qualifications, and facilities

Strategies		Actions
2.1	Support the activities of AAVLD committees to foster continuous improvement in laboratory programs and services.	2.1.a President's message. 2.1.b Encourage and support pre-symposia on special topics.
2.2	Communicate One Health needs and opportunities to members, and encourage research and development of diagnostic laboratory techniques and processes.	2.2.a President's message. 2.2.b Publicize the public health mission of veterinary diagnostic laboratories.
2.3	Advocate for an adequate supply of a well-trained veterinary laboratory workforce with the knowledge and skills required to meet societal needs.	2.3 Support the American VMA, Canadian VMA, American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC), and the North American Veterinary Educational Consortium (NAVMEC).
2.4	Explore establishing student chapters of AAVLD at veterinary colleges.	2.4 Each EB member to propose the formation of student chapters of the AAVLD at their veterinary college/school/department.

Goal 3. Promote the continued professional growth of members

Strategies		Actions
3.1	Ensure the continued organizational viability and relevance of the AAVLD.	3.1.a. Continue to investigate the fiscal viability of engaging an AAVLD Executive Director. 3.1.b. Revisit marketing initiatives for AAVLD. 3.1.c. Develop an organizational quality program. 3.2.d. Review AAVLD committee protocols and processes, and the effectiveness of committees in advancing the Vision/Mission of AAVLD.
3.2	Organize and continually improve opportunities for continuing education, exchange of ideas, and the interaction of diagnostic professionals.	3.2 Promote and enhance the Annual Conference, e.g., ensure that it is posted in the Coming Events sections on sites of allied organizations.
3.3	Ensure that members are aware of opportunities to participate in AAVLD committees.	3.3.a. President's message. 3.3.b. Flyers at Annual Conference.
3.4	Promote quality programs through publication and sharing of new information on quality systems.	3.4 Encourage publication of articles in the Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation (JVDI) related to laboratory quality programs and outcomes of continuous improvement initiatives.

Goal 4. Disseminate information concerning the diagnosis/monitoring of animal health and disease surveillance

Strategies		Actions
4.1	Encourage publication in the JVDI to enhance its impact factor and international profile.	4.1 President's message.
4.2	Improve the utility of the AAVLD website.	4.2 Assign an AAVLD website editor.
4.3	Maintain an active AAVLD listserv.	4.3 President's message.

Goal 5. Provide a formal accreditation process for veterinary medical diagnostic laboratories

Strategies		Actions
5.1	Continue to review, enhance and maintain AAVLD accreditation, in order to ensure international acceptance of work performed at AAVLD accredited laboratories.	5.1 Encourage non-accredited publically supported veterinary diagnostic labs in North America to become AAVLD accredited.
5.2	Promote the development, validation, and implementation of improved and standardized diagnostic tests through the AAVLD accreditation process.	5.2 Message from the chairs of the Accreditation Committee and discipline committees.
5.3	Encourage AAVLD committees to prepare Guideline Documents in their specialties to assist laboratories in meeting accreditation requirements.	5.3 Message from the chairs of the Accreditation Committee and discipline committees.
5.4	Ensure effective communications among the Accreditation Committee, the Quality Assurance Committee, laboratory directors, and quality managers.	5.4 Consider an annual or biennial QA Symposium