OVAM Update
August and Early September 2012

During August the museum has started to take shape. Many of the different facets have started to fall into place, ready for the creation of the front displays within WikiVet.

Over the past month the remaining student curators for the museum partners started their work cataloguing their schools resources and working on their individual projects to collate some of these into a more complete resource.

Some student projects so far include:
- The skeletal structure of the equine forelimb
- Labeled whole horse and ox dissections
- Annotated equine lameness videos
- Biomechanics and functional anatomy of the equine limb
- The equine head
- The urinary system
- The cardiorespiratory system
- Interactive canine locomotor and visceral anatomy and avian and porcine anatomy
- The nervous system
- Exotic species and comparative skulls
- Extensive cataloguing of placental slides
- The locomotor system
- Feline musculoskeletal anatomy

Digital Slidebox a digital slide viewer, will be incorporated into the museum. This has a number of extremely useful features to view slides, including the ability to view slides at high magnifications, to move around the slide, alter the colour setting, as well as contrast and brightness all through the online viewer.

This software will provide the museum with access to hundreds of pathology slides, adding detail and complementing the existing resources which the museum will contain. The image to the right is an example of some of the functions which this slide viewer can provide.
We have recently been in touch with the member of the anatomy department at the University of Minnesota in America responsible for their anatomy website concerning the possibility of collaborating with them further. They are happy for links to their material to be included and keen to be associated with the project.

Yet another exciting new partner has joined the museum project. Massey University in New Zealand will also be collaborating and one of our student curators from Nottingham is involved in cataloguing and organising the resources which will be contributed. This new development is a result of the poster presentation about OVAM which Catrin Rutland from Nottingham kindly took to the EAVA Congress in Bulgaria. Shown to the right is an example of one of the many high quality images which will be contributed — an antler from a red deer at the velvet stage with annotated labels.

The end of the OVAM project is fast approaching. In order to publicise the museum we will be organising a launch event, which will be held in the afternoon to evening at the Royal Veterinary College, at the Camden Campus in London with a provisional date to be confirmed of Wednesday 14th November. It is planned to hold some short presentations and demonstrations and showcase some of the museum material as well as a short guided tour of the anatomy facilities. We would be delighted to see as many of you there as possible. If you would like to attend or know other colleagues from your school or from other universities which would like to attend then please let either Bara (bara@wikivet.net) or Gemma (gemma@wikivet.net) know.

This is the sixth in our series of monthly newsletters to provide updates on the project, which we send 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 any 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/