

Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia thinks big to widen reach

The journal's new European Editor-in-Chief, Rachel Bennett, says that podcasts and multiple language abstracts could be key ways of broadening access to this prestigious publication.

Congratulations on your recent appointment to *Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia* (VAA). Why were you keen to take on this role?

I've been a veterinary anaesthetist for over 25 years. After training in the United States, I've worked in academic institutions and private referral practices in several European countries. Last year I completed a PhD in clinical pharmacology, during which I trained in scientific writing and editing. I've been an assistant editor of VAA for the past three years and this felt like the right moment to further develop my editorial skills.

How do you view the role of VAA in the market?

VAA has been in existence for over 50 years and represents a wide array of individuals working in all areas of the discipline from all parts of the world. It continues to be a vehicle for veterinary anaesthetists and other individuals working in this field to publish the results of their research and disseminate them to the wider veterinary anaesthesia community.

Do you think VAA can support collaborative work on a global scale?

We do need to reach a wider audience. The obvious way to ensure this is open access. However, this has certain cost implications for prospective authors. In recent years, research output from China has exceeded that from the United States, so I believe we need to consider publishing abstracts in languages other than English.

I'd also be keen to provide alternative methods of accessing VAA, such as using podcasts for researchers to describe their findings.

How else can VAA contribute to the publishing industry and journal market?

To maintain the journal's role as the foremost publication in this discipline, it's vital to ensure we receive high-quality submissions. We need to recruit more reviewers.

Are you looking for submissions in any particular areas?

We lack submissions in the teaching of veterinary anaesthesia. The veterinary curriculum increases year-on-year, and teachers need to develop new and innovative methods of enhancing students' learning experience.

Chronic pain management is another expanding field. Pain clinics are becoming more popular and new drugs are being marketed for treatment of chronic pain.