

## Report of the AWESL Foundation Diplomates for the Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee (CC) of the sub-specialty of the College have met 7 times in 2014 and accepted applications from 4 persons for *de facto* membership and no persons for Associate membership. Members come from 14 countries including 2 from North America (USA, Canada). The CC regularly reviews the application forms to ensure that they are up-to-date and that any lack of clarity or need for further information is included.

### Overall SYNOPSIS up to October 1 2014 (see Appendix 1)

<i>De factos</i>	32
Made an enquiry or advice	67
Under consideration	0
Rejected	3
Applications screened and then accepted after advice	25
Associates	4
Associates we wish to encourage to help set up the College	6
Honorary	1 possible

The CC regularly reviews the criteria that are laid down by the College and the EBVS for their suitability for membership of the College and for the subject and its development. On occasions, because the College is only just starting and we need to obtain a cadre of teachers, researchers, legislators and places for training of future diplomates, we encourage people to apply. As the three elements of AWSEL involve a considerable number of persons who are not veterinarians, we wish to encourage those persons who are key to producing future veterinarians in this specialty, to become Associate members. It is to our advantage to have them on board as they hold key posts in Universities, Industry and Government and in places with the necessary academic expertise and standards. Appendix 2 gives further details. We have made the following proposals.

- 1. The FDs propose that for the AWSEL sub-specialty that Associate Members are recruited to the College at no annual fee, and that any registration fees with EBVS and the College will be paid by the College or by the candidate through adding a sum to the training/registration/examination fees of the AWSEL Diplomate candidates.*
- 2. The FDs ask that the Executive Board re-examine the requirement (§5.6) for retired, non-practising and associate members and set an appropriate fee that is commensurate with the expected contribution that person will or proposes to make to the College for the training of new entrants, and considers each category on its own merits, and each specialty according to its needs.*

In conclusion, we would be happy for the Board to provide further guidance for us or for discussion.

David J Main  
Xavier Manteca  
David B. Morton  
Siobhan Mullan

## APPENDIX 1

*Credentials committee ECAWBM (AWSEL) update October 2014*

Name	Country	Date Accepted	Date for re-credentialling	Attended 2012 AGM	Attended 2013 AGM	Academia Governmt Practice Industry Other		
<b>Foundation</b>								
Siobhan Mullan	UK	April 2011	April 2016	Y	Y	A		
David Main	UK			Y	Y	A		
David Morton	UK				Y	A		
Xavier Manteca	Spain			Y	Y	A		
<b>De Facto</b>								
Bo Algers	SWEDEN	Oct 2011	Oct 2016		Y	A		
Andrew Butterworth	UK					A		
Emma Fabrega	SPAIN			Y		G		
Pete Goddard	UK			Y	Y	A		
Alexandra Harlander	Germany					A		
Andrew Knight	UK			Y	Y	A		
Joy Pritchard	UK			Y	Y	O		
Paul Roger	UK					P		
Antonio Velarde	SPAIN			Y		A		
James Yeates	UK					O		
Luc Mounier	FRANCE			Jan 2012	Jan 2017	Y		I
Sarah Wolfensohn	UK					I		
Sheilah Robertson	USA	July 2012	July 2017					O
Randi Moe	NORWAY							A
Lotta Berg	SWEDEN					A		
Marc Vandenheede	BELGIUM					A		
Laura Hanninen	FINLAND	Oct 2012	Oct 2017	n/a	Y	A		
Paolo Dalla Villa	ITALY					G		
Jan Hultgren	SWEDEN	Nov 2012	Nov 2017		Y	A		
Stefan Gunnarsson	SWEDEN					Y	A	
Elisabetta Canali	ITALY	Apr 2013	Apr 2018			G		
Cornelia Rouha-Muelleder	AUSTRIA						A	
Margareta Steen	Sweden	July 2013	July 2018			G		
Cecilie Mejdell	Norway	Jan 2014	Jan 2019		n/a	A		
Patricia Turner	Canada	July 2014	July 2019			A		
Marta Brscic	Croatia					A		
Christine Leeb	Austria	August 2014	August 2019			A		
Marlene Kirchner	Austria	Sept 2014	Sept 2019			A		
<b>Total= 32 full</b>								

<b>Associate members</b>						
Claudia Vinke	Netherlands	Apr 2013	Apr 2018			A
Machteld van Dierendonck	Belgium	Sept 2013	Sept 2018		Y	A
Christel Moons	Belgium					A
Frauke Ohl	Netherlands					A
<b>Total= 4 associate members</b>						

## APPENDIX 2

### ECAWBM Associate Members

The ECAWBM sub-speciality BM has received EBVS approval but the AWSEL sub-speciality has yet to apply. In order to facilitate an alternative programme for candidates (as there are no residencies) we need to the support, facilities and goodwill of established persons in the areas of animal welfare science, ethics and law. These are often embryonic disciplines within many of the veterinary schools in the EU, and the veterinary profession in general, and so we need to forge links with ethologists, philosophers and lawyers in the relevant academic departments or practices (see the FVE/EAEVE Report on day 1 competencies for newly graduated veterinarians, and also the AVMA Report (In press). Furthermore, the three elements (AWSEL) are relevant for a very broad range of vertebrate and even some invertebrate species, and the laws vary between EU States. The AWSEL sub-speciality Foundation Diplomates (FDs) recognise that this can only realistically be achieved to the required standard worthy of diplomate status, if we engender the goodwill, time and efforts of non-veterinarians in these 3 fields for a range of species, and particularly as it is likely to come at a personal and financial cost to these various non-veterinary academic departments, busy practices and government departments.

It is an opportunity for post-graduate veterinarians to show that they can bring a breadth and experience to the field through the study of these 3 elements that their non-veterinary tutors do not have partly by virtue of not being veterinarians. The profession needs to integrate and understand its place and its strengths and weaknesses. The FDs strongly believe that the best way to make progress in the short to medium term is to encourage persons with this expertise to join with us in the education, teaching and training of Diplomates wishing to sit the EU examinations in AWSEL. This will also help build up future relationships for all involved. We are also of the view that we can gain the necessary support by offering these persons Associate Membership of the College. They will not be rival practitioners as they do not have a veterinary qualification and these persons will be giving their time and support for no obvious gain, but almost certainly some personal and even financial loss. To have a potential diplomate is also likely to incur extra costs for their department (AW research can be expensive, e.g. radio-immunoassays, building test apparatus and electronics, bench fees, and so on. However, they should be able to use some extra contributions in research projects through interaction with diploma candidates. The FDs hold the view that we will not be able to engender this goodwill and support of we charge these persons for being Associate Members as their benefits will be small but the gain to the existing and future College Diplomates will be large. The criteria the EBVS sets out for Associate membership fits the concept outlined above and they do not stipulate a charge for Associate Membership. It is purely a matter for our College. Our College by laws also do not stipulate any charge. However the College Constitution states in §5.11: “Non-Practising and Retired Diplomates of the college and Associate members are also required to pay fees.”

In the 2011 EBVS P&Ps it states that:

Page 22 App 1, §5): “Associate Members - Scientists who have contributed significantly to research in veterinary medicine can become Associate Members of a College. Admission criteria for Associate Members are defined by the Board of the College. These criteria have to ascertain that only scientists of international repute who are active in the field covered by the respective College are admitted as Associate Members”; and §5b) “Associate Members are encouraged to participate in the training of residents together with Diplomates of the respective College. Associate Members are not entitled to act as resident supervisors without a Diplomate responsible for the training programme.”

In regard to fees, no specific reference is made to paying any fee for Associate Members although I am led to believe that a nominal registration charge is made (25€) by EBVS.