

**ASIAN SOCIETY OF VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY
CONSTITUTION**

10 December 2009

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Article 1 (Name and Structure)

1.1. The name of the organization shall be the Asian College of Veterinary Dermatology, hereafter referred to as the "College".

1.2. The College shall be a part of the general scheme for veterinary specialization in the Asian Board of Veterinary Specialization (AiBVS).

Article 2 (Duration)

2.1. The College shall be established for an unlimited period.

2.2. The College year shall run concurrently with the calendar year, with the exception of the first year, which will run from the day on which the College was established (November 19, 2005) to December 31, 2005.

Article 3 (Objectives)

The primary objectives of the College shall be to advance veterinary dermatology in Asia and increase the competence of those who practice in this field by:

- a) establishing guidelines for post-graduate education and experience prerequisite to becoming a specialist in the specialty of veterinary dermatology;
- b) examining and certifying veterinarians as specialists in veterinary dermatology to serve the public by providing expert care for animals with dermatological diseases;

c) encouraging research and other contributions to knowledge relating to the pathogenesis, diagnosis, therapy, prevention, and control of diseases directly or indirectly affecting the skin of animals and promoting communication and dissemination of this knowledge.

d) The College is a non-profit-making organization and does not pursue commercial interests;

e) The financial means of the College may only be spent according to the constitution;

Members or Officers of the College receive no payment from the funds of the College, except reimbursements;

f) No one may be favored by expenditures or excessively high compensations which are not according to the purposes of the College.

Article 4 (Membership)

Section 1: The members of the College shall be the following:

(a) Founding Diplomates

(b) Diplomates

(c) Non-practicing Diplomates

(d) Retired Diplomates

(e) Honorary Members

Section 2: Founding Diplomates shall be: (a) three to six invited specialists as defined in the general scheme of veterinary specialization. They will be invited by the Honorary Members of the Asian Society of Veterinary Dermatology (AICVD), who are Prof. David Lloyd, Prof. Ton Willemse, Prof. Peter Ihrke, and Prof. Danny Scott, upon the following criteria.

They:

- are initiators of veterinary dermatology in Asia;
- have contributed substantially to the development of veterinary dermatology in Asia by research, publications, and lectures;
- are uncontroversial for the majority of the Asian Society of Veterinary Dermatology (AiSVD) members;
- are full or Founding members of the AiSVD practising in Asia
- have at least 10 years of experience in veterinary dermatology;
- spend at least 60 per cent of their time in veterinary dermatology.

(b) specialists appointed "de facto", also defined in this general scheme, whom the invited specialists have appointed.

The "de facto" appointed diplomates should fulfil the following criteria.

They:

- have at least 7 years of experience in veterinary dermatology;
- spend at least 60 per cent of their time in veterinary dermatology;
- have published at least three (3) original scientific articles in refereed journals as first author and at least three (3) additional articles as co-author, excluding reviews.
- have presented original work at scientific meetings.
- are full or Founding members of the AiSVD.

Selection will be made on the basis of a submitted CV, including evidence of the fulfilment of the above criteria and an indication of how the candidates have achieved their expertise.

All AiSVD full or Founding members will be invited to apply for "de facto" registration by the invited specialists in a letter that states the above-mentioned requirements.

Full members of the AiSVD may apply for "de facto" diplomate status before the 31st

December, 2007.

Section 3: To qualify for membership, candidates shall meet the following criteria:

- a) have a satisfactory moral and ethical standing in the profession;
- b) be registered/licensed to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in the Asian Union unless excused of this obligation by the Credentials Arm of the Education and Credentials Committee;
- c) have successfully passed the Diploma (certifying) examination of the College, unless exempted from this obligation by the Education and Credentials Committee.

Section 4: Each Diplomate shall be required to keep records of his/her dermatological patients.

Section 5: Each Diplomate is expected to participate in the affairs of the College actively. Repeated unexcused absences from the AiCVD meetings may render a member subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, by the Executive Committee.

Section 6: Diplomates who cease to be actively involved for a period of more than two (2) consecutive years or the equivalent of two (2) years during a period of five (5) years for reasons other than temporary or permanent suspension, are awarded Non-Practicing Diplomate status. Active involvement implies spending at least 60 per cent of professional time in dermatology and attendance at the annual Asian Veterinary Dermatology Meeting. A Non-Practicing Diplomate seeking to revert to full Diplomate status needs to satisfy the Credentials Committee. A Non-Practicing Diplomate pays regular fees and may continue to play a full role (including being able to vote) within the College.

Section 7A: A Retired Diplomate is permanently and irrevocably retired. He/she is no longer active in any aspect of the College, pays no fees and cannot vote on College matters.

Section 8: Any Diplomate may be expelled, asked to resign or otherwise disciplined for non-professional or unethical conduct or other action against the best interest of the College by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee of the AiCVD, pending confirmation by the College at the next Business Meeting.

Section 9: The College may confer Honorary Membership status on persons who have made exceptional contributions to veterinary dermatology. Honorary Members shall have all the rights and privileges of Diplomates except the right to vote and hold office. They pay no fees. No more than five (5) per cent of the College's membership may be made up of Honorary Members.

Article 5 (Organization and Officers)

The College shall be composed of all the Diplomates. The Diplomates will elect every two (2) years, by secret ballot, the President and five (5) Members. The outgoing President automatically becomes the Past-President.

The President, five (5) Members, and the Past-President will compose the Board of the College. In order to become elected as President, a candidate should have at least four (4) years' experience as a member of the Board. The positions of vice president, treasurer, secretary, and member (2) will be divided among the board members.

With the exception of the position of President, members can be re-elected to the same office. Members will preferably serve for at least two consecutive terms.

The President and Vice-President will, in general, act as representatives on the Board of Veterinary Specialization.

Article 6 (Annual General Meeting)

A General Meeting of the Diplomates will be held each year.

Article 7 (Amendments)

This CONSTITUTION may be amended at any Annual General Meeting by an affirmative two-thirds of the votes cast. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least ninety (90) days before the meeting for appropriate review by the Board. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to the membership with a recommendation by the Officers at least thirty (30) days prior to the next Annual Meeting. They shall be brought to a vote of the Diplomates at that Meeting.