

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT THE
XIV. WVPA CONGRESS
ISTANBUL, TURKEY, 23 AUGUST 2005, 17:00 - 18:10

Present:

President and Chairman Prof. E.F. Kaleta
Secretary/Treasurer Dr. U. Heffels-Redmann
and approximately 100 members

1. The President and Chairman Prof. Kaleta welcomed the participants.

2. Secretary/Treasurer's report

Dr. Heffels-Redmann presented her report dealing with the development of the membership, the homepage, and the finances of the WVPA for the year 2004. There are currently 1956 members in 53 countries. National branches exist in 37 countries. 28 of these have 20 or more members e.g. that their Corresponding Secretaries are Bureau members. New branches had been formed within the last two years in

Country	Number of members	Corresponding Secretary
Mexico	200	Dr. Edgardo Soriano Vargas
Poland	22	Dr. Zenon Minta
Tunisia	26	Dr. Abdeljelil Ghram
Ukraine	17	Dr. Viatcheslav German

The formation of these branches has been approved by the Bureau and the new members were welcomed in the Association.

Copies of the Account and Balance Sheet for the year 2004 have been sent to all branches and individual members. In the last year the Association's assets increased from EURO 33,316.81 to EURO 36,266.69 due to an surplus of income over expenditure of EURO 2,949.88. At the last Bureau Meeting it was decided to support the WVPA Congress attendance in Istanbul of ten young scientists from developing countries with an amount of totally EURO 7500. According to the experience of the Congress Organization with this financial support the Bureau has to decide how to proceed at the next Congress.

The in-time payment of the membership fees and the updating of the membership addresses are important for the personal subscription to 'Avian Pathology' which will also enable the access to the full paper online version from 2006 on. This will only be possible, if a proof of actual WVPA membership (membership certificate/receipt of payment for the year from the Corresponding Secretary or the Secretary/Treasurer of WVPA or copy of the bank transfer voucher of the membership fees has to be given to the publisher of Avian Pathology.

3. WVPA homepage

Dr. Heffels-Redmann reported that the WVPA home page was visited about 1200 times per month. The mostly visited pages were the pages 'WVPA Congress', 'International Conferences', 'Avian Pathology', 'Houghton Trust Travel Grants and Lecturer', 'National Branches' and 'How to join WVPA' as well as 'Education'. Visitors of the homepage came mainly from the USA, Germany and Australia.

The Bureau agreed to omit the link to the poultry related industry to avoid a commercialisation of the website, and to install links to websites of other organizations like the WPSA and national poultry veterinarians associations. Additionally a page with job offers in the WVPA branch countries shall be opened.

4. WVPA Newsletter

As the Editor of the newsletter 'Aerosols' Dr. Carol Cardona was not able to attend the Meeting, Dr. Heffels-Redmann presented her report for the Aerosols issues No. 15 and 16:

	Issue No. 15	Issue No. 16
Publication Date :	12/2003	11/2004
No of pages:	10	8
Country reports	6	8
Advertisements:	4	4
Copies mailed:	1566	1600
Return rate:	3 %	2.2 %
Costs (US\$):	6,150.29	4,193.85

In 2004 Dr. Cardona asked a graphic designer to make a new layout for the newsletter. With a more efficient page layout the number of pages of the newsletter could be reduced. Additionally a paper quality of lighter weight was used. Overall, these changes cut the expenses by approximately US\$ 1800.

For the next issue, all participants were asked to send reports on meetings, disease outbreaks and other important events in their countries to Dr. Cardona (address on the wvpa website).

5. Avian Pathology/Editor-in-Chief's report

Dr. Cavanagh presented the main points of his report for the year 2004 (Volume 33):

- 143 papers received in 2004 (155 & 151 in previous two years).
- Acceptance rate was 48% (53% & 43% in previous two years).
- 78 primary papers and 5 reviews published in volume 34 (2004).
- Latest Impact Factor 1.371 (published in 2005 for 2004)
- AVP has the highest Impact Factor of journals devoted to avian species.
- Median publication time of 6.5 months following receipt of initial manuscript (June 2005 issue).

Additionally he pointed to

- the new web address: www.avianpathology.com,
- SARA, a free email contents alerting service designed to deliver tables of contents for all Taylor&Francis journals including Avian Pathology in advance of the printed edition,
- free online access to full papers of the actual issue from 2006 on for individual subscribers, who are WVPA members,
- free online access to back issues (Volume 33 (2004) for all from 2006 on, the access to issues from 1998-2003 will follow soon
- free access to older back issues via intersession by Dr. Cavanagh to respective libraries.

6. Report on the XIVth WVPA Congress by a member of the Organizing Committee

Dr. Gürer gave a preliminary report on the ongoing Congress. 730 persons registered for the Congress, but about 200 cancelled their registration before the Congress. Due to the offer of simultaneous translation of the English presentations into Turkish, the attendance of Turkish colleagues could be increased significantly (206 plus about 200 participants for one day). The scientific programme comprises 15 keynote lectures, the Houghton Lecture, 174 oral and 199 poster presentations. Along with the Congress, the VIV 2005 Istanbul Exhibition took place with free entrance for all Congress participants.

7. Report on the XVth WVPA Congress by a member of the Organizing Committee

Prof. Hanchun Yang announced that the XVth WVPA Congress will be held in Beijing, China on 12-16 September 2007. The local scientific Committee will consist out of ten well-known Chinese scientists. The Scientific Chairman for the Congress is Prof. Jiao Zhou, the President of the Poultry Health Branch of the Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine. The Congress will take place in the Beijing International Convention Center. The registration fees will be US\$ 350 for early and US\$ 400 for late registrations. A flyer with the first announcement was presented at a stand. The scientific programme comprises keynote lectures to selected topics, oral presentations and poster presentations. Additionally there will be an exhibition. Detailed information on the congress can be obtained from the website of the WVPC 2007 www.wvpc2007.org. A film on Beijing and the Convention Center was presented, and on behalf of the Congress Organizing Committee, Prof. Yang invited all participants to attend the 15th WVPA Congress in his country in 2007.

8. Election of Officers

The participants of the Meeting approved the recommendations of the Bureau by electing with no dissenting votes

Prof. Dr. M. Hafez	President
Dr. Trevor Bagust	Vice-President
(2nd Vice-President is automatically the former President Prof. Erhard F. Kaleta)	
Dr. Ursula Heffels-Redmann	Secretary/Treasurer (re-elected)
Dr. Lloyd Spencer	Honorary Life President
Prof. Dr. A.A. Sami Ahmed	Honorary Life President

9. Election of Honorary Life Members

The Meeting elected Prof. Dr. Josef Kösters, Germany and Dr. Eugen Vielitz, Germany as Honorary Life Members whose nominations have been approved by the Bureau because of their distinguished contributions to avian science.

10. Houghton Trust Lecturer 2005

Dr. Ilaria Capua, Italy has been chosen by the Grants Subcommittee of the Houghton Trust as the 2005 Lecturer. She gave her lecture entitled 'Avian Influenza - Past present and future challenges' on 23 August 2005 at the end of the morning session.

11. Bart Rispens Research Award

The winner of the 2003 Award is Dr. Andre Steentjes, The Netherlands, of the 2005 Award is Dr. Rüdiger Raue, Germany. The Awards were presented to Dr. Wil Landman, a co-author of Dr. Steentjes, and Dr. Raue by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Ton Schat, during the Gala Dinner.

Future of the Bart Rispens Research Award

After a short overview on the history of the Award (The award has been established in 1973 after the sudden death of Dr. Bart Rispens by Dr. Henk Mass 1. to honour Dr. Rispens by the Research Award and 2. to secure the education of his two young children by a Trust fund. Gifts from industry sources, other organizations and friends of Dr. Rispens provided the funding. During the 1990's the Trust fund for the two children has officially been terminated. Since then the Board of Trustees raised additional funds from several vaccine industries to support the research award) Dr. Ton Schat, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, proposed to fully integrate the Award into the WVPA. This means that the WVPA shall be responsible for the secretarial work of the Research Award Committee and for the funding of future awards. Up to now the part of WVPA was that the President became at the same time Chairman. of the Research Award Committee and that WVPA gave a support of 500 Euro to the travel expenses of the Award winner. The Bureau supported the idea of Dr. Schat, but ask for detailed information on the finances, possible sponsors and work of the Research Award Committee. Before the final decision, this information shall be given to all Bureau members in a circular letter.

12. XVIth WVPA Congress in 2009

Prof. Kaleta announced that the Bureau decided by majority voting for Marrakesh, Morocco as venue for the XIth WVPA Congress. The Representative of the Moroccan Branch Prof. Bouzoubaa thanked the Bureau members for their vote, and invited the participants to attend the Congress on 8-12 June in 2009. He gave the audience an impression of Marrakesh as a congress venue by a Power point presentation.

13. Any other Business: none

Prof Kaleta thanked all participants for their attendance, and closed the Meeting at 18:10 hours.

Giessen, Germany, 17/10/05

Dr. U. Heffels-Redmann
Secretary/Treasurer of WVPA