

▪ **Equine Care Professions** ▪

WEVA Holds Intermediate Meeting in Santiago, Chile

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Kate Savage, BVSc (Hons), MS, PhD, Dipl. ACVIM, WEVA Oceanic delegate; Vincent Gerber, PhD, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM, ECEIM, FVH, WEVA board member; and Tim Greet, BVMS, FRCVS, MVM, Cert EO, DESTS, Dipl. ECVS, WEVA senior vice president, congregated in Santiago, Chile, beginning Nov. 8, 2012, for a WEVA intermediate meeting that took place Nov. 9-10.

The ACHVE (Asociación Chilena de Veterinaria Equina), a relatively newly formed association of equine veterinarians in Chile, hosted the meeting. Their board currently consists of President Dr. Sergio Carvajal; Vice President Dr. Manuel Valenzuala; and Directors Sebastian Guerra, MSc, DVM, program organizer, Dr. Maria Zuniga, and Dr. Onesimo Sepulveda. The board members are in private equine practice and some hold ancillary posts at the Universidad Mayor, also in Santiago.

The only non-WEVA speaker was Dr. Willy Manley from Madrid, Spain, who was very helpful in 2010 with the Iberian WEVA intermediate meeting in Segovia, Spain. Manley is also of Chilean origin.

The majority of the first day was devoted to state-of-the-art lectures by Greet on surgical

topics including urinary surgery in foals, angular and flexural deformities, arthroscopy, and dynamic airway endoscopy. There was also an interactive afternoon program in which Savage and Gerber presented various aspects of investigating lower airway disease.

The following morning Savage and Gerber presented a comprehensive review of pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction (PPID, or equine Cushing's disease), equine metabolic syndrome, and a variety of other endocrine diseases, including case studies. In the afternoon Manley presented in Spanish about the use of gamma scintigraphy (bone scan) in equine orthopaedic disease as well as the use of novel imaging modalities.

The delegates seemed happy with the program's content, and each presentation was followed by a lively question and answer session. WEVA was very impressed by the professional way the ACHVE Board and the university technical staff organized and ran the meeting. There were a number of sponsors, mostly pharmaceutical companies.

At the end of the meeting the WEVA delegation had dinner with the ACHVE board and discussed the possibility of follow up meetings including a full biennial conference. While there was initial caution about holding a full conference in Chile, there was an undeniable enthusiasm, particularly from the younger members of the board.

Seek the advice of a qualified veterinarian before proceeding with any diagnosis, treatment, or therapy.

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