

**Emerging Diseases
Committee Report**

2008 NIAA Annual Meeting

Wednesday, April 2, 2008



The Emerging Diseases Committee met on Wednesday, April 2, 2008 from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM EST, during the NIAA 2008 Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana with 27 people present. Dr. Lanny Pace served as the Chair and the position of Vice Chair is vacant at this time.

The committee session focused on national/international animal and zoonotic disease surveillance systems. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to USDA's National Surveillance Unit and CDC's zoonotic disease surveillance.

Dr. Patricia Wakenell, University of California-Davis, presented "A Global Perspective on Avian Influenza." This was a joint presentation to the Emerging Diseases committee and the Poultry Health committee. The presentation gave an update on the H5N1 avian influenza outbreak from an international perspective.

Dr. Aaron Scott, USDA/APHIS.VS/CEAH National Surveillance Unit, presented "National Animal Health Surveillance System." Dr. Scott gave an overview of the USDA National Animal Health Surveillance System (NAHSS) and the National Surveillance Unit (NSU). Included in the presentation was the history and current status of the NAHSS and who the unit is integrated with other USDA units

Dr. Kate Glynn, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, presented "The Convergence of Human and Animal Health: Opportunities and Challenges." Dr. Glynn's presentation provided historical information about the relationship of ecological systems and animal agriculture with zoonotic diseases of humans and potential future scenarios for spread of diseases based on human population growth and the increasing need for animal protein production.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- No new resolutions
- Resolution 54, Training Veterinarians for Public Practice, was amended.
- No resolutions were removed.

General discussion:

There was discussion about a committee vice-chair.

Committee Session adjourned at 4:30 PM.