

OVAM Update

May 2012



During May we have been working behind the scenes on the OVAM project to continue implementing the enormous framework which is necessary for a project such as OVAM to be successful, below is a mention of just a few of the things which we have been busy with.



Paola and Bara at the RVC museum

Bara and Nick met with Paola Marchionni from JISC at the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) to discuss the project and progress. All the recent activities such as meetings with publishers, the workshop weekend and the museum structure were discussed. So far everything seems to be on track and satisfying from JISC's perspective.

The visit was completed by taking the opportunity to show Paola the 'real-life' anatomy museum which was the initial inspiration for OVAM.

Nick travelled down to Bristol to meet with Cathy Fuller from the anatomy department to discuss further how funding allocated for the Real 3D Anatomy project will be spent and what will be produced for the museum. The use of the 3D camera provides a unique opportunity to visualise specimens from all angles and provide a 3D reconstruction of these images for the digital viewing of specimens.

Whilst in Bristol Nick took the opportunity to meet with JISC Digital who will work with us to provide expert review and advice on the technical side of the project as well as helping to offer advice on structuring of the navigational design of the museum.

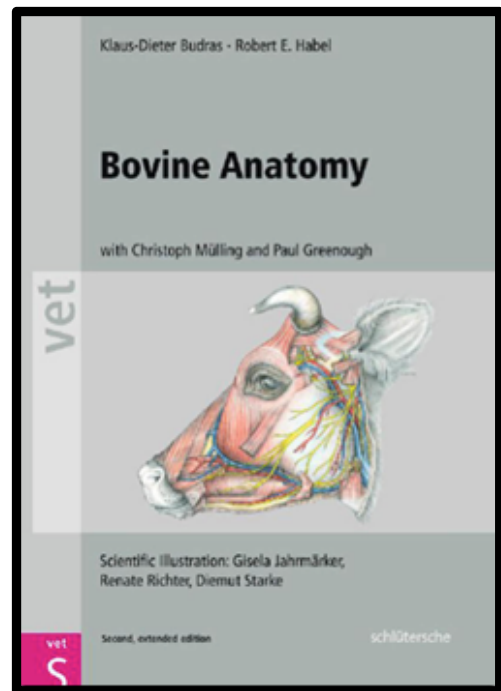
In order to keep up to date with the progress that our curators are making at their own schools identifying resources, we have organised a series of catch-up calls the first of which was at the end of May. For those who could not make this there will be another at the beginning of June.

Lots of interesting ideas were raised by the curators such as having an 'upload your own button' in the museum to allow students to contribute any images they may have created during their course, the creation of videos with audio to accompany more complicated topics as well as emails being sent to the whole year asking fellow students to suggest any particular specimens and resources which they found particularly useful.

We have received confirmation that the abstract which was submitted for the 3rd Veterinary Education Symposium in Edinburgh on 12th and 13th July for a workshop has been accepted. This will provide an exciting opportunity for us to present the project to a wider audience.

At the end of May an interim progress report had to be submitted to JISC providing updates on the running of project, fulfilment of objectives, problems encountered, outputs and deliverables and evaluation and impact to

After our meeting with Manson Publishing and identifying some texts from which we hope to use a percentage of for the museum, we have used one of the titles as a trial run for working out the best ways to select the most appropriate parts for the project. We feel that in this case the images will probably be the most valuable parts for inclusion in the museum and hope to be able to complement the resources contributed by schools by selecting those which will enhance resources or alternatively fill areas where there is limited material available.



As well as the partners which have been mentioned in previous updates we have also been in touch with the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University in India and we are hoping to arrange an online discussion with them over the next few weeks to decide how to organise such a long distance partnership effectively.

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nairobi in Kenya are also very interested in becoming involved with the project, which could prove to be the start of another exciting new partnership.

This is the third in our series of monthly newsletters to provide updates on the project, which we will be sending out on a monthly basis to all involved. This includes anatomists, students, publishers, funders and many more. Please let us know if you would like one of your colleagues to be added to this mailing list.



For more information on the project see its page on WikiVet at: <http://en.wikivet.net/OVAM>

And follow us on our blog at: <http://ovamproject.blogspot.co.uk/>

