

September 19th 2016

Dear Pig Veterinary Society Members,

**Invitation to our joint Pig Veterinary Society-British Veterinary Poultry Association Autumn Meeting November 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> 2016, Edinburgh**

I am very pleased to invite you to join colleagues at the Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh for our autumn meeting which, for the first time, is being held jointly with the British Veterinary Poultry Association (BVPA). We are very grateful to our principal sponsor, Huvepharma, for generously sponsoring this meeting and look forward to their presentation on the first day. You are advised to book early as this is likely to be a popular meeting.

The scientific programme has been organised by Mandy Nevel (PVS) with David Welchman (President BVPA). As you will see, they have put together a great selection of relevant topics which cut across the interests of both pig and poultry veterinary medicine and industries. Amongst these are the challenges of efficient food production, surveillance systems, influenza, antimicrobial use and resistance, and issues in pig and poultry welfare. We are privileged to have colleagues with extensive expertise to speak to us on these issues and their presence at this meeting provides us with a great opportunity for informed debate at these sessions. This is particularly important at a time when there is both pressure and a need for change to help ensure that initiatives are scientifically and economically sound and promote improvements in pig and poultry health and welfare, while safeguarding public health. We are also very pleased that the Chief Veterinary Officer for the UK is coming to contribute on the challenge of the O'Neill report in the antimicrobial use and resistance session. The Government's response to the report and RUMA's subsequent press release are available on this link and it is worth taking time to read these: <http://www.ruma.org.uk/government-response-oneill-findings-welcomed-amid-calls-joined-leadership-capital-investment/>

A big thank you in advance to all our speakers for agreeing to come and participate.

We are delighted that Professor David Fraser, expert in animal welfare from the University of British Columbia, is going to be our after dinner speaker as well as presenting on Friday.

We are offering several free student registrations at this meeting, in return for their assistance with microphones and other general tasks, and so please spread the work amongst students you know who have an interest in pigs and ask them to contact me on the email address below.

If you know of colleagues who would like to attend this meeting who are not members of PVS or BVPA, please ask them to contact me on the email address below and their registration can be arranged as non-members via the PVS booking on-line.

I look forward to seeing you in November.

Yours sincerely,

*Susanna Williamson*

President Pig Veterinary Society

email: [president@pigvetsoc.org.uk](mailto:president@pigvetsoc.org.uk)

<http://www.pigvetsoc.org.uk/>

*The Pig Veterinary Society is a specialist division of the British Veterinary Association. The Pig Veterinary Society exists to assist its members to care for pigs, through dissemination of knowledge about health, disease, the pig's welfare and its management. PVS, as a society, is a champion for pig welfare while maintaining balance with the need to maintain viability.*