



President and Vice-President Annual Report

This has been the first year after the college received full recognition by the European Board of Veterinary Specialization. As you all know EBVS supervises all individual colleges finances and scientific performance. Small colleges like ours have been always in the spotlight of EBVS, which clearly favours a structure with fewer but larger colleges. Building up what we defined as an umbrella college for both specialities was an initial and very important step, but we need to move things forward. In fact, the last EBVS official review found no major issues in our college annual report, except for what they consider a lack of enough residency programs. Therefore, we strongly believe that promoting residencies programs should be one of the main objectives of our college during the next few years. We think this is crucial not only to consolidate the behavioural medicine subspecialty, but also to help the animal welfare subspecialty to obtain full recognition in the near future.

We are perfectly aware that the economic crisis does not favour the development of residency programs, particularly standard programs where the hosting institution fully supports the resident in financial terms. Nevertheless, we do believe the college can still improves the promotion of new residency programs, including alternative residency programs. In order to achieve that, we need to improve the performance of some of our committees, particularly the residency committee. This will be one important topic for discussion during the next college AGM in Apt.

We don't want to miss this opportunity to remind you that one of the main duties that all college diplomates have is attending the college annual scientific meeting and the AGM.

The congress in Apt will be the third with a scientific program integrating the two sub-specialities of the college, this time in conjunction with the IRSEA congress (*Institut de Recherche en Sémiologie et Ethologie Appliquée*) that kindly accepted to be the local organizing committee. Please don't miss the opportunity to attend what it will surely be a very nice conference and to enjoy the charm of the Provence.

As always, we wish you all a nice time in Apt, full of knowledge exchange and constructive scientific discussions.

Jaume Fatjó and Xavier Manteca