



## American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians E-Newsletter

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### Executive Board

Thomas McKenna,  
President

Issue: # 8-13

August 2013

### AAVLD Working On Your Behalf In The Nation's Capitol

#### Veterinary Diagnostics Has A Voice

Your association - AAVLD - is working in the nation's capital and across the country to insure the importance of veterinary diagnostic medicine is universally understood.

A couple short years ago, your Congressmen and Senators felt veterinary diagnostic medicine and animal diagnostic laboratories were not necessary - so unnecessary in fact that Congress eliminated all funding for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

Your AAVLD immediately sprung into action by working with and through its membership to send representatives and staff to Washington DC. Members went office to office inside the nation's capital and to local state offices to explain the critical role that veterinary diagnostics plays in protecting the public.

In response to the hundreds of visits by veterinary diagnosticians, the U.S. Congress restored funding for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network - and is now considering increasing that federal funding by three fold.

Your AAVLD leadership - with the assistance of its members - has made a huge impact in the nation's food and animal health safety net. Without your support, veterinary diagnostic

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medicine and diagnosticians would not have a unified voice - and the nation's animal disease surveillance system would have continued to be ignored.

Thank you for being a member. Your support of AAVLD means the association can continue promoting animal health diagnostics and the professional community that serves to protect America from animal diseases both foreign and domestic.

*You access information on the activities of AAVLD leaders on the AAVLD website at [www.aavld.org](http://www.aavld.org)*

Jim Kistler, IOM, CAE  
Executive Director

## New iPhone / Android App NOW Available for the 2013 Annual Meeting

AAVLD in partnership with USAHA and Life Technologies - a valued supporter of our annual meeting - has unveiled a new smartphone app to help you navigate the AAVLD / USAHA Annual Meeting.

The new, free and easy-to-use AAVLD / USAHA Annual Meeting app will allow you to:

- View the entire annual meeting program
- Plan your own schedule of meetings and events, including dates, times and locations
- Search sessions, abstracts and author information
- Find contact information for presenters, exhibitors and meeting attendees
- View presentation materials at the meeting - or before - on your smartphone or tablet
- Submit comments and questions to presenters
- Reference meeting presentation materials months after the meeting, and receive updates from presenters as they become available
- Changes in meetings, rooms or times will automatically be updated into your app
- Schedule to minimize meeting conflicts
- Navigate the conference center grounds to meeting rooms, exhibits, etc.
- Stay up-to-date with meeting announcements and alerts

- Send and receive messages from colleagues at the conference
- Submit comments and evaluations to AAVLD / USAHA regarding conference content and facilities

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THIS APP.**

**The app is intended to be a living, growing library of information for use at annual meetings and in the months in between meetings. There will be weekly - and often times daily - updates as we approach the meeting. Refer to your app frequently to see the latest updates - which will be automatically loaded to your device with an internet connection. We hope you find this new tool enhances your meeting experience.**

## **NBAF related: Plum Island animal disease lab to be sold**

By The Associated Press  
Topeka Capital-Journal  
August 30, 2013

NEW YORK - The federal government has reaffirmed it plans to sell Plum Island, finalizing the environmental review of the animal disease research site off Long Island, even though environmental regulators and some lawmakers say there's not enough information about the effects of selling it.

The General Services Administration and Department of Homeland Security issued what's called a "record of decision" Thursday night. The document marks one of the last steps before a sale.

Congress voted in 2009 to close the laboratory, which opened in 1954. Sale proceeds would go toward moving the research to Kansas State University.

A GSA environmental study in June suggested homes might be built on the island. Environmental groups want it to become a nature preserve. Some members of Congress want to stop the sale of the island 100 miles east of New York City.

The two agencies said in a statement they issued the record of decision after considering "all the factors discovered and analyzed" during the National Environmental Policy Act process.

When the timeframe for the laboratory's relocation is known, the agencies said, they will re-examine the environmental impact statement "specifically for the purpose of ensuring that it reflects the then current knowledge of the conditions on the property."

Full text:

<http://cjonline.com/news/2013-08-30/nbaf-related-plum-island-animal-disease-lab-be-sold>

## Global Cost of FMD Estimated at up to \$22 Billion

ThePigSite.com  
September 3, 2013

GLOBAL - A study by the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) in the UK has tackled the controversial topic of global foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) economic impact.

In the UK, we are painfully aware of the impact of FMD outbreaks in countries where the disease is not normally present, according to RVC. However, much of the global FMD burden falls on the world's poorest communities, and those which are most dependent upon the health of their livestock.

A study by Theodore Knight-Jones and Jonathan Rushton estimates that the annual impact of FMD in terms of visible production losses and vaccination in endemic regions of the world alone amount to between US\$6.5 and \$21 billion. In addition, outbreaks in FMD-free countries and zones cause losses of in excess of US\$1.5 billion a year.

The study, 'The economic impacts of foot and mouth disease - What are they, how big are they and where do they occur?' has been published in Preventive Veterinary Medicine.

Source:

<http://www.thepigsite.com/swinenews/34160/global-cost-of-fmd-estimated-at-up-to-22-billion>

**AAVLD Foundation Auction**  
**2013 Annual Meeting**

# AAVLD Foundation Auction Presidents Reception

**FRIDAY, October 18, 2013**

## 2013 Highlights

- Graduate student trainee travel awards increased from \$1,000 to \$1,500 each to more fully pay for travel costs. Same number of total graduate student trainee travel awards as 2011 and 2012 (9-11 depending upon applicant pool).
- CPCVM total funding increased 50% (from \$4,000 to \$6,000) to increase number of DVM students attending the meeting.

## **How to participate:**

- Donate an item(s) of at least \$50 value
- Email Reda Ozuna at the AAVLD Secretary-Treasurer's office - [rozuna@cahfs.ucdavis.edu](mailto:rozuna@cahfs.ucdavis.edu) and include:
  - 1) name of item(s)
  - 2) picture of item(s) (PDF or JPEG format)
  - 3) value of donation for bidding purposes
- Ship item(s) directly to the hotel to arrive between October 15-19, 2013

## **Donation Suggestions:**

Hand-made Items  
Art  
Gift Certificates  
Adventure, Travel, Spa packages  
Gift Baskets

## **Shipping Address:**

AAVLD Meeting  
Attn: Reda Ozuna  
c/o Town & Country Hotel  
500 Hotel Circle North  
San Diego, CA. 92108

*Come join the fun and help recruit the next generation of veterinary lab diagnosticians.*

Jim Kistler, IOM, CAE  
Executive Director

## Register Today !

117th USAHA/ 56th AAVLD Annual Meeting  
Town and Country Hotel  
San Diego CA

The 2013 USAHA-AAVLD Annual Meeting is just a few months away - it's time to make plans to attend this year's premier forum for animal health in the United States. We return to the friendly Town and Country Hotel in beautiful San Diego, California.

The USAHA and AAVLD programs are beginning to take shape, including AAVLD's Plenary and scientific sessions as well as committee sessions bringing together the latest in regulatory and scientific developments on a broad range of animal health and diagnostic related topics.

AAVLD features our Plenary Session on Saturday, October 19, under the theme of "Getting Ahead of the Ball: Diagnostic Adaptation in a Global Health Community".

The AAVLD Technology Committee will present "Basic Bioinformatics for Developing and Monitoring PCR Assays" in a half day symposium. And don't forget the multiple scientific presentations to take place Saturday and Sunday at the meeting in addition to posters and exhibits.

The USAHA-AAVLD Plenary Session on Monday, October 21 is entitled "Vaccines: 100 Years of Virus Serum Toxin Act and Beyond." Detailed presentations of this session will include:

- Hog cholera: the need for the Virus Serum Toxin Act (VSTA)
- The economics of vaccination: why do we vaccinate?
- Current technologies in vaccines
- Autogenous vaccines: isn't this why VSTA was established?
- Gap analysis for high consequence diseases

-Future of vaccines: beyond existing regulatory diseases

Look for more detailed information on the complete program details in the coming weeks. Make sure and check the AAVLD website [www.aavld.org](http://www.aavld.org) and click on the Annual Meeting link for the latest information on the meeting.

Registration

Registration opens on July 1st. To register, click on the following link:

<http://www.usaha.org/Meetings/AnnualMeetingRegistration.aspx>

See you in San Diego !

You may also access this information on the AAVLD website at [www.aavld.org/annual-meeting](http://www.aavld.org/annual-meeting).

Jim Kistler, IOM, CAE  
Executive Director

### Article Subheading

Are there publications that only members have access to? Provide your new members a list (or link to a list) of publications that they now have access to. What are some upcoming publications and release dates? Publications can be a key draw for new members. Inserting a link in your article lets you track which topics attract the most interest.

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Visit [www.facebook.com/AAVLD](http://www.facebook.com/AAVLD) and like us.

We value your opinion and contributions. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions for articles, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jim Kistler  
Executive Director  
American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

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