

**Charter of the  
University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association (SVMAA)  
Effective July 1, 2022**

**Mission:**

The mission of the SVMAA is to support the advancement of the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) through alumni engagement.

**Objectives:**

1. Serve as a voice and channel of communication between SVM alumni and the school.
2. Highlight alumni accomplishments and achievements through selection and granting of annual alumni awards.
3. Partner with the school in support of student networking and mentorship efforts.
4. Promote alumni support for school fundraising priorities including scholarships, facility and equipment improvements, and general fund support.
5. Encourage alumni participation in alumni-related events.
6. Support the school's efforts to promote the veterinary medical profession to current and potential students.

The SVMAA has no fiscal or policy authority over the SVM.

**Membership:**

All DVM, MS, and/or PhD alumni of the school may join the SVMAA upon their request. This includes graduates of the veterinary science program that was housed at the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. An annual donation of at least \$50 to a school of veterinary medicine fund held at the UW Foundation is strongly recommended, but not required. All SVMAA members are invited to listen to or attend alumni association meetings. Upon joining the SVMAA, members will be provided with a token of membership.

Membership in the SVMAA may be terminated by any of the following:

- Any member convicted of a felony in a court of law
- Any member whose license to practice veterinary medicine has been revoked by the State in which he/she practices
- Any member violating the AVMA Code of Ethics according to the judgment of the AMVA Executive Committee and a three-fourths majority vote from the SVMAA board

**Association Leadership:**

The SVMAA is led by a volunteer board of no more than 15 current members. Members may volunteer to join the board by contacting the association's board or the school's Associate Dean for Advancement and Administration. All association members may vote to approve SVMAA board members. Approval requires a simple majority. Voting may occur electronically.

Executive Committee of the SVMAA shall consist of the President and Secretary each holding renewable annual terms. The SVMAA board shall nominate and approve the positions of board president and secretary. Approval requires a simple majority of the SVMAA board quorum. Voting may occur electronically.

SVMAA board members serve three years terms. Terms are renewable and begin/end at the fall meeting. Resignation before a term ends (in writing) can be accepted by the board. SVMAA board members may be removed for non-attendance.

The school's Associate Dean for Advancement and Administration is an ex-officio member of the SVMAA board.

The president organizes and leads association meetings and is the primary liaison with the school's Associate Dean for Advancement and Administration. The secretary records and shares meeting notes and other key SVMAA written materials. The board may identify additional leadership or committee roles. Responsibilities for those roles will be outlined in writing at the time of enactment.

**Meetings:**

The SVMAA board will meet at least three times a year—either in person, virtually, or in a hybrid format. All association members are invited to listen to or attend the meetings. The board may open up discussion during the meeting to all association members at the board's discretion. Relevant speakers from outside of the SVMAA may be invited to participate in meetings.

**Quorum:**

A Quorum shall be required for board action or votes. A quorum shall be defined as one-half plus one of current active board (e.g. a quorum for a 12 person board will be 7). A quorum is required to hold a vote.

**Charter Amendments:**

Proposed SVMAA Charter amendments must be submitted in written form to the secretary, who shall notify all voting members by electronic mail of the proposed amendments before a scheduled or ad hoc meeting of the board. An amendment shall require approval by a majority of the board members at the meeting provided a quorum is met.

**Order of business:**

The order of business for meetings of the SVMAA Board shall, at the discretion of the president, be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Introduction of guests
3. Special announcements
4. Approval of minutes
5. Reports from committees
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Reports from the School of Veterinary Medicine
9. Other
10. Adjournment

Date Adopted: March 3, 2022