

Session 7:

Towards global harmonisation and evaluation of the veterinary curriculum, and an internationally recognised diploma

Evaluation of veterinary education in the United States of America

R. DeHaven
Executive Vice President,
American Veterinary
Medical Association,
United States of America

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Council on Education (COE) is recognised by the United States Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as the accrediting agency for veterinary colleges in the United States of America (USA) and Canada. USDE recognition provides assurance that the COE fairly applies documented standards of accreditation which address all areas of the degree programme. CHEA recognition provides similar assurance from an independent, non-governmental entity.

Accreditation is conducted in a manner which measures educational quality through fair and informed application of the standards. The Council judges the appropriateness of institutional and programme purposes, the adequacy of resources and organisation to meet these purposes, and educational outcomes indicating the purposes are met on an ongoing basis. COE accreditation assures minimum standards in veterinary education are met, the quality of teaching, research, and service continually improve, and students are prepared for entry-level positions in the profession.

