

NOCTUA

SIVE

NOVA EX BIBLIOTHECA VETERINARIA

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Energy cast in bronze

The permanent exhibition of the Collection of Veterinary History has been enriched with a new colour: Dezső Fehér, DVM, honorary professor, the ex-director of the Hungarian Turf Enterprise donated more than fifty horse medals and statuettes to the museum. The majority of the collection is connected to races and events from several countries. All of them exalt the beauty of the horse and testify the commitment of horsemen. We would like to express our gratitude on this forum as well to Professor Fehér for his generous and precious donation.



Worth to celebrate

On the occasion of the World Veterinary Year (Vet2011) and the 225th academic year of Hungarian veterinary education the Collection of Veterinary History organized a new exhibition titled "World renowned

achievements of Hungarian veterinary science". Celebrations always give occasion for a bit of reckoning, beside the aim to take scientific achievements closer to the public. We collected the truly world famous and internationally known accomplishments of Hungarian veterinary science with an aspiration to present it in a lucid and profound way.

Hungarian veterinary science can be considered coeval with veterinary education. It is one branch of the tree that has sprouted in Lyon 250 years ago. The school founder Alexander Tolnay, a student of Wolstein in Vienna, brought home modern veterinary science and made it public both for students and the farmers in several Hungarian translations and original works. At that time the international embedment was natural. Science – as today – didn't know borders and from that day until now visiting foreign schools was an important method of gaining knowledge. It was like a scientific "noviciate". Our professors invited from the field of human medicine almost without exception visited Europe's most significant veterinary workshops before their inauguration.

The first part of the exhibition commemorates the giants of microbiology after whom diseases or pathogens were named. The

Hungarian Royal State Institute of Bacteriology which was established within the veterinary school in 1891 played a great role in the discovery of the Preisz-Nocard bacteria (*Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*), the Aujeszky, Marek, Köves and Derzsy diseases, as well as the Bartha-strain, since it was a modern workshop of microbiology that already gained international acknowledgement in the Paris World Expo of 1900. The new two-storey building, beside its modern equipment also had stables in which the sick and the experimental animals could be kept separated.

Not only diseases bear the names of Hungarian scientists: they contributed to the development of several fields. The third showcase introduces intellectual "innovations" and the next two present equipment developed by Hungarian veterinarians. István Rátz and Sándor Kotlán – our two outstanding parasitologists – found and described new parasite species. In the early 1930's Marek, Wellmann and Urbányi examined rachitis and created a formula used for defining the so-called earth alcalycity of feeds pointing out that in order to compensate the characteristically slight acidity of metabolism it is beneficial to introduce a slightly base diet. Their discovery was lost in the mist of time and decades later the

“base diet” became a fashionable focus of interest. The so-called von Kossa reaction is a still used procedure for examining calcification; and Károly Jármai became a widely acknowledged veterinary pathologist by the examination of transmissible viral tumors (fowl leucosis, cutaneous papillomatosis of cattle). Mihály Berrár devised a simple procedure (the myopic spot) to test the short sightedness of horses. Technical innovations mainly served the improvement of surgical and obstetric instruments for safer and more efficient interventions. The plessimeter improved by Azary, knives and emasculators can be seen as well as a model of Gyula Magyary-Kossa’s gas chamber and its patent.

Speaking about great achievements of Hungarian veterinary science the work of Hutýra and Marek must be mentioned. Their international prestige was substantiated by their handbook of veterinary pathology, which was translated to 11 languages, had countless editions and won the Budapest-prize. Our museum’s foreign visitors sometimes still remember it as their textbook.



The accomplishments of Hutýra which mainly prove his foresightedness and organizational and managerial skills were not always

spectacular, however, they determined the advancement of Hungarian veterinary science and veterinary education. He had a significant role in the establishment of the Institute of Bacteriology. His efforts raised the level of education to scientific standard of the period and he managed to recruit a fantastic team of professors. His international prestige, connections and acknowledgement were in good use of our institution and the veterinary system alike. Hutýra considered these two as a unity and on every forum – for example on the Paris World Exhibition – he introduced them side by side not only in Hungarian, but in German and French, too.

By reviewing Marek’s life work - though he stayed a humble man, living for science – we can recognize a congenial problem solver. There is no other scientist that could take pride for leaving a permanent mark in every field of veterinary science. Beside the discovery of the Marek disease and its causative agent he discovered Distol the only effective medication against liver fluke for a long time; he realized that in some cases the symptoms of colic can be eliminated by a simple nasogastric tube; he constructed a rhinolaryngoscope; he dealt with the examination of the electrical irritability of the nervous system, he wrote an excellent book about clinical diagnostics; he had significant results concerning the etiology of rickets – and we could continue the list.

At the end of the 19th century veterinary service and veterinary education were presented to the public on two occasions : on the Millenary Exhibition (in 1896) and on the Paris World Fair of 1900. At Paris every visitor got two books in French. One of them described the veterinary

system while the other gave details of veterinary education in Hungary. At the exhibition, the international jury which the former director, Béla Tormay was a member of, awarded the exhibition of both the veterinary service and that of the college with Grad Prix, and Ferenc Hutýra got the gold medal for the excellent organization of the presentations and the exhibition guidebook. Seven of our teachers won the gold or silver medal of contributors. These achievements are shown at our recent exhibition. It is a great fortune that we could find several intact contemporary exhibits in the collections of our departments.

The international recognition of Hungarian veterinary education nowadays is based on the education of foreign students. The high interest, the growing student numbers prove that the standard of our institution is still high after 225 years, and Budapest is an attractive target, especially for the European students. We hope that they will take away a favorable idea about their modern apprenticeship.

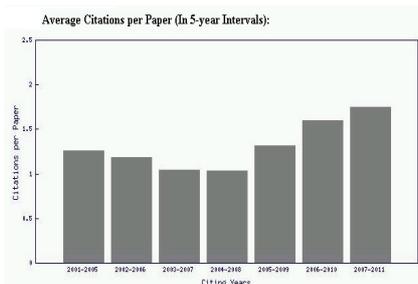
The exhibition can be visited in the Collection of Veterinary History until the 30th of July 2012.

Improving indicators

We often have the feeling that the “golden age” of the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries cannot be outstripped and we are likely to fell a decline setback at our own time. The accepted indicators of scientific output prove this is untrue. Both *Magyar Állatorvosok Lapja (Hungarian Veterinary Journal)* and *Acta Veterinaria Hungarica* were listed among the 21 (2009) and 32 journals (2010), published in Hungary, which have an impact factor. In 2010 the *Hungarian Veterinary Journal* had

0,3 (in 2009 0,2), *Acta Veterinaria Hungarica* had 1.264 (in 2009 0.642) as impact factor, so on the average, every third article of *Hungarian Veterinary Journal* has been cited (this is a great success for a Hungarian journal!), and in the case of *Acta Veterinaria Hungarica* every article has been cited more than once! When evaluating the discipline, we should note that veterinarians often publish in the other “actas” with IF as well: *Acta Biologica Hungarica*, *Acta Immunologica et Microbiologica Hungarica*, *Acta Zoologica*, *Acta Physiologica Hungarica*, and sometimes in *Élelmiszervizsgálati Közlemények (Journal of Food Investigation)*. We can learn this from the **Journal Citation Reports** database which now is available for the universities through EISZ.

Another resource based on impact factor calculation is available for us for the first time this year: **Essential Science Indicators** by means of which it is possible to measure the accomplishments of countries, best research centers, researchers, journals, based on citations in the retrospect of 10 years. For example the number of citations given to the articles of *Acta Veterinaria Hungarica* is the following since 2001:



If we observe the most important Hungarian studies in each field, we find the ones published in basic research and in significant international organs as members of international author teams. Szent István University also assumes a relatively modest part in the scientific forefront. Let’s not forget: it is a great challenge and struggle for a small country’s underfinanced researchers with a unique mother tongue to enter

to the invisible colleges of science. The improving judgment and status of Hungarian journals is a great opportunity which can highly contribute to the recognition of our scientific achievements by the world.

Scopus – finally!

After a long expectancy the Scopus database is finally available through EISZ within Science Direct (SciVerse). It processes and analyzes citations beside Web of Science, and it is attractive for researchers because it covers more European sources than WoS. However it is necessary to make further comparisons. Our experience is that new citations could occur compared to the so far known.

The use of the database is simple. We can search for the publications of an institution – for example our own faculty – and we can sort the results by the number of the received citations. By clicking on each authors name we can learn about his scientific “background”: for how long has he published and where, who are his co-authors, what is his citation status, his Hirsch-index, etc., and we can find all these information on one page, under the scientific evaluation.

Good news that Scopus citations may also be downloaded in Magyar Tudományos Művek Tára (Archive of Hungarian Scientific Works) (MTMT).

Of course, this database also evaluates the journals, moreover, it introduces new indicators on the <http://www.journalmetrics.com/> page: SNIP (Source Normalized Impact per Paper) and SJR (SCImago Journal Rank). According to these indicators *Acta Veterinaria Hungarica* is located in the middle of the list, but *Hungarian Veterinary Journal* is also “included”.

HuVetA

<http://huveta.univet.hu:8080/dspace>

Beside Magyar Tudományos Művek Tára (MTMT) (Archive of

Hungarian Scientific Works) which we already presented in Noctua 2010. 1. and which now contains nearly the all the publications of the faculty’s active employees – more and more universities strive to collect the full text version of scientific papers, instructional materials, theses and dissertations to make them accessible freely on the internet or on the university intranet, with the permission of the authors.

What are the advantages of these so called repositories?

- ◆It makes the institution’s scientific output easily accessible in one place, which enhances the institution’s prestige.

- ◆It makes the metadata and the full texts available for internet search engines, even if these are not freely accessible. This contributes to the dissemination of scientific achievements.

- ◆An MTMT-like databases can “harvest” freely accessible texts so they can be attached to their own system.

- ◆Repositories ensure wide access or sometimes an absolutely free access to several documents that could only be used in the reading room, including the articles published in expensive journals. (Most of these journals permit the authors to self-archive and disclose some version of their article.)

- ◆They raise the freedom of the authors in the use and dissemination of their own articles, and raise the number of citations given to them, this way they improve the scientific indicator numbers of the researchers’ work.

- ◆They fulfill the requirements of OTKA, the Doctoral Council and other central institutions.



With the modest resources available to us, we were preparing for years to

start this service for the Faculty of Veterinary-Science. With a modest contribution from a TÁMOP tender and the work of Katalin Miszori, Gábor Hajdu, and Dávid Juhász we were able to upload several theses, PhD-dissertations, library documents and a few historical documents to the database that is called HuVetA (Hungarian Veterinary Archive). The DSpace based repository works with an English interface, so momentarily we took it as main language, but we are working on the translation of the system. The present test version is constantly optimized, developed and new works are uploaded. However, we can already search or browse nearly 250 documents by department, title, author, subject and date.

We hope that our authors will be convinced about the benefits of this new form of publication and they will provide more and more of their works to HuVetA for the benefit of its users.

Horseman

György Vastagh Jr. created a masterpiece: a horseman holding back his horse for the Paris World Fair of 1900. He performed studies for the statue in the stud-farm of Bábolna. Vastagh had studied anatomy and created anatomical models of the horse's movement for Professor Zimmermann at the department of anatomy of the veterinary college. This aided him in the anatomically accurate representation of the prancing horse. The statue won a gold medal at the exhibition where for that matter another one hundred of his animal sculptures were featured. After the fair the *Horseman* was set in front of the so-called Royal Riding-School at the Buda Castle. The pedestal of the hammered copper work was designed by Alajos Hauszmann, the architect of the palace. The postcard about the statue (still at its original place) was sent in 1911 to a lady in Ostende, Belgium. The Second World War caused particularly dramatic destruction in the palace and the statue was also

seriously damaged. The renovation that lasted for decades destroyed its original environment and it was set to its new place only in 1983, to the center of the so-called Hunyadi courtyard, in front of the entrance of the Hungarian National Gallery.



Photo exhibition

This year photographs by János Perényi, DVM can be seen in the reading room. The exhibition is entitled: *Tradition and modernity - Genres from the Large Animal Clinic, Üllő*. Spectators can observe the ancient method of trepanation and one of the most modern laparoscopic surgeries.

Judit Kosáry – Pál Scheiber: Organic chemistry

With their textbook, Professor Judit Kosáry and Professor Pál Scheiber intend to present a textbook in organic chemistry for students who do not major in chemistry/chemical engineering. Regarding the special needs of these students, this present volume has a modest volume as compared to the usual chemistry books, widely considering the important requirement of being learnable.

The authors highly emphasize the introduction of different types of organic compounds classified by function groups and the explained reactions between these, with the definite didactic goal to make clear the essentials of organic chemistry and its inner context, and that through this, organic chemistry would represent a logical, learnable modern science for the readers instead of being a pile of unmanageable millions of organic compounds. In addition they discussing closely the chemistry of biomolecules and with this they wish to give indispensable knowledge to the university students who are studying applied life-sciences.

On one hand the book with its contents contributes to the knowledge material of some of the training requirements, on the other hand it grants basis to successfully attain more organic chemistry based courses (biochemistry, physiology, food chemistry, animal nutrition, environment chemistry, toxicology, etc.).