Integration on Animal welfare in the curriculum through use of animal welfare centres

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Animal welfare: From cure to prevention: TAIEX meeting Belgrade March 24-25
R. Macedonia

Population 2,010,000
Total area (in sq km) 25,713
Arable land: 650 000 ha
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University

- First state University, founded 1949
- 23 faculties (5 campuses), 10 institutes and 7 auxiliary members
- 36,000 students from Macedonia and 700 foreign students
- Over 2,600 lecturers and associates
- Over 100,000 graduates, 5,000 Master, 2,000 Doctoral degree
Why do we need?

Problems universities faced:

• Lack of information about AW
• Lack of academic compatibility
• Lack of trust among the institutions in academic respect
Consequence of the Bologna process!

- Globalization-increasing global dependency
- Demands from the labor market and the students
- Programs with an international recruitment will doubtlessly become increasingly significant
- Curricula development in collaboration with international partners
• Project: The Western Balkans University network for Animal welfare
Workshops held in Ohrid 27 –29 March 2008:
“Animal Welfare: The European Framework”
“The 3Rs concept – The Legal Framework on the protection of laboratory animals”
130 participants -12 countries
A steering committee will be established in each of the partner countries and will be composed…TBD
Animal welfare center

Aims and objectives:

 Development of training courses for undergraduate and graduate programmes to feed into a wider curriculum

 Development of stable framework for CPD and delivery of courses

 Research on animal welfare and protection practices

 **Support to implementation process of AW legislation**: 

 - Development of training courses on EU AW legislation and re-training of national experts

 - Policy advise and best practices

 - Operation of database
ESTABLISHING of

Animal welfare center

at faculty for Veterinary Medicine – Skopje

Decision of educational committee of the Faculty

Local partners

Network of associated organisations:
( collaboration with Macedonian veterinary chamber)

- Academic institutions (University Ss Cyril and Methodius 23 units)

- Government departments (contract with State veterinary office)

- Industries: Contract with AGRIA slaughterhouse
What makes interdisciplinary platform work?

- Transparency
- Agreements established between universities and stakeholders
- Mutual recognition of course syllabuses (undergraduate, postgraduate, CPD)
Added value for the institution

- Particulary, a tool for marketing
- Contract between universities/faculties and stackholders: student knows exactly what to expect
- May explicitly attract new students
- Opens the doors of the university: interaction with other institutions - quality development tool
Added value for the institution

• Increased co-operation between the veterinary faculty veterinary organisations and veterinary public administration

• Intensification of exchange of practice

• Curriculum innovation

• Recognition and quality assurance arrangements
IMPLEMENTATION in education

“Ss. Cyril and Methodius” University
Skopje, Macedonia

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

- Year of foundation: 1991
- Number of faculty members and associates: 39
- Undergraduate study programmes: 1
- Number of students of undergraduate studies: 352
- Number of graduated students since the foundation: 310
- Postgraduate study programmes: 5
- Number of postgraduate students: 30
- Number of master degrees awarded since the foundation: 14
- Number of doctorates awarded since the foundation: 12
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<td>Human animal interactions</td>
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COURSE: Developing a sustainable framework for the provision of training as required under legislation 

RED MEAT program

DAY 1
9.00-9.45  **Introduction**
- Understanding welfare and quality
- Moral and ethical concerns of slaughter of animals (five freedoms)
- EU legislation requirements
- Requirements of retailers to better meat quality
- Duties, skills and knowledge of AWO

**Theoretical part**
10.00-10.30  Understanding Animal behavior and handling, stockmanship, transport, loading and offloading of animals (species specific)
10.30-11.00  Coffee break
11.00-11.45  Environmental factors which affect Animal welfare (obstacles, hazards, sharp edges, wholes, light/shadows)
11.45-12.30  SOP’s and Documentation
12.30-13.30  Lunch
13.30-14.15  Abattoir lairage assessment, handleings methods for ensuring optimal conditions for the welfare of animals.
14.15-15.00  Restraint, Stunning methods and assessment of effective stunning
15.00-15.15  Coffee
15.15 -17.00  Slaughter, bleeding, shackling, hoisting of animals
DAY 2

Theoretical and Practical Part

09.30-10.15 Instruction for the use of restraining and stunning equipment (take into account the manufacturers’ recommendations);

10.15 -11.30 Carcass quality and meat quality related with Animal welfare

11.30-12.30 Lunch

12.30-15.00 Practical demonstration on spot

Monitoring and assessment of procedures at slaughterhouses- appropriate procedures to ensure that the AW criteria are not met, identification of any causes of bed AW and necessary changes to be made
Sustainability of CPD for official veterinarians

Support and integration with continuing education programs of CVO (request applied to the CVO)

(Establishment of national schemes for continuing education on animal welfare.)
The 3Rs concept – The legal framework for the Protection of Animals

Aims and objectives

• Improve standards for animals used in education and research.
• Increased role of ethics committees
• Prepare report and recommendations for the competent authorities

Activities:

Research on alternative methods to reduce and replace use of animals in clinical skills, surgery and other practical classes
Who is responsible for animal welfare?

- Farmers/farming industry
- Food retailers/food industry
- Citizens/consumers
- Government/enforcers
Ways to improve animal welfare education through:

Education - all involved

Research - need science to tell us what animals need, and to support calls for change

Advice, information, help (at individual and general level)
Involving the consumer/trade

Legislation
• Strengthen the European dimensions of education at all levels

• Promote cooperation and mobility through education

• Encourage innovation in education

• Promote equal opportunities in all sectors of education
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION