



Memorandum

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Date: January 18, 2006
To: Council on Education (COE)
From: Committee on the Human-Animal Bond (CHAB)
cc: Animal Welfare Committee (AWC)
Re: Inclusion of Animal Welfare and the Human-Animal Bond in Veterinary
College/School Curricula

During their November 3-4 meeting, members of the AVMA CHAB spent considerable time discussing the five critical issues identified by the AVMA for the profession. Animal welfare significantly impacts the human-animal bond (and vice versa) and, as you know, is one of the issues identified for action.

Recognizing that knowledge is key to addressing challenges and identifying opportunities, and that Veterinary Education was identified as another of the five critical issues, the CHAB recommends to the Council on Education that it explore ways to ensure explicit incorporation of bodies of knowledge regarding animal welfare (science, ethics, history) and the human-animal bond as part of compliance with Standard 9 (Curriculum) for accreditation of colleges/schools of veterinary medicine. Related material could be incorporated into existing courses or a new course or courses could be developed.

CHAB/GCG

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