



The Dynamic History of Veterinary Technology and Nursing

Dedication

The Beginning 1777 – 1960

The First 50 Years 1961- 2011

Beyond

Appendix

Specific History Notes for Canada (Provinces), United States (States)
and Other Counties

Suggested Sources of Information

Summer 2015 Edition

In Memory of Roger Lukens, DVM, (1941-2015)

AAVTE Historian 2007-2015

Roger saw what happened in the past as an eye into the future.

AVTE Committee on the History of Veterinary Technology

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To submit historical information, please email material to: walshd@purdue.edu. Submit as a WORD document in a timeline format. Designate if this should be placed in the general section or in a state, province or countries other than the US or Canada section.

The input of veterinary technician/nursing programs, associations, regulatory agencies, individuals is encouraged.

Dedication

Walt Collins the Man, Educator and Veterinarian



Walt Collins, the man, is humble and deeply religious. As my teacher and then a colleague, I saw him to be totally student and patient oriented. He emphasized the: who, what, where and why along with the how. Walt saw very early a distinction between on-the-job trained lay assistants and the educated professional technician, and the ability of the educated tech to progress more rapidly with a sound knowledge base.

While on the faculty at SUNY Delhi, Walt maintained a few dairy clients from practice days. And despite concerns of the administration and regardless of the time of day or night, we would find Walt with students piled in his truck to experience rural practice in the hills of Delaware County, New York, the northern most vestiges of Appalachia.

As a veterinarian, despite his love for large animals, he took on all comers: mouse, bird, cow or dog. He was not afraid to learn, say he made a mistake, ask for help when necessary, or offer his assistance in any way possible. Walt is the true role model for veterinary teaching professionals – caring and always available to patient, student, client and the profession.

From the very beginning, Walt saw veterinary technicians as professionals, colleagues of the veterinarian. For this he took his “jabs” from other less progressive members of the profession. But Walt being a true pioneer persisted on the dedicated path he was destined to follow for 40 years. He was equally at home working with students and patients, legislators and veterinary medical associations to seek recognition for technicians, and consulting with fledgling vet tech educational programs. Even in retirement, Walt has felt the call to continue his support of the profession by working with the AVTE on the preservation of the history of veterinary technology.

It was SUNY Delhi’s Dean of Agriculture Wilber Farnsworth’s foresight to plant the seed presented to him by Robert D. Farrell, DVM of Mount Upton, NY for the Veterinary Technician profession in the United States. But, it was Walt Collins who adopted this orphan of Delhi’s Division of Agriculture, and fostered, nurtured and started it on its’ way to the profession it is today. Walt Collins, for his contributions, vision, efforts, trials and successes, is truly the Father of Veterinary Technology in the United States.

Dan Walsh, RVT, LVT,

The Beginning 1777 – 1960

- 1777 US Congress contracts with farriers as the first “animal care givers” for the US Army.
- 1792 US Congress authorized farriers within the US Cavalry, with leg problems being the prevalent problem of the times.
- 1861 Veterinary sergeants are authorized for each US Cavalry regiment.
- 1903 The UK Royal Army Veterinary Corps was formed, which *included “a soldier resource trained to assist and support them (veterinary officer) in their duties. Until then, lay assistance was provided at the discretion of the regiment.”*
- 1908 The first organized effort to train veterinary assistants occurred in England by the Canine Nurse’s Institute.
- 1919 Enlisted personnel are authorized for the US Army Veterinary Service.
- 1949 The US Air force established a Veterinary Corp, the predecessor of the current Air Force Public Health. It initially provided for 1 veterinary officer and two technicians for each base of 1,000 population with duties to include food inspection, public health and animal/veterinary care. The first technicians were hand-picked from Lackland AFB and trained under contract with Colorado State University.
- 1951 The US Air Force Veterinary Corps developed training for the first enlisted (technician) class held at the 3882nd School Group, Gunter Branch, USAF School of Aviation Medicine, Air University. The first Veterinary Technician Class graduated in 1952.
- 1958 The “first kitchen visit” of veterinarians took place in the home of Robert D. Farrell, DVM of Mount Upton, NY, regarding idea of an educated “veterinary technologist” (From: Mary Farrell, LVT, daughter of Robert D. Farrell, DVM)
- 1960 Formation of apparently “the first formal organization of veterinary medical assistants” in the US: the

09:50 PM 7/25/2005

From: "John & Jackie Mallery"

To: <walshd@purdue.edu>

Subject: Vet tech

Dan

I remember you at Delhi. I came to Delhi in August 1958 and retired in June 1989. I knew Bob Farrell because my wife Jackie and Bob's wife Mandy were close friends at Cornell. Since Mount Upton is not far from Delhi, we visited quite often. Bob was just starting his practice in Mt. Upton and said that he would like to have some help on a technical level.

We were looking for ways to increase our enrollment by adding new programs. Dr. Bill Kunsula told the faculty to build an empire for themselves. I put together a curriculum that consisted of courses that could be taught by current faculty at that time. This was never implemented since it was decided that we needed a veterinarian to design and teach this curriculum.

Bob Farrell was asked to come to Delhi and give advice on the subject. He was also offered the job. He turned the offer down because it did not pay enough money.

If my memory is correct and it may not be, the first vet hired to head the program was Bob Morris. Following Bob Morris was Marty Sickles, a Cornell athlete.

During the early years the program was under the supervision of the Agriculture Division. The first laboratory was a converted green house attached to the old dairy building. It was called the glass menagerie. Later, an improved laboratory was located in the Coulter building down on Main Street. The Vet Tech program later became its own vision.

Your letter indicated that the minutes of the meeting were attached but in fact they were not. I would like to see them if you would send them.

I hope this information is of some value you.
John Mallery

9:50 PM 7/26/2005

From: "John & Jackie Mallery"

To: "Dan Walsh" <walshd@purdue.edu>

Subject: Re: Vet tech

Dan

Thanks for the history of Vet Tech. In answer to your question about my position at Delhi, I was an assistant professor and was in charge of the agricultural engineering program. I was just a messenger bringing Dr. Farrell's ideas to Bill Farnsworth in 1961. Jim Armstrong was Chairman of the General Studies Department. These two men did all of the work to bring about the big meeting.

John Mallery

Alameda-Contra Costa Veterinary Medical Assistants Association in Alameda-Contra Costa County, California.

The American Association for Laboratory (AALAS) established the first laboratory animal technician certification program to recognize and certify three levels of on-the-job trained technicians (Assistant Laboratory Animal technician, Laboratory Animal Technician and Laboratory Animal Technologist) currently employed in research. This was the first American association to develop uniform standards in animal technician training and to approve programs in animal care for the purpose of certification. Their training manuals focused on husbandry of laboratory animals and tests; they had very little on veterinary nursing, imaging, laboratory testing, anesthesia, surgical assisting, and microbiology.



VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR – Robert D. Farrell of Mt. Upton stands with his award for Veterinarian of the Year. Farrell was given the award for 1995-1996 by the New York state Veterinary Medical Society. Farrell was a pioneer for herd health care programs and other important research projects.

The First 50 Years 1961- 2011

1961 A Seed that Grew: Early this year, and possibly as early as the late '50's, Robert D. Farrell, DVM, a progressive mixed animal practitioner from Mount Upton, NY, while talking around his "kitchen table" with a friend of his, proposed the possibility of an educated "veterinary technologist" as a member of the veterinary health care team. If Walt Collins is the father of Veterinary Technology, Bob Farrell is the grandfather for his idea.

The friend was John Mallery (Assistant Professor of Agricultural Engineering), who was on the faculty of the then Delhi Agricultural and Technical Institute.

John conveyed the idea to the Chair of Agriculture, Wilber Farnsworth, and Jim

The Story Unfolds.....

11:58PM 7/29/2005
From: Walt Collins
Subject: 2005 Symposium
To: walshd@purdue.edu
Dan

..... I wanted to talk a minute about Bob Farrell. I don't remember Bill Farnsworth ever telling me exactly how and where he got the idea to start the Animal Tech program. He may have, but if so I have forgotten. This I do remember. Beverly says one night when we were in Oneonta at a Catskill Mountain Vet Meeting, Bob Farrell's wife was telling the ladies around her how one morning Bob and his partner (and possibly other close Veterinarian neighbors) were having coffee around the Farrell's coffee table and these veterinarians started discussing the idea of starting a tech program somewhere in NYS. And, I think the idea just grew from there? The professor at Delhi Tech you mentioned before (I can't remember his name right now - he and his family were great canoeing enthusiasts?) might have been canoeing friends with Bob or they may have grown up together and Bob probably had him talk to Farnsworth about the feasibility of Delhi doing this. This gentleman was a professor in the construction program on campus, but regardless of his association with Dr. Bob, I'm surprised now that he never talked to me about this origin. I think Bill Farnsworth was ripe for such a move right then to preserve his job further because his vocation - the Dairy processing industry was drying up on the vine and this would bolster his student applications. If this is how it all started, Bob was very forward looking for NYS, because the State Society and certainly the Cornell Veterinary College Faculty frowned on the idea for a long time. I think the State Society members climbed on board (Thanks to Doug (McBride) and Dr. John Donovan, State Society Executive) before the Vet College did. I remember after we wrote the curriculum guide Randy Vanderhurst, Herman Brant and I went to visit the Administration and Faculty at Cornell (George Poppensiek was Dean then). They were polite to us but we made no headway in establishing any preceptorship program with Cornell. We kept hacking away at them, but it wasn't until you and Douglas McBride went to Ithaca that they started hiring graduates into their clinic. By that time many states were way ahead of us, namely, Nebraska, Michigan State and Purdue who had more liberal thinkers! Sorry, Dan, but this is the best I can remember. If you have questions about this before you leave for Detroit, call me at home,.. Walt

From: "John & Jackie Mallery" <twtamc@telenet.net>
To: "Dan Walsh" <walshd@purdue.edu>
Subject: Re: Vet tech

Dan

Thanks for the history of Vet Tech. In answer to your question about my position at Delhi, I was an assistant professor and was in charge of the agricultural engineering program. I was just a messenger bringing Dr. Farrell's ideas to Bill Farnsworth in 1961. Jim Armstrong was Chairman of the General Studies Department. These two men did all of the work to bring about the big meeting.

John Mallery

Armstrong, Chair of General Studies. Eventually these twomen called the conference on the proposed Veteran technology course at Delhi.

The 1961 conference would include members of the NYS Veterinary College at Cornell, government agencies utilizing animal technicians, representative from the NYS Veterinary Medical Society, Delhi personnel and others.

February 13: *Conference on Proposed Veterinary Technology Course at Delhi Institute
Summary of the Discussion*

“Dean Poppensiek (NYS College of Veterinary Medicine – Cornell) opened the discussion with a brief review of the problem and the invited Mr. Farnsworth (Dean of Agriculture – Delhi) and Mr. Armstrong to present their case. The Agricultural Institute at Delhi has about 575 students with 300 to 350 entering the freshman class every year. It was felt that from 25 to 30 students might be enrolled for a course in Veterinary Technology. The ensuing discussion revolved about the following questions.

1. *What is the need for animal technologists?*

Discussion by Drs. Kaley, Fuller, Dean, and others brought out the following view points. Properly trained persons could be used for the following types of jobs.

1. *Lay meat inspector*
2. *lay milk inspector*
3. *Artificial insemination*
4. *“Detail” man*
5. *mastitis control technician*
6. *Livestock inspector*
7. *Assistant to veterinarian*
8. *Laboratory animal technician*

It was pointed out that most drug companies use graduates (veterinarians?) as detail men and some drug companies limit their detail staff to graduates of pharmacy school... The possibility of feed companies using persons with animal technology training was also considered.

Dr. Price cited the figures he collected in a survey of 32 out of 65 members of the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association. All of these men were small animal practitioners. Twenty-nine indicated that they would hire veterinary technologists. Two would not. One would require the veterinary technologist to act as receptionist, etc.

Dean Poppensiek cited the results of a questionnaire sent out by the New York State Veterinary Medical Society. These questionnaires were unsigned and it was impossible to determine what type of practice was represented. Out of 222 returns, 99 indicated that the veterinarians could use persons with this training. Seventy-one stated they could not use such persons. The possibility of employing trained people in the future was cited by 18. Eleven replies did not indicate an opinion.

Mr. Steiger indicated that the dairy disease committee of the New York Sate Veterinary Medical Society first expressed the need for persons with such training as would help a veterinarian in his practice. He indicated that Dr. Roberts had suggested that an individual trained in hoof trimming, dehorning, blood drawing, clean-up work, etc. would be very useful to a large anima practitioner.

In general, the conferees felt that there was a need for persons trained in the field of animal technology.

2. *What safeguards are required to control the activities of animal technologists?*

The possibilities existed that persons trained in animal technology might develop into quacks. Dr. Fincher cited experience with the Graham School. These schools are held all over the country and herdsman, particularly those of the better and very large herds especially in California, attend these schools where instruction is given in breeding diseases of cattle. Such herdsmen take over veterinary duties. The veterinary profession is definitely against such activities. Dr. Fuller indicated that some veterinarians would be inclined to use animal technologists more and graduate veterinarians less.

Dr. Price indicated that in his Chicago survey, 21 of the 32 veterinarians he interviewed indicated that they did not believe that such technologists would encroach on veterinary practice. Eight of them felt that encroachment would occur and four were doubtful. He also pointed out that there is a danger of a veterinary technologist trained in New York going to states like Tennessee and Arkansas, where the enforcement of the veterinary practice regulations is lax and sometimes nonexistent. Dr. Price indicated that the A.V.M.A. was watching this development in New York with great interest. He indicated that in Russia there were 49,000 so-called feldshers, who are in effect veterinary assistants and get three years training. There are 42,000 graduate veterinarians. Information that he has had indicated that the veterinarians are afraid of their position in Poland and Russia because the competitive pressure exerted by the feldshers.

Dr. Baker indicated that many of the New York State Veterinarians who voted against the general idea of training animal technologists did so because they are afraid of competition from these people. Mr. Armstrong asked whether an animal technologist would be a danger to the veterinary profession. If that was the case, could not licensing or certification control be instituted at the local level and also by the A.V.M.A.? Dr. Price indicated that the A.V.M.A. could not initiate any control of such a group. This would have to be done by state law. Such a control system would remove any objections to setting up such training programs. Dr. Fuller pointed out that in New York no one else can practice on an individual's license other than the licensee. A man working for a veterinarian could be controlled. The provisions of the veterinary practice act in New York are adequate and function well. He pointed out that laymen working as artificial inseminators have been controlled and disciplined. The fact that artificial inseminators are permitted to function as inseminators is by courtesy of the veterinary profession. There is good understanding between the inseminating combines and the veterinary profession in New York. He did not feel that any changes were needed in the veterinary practice act in New York. Dr. Kaley concurred in this opinion.

3. What would a veterinary technologist do?

The duties of such a trained person are implicit in the job possibilities listed under question 1. The work of the technologist could do for a large animal practitioner was listed as hoof trimming, dehorning, blood and milk collecting, clean-up work. A small animal practitioner could expect an animal technologist to do some of the work in hematology, serve as an assistant in surgery, possibly do some of the more simple the serological test, although those might be better left for on the job training. Replies to the State Society questionnaire indicated that veterinarians would expect such a person to serve as receptionist, do the bookkeeping, and handle other clerical work. Dr. Price pointed out that depending on the circumstances, a veterinary technologist might even be called upon to do some menial and unpleasant tasks that are commonly assigned to kennel men.

Mr. Armstrong felt that the students should be given a general approach to these duties rather than taught the highly technical, specific serological tests.

Drs. Kaley and Dean indicated that they would mail job specifications to Mr. Farnsworth and Mr. Armstrong. These specifications were set by the state Civil Service for various jobs in this general area.

Dr. Poppensiek indicated that the need of such people existed in fields other than veterinary practice. Dr. Dean indicated that laboratory animal production is the third largest industry in the state and a field for employment in this industry exists for laboratory animal technologist.

4. Is such a course of study favored in New York State?

Dr. Dean felt that this development was inevitable and it should be welcomed. However, we should control it. Mr. Farnsworth spoke in its support and felt that such trained people could do the routine tasks and thus relieve the trained veterinarian to do a better job in serving his clientele. Mr. Steiger concurred in this opinion. He felt farmers pay too high fees to veterinarians for hoof trimming. Under veterinary supervision, the technologists could expand the services of the profession.

Dr. Howard Fuller, the only private veterinary practitioner present, felt that such an animal technologist's course would be a good thing.

5. What are the prospects for student enrolling in such a course?

Mr. Armstrong indicated that he had visited 20 schools and had discussed the possibility of such a course offering with counselors and high school students. Considerable interest was aroused by his proposal and he foresaw no difficulty in recruiting students for such a course of study. He indicated that 50% of the interested students were girls.

Mr. Farnsworth indicated that Director Kunsela felt that the potential job possibility was too limited by the wording of the projected course of study. There were not enough possibilities in the so-called "job-cluster". Suggestions were made to eliminate the veterinary from the course title and substitute animal technology or animal technologist.

Some concern was expressed over the possibility that two years instruction might be insufficient to properly train an animal technologist.

6. What remuneration could graduates of such a course expect?

Dr. Price indicated that in his Chicago survey, the veterinarians indicated that they would pay \$250 monthly (\$1.50/hr. /\$3000/yr.) minimum to \$500 monthly (\$2.50/hr. /\$5000/yr.) maximum with a median of \$350 (\$2.10/hr. /\$4200/yr.) at the start. After one year, they would expect to pay between \$350 (\$2.10/hr. /\$4200/yr.) and \$600 per month (\$3.60/hr. /\$7200/yr.).

Dr. Fincher indicated that a large animal practitioner would not be in a position to pay more than \$300 per month (\$1.80/hr. /\$3600/yr.). (1961 Federal Minimum Wage: \$1.00/hr.)

Dr. Dean indicated that the state would not offer more than \$3300 per year to begin with. He indicated that most technicians would be in the \$4000 to \$5000 class.

Dr. Poppensiek indicated that technicians on Plum Island received salaries from \$3000 to \$4200 per year. Supervisor's salaries were around \$4500 per year. (1958 salary scale)

Dr. Price felt that veterinarians would not pay salaries high enough to hold veterinary technologist in his employ for too long. He indicated that good kennel men are receiving \$250 to \$300 per month. Animal technologies would have to get more salary.

Mr. Steiger asked a question posed by Dr. Fletcher with regard to the existence of moral obligation on the part of veterinarians to hire such people who had completed the animal technologist course of study. Mr. Farnsworth indicated that there was absolutely no obligation on the part of veterinarians or anyone else to supply jobs to graduates.

7. *What should be included in the curriculum for an Animal Technologist?*

Very little time was available for discussion of this point and it was felt that subsequent meeting would be arranged to determine the specific course content of such a curriculum."

With the advent of the fall semester, the first formal college-level program for the education of animal health technicians in the US was established at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Delhi under Wilbur Farnsworth, MS, Chair of the Division of Agriculture (Pictured). Professor Farnsworth is considered to be the founder of Veterinary Technology formal educational programs in the United States. Other names have come up, but their direct relation to the starting of the program is not totally known. One pioneer, Robert D. Farrell, DVM of Mount Upton, NY, a rural mixed animal practitioner, assisted with designing the initial program.



The US Army starts the Veterinary Specialist/Animal Care Specialist (91T) course at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, DC.

The Council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons introduced a plan for the recruitment, training and registration of Animal Nursing Auxiliaries in Great Britain. This was an on-the-job scheme for the recruitment and training of apprentices and implementing the Register of Animal Nursing Auxiliaries. Graduates were called RANA's (Registered Animal Nursing Auxiliaries). While this training could include some college course work, the primary focus was clinical apprenticeships and self-study in an approved veterinary clinical center (facility) from one textbook. The creation of this new group of people, together with the institution of examinations leading to qualification to be entered in the Register (of RANA's) required a comprehensive text and reference book for both trainees and veterinary surgeons at approved training centers.

The first mention of veterinary technicians in an American veterinary journal was made on April 15, 1961 with an editorial in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association (JAVMA) designed "to stimulate realistic thinking about veterinary technicians and to center attention on the need for careful planning."

1962 The Delhi catalog first mentions veterinary assisting, meat inspection and
-63 small animal care as options in animal husbandry. Students interested in this area elected courses from the following list:

Veterinary Assisting I, II, III	Dairy Bacteriology
Animal Parasitology	Food Sanitation I, II
Hematology	Special Problems
Mammalian Anatomy	Agricultural Business II, IV
Clinical Chemistry	Microbiology
Organic Chemistry	

1962 The Ralston Purina Animal Technician Training Correspondence Course
-68 was developed as the first American publication for training laboratory animal

technicians.

- 1963 The first class of 8 students receives their Associate in Applied Science degree from the State University of New York at Delhi. 6 of the original graduates are:
 Gary J. Bedor, LaFargeville, NY Mary L. Crary, Brockport, NY
 Judith C. Coakley, Holcomb, NY Joseph R. Deleo, Inwood, NY
 Phyllis J. Copper, Binghamton, NY Susan A. Huff, Holcomb, NY
 The first time a veterinary science faculty member appears in a Delhi Yearbook - Robert Morris, DVM.

A Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association editorial differentiated between the need for training veterinary technicians and upgrading the skills of on-the-job trained veterinary assistants.

- 1963 The total annual cost for the Delhi program including: tuition, college fees, student fees, board, room,
 -64 health fee, breakage deposit and books is \$1430.00.

- 1963 The first catalog to list a faculty member for the Delhi program: Robert G. Morris, DVM, Associate
 -65 Professor.

- 1964 The Delhi program moves from Thurston Hall into the Coulter Building - allowing for an autonomous facility and vivarium.

- 1965 British Veterinary Nurses Association (BVNA) established.

SUNY Delhi was awarded a five year Pilot Development Program Grant from the US government HEW department to develop a model curriculum for training veterinary technicians. Walter Collins, DVM, developed and published several curriculum guides over the next seven years. Dr. Collins is considered the father of Veterinary Technology for pioneering efforts and leadership at Delhi, Cedar Valley, TX, Michigan State University and in the profession.



The AVMA Executive Board first decided that (1) the adjective “veterinary” should not be used with the nouns “technician” or “assistant” nor (2) should the AVMA approve instructional programs (this was reversed in 1967). Unfortunately, paranoia about potential client confusion and/or competition from quacks (if the adjective veterinary was used) resulted in approval of the general term “Animal Technician” (AT) and indirectly impacted the productivity of the veterinary profession by slowing the acceptance, education and the utilization of veterinary technicians. This fearful AVMA position would not be reversed until 1989 after much lobbying by AVTE educators, NAVTA and some enlightened state and national veterinary association leaders.

- 1965 During the Vietnam War, “under conditions which were often unlike any previously -- -70 encountered by American troops”, the US Army Veterinary/Animal Care Specialist (91T) provided paraprofessional veterinary care for the 350-1200 Army and Marine military working dogs, mascots and privately owned animals of US troop, and participated in civic action programs. Veterinary units of the 4th and 504th Medical Detachments, 9th Medical Laboratory and 936th Veterinary Detachment were among those deployed.

- 1966 British Small Animal Veterinary Association published a training manual for students in the Royal Animal Nursing Auxiliary training program. This was the first animal nursing publication in the world and is currently published as *Jones Veterinary Nursing* by Pergamon Press.

In Canada, the “National Research Council Report of the Special Committee on the Care of Experimental Animals, Ottawa 1966” stated “such institutions as technical and vocational schools in the several provinces consider establishing courses for training of animal technicians”.

First discussion of Animal Technicians by Indiana Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners with Admiral Coffin, IVY Tech President, who wanted to begin a certificate program at IVY Tech.

- 1967 The Maryland State Veterinary Medical Association is the first state association to organize and conduct its' own training program for lay assistants. Testing and registration was also included.

Ridgetown College, Ridgetown, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary technology program.

The AVMA Executive Board charged their Council on Education with responsibility for accreditation of animal technician training programs and their Judicial Council with the responsibility for developing enabling modifications in their model practice act (a model to be used by state for considering changes to each existing veterinary practice act). The Council on Education initially:

- recommended that basic training should be in a two year associate degree program at an accredited college
- recognize the AALAS Animal Technician Certification Board for registering laboratory animal technicians
- urge the American Animal Hospital Association to examine and register technicians working in small animal veterinary hospital
- developed the “Essentials of an Acceptable Program for Training Animal Technicians”, but at this time did not intend to accredit programs
- established recommendations on developing state VMA “advisory committees for Veterinary Service Non-professional Auxiliaries
- considered, with the AVMA Council on Veterinary Services and the AVMA Executive Board. the proposed the term “Animal Technician”, developing a list of permissible procedures and issues of control and responsibility

Indiana Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA) appointed the first state VMA advisory committee to determine needs for animal technicians and if they should be licensed, registered, or certified. Eber Allen, DVM, Fort Wayne, was the president of the IVMA. In 1968, the IVMA, Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine and Purdue Office of Manpower Studies conducted the first formal Manpower study of the states DVMs's to accomplish the goals of the IVMA advisory committee. Results were published in JAVMA, 153:695-9, 1968.

- 1967 The Metropolitan (NY) Veterinary Regional Council held symposiums “concerning non-professional personnel in the broad field of veterinary medicine”.

- 1967 The first separate advisory council for VT is listed in the Delhi catalog:

- 69 Norman Bartz, DVM Public Health - Erie County
- Howard Dickson, DVM - Large Animal Practice
- John Donovan, DVM - NYSVMA
- N. Bruce Haynes, DVM - Extension Veterinarian
- Clyde Miller
- John Whitehead, DVM - Large Animal
- Erwin Winokur, DVM - Small Animal

1968 The first AVMA Advisory Committee on Animal Technicians, under the leadership of William E. Steinmetz, DVM of California, urged all constituent state VMA's to establish advisory committees on animal technicians which resulted in the immediate appointment of 23 VMA advisory committees by 1969. It published the first guidelines for training animal technicians in Feb., 1970. He would become a leader on the early CATAT program evaluations and an AVMA Executive Board member from 1969-1973.

The second group of new US programs was established at: Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI - Arnie Pahls, DVM – Director; Central Carolina Community College, Sanford, NC - James Brown, DVM, Director; Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, Curtis, NE – Walter Long, DVM, Director; Colorado Mountain College, Glenwood Springs, CO

Nebraska was the first to use the name Veterinary Technician, North Carolina used Veterinary Medical Technician, Michigan used Animal Technician, and Colorado used Animal Health Technician as the title of the programs and graduates.

Robert R. Shomer, VMD, the NJ delegate to the AVMA and Secretary to the NJ Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, authored the article *Animal Science Graduates Seen as Boon to Veterinarians* for the April, issue of *Popular Dogs*. The article supported the education and use of technicians and encouraged Rutgers University to start a program of education for Technicians.

The “name” controversy started early, as can be seen in the May edition of *Modern Veterinary Practice* in the article *What's in a Name?* in the *Animal Hospital Technologist* column. The use of such terms as: technologist, nonprofessional assistant, animal hospital nurse, animal hospital technologist, and the lack of reference to the term veterinary in the title was discussed.

1969 The First Symposium on Animal Technician Training Programs was developed and chaired by Warren G. Hoag, DVM, ILAR, at Michigan State University (MSU). It was attended by 80 conferees at the Kellogg Center to discuss animal technician training program problems and needs. The Symposium was dominated by representatives from research who had a decade head start (AALAS certification had existed 9 years) on those few educators who were interested in meeting the technical support needs of private practices. The most significant outcome of the symposium was the decision to repeat the technician education symposia biennially to address problems ranging from training to improving technician utilization.

The Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science (CALAS) began a national certification scheme for laboratory animal technicians, involving regionally organized extramural courses and examinations

The third group of programs began at: Colby Community College, Colby KS – Roger Lukens, DVM, Director; Pierce College at Fort Steilacoom, Tacoma, WA - Burton Johnson, DVM, Director; University of Minnesota, Waseca, MN – Clough Cullen, DVM Directory. The graduates were called Animal Hospital Technicians in Kansas, Animal Technicians Animal Technicians in Washington and Animal Health Technicians in Minnesota.

St. Lawrence College, Kingston, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary technology program Nebraska became the first state to credential animal technicians as Certified Animal Technicians

Iowa VMA adopted a policy against recognizing Animal Technicians and opposing formal training in Iowa of lay veterinary personnel as well as encouraging the Iowa Veterinary Examining Board to enforce Chapter 169 with special emphasis on all lay personnel (JAVMA, Vol. 155, No. 9, Nov 1, 1969, p.1545).

- 1970 The New York State Association of Animal Health Technicians is formed by the graduating class of the State University of Delhi with initially 58 members from New York and 9 other states

A nucleus of Animal Health Technology graduates formed the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technicians (CAAHT). The Association changed its title in 1977 to the Ontario Association of Animal Health Technicians (OAAHT), and then in 1991 changed its title again to the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT)

Prof: Joe Bail and Bill Drake from the Department of Education of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University complete the first comprehensive graduate survey of the Animal Science Technician Program graduates

St. Clair College, Windsor, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary technology program The first use of clinical facilities and faculties of a veterinary medical college to educate animal technicians occurred at Michigan State University when Don Sawyer, DVM, requested animal technician students to rotate through small animal surgery.

- 1971 “Animal Hospital Technology - A Text for Veterinary Aides”, Edited by Earl J. Calcott, DVM and Published by American Veterinary Publications

The Second Symposium on Animal Technician Training was held at MSU. The interest of training technicians for practice was more evident then at 1969 symposium. Walter Collins, DVM, Delhi NY, first suggested the need for an association of technician educators during the Second Symposium of Animal Technician Training.

Dr. Gerald Thorington, Chairman of the NYS Veterinary Medical Society’s Committee on Animal Technicians and member of the Delhi College Advisory’s Committee for the Animal Science Program announced the “Technician” Bill had passed in both Houses of the NYS Legislature. Apparently the then governor of Nelson Rockefeller, did not sign the bill since licensure of Veterinary Technicians did not occur in NYS until latter in the 1970’s

- 1972 The State University of New York at Delhi, with Walter E. Collins, DVM, as Project Director, develops “A Suggested Two-Year Post High School Curriculum Guide in Veterinary Science Technology” for the US Office of Education

The AVMA reached a milestone in 1972 by instituting the first accreditation procedures for animal technician programs under a standing committee of the AVMA, the Committee on Accreditation for Training of Animal Technicians (CATAT). This name would be changed in 1975 to Committee on Animal Technician Activities and Training to reflect a broader scope of responsibility to the AVMA. Note: the name would be changed again in 1989 to Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and

Activities (CVTEA), the first AVMA use “veterinary technician.” It was changed to “education” rather than “training” by CATAT after Joe Gloyd, DVM stated that “one trains monkeys and educates people!” Walter Collins, DVM was the first representative of technician educators to serve on CATAT and Leland West, DVM, was first AVMA staff assigned to coordinate CATAT activities.

The first national continuing education meeting for animal technicians in the US was held at the Western States Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, NV in February.

The New York State Association of Animal Technicians divided the state into 9 regional districts, based on the concentration of membership

Technical Manual - TM 8-450 *Veterinary Specialist* is released by Headquarters, Department of the Army for Enlisted Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 91T: Veterinary Specialist, latter to be changed to Animal Care Specialist...

1972 This Delhi catalog reflects the name change of the program: Veterinary Science –
-74 Technology. The department initiates annual continuing education programs at the college and on the road in the upstate and downstate areas

1972 Leland West, DVM: AVMA Staff Coordinator of CATAT/CVTEA
-78

1973 Delhi establishes a Student Chapter of the New York State Association of Animal Health Technicians. The chapter has won three President’s Award for Community Service since it’s inception. First two programs to be accredited by the AVMA: Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (Harold Knirk, DVM, Director) and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, Curtis, NB (Walter Long, DVM, Director)

AVMA House of Delegates passed a resolution proposing “registration,” but not “licensing,” of animal technicians

The name of AVMA Committee on Accreditation for Training of Animal Technicians was changed to the Committee on Animal Technician Activities and Training

A law was passed in Indiana establishing animal technology as an occupation and providing for examination and registration of those persons possessing the proper qualifications by the Indiana State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. This was the first state law to certify technicians with the legal term, Animal Technician, Registered

In August, The Association of Animal Technician Educators (AATE) was formed at the Third Symposium on Animal Technician Training. The meeting was called by Drs. Walter Collins and Harold Knirk at the Third Symposium on Animal Technician Training. Pro-tem officers were elected to develop the necessary constitution for it to become an official organization in 1975. Pro-tem officers were Harold Knirk, DVM, president, Mr. Norman Bleicher, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, vice-president, Wallace G. Black, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, Secretary-Treasurer, and representative at large Warren Hoag, DVM

Kelsey College, Saskatoon, SASK established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

Vanier College, Montreal QUE established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

Sheridan College, Oakville, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary assistant program

- 1974 Colby Community College, Colby KS initially accredited
 Central Carolina Community College, Sanford, NC initially accredited
 Columbus State Community College, Columbus, OH initially accredited

Pierce College at Ft. Steilacoom, Lakewood, WA initially accredited

Madison Area Technical College, Madison, WI initially accredited

Sherbrooke, QUE established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

St. Felicien, QUE established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

St. Anne de la Pocatiere, QUE established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

First draft of the AATE constitution was drafted on October 28 for educators review.

The Virginia Association of Animal Technicians was first established

- 1975 State University of New York at Delhi initially accredited (2 yr. program)

Consumnes River College, Sacramento, CA initially accredited

Los Angeles Pierce College, Woodland Hills, CA initially accredited

Bel-Rea Institute of Animal Technology, Denver, CO initially accredited

Colorado Mountain College, Glenwood Springs, CO initially accredited

Maple Woods Community College, Kansas City, MO initially accredited

UC Raymond Walters College, Cincinnati, OH initially accredited

Seneca College, King City, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

Washington State Association of Veterinary Technicians (WSAVT) is established

Michigan association of Veterinary Technicians is established to represent Licensed Veterinary Technicians

AATE Constitution is adopted and the following first officers were elected at the Fourth Symposium on Animal Technician Training:

President:	Harold Knirk, Michigan
President -Elect:	Walter Long, Nebraska
Directors-at-Lodge:	S. Randy Vanderhurst, Colorado
	Wallace Black, Massachusetts
	Walter Collins, New York
Secretary-Treasurer:	Steele Mattingly, Ohio

Committees:

Membership: Alfred Edwards, Michigan
 Nominations: To be Appointed
 Program: Roger Lukens, Indiana
 Information: W. Clough Cullen, Minnesota

The first AATE Newsletter was published on October 15 by Clough Cullen, DVM.

Mid -70's The Indiana Veterinary Technicians Association (IVTA) was formed

1976 CATAT has been recognized by the US Office of Education as the accrediting body for programs for training animal technicians

The Association of Animal Technician Educators (AATE) held its first allied group meeting in conjunction with the annual AVMA convention in Cincinnati. The AATE exhibited its first educational booth in the Exhibit Hall and held its first meeting during an annual AVMA convention in Cincinnati. This four hour session of papers was organized by the first AATE program committee chairman, Roger Lukens, DVM. It was the beginning of AVTE political lobbying efforts about issues related to nomenclature and the need for validation of the “national boards.” The AVTE proposal on national boards stimulated AVMA staff member Leland West, DVM to remark in 1976 at that AATE meeting that “the AVMA doing that would be like flying a 747 across town instead of a taking a taxi.” His opinion was that technicians should not be doing tasks that would justify spending AVMA time and effort for validating the PES certifying exam like the DVM national board was validated by the AVMA NBEC (committee). Little did Dr. West know that this 747 analogy would become the rallying cry of AATE leaders to persistently lobby AVMA for 13 years to get VTNE established and name change approved.

NYS passes a bill providing for the testing (written and practical) and licensure of animal health technicians.

The first journal for Technicians was published as “Methods, The Journal for Animal Health Technicians” in September for AHT’s in California with Robert Bell as Associate Editor. “Methods” was published bimonthly through January 1984. This edition included the following articles:

Drug and Supply Purchasing – Don Dooley, author
 Laboratory Diagnosis of Skin Disorders – George Muller, DVM, author
 Legal Aspects of AHT’s – James Wilson, DVM, JD, author

Parkland College, Champaign IL initially accredited

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN initially accredited

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI initially accredited

Harcum College, Bryn Mawr, PA initially accredited

Blue Ridge Community College, Weyers Cave, VA, on campus program initially accredited

Eastern Wyoming College, Torrington, WY initially accredited

Olds, ALTA established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

Fairview, ALTA established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

NAIT, Edmonton, ALTA established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

Vermilion, ALTA established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

The Veterinary Technicians and Assistants Association of Pennsylvania (VTAAP) was created

1977 In November, the first written exam for Animal Health technicians in NYS was administered.

The Canadian Association of Animal Health Technicians (CAAHT) originally formed in 1970 changes its title to the Ontario Association of Animal Health Technicians (OAAHT). The name will be changed again in 1991 to the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT).

Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA initially accredited

Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, CA initially accredited

Morehead State University, Morehead, KY initially accredited

Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX initially accredited

The first history of animal technology education (by Roger Lukens) was published in the Proceedings of the Fifth AATE Symposium on Animal Technician Training at Michigan State University.

1978 In the spring, the first practical licensure exams are administered in NYS at the NYS College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University

AATE developed its first slide tape program entitled: "Training & Utilization of Animal Technicians" for use in AATE Convention booths, by its members at veterinary meetings and career day presentations.

The Michigan Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (BVME) administered the first version of the PES Exam developed in 1977 by the Professional Exam Service from questions previously used by Michigan BVME, Indiana BVME, and Pennsylvania BVME to certify technicians with the help of 1-2 educator consultants. Why did these BVME's give their questions to PES? Because they wanted PES to prepare and grade the exam for them with same services already being provided for examining DVM graduates with the written National Board Exam (NBE). BVME's immediately turned over the content responsibility to PES and erroneously assumed that it was as valid as the NBE which was validated by the National Board Exam Committee organized by the AVMA.

The AVMA added its first continuing education section for veterinary technicians to its program at the annual convention in Dallas, TX after noting the big success of CE meetings for technicians at the Intermountain Veterinary (Western States) Meeting in Las Vegas. AVMA would gradually increase its offerings with the assistance of NAVTA in planning and moderating these CE sections. AVMA would not add a veterinary technician to its CE program committee until twenty years later (in 1998).

The Alberta Association of Animal Health Technologist is formed.

Yuba College, Marysville, CA initially accredited

St. Petersburg Junior College, St. Petersburg, FL on-campus program initially accredited

Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, GA initially accredited (2 yr. program)

Essex Campus of the Community College of Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD initially accredited

Becker College, Leicester, MA initially accredited

Jefferson College, Hillsboro, MO initially accredited

Omaha College of Health Careers, Omaha, NE, (Vatterott College)

Camden Community College, Blackwood, NJ initially accredited

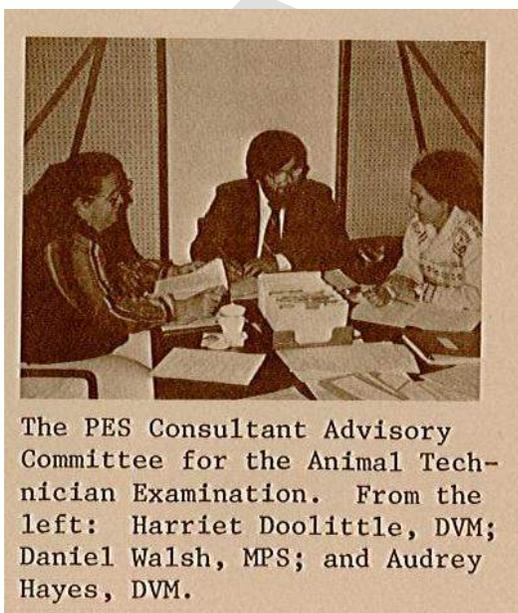
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND initially accredited

Cedar Valley College, Lancaster, TX initially accredited

The Virginia Association of Licensed Veterinary Technicians is established

Veterinary Nurses Association of South Africa formed

1978 Joe Gloyd, DVM: AVMA Staff Coordinator of CATAT/CVTEA
-91



1979 A consulting group is formed for the Professional Examination Service and the idea of a national examination is shows the first signs of life. Doug McBride, DVM, Harriet Doolittle, DVM, Audrey Hayes, DVM and Dan Walsh, LVT are among the first consultants.

State University of New York – Canton, NY initially accredited

Sneade State Community College, Boaz, AL initially accredited

Macomb Community College, Clinton Township, MI initially accredited

Tri-County Technical College, Pendleton, SC initially accredited

Columbia State Community College, Columbia, TN initially accredited

6th AVTE Symposium held at Michigan Sate University

The North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians is formed by a group of Wake County veterinary Technicians.

1980 Farnsworth Hall is constructed at SUNY Delhi and the program moves from the Coulter Building

Quinnipiac College, Hamden, CT initially accredited

Murray State College, Tishomingo, OK initially accredited

Northern Virginia Community College, Sterling, VA, on campus program initially accredited

“The Compendium on Continuing Education for the Animal Health Technician”, the predecessor of the “Veterinary Technician” is born and published bimonthly by Veterinary Learning Systems with Sally Oblas Walshaw, MS, VMD as Editor-in-Chief, Walter Collins, DVM Executive Director and an editorial board comprised of Richard Ford, DVM, MS, Jennifer Lombard, RANA and Lawrence Cromwell, AHT. This journal has contributed greatly to the professional development of the veterinary technician profession through publishing monthly continuing education articles and developing a professional image for veterinary technicians nationally. It provided the first continuing education credits through a system of questions listed after each refereed article--the reader’s answers are submitted for validation by MSU Continuing Education Division of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Articles published on the history of Animal Health Technology by Walter Collins, DVM were included in the first two issues.

At the AVMA meeting in Washington, members of an ad hoc committee from United States and Canadian Animal Technician Associations meet. The idea of a US-Canadian veterinary technician’s association materializes

Association Technicien Sante Animal du Quebec (ATSAQ) began with 25 members

The Animal Health Technologist Association of British Columbia was founded.

1981 Formation of the North American Veterinary Technician Association at the AVTE Symposium (Seventh Annual Symposium on Veterinary Technician Education) in Michigan. The first Executive Board - Officers pro tem: Gail Wolz, President, Laura Keck, Vice President, Dave Stearns, Treasurer, Linda West, Corresponding Secretary, Maripat Seiler, Recording Secretary. It was the first national organization to use the term Veterinary Technician in its name. Technician educators encouraged and strongly supported the formation of NAVTA for many reasons. There was a limit to what a few educators (mostly DVM’s initially) could accomplish for this emerging professional group. If veterinary technology was to become more than a trade, then it must begin to stand on its own with a professional association to represent its members’ interests with the veterinary profession. Technician educators were soon to have their expectations realized as NAVTA grew in stature, members, and resources through the efforts of its members and officers! AVTE was indirectly responsible for including Canada in NAVTA because the biennial symposia has always included Canadian educators as speakers and participants

Formation of the Association of Zoo Veterinary Technicians

Formation of the Veterinary Hospital Managers Association

Hartnell College, Salinas, CA, initially accredited

Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, LA, initially accredited

Medical Institute of Minnesota, Bloomington, MN, initially accredited (Argosy University-Twin City, Eagan, MN)

National American University, Rapid City, ND, initially accredited

Fairmont State College, Fairmont, WV, initially accredited

University of the Cariboo, Kamloops, BC, established a provincially approved veterinary technology program.

The Dutch Association of Veterinary Nurses/Technicians "Vedias" was established.

- 1982 The Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science (CALAS) discarded the national certification scheme and launched a voluntary registration scheme, laboratory animal technicians, designed to maintain propagate and maintain national standards of competency

Richard Keith, DVM program director of Northeast Missouri State University was the first AATE member to gain a seat on the AVMA Executive Board representing District VII (Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma). This gave a voice for AATE at the top of AVMA leadership!

- 1982 -83 The controversial sitcom "Gloria" aired, starring Sally Struthers as a "veterinary assistant" in a veterinary practice in "Fox River", New York.

- 1983 LaGuardia Community College, Long Island City initially accredited

Brigham Young University, Provo, UT initially accredited

Introduction of the use of primates into the SUNY Delhi curriculum

The NYS grandfather clause was reopened for a second time to allow one additional opportunity to allow on-the-job trained individuals to sit for the licensing exam. Like the previous widow of opportunity for on-the-job trained individual, very few sat for the exam and very few passed.

In May, The North American Veterinary Technicians Association adopted "The Compendium on Continuing Education for the Animal Health Technician" as its national journal.

8th AVTEA Symposium held at Michigan State University

The Animal Health Technicians Association of British Columbia is incorporated under the Society Act.

- 1984 Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA initially accredited

The last edition of "Methods, the Journal for Animal Health Technicians" is published

The name of “The Compendium on Continuing Education for the Animal Health Technician” is changed to “The Veterinary Technician” is born. This change was proactively suggested by NAVTA and adopted by publisher Neill Overman and Editor Richard Ford to reflect growing support for the name change. It helped to publicize and legitimize the proposed name nationally five years before it was accepted by AVMA.

NAVTA adopted a national code of ethics for veterinary technicians.

The AVTE request that AVMA provide official validation of the PES Exam was turned down in 1984 at the AVMA convention in New Orleans. Strong negative responses in various meetings were experienced by several AATE members, most notably, Dr. Karen Hrapkiewicz was urged to give up by Dr. Duane Albrecht, president of the AVMA and Dr. Walt Long was rebuffed by Dr. Sam Strahm at the meeting of the Association of Veterinary State Boards. However, AVMA vice-president Dr. Charles Randall prophetically encouraged AATE officers to “be persistent and it would come to pass.”

Dr. Richard Keith (also AVTE member) of the AVMA Executive Board first convinced the AVMA Executive Board to appoint a sub-committee to reconsider and plan for implementation of the validation process. Tragically, Dr. Keith died of a heart attack that winter, but his committee under the leadership of Dr. Sheldon Pinkerton of Florida and Dr. Arnold Hentschl of Michigan carried out his vision to reverse the previous decision.

1985 Mt. Ida College, Newton Center, MA initially accredited

Red River, MAN established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

The Association of Animal Technician Educators changes its name to the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators (AVTE)

The AVMA Executive Board voted to validate the Professional Examination Service (PES) Exam and authorized the first Animal Technician Testing Committee (ATTC) at its April, 1985 meeting without forwarding the issue to the House of Delegates or any of its Councils, much to the pleasant surprise of AATE leaders! The exam would be known as the Animal Technician National Examination (ATNE). This was the first AVMA committee with technician members--it had 4 AT's and 6 DVM's. AVTE leaders learned a lesson in professional organization politics--get members involved at all levels, lobby hard to educate everyone about the issues, be persistent, expect to succeed, and never give up! Large umbrella organizations can be changed, but it takes longer to educate enough leaders and members to cause change than most of us would prefer!

The Animal Technician National Exam (ATNE) was first reviewed and validated by the new Animal Technician Testing Committee (ATTC) in Chicago in December. It was formerly the PES Exam which was being purchased by 25 of 38 states regulating animal technicians in 1985.

9th AVTE Symposium held at SUNY-Delhi

Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians, edited by Dennis McCurnin, DVM is released by WB Saunders.

Laboratory Procedures for Veterinary Technicians, Edited by PW Pratt, VMD, is released by Mosby

Medical Nursing for Animal Health Technicians, edited by PW Pratt, VMD is released by American Veterinary Publications.

1986 Medaille College, Buffalo, NY initially accredited

Murray State University, Murray, KY initially accredited

In May, The first version of the Animal Technician National Examination was given in Maine. The last use of the old PES Exam was in Indiana in January.

The AVMA first included a graduate animal technician on each of its accreditation site visit teams.

1987 Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY initially accredited

Lincoln Memorial University, Horrogate, TN initially accredited

Walter Long, DVM, Curtis, NE, became the first AVTE member to serve as a delegate (representing Nebraska VMA) in 1987 in the AVMA House of Delegates. His political efforts began 20 years earlier when he decided to attend every annual Education Reference Committee meeting to shepherd the cause and speak out about technician issues. The reference committees are made up the state delegates who meet to evaluate all reports and resolutions that are being presented to the House of Delegates for voting. Dr. Long helped educate AVMA delegates over the years because he was willing to speak out at these public committee meetings that are open to any AVMA member. Dr. Long also convinced other technician educators to attend these meetings and help the AATE lobbying effort. *Dr. Long should be considered the father of technician political action!*

10th AVTE held at Michigan State University

1988 The Student Chapter of the New York State Veterinary Technicians Association joins the North American Veterinary Technicians Association

The AVMA House of Delegates first voted NO to a resolution that would change terminology from “Animal Technician” to “Veterinary Technician.” This occurred in spite of a seemingly successful national lobbying effort through state VMA’s whose delegates vote on the resolutions. Last minute political vote trading lead to some change of positions to the negative. This did not deter the leaders of AVTE and NAVTA from continuing the push for changing the terminology. The victory for validating the national exam had taught us to never give up. Only this time, we needed more lobbying through state VMA’s.

CALAS decided to allow the graduating classes of all Canadian veterinary technician programs to take the written examination form. Successful candidates are granted provisional registration, which is converted to full status upon completion of 12 months’ work experience in the laboratory animal fields and passing the oral/practical examination

Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, NS established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

St, Lawrence College, Kingston, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary assistant program
The Eastern Veterinary Technician Association (EVTA) serving the Maritime Provinces began with 30 members

The Animal Health Technicians Association of British Columbia changes its name to the Animal Health Technologists Association of British Columbia.

1989 Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, IA initially accredited
Holyoke Community College, Holyoke, MA initially accredited

Portland Community College, Portland, OR initially accredited

Practical examinations are eliminated in NYS

The University of the State of New York prepares “The Report of the 1989 Surveys of Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians”. It is published and distributed in 1990

The Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologist and Technicians (CAAHTT) is formed when representatives of the seven Provincial associations agreed to incorporate their objectives into a national body

The AVMA House of Delegates approves the use of the term “veterinary technician” to replace “animal technician”

The AVMA House of Delegates first approved, without debate, a resolution for changing terminology from Animal Technician to Veterinary Technician. It had been rejected overwhelmingly in 1988, but persistent lobbying by AVTE and NAVTA for over a decade along with a change of terminology in the many states, several other organizations, and many publications finally “won the support of the majority of states over this battle of issues.” Increasing concern of AVMA members about the growing shortage veterinary technicians finally allowed the vision of many early veterinary technician educators to come true! Another rejection would have meant failure by AVMA to recognize the importance of veterinary technicians to the veterinary profession and would undoubtedly have worsened the shortage by discouraging applicants! Many veterinary leaders began to support the change like Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Dr. Billy Hooper of Purdue. He previously debated Dr’s. Lee West and Henry Childers while on CATAT and COE stating that “technicians must be included in the profession, not excluded, to prevent future separation and your worst fears from coming true.”

The Animal Technician National Examination is renamed the Veterinary Technician National Examination.

The name of the AVMA Committee on Animal Technician Activities and Training is changed to the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) to use “veterinary” and focus on “education” rather than “training” of veterinary technicians

The name of the “Animal Technician Testing Committee (ATTC) was changed to the Veterinary Technician Testing Committee.

The Animal Technician National Examination is renamed the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE)

11th AVTE Symposium held at Michigan State University

NAVTA began working with Hills’ Pet Nutrition as its first Corporate Sponsor. The grants received were used to develop public relations materials to begin educating the public.

1990 Hinds Community College, Raymond, MS initially accredited

Tomball College, Tomball, TX initially accredited

Triois Rivieres, QUE established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

The Ontario Association of Animal Health Technicians established a registry

The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) included veterinary technician educators and NAVTA representatives for the first time in its Eleventh Symposium on Veterinary Education at Auburn University. The symposium addressed the critical shortage of veterinary technicians as one of ten most critical issues facing the veterinary profession. The workshop defined the problem of an existing cycle of poor pay and recognition which leads to attrition before and after graduation as well as fewer applicants to existing programs and the possible closure of more schools. Strategies to improve these problems were formulated. Gradual improvement of technician pay and recognition occurred during the decade of the 1990's as well as increased applicant numbers and development of new programs. The demand for veterinary technicians continued to increase faster than the supply throughout the decade leading to new and sometimes controversial proposals to increase the supply of VT's.

Through the efforts of AVMA Vice President, Dr. Ray Worley, and member of the AVMA Executive Board, a sub-committee of the AVMA Executive Board held the first liaison committee meeting with representatives of both NAVTA and AVTE in Auburn University during the AAVMC meeting. This meeting began the process of informal cooperative action between NAVTA and AVMA. Meetings have been held annually to explore cooperation on issues of mutual concern. It was later organized into an official "liaison committee" of the AVMA Executive Board and NAVTA. It should be noted that Dr. Worley had been on the original advisory committees of two early technician programs (MSU and PU) and an employer of RVT's. Again, "informed leaders in other groups help get the issues addressed, understood, and solutions enacted!"

The AVMA and AAVMC co-sponsored a Student Recruitment Workshop in Chicago and included AVTE and NAVTA representatives as speakers. The major focus was to develop strategies to address the declining applicant pools for both DVM and VT programs in USA. Some of the program content ideas and the keynote speaker was an expansion of a technician student recruitment workshop held in 1989 by AVTE at its biennial symposium! Student applicant numbers would increase in both areas throughout the decade following these workshops. Also, the growing acceptance of VT's by the veterinary profession and inclusion in major events like this meeting helped enhance the teamwork on technician issues between organizations throughout the veterinary profession. This was encouraging to potential students and educators.

NAVTA adopted its official mission statement and began a strategic planning process

A committee of Executive Board members of the AVMA and NAVTA met for the first meeting of the AVMA/NAVTA Liaison Committee. This committee has met annually since 1990.

"The World of the Veterinary Technician" videotape was produced (and revised in 1999).

1991 Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT, initially accredited

SUNY Delhi formalized a transfer program with Cornell University

The Ontario Association of Animal Health Technicians (OAAHT) Formerly the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technicians (CAAHT), changes its title to the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT)

FD-T/A, the Norwegian Veterinary Nurse and Technician Association. was formed as an association for all working as veterinary nurses, techs or assistants at veterinary clinics or similar places in Norway. There main goals were to arrange seminars for veterinary nurses/assistants and also being the rendezvous for people connected to veterinary clinics all over Norway.

12th AVTE Symposium held at Centralia College, Ontario

Guide to Veterinary Medical terminology by PE Cochran, DVM is released by American Veterinary Publications.

Microbiology for Veterinary Technicians, by M Ikram, DVM and E Hill, MT is released by Mosby.

Restraint of Domestic Animals by TF Sonsthagen, RVT is released by American veterinary Publications.

1991 Janet Donlin, DVM: AVMA Staff Coordinator of CATAT / CVTEA

-96

1992 Manor College, Jenkintown, PA, initially accredited

Midland College, Midland, TX, initially accredited

Lionel Groulx, QUE established a provincially veterinary technology program
NAVTA surveys veterinary technicians

The English veterinary profession obtained support from Parliament to change the nomenclature from Royal Animal Nursing Auxiliaries to Registered Veterinary Nurse

The AVMA recognized NAVTA as the national association representing the veterinary technicians in a position statement adopted August and NAVTA membership became a requirement for a technician to serve on any AVMA committees.

The New Zealand Veterinary Nursing Association was formed in 1992 to promote the profession of veterinary nursing in New Zealand.

1993 Ridgewater College, Willmar, MN initially accredited

Los Angeles Pierce College, Woodland Hills, CA re-initially accredited

Veterinary nurses and technicians from around the world met in England to establish the International Veterinary Nurses and Technicians Association (IVNTA). The event was hosted by the British Veterinary Nursing Association and was attended by over 1,000 nurses, from 15 different countries

The Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians Act (Legislative Bill Pr3) was passed, recognizing the title registered veterinary technician (RVT) and imposed penalties for misuse. The OAVT ACT also empowers the OAVT to recognize training programs

The NAVTA Executive Board declare that beginning in 1994, the third week in October will be designated National Veterinary Technician Week

The first AVTE Symposium on Veterinary Technician Education held outside the USA was at Huron Park, Ontario, Canada in August. The Canadians have developed VT education in similar ways and parallel to developments in the USA rather than England. Canadian educators have been very active in AVTE. This led to NAVTA being organized to include both USA and Canada in its name and structure. While AVMA does not accredit Canadian programs, several provinces use the VTNE for certification. First Edition of *Review Questions and Answers for Veterinary Technicians*, edited by Paul Pratt, DVM is released by American Veterinary Publications.

1994 The US Army Animal Care Specialist (91T) School moves from Walter Reed Army Institute, Silver Springs, MD to the Army Institute of Research at Fort Sam Houston, TX

NAVTA created the Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties (CVTS) to respond to the development of specialty disciplines for veterinary technicians. CVTS developed guidelines to assist groups petitioning NAVTA for specialty recognition and has been recognized by the AVMA as the body to oversee the development of veterinary technician Academies. (NAVTA Archives)

A study of NAVTA members was conducted to determine how effectively veterinary technicians were utilized.

The American Society of Veterinary Dental Technicians was developed.

Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta provincial veterinary technician associations adopt the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) as a basis for registration. Occupational Title Protection for the name Registered Animal Health technologist in British Columbia.

Small Animal Anesthesia Canine and Feline Practice by D McKelvey, DVM and KW Hollingshead, DVM is released by Mosby.

Radiograph in Veterinary Technology by LM Lavin, CVT is released by Saunders.

1995 Canadian provincial associations agree on complete reciprocity of credentials for their respective members

St. Petersburg Junior College, St. Petersburg, FL distance learning program initially accredited. This is the first distance learning program provisionally accredited by the AVMA.

Johnson Technical Institute, Scranton, PA initially accredited

Algonquin, Ottawa, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary assistant program

Midland College, Midland, TX, re-initial accreditation

The Association of Veterinary State Boards (AASVB) made a surprise announcement that it had acquired the VTNE validation oversight from PES replacing AVMA. The VTNE and the VTTC were maintained in the original format set up by AVMA with representatives from all areas including AVTE and NAVTA remaining on the committee to participate in the validation process. What a turnaround from 1984 when the AAVSB was against validation! While PES still owned the exam, AAVSB had acquired control of VTTC that developed the VTNE that its members were purchasing!

The Veterinary European Transnational Network for Nursing Education and Training (VETNNET) was established to support the development of veterinary nurse training in Europe. Members include Veterinary Nursing organizations and educational programs in Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom,

The Fast Track CE program for DVM's at annual AVMA meeting in Pittsburgh included the first lecture on leveraging veterinary productivity through optimal utilization of both veterinary technicians and veterinary assistants as a team. David Brunner, DVM, Indianapolis, presented the "new" staffing paradigm of utilizing technicians, technician assistants, and receptionists that he has developed in his companion animal practice. This led to several articles in journals and lectures at other meetings. Attention by the veterinary profession was increasing for increasing "leveraging of the Doctor's productivity," enhancing the ratios of VT's to veterinarians (as well as VA's to VT's & DVM's), and for other technician utilization topics. Finally, after 3 decades, employers and leaders in the veterinary profession had moved from the issue of accepting VT's in the veterinary profession to seeking better utilization of VT's on veterinary teams!

A program was developed by NAVTA, to award scholarships to students in AVMA accredited education programs. The program started by offering four scholarships per year and has increased to eight

14th AVTEA Symposium held at North Dakota State University, Fargo.

Mosby's Fundamentals of Veterinary Technology – Veterinary Clinical Laboratory Procedures by Margie Sirois, RVT is released by Mosby.

1996 The Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians were granted Provisional certification by NAVTA

Suffolk Community College, Brentwood, NY initially accredited

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA initially accredited

Front Range Community College, Ft. Collins, CO initially accredited

Gaston College, Dallas, NC initially accredited

Stautzenberger College, Toledo, OH initially accredited

University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR initially accredited

Nothern, Hailbury, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

Japanese Veterinary Nurses and Technician Association was established

The initial meeting of the Pennsylvania Association of Veterinary Technician Educators is held.

The AVMA Executive Board approved a proposal by the Committee on Wellness to add a veterinary technician to its membership. This committee addresses prevention, intervention and treatment of drug impairment in the veterinary workplace. It serves both veterinarians and veterinary technicians in a team approach to reducing impairment.

1996 David Grandsom, DVM: AVMA Staff Coordinator of CATA /CVTEA
-2001

1997 Mike Andrews (Delhi'75 (LVT) & Purdue'83 (DVM)) becomes president of the California Veterinary Medical Association
NYSAVT and NAVTA survey veterinary technicians
NAVTA was named Co-sponsor of National Pet Week
Northeast Community College, Norfolk, NE initially accredited

Boreal, New Liskeard, ONT, established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

The Pennsylvania Association of Veterinary Technician Educators expands to include educators from the Northeastern and Middle Atlantic states and incorporates as the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA)

15th AVTE Symposium held at Purdue University, West Lafayette

Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians, by Robert L. Bill, DVM is released by Mosby.

Learning Veterinary Terminology by DF McBride, DVM is released by Mosby.

Veterinary Medical Terminology by DE Christenson, LVT is released by Saunders.

1997 The New York State Veterinary Medical Association initiates steps for legislation to
-98 soften licensure requirements and allow for multiple pathways to become a licensed veterinary technician. The bills dies in committee

1998 Veterinary Technicians Association of Arizona is organized

North Valley Veterinary Technicians Association is organized to serve the technicians of Northern California

New Hampshire Community Technical College, Stratham, NH initially accredited

Cuyahoga Community College, Parma, OH initially accredited

Palo Alto College, San Antonio, TX initially accredited

St. Hyacinthe, QUE established a provincially approved veterinary technology program
Lehigh Carbon & Northampton Community Colleges, Bethlehem, PA initially accredited

The term “Veterinary Technician” was accepted nationally in the US and is a legal term in approximately 40 state laws and regulations

This year NAVTA wanted to identify and recognize veterinary technicians in the United States that have made contributions to the profession of Veterinary Technology. We provided State Veterinary Technician Organizations with a list of criteria and asked them to forward the name of an individual in their state who really was making a difference. It gives us great pleasure to share with you the seven people nominated by their state as "Veterinary Technicians Making a Difference": Julie Holle, RVT - Missouri Veterinary Technician Association; Kay Bradley, CVT - Wisconsin Veterinary Technician Association; LuAnn Lee, LVT - North Dakota Veterinary Technician Association; Peggy A. Dorsey, RVT - New Jersey Veterinary Technician Association; Laura Pearce-Sandmann, CVT - Oklahoma Veterinary Technician Association; Dawn Bolka, RVT - Indiana Veterinary Technician Association; Linda Jackson, RVT - Ohio Association of Veterinary Technicians; Kathy Loughman, CVT - Connecticut Association of Animal Health Technicians (NAVTA Archives)

NAVTA’s first State Representative Workshop (Leadership Conference) was a success. On August 29, 1998, representatives of 27 states, Canada, and NAVTA met in Kansas City for a one day workshop. This meeting, made possible with funding from Hill’s Pet Nutrition, was the first of its kind - where leaders of veterinary technician associations met to discuss issues and find solutions. (NAVTA Archives) The Academy of Veterinary Technician Anesthetists was recognized by the NAVTA Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties.

The Alberta Association of Animal Health Technologists (AAAHT) has announced the establishment of an Animal Health Technologists Week which will be the third week in October each year. The goals of the week are to increase exposure of the AHT in Alberta and to better educate the public on the role of the AHT and the role of the AAAHT. (NAVTA Archives)

The American Association of Equine Practitioners issued a position statement this January, asserting that the practice of equine dentistry should be limited to licensed veterinarians and veterinary technicians working under the employ of licensed veterinarians. According to the statement, "any dental activity requiring sedation, tranquilization, analgesia, and procedures which are invasive of the tissues of the oral cavity, including but not limited to extraction of permanent teeth, amputation of large molars, incisors, and canine teeth, extraction of first premolars (wolf teeth) and repair of damaged or diseased teeth must be performed by a licensed veterinarian." Other procedures including rasping or floating of the teeth and the removal of deciduous incisors and premolar caps are considered to be the proper province of "a certified veterinary technician under the employ of a licensed veterinarian." This positions statement says, in essence, that equine dental technicians, many of whom are neither veterinarians no working under the employ of a licensed veterinarian are practicing veterinary medicine without a license and should be enjoined from doing so. (NAVTA Archives)

The AVMA added the first veterinary technician to its convention program planning committee to coordinate and expand its continuing education offerings.

CVTEA established its first formal policy on distance learning programs (DLP) with 10 conditions that these new programs must meet to be accredited by AVMA. DLP programs are a movement in the direction of the RVN apprentice system in England for the clinical training while the educational foundations of the North American system are retained. Advanced electronic communication over the internet with PC’s is making *correspondence education feasible* when combined with appropriately

mentored clinical training in veterinary practice. This change will undoubtedly cause great new challenges for educators and professional organizations.

Principle and Practices of Veterinary Technology, Paul Pratt, DVM Editor is released by Mosby.

Mosby's Comprehensive Review for Veterinary Technicians is released by Mosby.

1999 Debra Crute '99 the first Delhi Veterinary Science Student and first Veterinary Science Student in New York State to win the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence

Kim Baldwin '86 named Alumnus of Merit the first Delhi Veterinary Science Student to win the award

Estimated annual costs for all college expenses at SUNY Delhi: \$11,100

Brevard Community College, Cocoa, FL initially accredited

College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, ID initially accredited

Newberry College, Newberry, SC initially accredited

Blue Ridge Community College, Weyers Cave, VA, Distance Learning Program, initially accredited

Yakima Valley Community College, Yakima, WA initially accredited

During the 1999 American Association for Laboratory Animal Science National Meeting in Indianapolis, the CTA created a National Laboratory Animal Technician Week in honor of AALAS' 50th year of existence. Approved by the AALAS Board of Trustees, this annual celebration recognizes laboratory animal technicians for their essential contributions as members of the research team.

The AVMA included language recommended by NAVTA in the AVMA's Model Practice Act defining the roles of the veterinary technician and veterinary assistant.

NAVTA representatives began meeting biannually with representatives of the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators and members of the AVMA's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities.

16th AVTE Symposium held at Medical Institute of Minnesota, Ridgewater.



Drs. Walt Collins, Clough Cullen, Doug McBride, Harold Knirk at Ridgewater.

Veterinary Nurses Association of South Africa introduced this Professional Excellence in Veterinary Nursing Award with the aim of encouraging all veterinary nurses to strive for excellence and to be recognized for the vital role they perform in caring for clients and their animals and promoting the human-animal bond.

Late -90's St. Lawrence College initiates the offering of specialty certificate for Veterinary Hospital Manager and Veterinary Dental Technician.

2000 NW Connecticut Community Technical College initially accredited
Gwinnett Technical Institute, Lawrenceville, GA initially accredited

Northern New Jersey Consortium for Veterinary Technician Education, Paramus, NJ initially accredited

Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma City, OK initially accredited

Tulsa Community College, Tulsa, OK initially accredited

Alfred, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary technology program

Hematology Techniques and Concepts for Veterinary Technicians by Gregg Voigt, DVM is released by Iowa State University Press.

Veterinary Dentistry for the Small Animal Technician by ML Kesel, DVM is released by Iowa State University press.

2001 Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA, 4 Yr. Program initially accredited

Joliet Junior College, Joliet, IL, initially accredited

Alfred State College, Alfred, NY, initially accredited

Cedar Valley Community College, Lancaster, TX, Distance Learning Program initially accredited

Northern College, Haileybury, ONT established a provincially approved veterinary assistant program

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University College Dublin, Republic of Ireland established a 3 year Veterinary Nursing Diploma course.

The International Veterinary Nurses and Technicians Association (IVNTA) held its Annual General Meeting this year in the United States. The IVNTA is an association of member countries that seeks to foster and promote links with veterinary nursing staff world wide by communication and co-operation.

Formed in 1993, the goals of the IVNTA are to promote the profession of veterinary technology/nursing worldwide, raise the standards of education/training, provide help and support between member countries, and foster an exchange of experience, knowledge, and staff between member countries. The following technicians represented their countries at this year's meeting: Sandy Hass (Canada), Jannie Larssen (Denmark), Katarina Anhava (Finland), Chiharu Ishida (Japan), Janet Molyneux (New Zealand), Marilie Bester (South Africa), Cornelia Rotzler (Switzerland) Carole Bowden (UK), Julie Urban (US). The IVNTA business meeting was held on Saturday, February 10, 2001. Issues considered by the representatives included the site of the next meeting, the exchange of education requirements and credentialing information between countries, and the format of the IVNTA newsletter.

The USAF Veterinary Service Association held its first reunion. This organization is made up of veterinary officers and enlisted personnel (Veterinary Technicians/ Specialist) serving with the USAF Veterinary Service between 8 June 1949, when it was created under General Order No. 35, and 1 October 1982 when it was reorganized as Environmental Health Services. (From: <http://www.908x0.com/index.html>)

On July 29, 2001, a meeting was held at the Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia, SC with the purpose of forming the South Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (SCAVT)

The bylaws of the Veterinary Technician Cancer Society are approved.

The Society of Veterinary Behavior Technicians was started.
Florida Veterinary Technicians Association is incorporated.

17th AVTE Symposium held in Vancouver, BC

2002 North American Veterinary Technicians Association changes its name to The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America

Community College of Denver, Denver, CO, initially accredited

University College of Bangor, Bangor, ME, initially accredited

Tri County Technical College, Pendleton, SC, Distance Education Program, initially accredited

Delaware Technical and Community College, Georgetown, DE initially accredited

Purdue University. West Lafayette, IN, Distance Learning Program
initial accreditation

State University of New York at Delhi initially accredited (4 yr. program)

Northwest Mississippi Community College, Senatobia, MS, initial accreditation

Median School of Allied Health Careers, Pittsburgh, PA, initial accreditation

Trident Technical College, Moncks Corner, SC, initial accreditation

Baker College, Flint MI initially accredited

Baker College, Muskegon, Mi initially accredited

The Academy of Veterinary Dental Technicians received provisional accreditation from the NAVTA
Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties
New Hampshire Veterinary Technicians Association founded.

Because of its success, it was expanded in 2002 and renamed the International Laboratory Animal Technician Week, allowing technicians from around the world to participate in the event. AALAS and the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) work together to acknowledge

technicians for their roles in the biomedical/biological research field. Special items of recognition for technicians are available at the AALAS National Meeting each year and from the AALAS office.

The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in American, Inc announces the development and upcoming release of the Association's official publication: "The NAVTA Journal."

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeon's Veterinary Nurse's Council was established in 2002 and replaced the Veterinary Nurses Committee. It has overall responsibility for all matters concerning veterinary nurse training, post-qualification awards and the registration (listing) of qualified veterinary nurses. The VN Council is comprised of veterinary nurses, veterinary surgeons (from RCVS Council) and Industry Group representatives

Common Disease of Companion Animals, by Alleice Summers, DVM is released by Mosby.

Clinical Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians by T Colville, DVM and JM Bassert, VMD is released by Mosby.

Irish Veterinary Nurses Association (IVNA) re-launched in September

2002 Gary Leff, DVM: AVMA Staff Coordinator of CATAT / CVTEA
-Present

2003 Pima Community College, Tucson, AZ initially accredited

Miami-Dade College, Miami, FL, initially accredited

Baker College, Cadillac, MI, initially accredited

Athens Technical College⁴, Athens, GA, initially accredited

Utah Career College, West Jordon, UT, initially accredited

Globe College, Oakdale, MN initially accredited

18th AVTE Symposium held in Madison, Wisconsin

NAVTA conducts a national demographic survey of veterinary technicians with the AVMA Statistical research Group.

Veterinary Technician's Daily Reference Guide, Candace Jack, LVT, Patricia Watson, LVT and Mark Donovan, DVM, Editors, released by Williams & Wilkins.

Clinical procedures in Veterinary Nursing, by Victoria Aspinall is released by Butterworth-Heineman.

John L. "Jack" Mara, DVM, "Dr. Mara (COR '51), 78, Topeka, Kan., died March 27, 2003. A longtime advocate of clinical nutrition research and education for veterinarians, he had a career spanning nearly 50 years, 21 of them with Hill's Pet Nutrition Inc.....

Recognizing the value of veterinary technicians, he was a pioneer in forging continuing education opportunities for them. Dr. Mara supported the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America, and was instrumental in aiding in its development as an organization. The AVMA designated the veterinary technician educational program of the AVMA Annual Convention as the Dr. Jack L. Mara Seminars in Veterinary Technology.” JAVMA News Obituaries, May 15, 2003.

- 2003 US Labor Department reports employment of veterinary technologists and technicians is
-04 expected to = for all occupations through the year 2012. Job openings also will stem from the need to replace veterinary technologists and technicians who leave the occupation over the 2002-12 period.
- 2004 Western Career College, Pleasant Hill, CA, initially accredited
- Western Career College, Sacramento, CA, initially accredited
- Western Career College, San Leandro, CA, initially accredited
- Duluth Business University, Duluth, MN, initial accreditation
- Minnesota School of Business, Plymouth, MN, initially accredited
- Western School of Health and Business Careers, Pittsburgh, PA, initially accredited
- McLennan Community College, Waco, TX, initially accredited
- Northern Virginia Community College, Sterling, VA, Distance Learning Program initially accredited
- Ulster County Community College, Stone Ridge, NY, initially accredited.
- Academy of Veterinary Medical Internal Medicine Technicians adopted their constitution.
- The American Association of Equine Veterinary Technicians is formed as a sister association to the American Association of Equine Practitioners.
- Veterinary Office Practices*, Edited by Robert Kehn is released by Thomson-Delmar Learning.
- The American Association of Equine Veterinary Technicians is formed as a sister association to American Association of Equine Practitioners.
- The first Veterinary Nursing Diplomas were awarded by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at University College Dublin, Republic of Ireland in June.
- On October 21, the US Army at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas dedicated Jennings Hall, a state-of-the-art training facility for 91T Animal Care Specialist Course. The 91Ts are trained to support of the Army Medical Department, the Department of Defense (DOD) Veterinary Service, the DOD Military Working Dog Program, and military medical research.
- 2005 University College of the Cariboo (UCC) Animal Health Technology program launches a Distance
Education (AHTDE) program for students located anywhere in Canada who are already working in a
veterinary clinical setting.
- Minnesota School of Business, Plymouth, MN, initially accredited

Rochester Community and Technical College, Shakopee, MN, initially accredited.
 Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, IA, initially accredited...
 St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL, Distance Learning Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Technology Accredited.
 Ridgetown College, University of Guelph, Ridgetown, Ontario, initially accredited.
 Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, Terminal Accreditation.
 Long Technical College, Phoenix, AZ, Initial Accreditation
 Ogeechee Technical College, Lawrenceville, GA, Initial Accreditation
 Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, NV, Initial Accreditation
 Central New Mexico Community College, Albuquerque, NM, Initial Accreditation
 Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, TN, Initial Accreditation
 Georgian College, Georgia, ON

Republic of Ireland Veterinary Practice Act 2004-05 includes provisions for Veterinary Nurses.

March 19-20 The first National Conference of Veterinary Technician Specialty Academies (NCVTSA) took place in Baltimore in conjunction with the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) 2005 Conference. Emergency and Critical Care, Anesthesia, and Dentistry specialties were represented. British Veterinary Nursing Association celebrated its fortieth year. (<http://www.bvna.org.uk/history.php>)

Robert D. Farrell

MOUNT UPTON — Dr. Robert David Farrell, 77, of Mount Upton passed away peacefully, surrounded by his children, Monday, June 20, 2005, at A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital in Oneonta.

He was born Dec. 9, 1927 in Danbury, Conn., the son of the late Michael D. and Cecelia Morlock Farrell. Doc grew up on a dairy farm and loved animals. He decided when he was a young boy that he wanted to be a veterinarian when Duke, his favorite draft horse, died unexpectedly in a hay field on a hot summer day. Doc was unable to help Duke, and he resolved at that point to learn everything he could about veterinary medicine and to devote his life to the healing and treatment of sick animals.

He received his BS from Cornell University, class of 1947, and his DVM from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1951. While there, he was a member of the Alpha Zeta Fraternity and the Ho-Nun-De-Kah Honor Society.

In 1951, he was employed as a staff veterinarian for the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. He later served as an intern in the Large Animal Ambulatory Clinic in 1952 and 1953. For the subsequent two years, he worked as a staff veterinarian in Bath.

In 1955, Doc moved to Mount Upton and opened his mixed-animal veterinary practice with a specialty in bovine medicine. He served Chenango, Delaware and Otsego counties until his death.

Doc was a pioneer in veterinary medicine whose contributions were felt far beyond his immediate practice. He was instrumental in establishing the first Veterinary Technician program in the United States at SUNY Delhi despite skepticism that there was no need or desire for this type of program. There are now more than 100 Veterinary Tech., programs and more than 50,000 veterinary technicians in the United States.

He was also one of the first veterinarians to implement monthly herd health programs. Monthly programs are common practice now, but they were a new approach when Doc started developing them with dairy farmers in the 1950s and 1960s.

June 20th (Monday) Robert D. Farrell, DVM, 77, of Mount Upton, New York passed away. Dr. Farrell is attributed with planting the seed for the profession of Veterinary Technology at SUNY Delhi, and therefore the United States. His daughter Mary is a Licensed Veterinary Technician having graduated from the Veterinary Technology Program at Delh

19th AVTE Symposium, Detroit, MI

2006 Western Career College, Citrus Heights, CA Initial Accreditation
 Western Career College, Pleasant Hill, CA, Initial Accreditation
 Western Career College, Stockton, CA, Initial Accreditation
 Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ, Initial Accreditation
 Penn Foster College, VTDL, Scottsdale, AZ, Initial Accreditation
 Crowder College, Neosho, MO, Initial Accreditation

For Immediate Release:

Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians, First in World to Self-Regulate!

Guelph, Ontario, Canada
 February 22, 2006

Registered Veterinary Technicians have become the latest profession in Ontario to gain self-regulated status. In a historic vote on Friday, February 17, members of the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians passed by-laws establishing themselves as the first such group in the world to become a self-regulating professional body.

In Canada, professions are granted the privilege of regulating their own affairs by provincial governments. This confers the authority to establish standards for entry to the profession, standards of practice for those working in the profession, and rules governing how members may be disciplined or removed from the profession. Such rules and standards are designed to protect members of the public, and in this case, the welfare of animals as well.

There are more than thirty self-regulated professions in Ontario. Among the best known are doctors, lawyers, nurses, engineers and architects. The majority of self-regulated professions function in the field of human health care, but veterinarians have enjoyed this status for many decades also.

Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs) assist veterinarians in carrying out medical procedures on pets, livestock and laboratory animals. In other jurisdictions they are known as veterinary nurses or animal health technologists. In Ontario over 90% of RVTs are female.

The majority of Registered Veterinary Technicians are employed in veterinary clinics. They also work in:



- diagnostic laboratories
- research facilities
- zoos and animal parks
- teaching
- governmental and industrial institutions
- pharmaceutical sales
- humane societies
- livestock health management
- food animal inspection.

According to the group's outgoing President, Tara Sefton, RVT, "The Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT), with over 2,000 members, is the largest group of its kind in North America." The group's annual conference, held in Toronto February 16-18, attracted more than 1400 registered participants, exhibitors and speakers. The conference has become the largest stand-alone gathering of veterinary technicians in the world.

The predecessor to the OAVT was founded in 1970 by a small group of technicians who organized an educational conference that attracted over 100 participants in the first year. The organization became the OAVT in 1991, and it adopted the term veterinary technician to describe its members.

In the following year the Association implemented a process of registration for members who had completed a college course in the discipline, distinguishing them from practitioners who learned their skills on the job. In 1993 a bill was passed in the provincial legislature granting the OAVT the right to "promote, maintain and regulate the professional standards of veterinary technicians". It also granted the exclusive right to the use of the title "Registered Veterinary Technician".

By adopting the necessary by-laws with an overwhelming majority at their annual general meeting, Ontario's veterinary technicians created an expanded set of professional standards to which RVTs must now adhere. In addition, they committed to establishing a mechanism to receive complaints about their members' professional conduct and to administer discipline to those found guilty of violating them.

The OAVT has had an accreditation program for college programs in veterinary technology since 2002. Currently nine such programs across the province are accredited, and they produce over 300 graduates per year who join the OAVT and take the entrance examination to become Registered Veterinary Technicians.



Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians
 Ontario Agricentre
 Suite 104, 100 Stone Road West
 Guelph, ON N1G 5L3
 1-800-675-1859 | www.oavt.org

For more information contact:
Kim Hilborn, OAVT Registrar
 at (800) 675-1859. ☎

Ontario Veterinary Technicians are the first in the world to self-regulate

Delgado Community College, New Orleans, LA, Initial Accreditation
 Backer College, Jackson, MI, Initial Accreditation
 Minnesota School of Business, Brooklyn Center, MN, Initial Accreditation
 Pima Medical Institute, Las Vegas, NV, Initial Accreditation
 Community College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, NV, Initial Accreditation
 Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, Asheville, NC, Initial Accreditation
 The Vet Tech Institute at Bradford School, Columbus, OH, Initial Accreditation
 Olds College, Olds, Alberta (Distance Learning)

“At its June 2006 meeting, the AVMA Executive Board approved a recommendation that the AVMA recommends that veterinary technician credentialing (i.e., licensing, registration, or certification) entities in the US recognize graduates of Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)-accredited veterinary technology programs as eligible for credentialing. In turn, the CVMA recommends that Canadian provincial licensing bodies recognize graduates of AVMA-accredited veterinary technology programs as being eligible for licensure. As always, eligibility for licensure/registration/ certification of veterinary technicians is the purview of each state and provincial credentialing agency.” (From: *Programs accredited by the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) – 2007*)

The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) celebrated its 25th anniversary.

The 1st January 2006 was designated as the date for the establishment of the Veterinary Council of Ireland. The Veterinary Council of Ireland is the Statutory Body established under the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. The principal function of the Council is to regulate and manage the practice of veterinary medicine and veterinary nursing in the State in the public interest. The Council is made up of 19 members, 9 elected Veterinary Practitioners, 1 elected Veterinary Nurse and 9 appointed members.

2007 “The first seven European schools of veterinary nursing have been accredited by ACOVENE (the European Accreditation Committee for Veterinary Nurse Education) following a successful pilot project to develop a system for quality assuring veterinary nurse education in Europe. The project was funded with the support of the European Commission through the Leonardo da Vinci Programme. The accredited schools include institutions from Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Ireland, Italy, Sweden and the United Kingdom. All were visited by panels appointed by the pilot ACOVENE Board using accreditation criteria developed in association with the American Veterinary Medical Association. The newly accredited schools cover a wide range of courses in veterinary nursing, from the vocation level to higher education, and from a relatively small private college to university veterinary schools. Following the pilot project, ACOVENE is now being established as a foundation with the support of the Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations (FECAVA) and the Veterinary European Transnational Network for Nursing Education and Training (VETNNET). The long-term aims of the Foundation are to extend accreditation to schools of veterinary nursing in all European countries and to encourage the development of training courses in countries where these are currently weak or absent. ACOVENE accreditation should therefore help to build the confidence of veterinary employers in the professional education and skills training of veterinary nurses.” Veterinary European Transnational Network for Nursing Education and Training (<http://www.vetnnet.com/News.php>)

The following new programs have applied for accreditation:

Arkansas State University; Beebe, AR	
Baker College of Clinton Township; Clinton Township, MI	Baker College
of Port Huron, Port Huron, MI	
Bradford School; Houston, TX	
Carver Career Center; Charlestown, WV	
Chattanooga State Technical Community College; Chattanooga, TN	
Colorado Academy of Veterinary Technology; Colorado Springs, CO	
Fox College; Chicago, IL	
High Tech Institute; Phoenix, AZ	
Hillsborough Community College; Plant City, FL	
International Business College; Fort Wayne, IN	Iowa
Western Community College, Council Bluffs, IA	Jefferson State
Community College, Birmingham, AL	
Kent State University Tuscarawas Campus; New Philadelphia, OH	
Moraine Park Technical College Distance Learning Program; Fond du Lac, WI	Minnesota School of
Business-St. Cloud, Waite Park, MN	North Shore Community
College, Danvers, MA	
Pima Medical Institute; Seattle, WA	
Rockford Business College; Rockford, IL	
Sanford Brown College-Fenton; Fenton, MO	
Sanford Brown College-St. Peters; St. Peters, MO	
Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market; Herrin, IL	
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, BC (Distance Learning Program)	

20th AVTE Symposium, Waco, TX

“California SB 969 will now allow registered veterinary technicians or unregistered assistants to administer drugs, including controlled substances, under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian when done pursuant to the order, control and full professional responsibility of a licensed veterinarian. The earlier regulation allowed only registered veterinary technicians to administer drugs under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian.” State legislative updates Posted 15 August 2007, American Veterinary Medical Association

“Pennsylvania regulations now define a veterinary technician specialist (VTS) as a certified veterinary technician (CVT) who holds current certification from a specialty organization recognized by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA). The final rule prohibits a CVT from making false, deceptive or misleading statements or claims, including representing that he or she is a specialist unless appropriately certified.” State legislative updates Posted 15 August 2007, American Veterinary Medical Association

The Veterinary Council of Ireland, at its meeting on 11 June 2007, accepted the recommendation of its Veterinary Nursing Validation Committee to validate the University College Dublin Diploma in Veterinary Nursing to allow graduating Veterinary Nurses from UCD to be entered on to the Council's Register of Veterinary Nurses.

The US Army 91T: Animal Care Specialist alphanumeric designator was changed to 68T

2008 January NAVTA Has A New Executive Director- Andrea Ball, a native of Rock, Kansas, was recently named the executive director of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America.

March NAVTA executive offices move to a new home just outside the Nation's capital in Alexandria, VA.

Veterinary nursing became a regulated profession in Republic of Ireland on 1 January 2008 under the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. The title 'veterinary nurse' can only be used by those registered with the Veterinary Council.

The Indiana legislature defines a veterinary assistant, creates a Board of Veterinary Medicine position for a Registered Veterinary Technician, and expands the scope of practice of Registered Veterinary Technicians in food animal practices to include: "under direct or indirect supervision, perform routine food animal management practices if a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists."

The following new programs have applied for accreditation:

Anthem College, Phoenix, AZ

Hillsborough Community College, Plant City, FL

Rockford Career College, Rockford, IL

Harrison College (formerly Indiana Business College), Indianapolis, IN

The Vet Tech Institute at International Business College – Indianapolis, IN

Minnesota School of Business-Rochester, MN

The Vet Tech Institute at Hickey College, St. Louis, MO

Bergen Community College, Paramus, NJ

Kent State University-Tuscarawas, OH

Piedmont Technical College, Newberry, SC

Chattanooga State Community College, Chattanooga, TN

The Vet Tech Institute of Houston, TX

2009 21st AVTE Symposium, Omaha, Nebraska

The following new programs have applied for accreditation:

Arkansas State University-Beebe, AR

Pima Medical Institute-Colorado Springs, CO

Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM), Herrin, IL

Brown Mackie College-Michigan City, IN

Brown Mackie College-South Bend, IN

Brown Mackie College – Louisville, KY

Brown Mackie College-Cincinnati, OH

Broadview University – Layton, UT

Pima Medical Institute-Renton, WA

Carver Career Center & Bridgemont Community and Technical College, Charleston, WV

2010 The following new programs have applied for accreditation:

Bellingham Technical College, Bellingham, WA

Brown Mackie College-Boise, Boise, ID

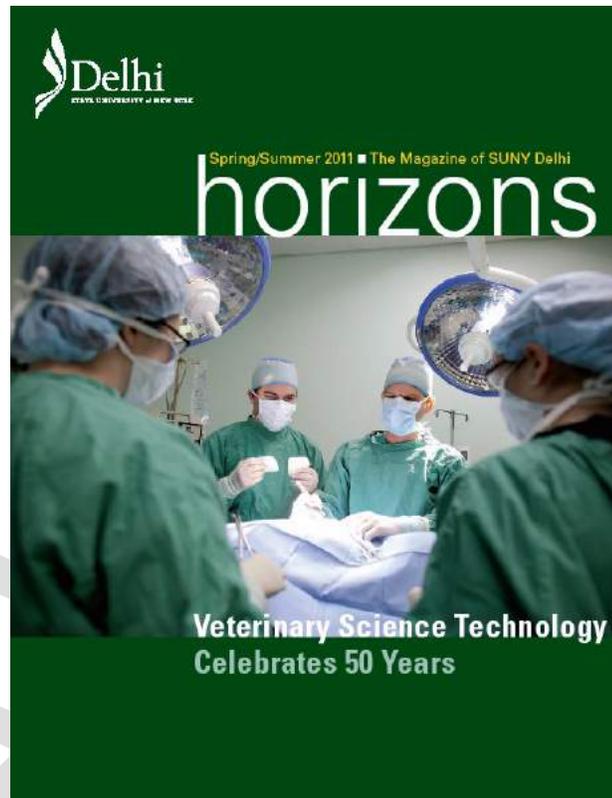
Pima Medical Institute-Chula Vista, Chula Vista, CA

Minnesota School of Business-Moorhead, MN
 Brown Mackie College-Findlay, OH
 Globe University-Sioux Falls, SD
 Globe University-Eau Claire, WI

Programs Discontinued:

Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA 31030. Associate of Applied Science. Bachelors of Science program continues.

- 2011 The State University of New York at Delhi, the first Veterinary Technology Program in the United States, celebrates its 50th anniversary of educating veterinary technicians



21st AVTE Symposium, Cincinnati, Ohio: **AVTE CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF VETERINARY TECHNICIAN EDUCATION**

Beyond

- 2013 22nd AVTE Symposium, Cincinnati, Ohio

An article "The Army Animal Care Specialist; Past, Present, and Future" is published on pages 11-22 in *The United States Army Medical Department Journal*, January-March 2013 edition by LTC Boris Brglez; LTC James Giles; COL Kelly Mann. Online issues of the *AMEDD Journal* are available at http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/amedd_journal.aspx.

An article “On Formalizing Veterinary Technician Education: ‘A Nobel & Necessary Movement’” is published on pages 19-23 in Volume 36, Numbers 1 & 2 May-November 2013 in *Veterinary Heritage Bulletin of the American Veterinary History Society* by Jacqueline M. Paritte, DVM. The publication is available from the Secretary-Treasurer of the American Veterinary Medical Society (www.avmhs.org), members of the Society and many veterinary college libraries.

An AVTE task force is formed to identify the interest and feasibility of publishing a professional journal, for veterinary technician educators. Volunteer members of the task force included: Mel Chamblis, Cynthia Grey, Karen Hershberger-Braker, Glenn Jackson, Erin Miracle, Oreta Sample, and Tina Tran.

2015 By Royal Charter as of February 17, all Registered Veterinary Nurses (RVN) across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are required to be registered with and regulated by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS).

The inaugural issue of Journal of the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators, with a theme of Best Practices, was published in both an online and print formats with distribution at the 23rd AVTE Symposium. The initial editorial board consisted of : Cynthia Grey, Editor (St. Petersburg College), Karen Hershberger-Braker (Globe University), Glenn Jackson (University of Nebraska-Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture), Bonnie Loghry (Yuba University), Oreta Samples (Fort Valley State University), and Tina Tran (Purdue University).

23rd AVTE Symposium, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Appendix

Specific History Notes for Canada (Provinces), United States (States) and Other Counties

Canada

Alberta

British Columbia

Manitoba

New Brunswick

Newfoundland & Labrador

Nova Scotia

Northwest Territories

**Nunavut
Ontario**

Prince Edward Island

Quebec

Saskatchewan

Yukon

United States

Alabama

Alaska

Arizona

Arkansas

California

Colorado

Connecticut

Delaware

Florida

Georgia

Hawaii

Idaho

Illinois

Indiana

- 1966 First discussion of Animal Technicians by Indiana Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners with Admiral Coffin, IVY Tech President, who wanted to begin a certificate program at IVY Tech.
- 1967 Indiana Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA) appointed the first state VMA advisory committee to determine needs for animal technicians and if they should be licensed, registered, or certified. Eber H. Allen, DVM, Fort Wayne, was the president of the IVMA.
- 1968 The IVMA, Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine and Purdue Office of Manpower Studies, under Professor JP Lisack, conducted the first formal Manpower study (*Indiana's Need for Assistants in Veterinary Medical Practice, Manpower Report 68-2*) of Indiana's 700 DVM's to accomplish the goals of the IVMA advisory committee. Results were published in JAVMA, 153:695-9, 1968. The study revealed, among other things, that there was general agreement on what an animal technician should do, that there was a need for these technicians, and that the level of the training program should be the equivalent of two years' college work (i.e. the Associate Degree). There was a so a strong consensus that animal technicians should be registered—and function under the direct supervision of a professional veterinarian. It suggested that the AVMA establish standards and curricula guidelines and the School of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University proceed with curriculum planning (from *A Century of Service, Veterinary Medicine in Indiana, 1884-1984*, Jack J Stockton, Ed, IVMA, 1984, pp.96-7 and *ANIMAL TECHNICIANS IN INDIANA: REGISTRATION, NEEDS AND TRAINING SUMMARY*, J P LISACK, OFFICE OF MANPOWER STUDIES, 1973.).
- 1969 First request for legislative funding occurred based on the finding of the recent Manpower Report 68-2 and IVMA support was denied. Subsequent legislative requests in 1971 & 1973 were also unsuccessful before the last request in 1975 was funded at the “11th hour” to begin the new program at the Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine. (from *A Century of Service, Veterinary Medicine in Indiana, 1884-1984*, Jack J Stockton, Ed, IVMA, 1984, pp.140).
- 1973 A second manpower study was conducted by the IVMA, Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine and Purdue Office of Manpower Studies (*Manpower Report 73-4*). The study of Indiana DVM's was conducted to obtain broad involvement and to further sample opinions and to determine needs for animal technicians. The principle findings were that many veterinarians were still desirous of training and utilizing animal technicians, the reported needs for technicians were quite consistent with those reported in 1968 (about 67 animal technicians were needed each year), the response to a proposed two year curriculum was favorable, and the rates of pay reported in 1973 were more reasonable compared to 1968 (very low). It was also determined that there was a high interest in the career by young people. The principle findings of this study also supported legislative action and educational program planning at Purdue University. *ANIMAL TECHNICIANS IN INDIANA: REGISTRATION, NEEDS AND TRAINING SUMMARY*, J P LISACK, OFFICE OF MANPOWER STUDIES, 1973.

Planning for identification and control of veterinary technicians in Indiana resulted in passage of a new state law establishing Animal Technology as an occupation and providing for examination and registration of those persons possessing the proper qualifications by the Indiana State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. This was the first state law to certify technicians with the legal term, Animal Technician, Registered. The law was due to the joint efforts of the IVMA Legislative Committee, IVMA Animal Technician Committee, and the Indiana Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (see *A Century of Service, Veterinary Medicine in Indiana, 1884-1984*, Jack J Stockton, Ed, IVMA, 1984, pp.96-7).

1974 The curriculum was preplanned based on study of the Michigan State Animal Curriculum and space/staff available in the Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine. A committee of faculty visited the MSU program to study its strengths and weaknesses. The curriculum was designed to be fully integrated into the School of Veterinary Medicine including the clinics to maximize utilization of the resources available and be compatible with current Junior/Senior DVM student scheduling in the clinics.

1975 Indiana Legislature appropriated the fourth biennial request (\$259,000) at the end of the legislative session to fund Purdue's Animal Technology Program as the administrative responsibility of the School of Veterinary Medicine. The program was designed to be a "work-oriented, hands-on" curriculum to be completed in 18 consecutive months and was a "tribute to the forward thinking of those who brought it into being." (from A Century of Service, Veterinary Medicine in Indiana, 1884-1984, Jack J Stockton, Ed, IVMA, 1984, pp.140).

Dean Stockton and PU Office of Admissions Director, Charles Henry, announced that admissions applications were available until May 1 specifying that at least 50% of the class would be filled by students without previous college credits. Interviews were scheduled on the week of May 12 and notification of admission would occur on or before May 23. Ninety-six applications were received and ?? were interviewed.

The first class of 24 students admitted into Purdue's new program began classes on June 16, 1975(only one was lost -- academic reasons). The new program director recruited from Colby Community College (Kansas), Dr. Roger Lukens also began his duties on that day. While the summer courses had been already been planned, only the names and credit hours existed for the rest of the program's courses, labs and clinic rotations.

The program name was changed from Animal Technology to Veterinary Technology after the University administration objected to having another AT program on campus (Aviation Technology). No significant opposition to the name change occurred in Indiana, but it would be 14 years before it was adopted nationally by AVMA.

1976 The program was the first to be fully accredited by the AVMA before graduating any students. It was accredited in the fall and the first class graduated in December.

The leaders of the PU student organization, PVTA, met and planned the formation of the first state organization of Indiana Veterinary Technicians to occur soon after they graduated.

The first class graduated (23 of 24 admitted) on December 19 at the first annual graduation ceremony and reception held for December graduates at Purdue University. The annual ceremony was modified in 1983 to an awards ceremony and reception after President Beering decided to hold two campus wide commencements for December PU graduates.

1977 The Indiana Veterinary Technicians Association was formed in April by the development and adoption of a constitution, adoption of an insignia, and election of officers.

The first Fall Conference 15 of the 23 first class attended a one year class reunion

1983 The first hearing and cease and desist action occurred against an Indiana licensed veterinarian for calling a lay person a "veterinary technician" on September 28. This was judged in violation of the practice act law passed in 1979 that stated that "no one may lead anyone to believe that they are a

trained veterinary technician unless they are a Registered Veterinary Technician,” Indiana Law 15-5-1.1-35.

- 1989 Manpower Study 89-4 demonstrated the need for adding a BS degree option to the program.
- 1990 Eli Lilly & Company provided a gift of \$265,000 to fund a 25% expansion of the two-year program from 24 to 30 students per class and to support planning additional program development and expansion.
- 1997 First students graduated with an Associate of Science (AS) Degree. The Associate of Applied Science Degree was used from 1976-1996 (Marilyn Cheek-Mandernak was the first and Kimberly Zody the last of 482 VT graduates to receive the AAS degree).
- 1998 BS degree option was implemented based on the positive manpower study 89-4, the expanded SVM facilities, the 1990 Lilly gift that was renewed in 1992, and the rapidly growing demand for RVT’s in Indiana.

The DLP program was offered
 The first 6 graduates of the BS program

2006

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Roger Lukens, DVM, a Forefather of Veterinary Technology, Retires

After over 35 years as a Veterinary Technician Educator, Dr. Lukens, will retire. Upon entering practice after graduation from veterinary school at Kansas State University, Dr. Lukens saw the need for an educated and credentialed member of the veterinary health care team to support the veterinarian. To this end, he initiated the Veterinary Technology programs at Colby (Kansas) Community College and Purdue University, and continued to be a visionary in the field with setting the groundwork for the Bachelor Degree and Distance Learning Programs at Purdue. Dr. Lukens is an active member, historian and past president of the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators, and has served on various state and national committees related to Veterinary Technology. Dr. Lukens and his wife Trish will retire, to his boyhood home in Medicine Lodge, Kansas.



KSU-CVM Class of 1966



2015



MEDICINE LODGE – Roger Lee Lukens, 73, died Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at his residence. He was born June 25, 1941, in Alva, Okla., the son of the late Dale G. Lukens and Marjorie (Baier) Lukens.

On Dec. 26, 1962, he married Patricia “Trish” (Wood) Lukens in Medicine Lodge. She survives. Roger was valedictorian of Rural Grade School and of his senior class of 1959. He graduated cum laude of the 1966 class in Kansas State University School of Veterinary Medicine. In 1969, Roger began teaching at Colby Community College, setting up the Animal Health Technology program. In 1975, he accepted a position at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, where he became Assistant to the Dean of

Veterinary Medicine and Director of the Veterinary Technology program. He pioneered the veterinary technology programs at Colby Community College and Purdue. Dr. Lukens attended the Father’s House of Worship, Sun City, Kansas. He was a member of the Medicine Lodge Lions Club, the Medicine Lodge City Council, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA).

Surviving, in addition to his wife, Patricia “Trish” Lukens are four children, Natalie Heinstein of Albuquerque, N.M., Derek Lukens of Topeka, Melissa Lukens of Wichita, Alan Lukens of Colrain, Mass.; five grandchildren, Elke Heinstein, Matthew Heinstein, Gavin Knoll, Adam Lukens and Alex Lukens; three step-grandchildren, Preston Mallett, Makenna Mallett and Andy Sweeney; and a sister, Kaye Kuhn of Medicine Lodge.

Visitation will be held on Friday, May 15, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., with family present from 6 to 8 p.m. at Larrison Funeral Home, 120 E. Lincoln, Medicine Lodge. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 16, 2015, at United Methodist Church, Medicine Lodge, with Pastor Tom Walters officiating. Burial will be at Lodi Cemetery, Union Chapel Area near Medicine Lodge. Memorials may be made to the Medicine Lodge Lions Club, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.larrisonmortuary.com.

Iowa

Kansas

Kentucky

Louisiana

Maine

Maryland

Massachusetts

Michigan

Minnesota

Mississippi

Missouri

Montana

Nebraska

Nevada

New Hampshire

New Jersey

New Mexico

New York

North Carolina

North Dakota

Ohio

Oklahoma

Oregon

Pennsylvania

Rhode Island

South Carolina

South Dakota

Tennessee

Texas

Utah

Vermont

Virginia

Washington

West Virginia

Wisconsin

Wyoming

Suggested Sources of Information

- The Army Animal Care Specialist; Past, Present, and Future, The United States Army Medical Department Journal, January – March 2013, pp 11-20.
<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/FileDownloadpublic.aspx?docid=8d664ca2-8b64-439c-ac81-16aa73faf1ca>
- Collins WE, *Animal Health Technology: A Focus on the Past, Present and Future (Part 1 and 2)*, The Compendium on Continuing Education for The Animal Health Technician, Vol. 1, No. 1 and 2, January/February and March/April, Veterinary Learning Systems Co., Inc., Lawrence, NJ, 1980.
- USAF Veterinary Service Association, <http://www.908x0.com/>
- “On Formalizing Veterinary Technician Education: ‘A Nobel & Necessary Movement’” is published on pages 19-23 in Volume 36, Numbers 1 &2 May-November 2013 in *Veterinary Heritage Bulletin of the American Veterinary History Society* by Jacqueline M. Paritte, DVM. The publication is available from the Secretary-Treasurer of the American Veterinary Medical Society (www.avmhs.org), members of the Society and many veterinary college libraries.

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To submit historical information, please email material to: walshd@purdue.edu. Submit as a WORD document in a timeline format. Pictures are encouraged. Designate if this should be placed in the general section or in a state, province or countries other than the US or Canada section.

The input of veterinary technician/nursing programs, associations, regulatory agencies, and individuals is encouraged. All information is welcome.