

Press Release

For immediate Release

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U.S. One Health Commission Board Meets in Atlanta, Georgia - Updates Charter Statement

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The One Health Commission (OHC) Board of Directors (USA) met on February 27-28, 2014 in a working retreat funded and hosted by OHC Institutional member, the Georgia Aquarium. The Board reviewed and updated the OHC Mission and Vision statement.

Chartered as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the OHC works to enhance interdisciplinary collaborations among all health professions including physicians, veterinarians, nurses, public, clinical, environmental and other local/global health professionals to address health concerns that occur at the interface of these disciplines. The Commission recognizes and seeks to engage all prominent U.S. and international One Health organizations by connecting them in functional and productive collaborative networks. Following the retirement of former Commission CEO, Roger Mahr, DVM, Cheryl Stroud, DVM, PhD began serving as Executive Director and Deeanna Burleson, RN, MSN now also serves as Associate Executive Director.

The renewed Charter of the One Health Commission is “to educate and create networks to improve health outcomes and well-being of humans, animals and plants and to promote environmental resilience through a collaborative, global One Health approach.”

The charter statement was carefully constructed to include the many stakeholders and relevant components that make up the three-legged ‘stool’ of One Health; humans, animals and the environment. The word ‘plants’ was included to specifically draw attention to the importance of healthy crops for future food security

A newly-formed Communications Committee is currently developing plans to fulfill the Commission’s charter to create collaborative networks and educate across all professions and age groups, from kindergarten up, about One Health issues. Commission Board member Arthur L. Lage, DVM, DACVIM of Harvard’s Center for Comparative Medicine, is chairing the new committee.

Joann Lindenmayer, DVM, MPH, representative to the Commission for the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), was elected next Chair of the Board beginning in April, 2014. Immediate past Chair, Al Osbahr, M.D., representative for the American Medical Association, said “I am pleased that recent changes in the One Health Commission Board leadership and staff are energizing our mission to bring environmental health, human medicine, and veterinary medicine together to promote the concept of One Health”. Dr. Osbahr further concluded “We will work to strengthen One Health stakeholder networks and actions.”

For more information please visit <https://www.onehealthcommission.org/>, <https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/Pages/One-Health.aspx> and www.onehealthinitiative.com.