International Congress
From 8th till 11th September 2004 the 35th WAHVM International Congress was held in Grugliasco (Torino), Italy. This congress was organized on the occasion of celebrating the 6th centenary of the University of Turin. Congress venue was the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Turin located in Grugliasco. The congress was organized by the Section for the History of Veterinary Medicine, CISO-Veterinaria (Prof. Marco Galloni), on behalf of the Board of the WAHVM. The 4th Italian National Congress on the History of Veterinary Medicine was held simultaneously. The main congress themes were “Veterinary medicine in the ancient Mediterranean World”, “Veterinary medicine in World War I” and “History of veterinary public health”. Thanks are due to Prof. Marco Galloni and his team for organizing this excellent event. The simultaneous translations English-Italian were highly appreciated.

Preparations have already started for the 37th International Congress (2006) in León, Spain. The following International Congresses of the WAHVM will be held 2008 in Switzerland and 2010 in Turkey. Themes for future congresses were discussed during the General Assembly Meeting 2004 in Grugliasco (Torino).

Cheiron Medals
Cheiron Medals were presented during the congress dinner in Torino to Prof. Dr. A. Veggetti and Prof. Dr. A. Mantovani (both Italy) in recognition of their contributions to the history of veterinary medicine. The laudatios were published in the WAHVM Newsletter 1/2005 (in Historia Medicinae Veterinariae 30:1)

From 2005 on, it was decided by the Board and the General Assembly Meeting to award diplomas instead of medals.

General Assembly Meeting
The annual General Assembly Meeting was held on Thursday 9th September 2004 in Grugliasco (Torino). Prof. Dr. M. Galloni (Italy) stepped down as Board member and Dr. P. A. Koolmees as President. The present composition of the Board is:

Prof. Dr. Gerhard Forstenpointner, Austria, President
Dr. Gerald E. Weissengruber, Austria, Secretary
Dr. Peter Paulsen, Austria, Treasurer
Dr. Max Becker, Switzerland, Member
Dr. Georges Theves, Luxemburg, Member
Prof. Dr. Dr. habil. Johann Schäffer, Germany, Member
Dr. Susan Jones, USA, Member

A meeting of the Board and Liaison Committee was held on Wednesday 8th September 2004 at Grugliasco (Torino) in preparation of the General Assembly meeting. The present composition of the Liaison Committee is:

Austria Prof. Dr. Ch. Stanek
Denmark Dr. A. Rosenbom
France Dr. J. Blancou
Finland Prof. Dr. I. Alitalo
The cash auditing committee 2004 will consist of Dr. J. B. Berns, The Netherlands, and Mrs. Dr. Christa Mache, Austria.

**Reports on the WAHVM working groups**

- Veterinary museums: There are activities in Argentina and Italy. Please send information to the Board and/or the webmaster to keep the WAHVM updated.
- Veterinary education and curriculum development: A handbook will be edited by P. Koolmees, J. Schäffer and S. Jones.
- Progress on our International Dictionary of Veterinary Biography project has been made, but large countries are still missing. Once again, all National Societies were urged to participate in this valuable project. The target is 500 biographies, at least.
- The VETHIST DATABASE (Bibliography of Veterinary History and Veterinary Biography) on CD-ROM, Second Edition (2004), compiled by A. H. H. M. Mathijsen, is now published by Euroscience, Bilthoven, The Netherlands, and can be ordered at a price of € 50,- at:
  Euroscience, P. O. Box 408, 3720 AK Bilthoven, The Netherlands; Fax: +31-30-2285772; E-mail: Th.Elsinghorst@inter.nl.net
  The VETHIST database contains the bibliographic data of 15150 publications on the history of veterinary medicine!
- People who are interested in a working group on the veterinary hippocratic oath should contact the Board.

The WAHVM will continue its cooperation with the editors of “Histria Medicinae Veterinariae” (HMV). The WAHVM will publish its Newsletters in the “yellow pages” which are included in some of the issues of HMV and which will be distributed to all WAHVM members. Contributions from the National Societies and working groups are welcome.

For more information, see the minutes of the General Assembly meeting 2004 on the WAHVM homepage at: www.wahvm.vet.uu.nl

**Membership**
The membership to the WAHVM on 31st December 2004 listed:
- 13 National Societies, representing 912 members.
- 98 Individual Members, representing 33 countries.
- 9 Associate Members.
Website
The WAHVM website is in full operation and updated at regular intervals. The website is still mounted on a server of the Library, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, The Netherlands: http://wahvm.vet.uu.nl
National Societies and working groups are invited to link their own sites with the WAHVM website, or send their updates on developments to the WAHVM webmaster at j.prak@library.uu.nl

Newsletter
The 2005 Newsletter with reports on the main activities of the WAHVM in the year 2004 was published as a part of Historia Medicinae Veterinaria 30:1(2005).