

AAVMC FORESIGHT PROJECT

“Envisioning the Future of Academic Veterinary Medicine”

PROGRESS REPORT: Definition Meeting

In February, 2006, the Executive Board of the Association of American Veterinary Medicine Colleges launched the AAVMC FORESIGHT PROJECT. The project will guide the Association's future direction in the management of Academic Veterinary Medicine over a 20-25 year time horizon. The Norm Willis Group, Inc. has been retained to support this initiative.

The project has four parts: Definition, Scoping, Workshops and Synthesis.

On February 2, 2006, a Core Team met for the initial **Definition Meeting**. Participants included the Executive of the Board of the Association of American Veterinary Medicine Colleges, Dr. Larry Heider, Dr. Keith Prasse, and the Norm Willis Group team. Together, they developed a battery of 21 questions to better define what will be needed in the coming 25 years. This led to a discussion of the projected scope of veterinary medicine.

A critical parameter for success will be the selection criteria for Participants who will join the foresight process. The Core Team discussed and critically defined the participant selection criteria, including areas of expertise, experience and other characteristics.

The next step will be the Scoping Meeting, to be held in Atlanta, on March 20-21, 2006. The Scoping Meeting will refine the study parameters and ensure clarity in the foresight process. Participants at that meeting will articulate both the boundaries of the study and the expected results and outcomes. Participation in the Scoping Meeting should also provide an energetic kick-off to the project.

Two 50-person Workshops form the core of the AAVMC foresight process. Each workshop will bring together a wide range of stakeholders to share their knowledge, experience and opinions. Collectively, they will create scenarios – multiple, plausible futures – to offer guidance in determining potential long-term paths for veterinary medical education.

The final Synthesis Meeting re-convenes the initial Scoping participants to analyze the study findings and to verify that initial expectations have been met.

This is a fundamental study that will influence the future of veterinary medical education.

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The Norm Willis Group, Inc.

