

## THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The purpose of the AAVMC's 50th Anniversary Celebration is much more than an effort to commemorate this important milestone; it is to illuminate the critical role that academic veterinary medicine plays in the modern world.

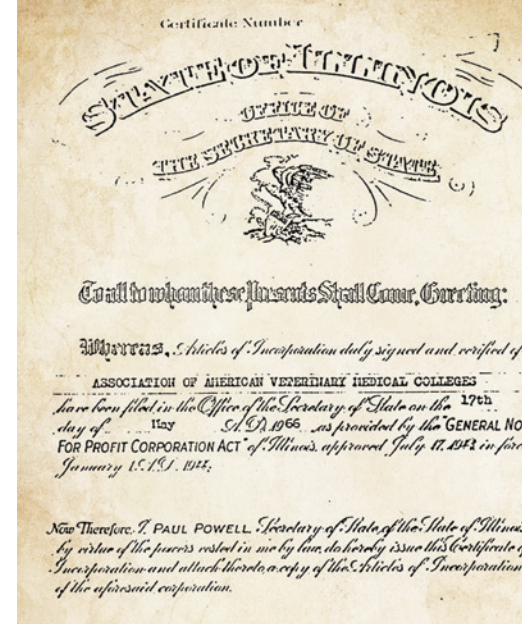
An AAVMC 50th Anniversary Committee was formed in Fall 2013. The group decided to mount a yearlong celebration leading up to the March 2016 meeting—the 50th year of service (1966-2016). The AAVMC has developed a series of communication products and special events designed to help member institutions embrace the celebration at the grassroots level and build public awareness and support throughout their service regions.

A six-minute video profile of the AAVMC and a television PSA have been produced. Throughout the anniversary year, deans will present the video and profile their institutions

for state VMA's, agricultural commodity organizations, university and community audiences and other groups. Communication officers will place the PSA with statewide television stations. Resolutions of recognition and support from state and federal government and major allied organizations will formally commemorate the anniversary year.

A special 50th anniversary edition of the Journal of Veterinary Medical Education in Fall 2015 will examine the AAVMC's 50-year body of work from a more scholarly perspective. And noted veterinary medical historian and former Cornell Dean Dr. Don Smith will author a history book. Those publication covers will feature a painting specially commissioned for the anniversary.

And finally, federal government and corporate leaders will join the AAVMC in March 2016 for a Washington, D.C. Gala Celebration that will feature the announcement of a Grand Initiative, a transformational project conceived to help our colleges and our profession build momentum for the future.



## THE BIRTH OF THE AAVMC

It was the '60's: Vietnam, civil rights, protests and social change. America was rising to President Kennedy's challenge to put a man on the moon. Pets were becoming a fixture of modern family life, and veterinary medicine was coming into its own.

In 1966, a group of visionary academic leaders recognized the value of joining together to advance veterinary medical education. They filed articles of incorporation in Springfield, Illinois and the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) was born.

It's goal: to foster progress in academic veterinary medicine and build a better future for the profession. It proved to be a defining moment in the history of academic veterinary medicine.

## THE AAVMC TODAY

Today, the AAVMC is an agile, dynamic organization providing the 21st century leadership academic veterinary medicine needs.

Focused, streamlined, and collaborative, the AAVMC is devoted to its action agenda: Analyze, Catalyze and Advocate.

Programs help achieve educational excellence, recruit high-quality professionals, enhance diversity in the profession, promote One Health, advance scientific research, advocate for public support, and foster leadership.

AAVMC staff and volunteers work hard everyday to make sure the organization rises to meet the intrinsic challenges of its tagline: *The Future of Veterinary Medicine.*

### AAVMC Executive Directors

Dr. Billy Hooper, 1986–1992

Dr. Lester Crawford, 1993–1997

Dr. Curt Mann, 1997–2001

Dr. Lester Crawford, (interim), 2001–2002

Dr. Lawrence Heider, 2002–2007

Dr. Marguerite Pappaioanou, 2007–2011

Dr. Bennie I. Osburn, (interim), 2011–2012

Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe, 2012–present

### JVME Editors

Dr. W. W. Armistead, 1974–1979

Dr. Richard B. Talbot, 1980–1994

Dr. Lester Crawford, (interim), 1994–1995

Dr. Robert C. Wilson, 1995–1997

Dr. Billy E. Hooper, 1998–2000

Dr. Donal Walsh, 2001–2007

Dr. John Hubbel, (interim), 2007

Dr. Henry Baker, 2008–2013

Dr. Daryl Buss, 2013–present

### AAVMC 50th Anniversary Steering Committee

Dr. Daryl Buss, Dean Emeritus, University of Wisconsin

Dr. Paige Carmichael, University of Georgia

Dr. Lester Crawford, Former Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Mr. Jeffrey Douglas, Staff Liaison, AAVMC Senior Communications Consultant

Dr. Howard Erickson, Kansas State University

Dr. Lawrence Heider, Former Dean, University of Prince Edward Island

Dr. Glen Hoffsis, Dean, Lincoln Memorial University

Dr. Billy Hooper, Inaugural AAVMC Executive Director

Dr. Deborah Kochevar, Dean, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University

Dr. Andrew Maccabe, ex officio, AAVMC Executive Director

Dr. Ralph Richardson, (Chair), Dean, Kansas State University

Dr. Don Smith, Dean Emeritus, Cornell University

### CORPORATE PARTNERS:

Corporate partners are invited to affiliate with the AAVMC at various levels as part of the celebration. For more information contact AAVMC Executive Director Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe.

- Platinum level
- Gold level
- Silver level



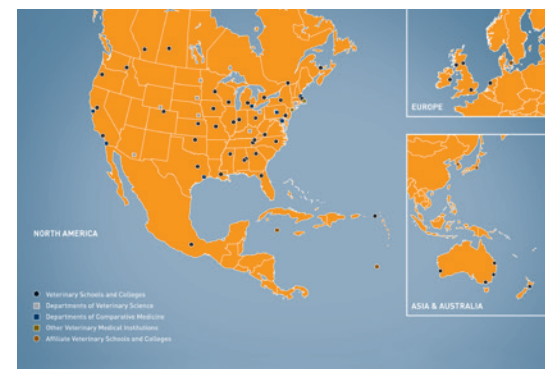
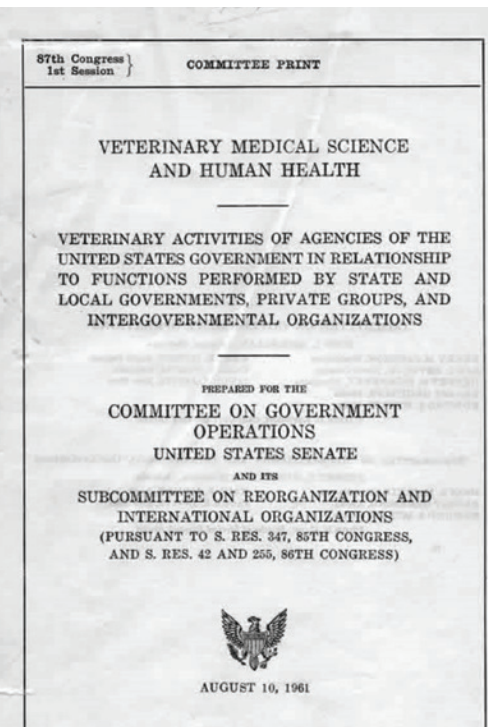
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
1101 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 301,  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-371-9195 • www.aavmc.org  
Twitter: @AAVMC  
Facebook: Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges - AAVMC

## THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AAVMC

*The member institutions of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges promote and protect the health and wellbeing of people, animals and the environment by advancing the profession of veterinary medicine and preparing new generations of veterinarians to meet the evolving needs of a changing world.*



**Celebrating 50 Years of Public Service**  
**1966–2016**





# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AAVMC



*In 1965, the American Veterinary Medical Association's first Symposium on Veterinary Medical Education was presented at Michigan State University. Fifty years later, the theme of that meeting, "A Look to the Future" is visible in the AAVMC's tagline: "The Future of Veterinary Medicine."*

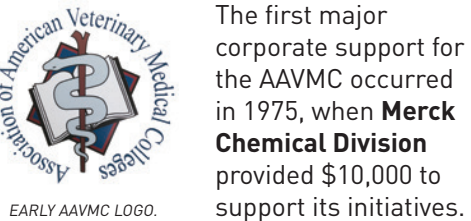
Prior to the creation of the AAVMC, the deans of the colleges worked closely with the AVMA on academic matters and met informally as the Association of Deans of American Colleges of Veterinary Medicine during the AVMA's annual convention.

The AAVMC was chartered as an independent non-profit corporation in **Illinois in 1966**. That was the same year the federal government passed the transformational Veterinary Medical Education Act. Founding members included all of the 18 U.S. colleges and three Canadian colleges then in existence. The deans of the colleges were designated as the member representatives. That same year, **by-laws** were drafted to extend membership to departments of veterinary science. The origins of the AAVMC's Comparative Data Report trace back to these earliest days of the organization's founding.

The deans quickly recognized that the association needed **a voice in**

**Washington** to build support from Congress and executive agencies like the NIH, and former NIH staffer and AVMA employee **Dr. W. Max Decker** was contracted to address that work. Decker would become the first formal AAVMC employee when he signed on as part-time director and treasurer in 1977.

In 1972, the AAVMC Assembly was created and the organization was reorganized into a **tri-cameral** structure. It consisted of three Councils: the Council of Deans, the Council of Chairs (department chairs), and the Council of Educators (individual faculty). That year was also the first year of the **Iverson Bell Symposium**, which was designed to enhance diversity in veterinary medicine.



The first major corporate support for the AAVMC occurred in 1975, when **Merck Chemical Division** provided \$10,000 to support its initiatives.

In 1984, the AAVMC was reorganized again. The tri-cameral structure was eliminated, new by-laws were drafted and a **board of directors** with an executive committee was established. The need for a formal presence in Washington remained paramount.

In 1986, a **permanent Washington office** was established and Dr. Billy Hooper, former associate dean for academic affairs at the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, was named the first full-time executive director. It was a giant step forward that raised the AAVMC's national visibility and increased program development.

That move positioned academic veterinary medicine to effectively engage with the **Pew National Veterinary Education Program**, a transformational strategic planning and diversity program operated by the charitable trust for academic veterinary medicine from 1987-89.

Since then, the AAVMC has partnered with allied organizations on a number of **major national initiatives** established to foster progress in veterinary medicine, including the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues (NCVEI), the North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium (NAVMEC), and others.

The national common application service known today as **VMCAS** was launched in 1995. On April 25, 1997, the AAVMC was re-incorporated in Washington, D.C. Since then, the organization has grown rapidly in scope and impact.



**Celebrating 50 Years of Public Service**  
**1966-2016**

## Key Federal Studies and Legislation

Over the past 50 years, the course of academic veterinary medicine has been heavily influenced by studies like the U.S. Senate's 1961 **"Veterinary Medical Science and Human Health"** and the National Academy of Sciences' "New Horizon's for Veterinary Medicine in 1972."

Those studies highlighted the growing importance of veterinary medicine to the **nation's wellbeing** and led to federal government investments that expanded and enhanced academic veterinary medicine.

The **Veterinary Medical Education Act** of 1966 extended the provisions of the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act of 1963 to veterinary medicine. The Comprehensive Health Manpower Training Act of 1971 provided resources for bricks and mortar, loans and scholarships.

Seeking **federal support** and shaping legislation to advance the interests of academic veterinary medicine remains a core priority of the AAVMC.



*"A major concern for the veterinary colleges, as well as for all of higher education, is the rapid increase of tuition which is more than double the increase in the Cost Price Index. Individual colleges are addressing this issue as part of their strategic planning efforts. When combined with the increasing pressure to reduce financial aid there is a growing concern for the ability of veterinary students to finance their education."*

**Dr. Billy Hooper, 1988-89 AAVMC Annual Report**



*"Share the excitement of the new horizons and, thus, help create more horizons for this profession which has had only one constant in its history in the United States — the ability to adapt to changing times while always providing a service worthy of purchase by a grateful public."*

**Richard B. Talbot, Spring 1980 JVME**

## Upon the Shoulders of Giants

Visionary, dedicated leaders have shaped the future of the AAVMC. Among many champions, these stand out:

- Dr. W. W. Armistead**, former dean of colleges at Texas A&M University, Michigan State and the University of Tennessee, helped found the AAVMC, served two terms as president, was founding editor of the Journal of Veterinary Medical Education, and led the creation of the Federation of Associations of Schools of the Health Professions in Washington, D.C.
- Dr. Lester Crawford**, former commissioner of the Food & Drug Administration and associate dean for research at the University of Georgia, provided key leadership for the AAVMC on two occasions and served as JVME editor.
- Dr. Billy Hooper**, former associate dean of academic affairs at the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, was a defining leader for the AAVMC throughout the 1970's and 80's and served as the first executive director.
- Dr. William R. Pritchard**, former dean of the University of California – Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, provided international perspectives and leadership for academic veterinary medicine and co-chaired the Pew National Veterinary Education Program.
- Dr. Jack Stockton**, former dean of the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine, served as AAVMC president and is credited with leading the organization through the formative years of the 1970's.
- Dr. Richard B. Talbot**, former dean of colleges at the University of Georgia and Virginia-Maryland, edited the JVME from 1980-1994 and was a powerful voice for progress and innovation in the profession.
- Dr. John R. Welser**, former dean of the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Vice President of the Upjohn Company, provided early leadership to develop corporate support and led the drive to establish a Washington, D.C. office.

### SECTION 6. ASSOCIATION OF DEANS OF AMERICAN COLLEGES OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

The Association of Deans of American Colleges of Veterinary Medicine is concerned with the standards, quality, and problems of veterinary education in the United States and Canada.

The association, which was formed in 1967, evolved from informal meetings of the veterinary deans who attended other professional conferences. The deans of the two Canadian veterinary schools became association members in 1969. In 1969, the association extended associate membership to the deans of veterinary schools in Latin American countries.

The association holds its annual meeting concurrently with the American Veterinary Medical Association. Frequently, the deans hold a second session during the annual meeting of the American Association of Land-Grant Colleges and State Universities.

**Educational problems**—Problems which confront the deans include entrance requirements, curriculum changes, teaching and research facilities, accreditation, student dress, fiscal matters, libraries, and interprofessional relations.

The association works closely with the AVMA Council on Education. Through cooperative efforts of these two groups, the preprofessional requirements for veterinary students were increased in 1949 to a minimum of 2 years of college. The deans also cooperate with officers of the AVMA, the Agricultural Research Service of the USDA, the U.S. Public Health Service, State divisions of health, and State livestock regulatory and licensing officials.

Heads of foreign schools of veterinary medicine meet with the association on occasion. Individually, American veterinary deans serve on national and international committees on education and animal and human health. Many have come to foreign countries as veterinary

