



European Coordination Committee on Veterinary Training (ECCVT) Update on activities

EAEVE¹, EBVS² and FVE³ appointed members to the European Coordination Committee on Veterinary Training (ECCVT) met on 20 March 2013. The meeting took place at the new FVE premises in Brussels, under the chairmanship of Dr. Christophe Buhot.

An important agenda item, for the first biannual meeting of this year, was the VETCEE project (Veterinary Continuous Education in Europe), which continues under the close supervision of ECCVT. The members of the Committee received an update on the progress of the VETCEE pilot, and they exchanged their views on VETCEE objectives and the way that these are best achieved.

Another item on the agenda was the low pass rate of candidates for the Diploma of certain Specialist Colleges. This has concerned EBVS and is being monitored. Although EBVS only coordinates policies and does not run examinations, the Board tries to actively support and guide the Colleges. Therefore, EBVS is actively promoting, through workshops, best practice for the certification examinations and for quality assurance of resident training and the examinations. These workshops are being extended so that they also encompass all involved in College programmes, including the educators and the examiners.

The group also focused on the improvement of communication and visibility of ECCVT. The member-organisations will keep on promoting the role and work of ECCVT to their members and other stakeholders, via the ECCVT newsletter and the dedicated webpages on their websites.

ECCVT has closely followed and supports EAEVE's efforts to become an Associate Member of ENQA, the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education. ENQA membership will make

EAEVE accreditation equal to the national accreditation systems, which will be of benefit to veterinary education and the veterinary profession. EAEVE underwent the ENQA evaluation in June and currently is looking forward to the outcome of that process. ENQA response is expected by late autumn.

ECCVT Action Plan 2013

- **VETCEE**
- **EBVS guidelines for training & examinations**
- **Communication**
- **EAEVE membership of ENQA**
- **PQD & ESCO**
- **ESEVT**

The discussions also included updates on the Professional Qualifications Directive and on the European Skills, Competences and Occupations taxonomy (ESCO) meeting, which are of relevance to all three organisations.

Finally, ECCVT members decided to put more effort into and work collaboratively on the development of a new framework to improve the quality of the European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training (ESEVT). It is anticipated that this point will be the subject of more detailed discussion at the next ECCVT meeting, on 24th September 2013.

¹ EAEVE: European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education

² EBVS: European Board for Veterinary Specialisation

³ FVE: Federation of Veterinarians of Europe