President’s Commentary

Mission: ACVPM certifies veterinarians globally who are dedicated to improving the health of animals, humans, and the environment

It is with great honor and a deep sense of responsibility that I assume the ACVPM Presidency to work with the dedicated individuals serving on the Executive Board. As Robert Orben said “Time flies. It’s up to you to be the navigator.” The ACVPM has been guided well through the past two years by the President, Dr Rick Hill, Immediate Past President, Dr Bickett-Weddle, and the rest of the Executive Board and I am excited to continue to navigate the ACVPM to be a stronger, more engaged, and more visible organization.

In order to know where we are going it is good to know where we stand. The Annual Membership meeting at the end of July gave a review of the current status of the ACVPM and the committee’s previous year’s accomplishments and upcoming year’s goals. While I would love to cover all of the amazing work accomplished and goals set for our committees, I will hit just a few highlights.

- **New ACVPM certified residency program**: The ACVPM has welcomed Mississippi State University’s Veterinary Population Medicine Residency as the third ACVPM certified residency program.
● **USAHA National Allied Organization**: This is an outcome of the 2019 strategic plan. The ACVPM has become a National Allied Organization with USAHA and was awarded a position on the USAHA Board of Directors. Dr Danelle Bickett-Weddle has been appointed the ACVPM USAHA representative. Her work with both organizations will continue to facilitate further partnership building in support of ACVPM initiatives. If you are attending USAHA, make sure to stop by the ACVPM reception being held there on October 8!

● **VOLUNTEER!** There were two task forces approved at the annual Executive Board meeting. Stay tuned for opportunities to volunteer at [https://acvpm.org/page/volunteer](https://acvpm.org/page/volunteer)!

● **Special Interest Group**: There is a new Special Interest Group (SIG), sustainability (see article below). Go to your profile (small link at the top of the page), and select “Groups”. You can search on the right for any SIGs you are interested in joining.

As we look to the future, the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan has been outlined and published. An incredible amount of work was put into it to ensure it reflected Diplomate responses on the most recent survey. The College’s four strategic goals are as follows:

- **INTEGRITY**: Safeguard integrity of the College
- **KNOWLEDGE**: Promote and advance the knowledge of veterinary preventive medicine
- **AWARENESS**: Increase global visibility and engagement with internal and external audiences
- **COLLEGE EXCELLENCE**: Optimize excellence in organizational structure and strategy

I encourage you to review the strategies under each of these goals at [https://acvpm.org/page/strategic_plan](https://acvpm.org/page/strategic_plan). The committees are excited to start working on the strategy tactics assigned to their committee. Keep an eye out for updates on all of their work!

I look forward to the coming year and would love to engage if you have any ideas, thoughts, comments, or even just want to have a chat!

Best,
Barbara

Barbara L Jones, DVM, MPH, Dipl. ACVPM
President, American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine
barbaraleejones@gmail.com
ACVPM Annual Meeting
Welcome To The College!
The ACVPM is proud to welcome the Diplomate Class of 2022.

Dr. Jennifer Abi Younes
Dr. Alecia Agner
Dr. Nicholas Anderson
Dr. Babafela Awosile
Dr. Alyssa Balzer
Dr. Adrienne Barrett
Dr. Kelly Black
Dr. Heather Bopes
Dr. Lara Brennecke
Dr. Hendrik Camphor
Dr. Sarah Capik
Dr. Anik Chavez
Dr. Kenneth Collins
Dr. Caitlin Cossaboom
Dr. Brandy Darby
Dr. Toria Davis-Foster
Dr. Nicola Di Girolamo
Dr. Eric Dombou
Dr. Gabrial Eddings
Dr. Rebecca Eschmann
Dr. Robert Fatzke
Dr. Kaitlin Foley
Dr. Ian Frye
Dr. Jessica Glomb
Dr. Valerie Goeman
Dr. Vanessa Grunkemeyer
Dr. Sierra Guynn
Dr. Bradley Heins
Dr. Julia Herman
Dr. Mitchell Hiscock
Dr. Maria-Richetta Hopkins
Dr. Theresa House
Dr. Laura Huber
Dr. Peony Kim
Dr. Troy Laidlow
Dr. Kimberly Lehman
Dr. Mary McLean
Dr. Janice Mladonicky
Dr. Jessica Monday
Dr. Petra Mottishaw
Dr. Jennifer Munhofen
Dr. Sylvia Murphy
Dr. Walt Orth
Dr. Richard Pereira
Dr. Elyse Persico
Dr. Alice Porco
Dr. Elizabeth Punger
Dr. Daniela Roberts
Dr. Jennifer Scaccianoce
Dr. Mary Smith
Dr. Dawn Spangler
Dr. Dharati Szymanski
Dr. Melissa Teague
Dr. Amy Thalacker
Dr. Merideth Van Wick

Career Center
As a means to provide greater visibility of job opportunities and to enhance networking potential for its Diplomates, the ACVPM has activated the “Career Center” feature on the ACVPM website. This feature not only allows Diplomates to search for career opportunities, but it also allows prospective employers to post these opportunities to our website.

If you are looking for a career change or if you have an opportunity within your organization that you feel would best be filled by an ACVPM Diplomate, please visit the “Career Center” at https://acvpm.org/networking/ and either search for or post a position.
ACVPM Diplomate Profiles

Elise Tatone, DVM, PHD, DACVPM
Senior Science Advisor at Health Canada
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

1. Tell us about your educational background and how you came to be a diplomate of the ACVPM?

I graduated with my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) in Ontario, Canada in 2011. After spending a short time in clinical practice I returned to OVC to pursue a PhD in Epidemiology from the Department of Population Medicine. My thesis focused on metabolic disease in dairy cattle during the transition period and allowed me to explore a number of study types and epidemiological tools, including clinical trials, systematic review and meta-analysis, and hypothesis generation using large data sets.

I have always enjoyed working on complex problems and examining issues from multiple perspectives. Preventive veterinary medicine and One Health embody the definition of complex problems. Studying to become a diplomate of the ACVPM allowed me to build upon my knowledge base in areas that I hadn’t previously emphasized, such as environmental health. Although my doctorate was in Epidemiology, I had little formal experience in infectious diseases, and being a diplomate of the ACVPM helps to bridge that gap, especially in diseases of zoonotic importance. The added accreditation and experiences that being a diplomate provides are feeding my desire to continue learning and are also assets when considering career options in the future.

2. What is your current job and what are your roles and responsibilities?

I currently work with the Veterinary Drugs Directorate (VDD), Health Canada. We are the group within the federal government responsible for the evaluation and authorization of veterinary drugs, similar to the Center for Veterinary Medicine, Food and Drugs Administration in the US.

I began with VDD as a clinical evaluator after completing my PhD in 2016 and since that time moved on to become a senior evaluator and am now the senior veterinary advisor. In my current role, I provide directorate-level advice on issues related to veterinary drug submissions, as well as, policy and regulatory matters. I often facilitate communication between veterinarians, industry stakeholders and non-veterinary policy-makers and regulators. I have been working remotely since March of 2020, although my surroundings don’t change, my days as the senior veterinary advisor are never boring. I move between meetings related to a variety of
subjects and participants. While it is challenging to work with people with different backgrounds and different perspectives, it taps into my desire to address complex problems and I can have a direct impact on regulations that, in the end, can improve animal, human, and environmental health.

3. What do you think the future holds for veterinary preventive medicine, and how can diplomates or prospective veterinarians prepare themselves?

Veterinary preventive medicine’s role in the world is only growing with the high level of globalization, the impact of climate change and an increasing degree of human-animal interaction and shared habitat. There is an increasing need to predict potential sources of zoonotic disease to reduce the number and severity of disease outbreaks. The use of biosecurity, vaccination and other preventive measures are essential to help reduce the need for antimicrobial use, in order to maintain the efficacy of the tools that we currently have available to treat infection. There is a recognition of the need to approach problems with a One Health lens, but there are continued difficulties in breaking down the silos. I think veterinarians are well-placed to adopt a One Health mindset since we learn very early in our education that one must assess a problem from multiple angles in order to find the right solution. Animals cannot tell us what is wrong. We use our communication skills, deductive reasoning, and assessment of the animal’s surroundings to put all of the pieces together. Diplomates of the ACVPM have further strengthened our multi-disciplinary approaches through expanding on various areas that intersect to help maintain the health of animal and human populations.

Veterinarians and diplomates can further prepare ourselves for the challenges ahead through staying curious and continuing to learn. We must also remember that we do not need to be experts in every field, we should use our networks when we need help, especially with the incredible resource of our fellow diplomates. We need to keep challenging ourselves and the systems that we work within to find new ways to approach problem solving.

4. Tell us about your most recent career endeavor in the veterinary profession or something that is a good example of the work you do or have done.

One of my recent projects is looking at ways to improve product retention and the availability of veterinary drugs for the Canadian market. Canada, in comparison to the US and Europe, is a very small market and may not provide the same financial incentive for drug companies to market products. Regardless of the difference in marketability, we face the same animal health challenges as other jurisdictions and our veterinarians and their patients deserve to have the same tools.

In September, I am starting a new project working with stakeholders to develop a better system to manage and communicate veterinary drug shortages. It is important for us to identify the various roles and responsibilities between regulators, pharmaceutical companies, and other stakeholders, so that we can better serve the population and minimize the impact of a disruption in supply. I enjoy working with our stakeholders to fully understand the various implications and concerns, while looking for practical solutions.
5. In which of the 5 major core areas of ACVPM do you focus your time?

The understanding of epidemiology and biostatistics has been vital to my ability to evaluate veterinary drug submissions and provide advice to pharmaceutical companies on how best to support their applications. It is still the area that I use most from a day-to-day perspective, however, as I have moved into more of an advisor role, the general knowledge of infectious disease, public health, food safety, and environmental health have all come into play. Being a diplomate of the ACVPM has provided an excellent background to understand multiple facets whenever considering the implication of policy and regulatory changes. One of my biggest strengths as a veterinarian in the public service is my ability to be a generalist; to be able to provide guidance related to different species, diseases, agricultural systems, and policy areas.

Rebecca Campagna, DVM, MPH, DACVPM
California Department of Public Health
Veterinary Public Health Section
Sacramento, California

1. Tell us about your educational background and how you came to be a diplomate of the ACVPM?

I graduated from the Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in 2011, and, after completing a small animal internship in Los Angeles, I went on to obtain my MPH with epidemiology specialization from UCLA in 2014. In veterinary school, I became interested in population medicine and public health, and I knew I wanted to pursue a public health career after my internship. I completed a Cal-EIS Fellowship at the California Department of Public Health/Veterinary Public Health Section from 2016-2017 and recently returned to the section as a public health veterinarian. I wanted to become a diplomate of the ACVPM to improve my competency in the areas of preventive medicine and join a community of highly motivated professionals with similar interests. I’ve always enjoyed learning, and I wanted to challenge myself by taking the ACVPM board exam. I got board certified in 2021 and am now considering applying to take the epidemiology specialty exam.

2. What is your current job and what are your roles and responsibilities?

I’m a veterinarian with the California Department of Public Health’s Veterinary Public Health Section, and I work closely with our state public health veterinarian. I’m a subject matter expert for several zoonotic diseases, including bioterrorism agents, and I consult with local health departments, private veterinarians, and the public. I collaborate with
public health officers and epidemiologists in our department and other state agencies to provide the veterinary perspective for cases of zoonotic diseases, assist with responses to disease incidents, develop policies and regulations, conduct epidemiological studies, and help develop public health messaging. I’m also responsible for monitoring surveillance data on diseases of public health significance and any detections of select agents in animals in California.

3. What do you think the future holds for veterinary preventive medicine, and how can diplomates or prospective veterinarians prepare themselves?

There are many ways for veterinarians to apply their knowledge and skills to the area of preventive medicine, and we know the value we can bring and the importance of collaborating with other disciplines. We just need to advocate for ourselves and show our potential. I still meet many people who don’t know about the role of veterinarians in public health, and I think it’s our responsibility to show what we can do. It’s important to stay up-to-date on issues affecting preventive medicine, keep learning, and be open to pursuing new fields or positions that you’ve never considered.

4. Tell us about your most recent career endeavor in the veterinary profession or something that is a good example of the work you do or have done.

In addition to my work related to infectious diseases at CDPH, I am involved in projects related to animal bite prevention. For many years, I’ve worked on a manuscript related to the epidemiology of animal bites in California, and I’m now collaborating with our health educator to translate the study's findings to outreach and education efforts. It's satisfying to see the application of research to public health messaging. It can be very rewarding to work on public health research projects, but it’s important to see that work applied to real life.

5. In which of the 5 major core areas of ACVPM do you focus your time?

These days, I focus mostly on infectious and parasitic diseases as well as epidemiology.
Distinguished Diplomate Award

A Distinguished Diplomate shall be a member in good standing who has made significant contributions to the specialty of veterinary preventive medicine. This year’s Distinguished Diplomate is a nationally recognized nonhuman primate veterinary subject matter expert with a long and prestigious career preventing the importation of diseases of public health concern through federal regulation of imported animals. After a career in both mixed animal private practice and research, this year’s awardee joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a staff veterinarian and then went on to serve as the Branch Chief of the Animal Resources Department. Dr. G. Gale Galland helped establish and lead the CDC Zoonoses Team and advocated for the inclusion of veterinarians in CDC’s workforce to strengthen their programs. She helped grow the program from a team of 1 medical doctor and 1 veterinarian to the current team of 7 veterinarians with several supporting staff members. The team that nominated Dr. Galland, also highlighted her long track record of recruiting, mentoring, and training the next generation of public health veterinarians. “Dr. Galland has served as a mentor for countless CDC veterinarians working in public health. She has always enthusiastically provided guidance and support while encouraging mentees to develop and grow their public health skill set and experiences.”

Helwig-Jennings Award

This award recognizes the significant and lasting contributions of Drs. John H. Helwig and William E. Jennings to the totality of veterinary preventive medicine. The award is presented to Diplomates who have rendered outstanding and prolonged service to the College. This year’s recipient’s veterinary practice career started at a rural mixed animal practice which evolved to an urban small animal practice offering complimentary medicine as a certified acupuncturist and chiropractor; as well as working as a shelter veterinarian and with wildlife rehabilitation centers. Following practice, a MS and PhD led to a career in
academia which included research, teaching, scientific writing and mentoring international scientists both in the U.S and in-country; including a year working on Global Disease Detection and Response in Cairo, Egypt as a civilian working for the CDC. Dr. Katie Steneroden is currently the Lead Public Health Veterinarian at the Center for Food Security and Public Health at Iowa State University focusing on preventive medicine for organic and alternative food animal producers. Dr. Steneroden’s ACVPM leadership activities began in 2012 with an appointment to the Ad Hoc NAVLE Item Writing Committee. For 10 years, she contributed to writing quality multiple choice questions about veterinary preventive medicine for the prestigious International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA). Her peers recognized her expertise, and she joined the Assessment Development Committee (ADC), the only member representing an ABVS specialty college. Her nominator noted that besides the years of contributions and service to the College, Dr. Steneroden is an outstanding veterinarian, teacher, and researcher. “These characteristics are only surpassed by her work ethic, ability to work with others, and engaging personality. ACVPM is lucky to have her as a Diplomate.

**Special Interest Groups (SIGS)**

**New ACVPM Special Interest Group Focused on Sustainability in Veterinary Medicine**

Increasingly our newsfeeds are filled with stories of environmental harms. Extreme weather, expansion of climate-sensitive pathogens, and mounting pollution are just a few of the hazards that impact the health of animals and people alike. In December 2019, the World Veterinary Association (WVA) released a statement with their position on the global climate crisis:

‘Veterinarians, in their role as advocates for animal health and welfare and public health, have a responsibility to protect ecosystem health and demand action to minimize climate change. Globally, veterinarians actively contribute to climate change mitigation and environmental protection in many ways, including, but not limited to, advising on acceptable use of resources (feed, manure, and animal by-products) and the appropriate handling of medical waste.’[1]

Climate action is one way veterinarians can contribute to efforts within the ‘Veterinary Sustainability Goals’ (figure 1, modified from Vet Sustain[2]). The mission of the ACVPM is to certify veterinarians globally who are “…dedicated to improving the health of animals, humans, and the environment.” As one of the most trusted professions, ACVPM Diplomates are poised to assist with mitigation and adaptation efforts around these topics and their connection to preventive medicine. We are excited to launch the ACVPM Sustainability Special Interest Group (S-SIG) to facilitate this work.
The kickoff team will host an introductory webinar this fall followed by the inaugural S-SIG meeting. Whether you are already engaged in the field of sustainability, passionate about the environment, or new to the idea entirely, we are looking for Diplomates to inform the direction and action of the ACVPM S-SIG community. **If you are interested in getting involved or receiving updates from the S-SIG, please add your name and contact information to this form. [https://forms.office.com/r/bEdEzdrjB3](https://forms.office.com/r/bEdEzdrjB3)**

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to members of the S-SIG kickoff team:

Colleen Duncan, colleen.duncan@colostate.edu  
Will Sander, wesander85@gmail.com  
Marguerite Pappaioanou, mpappa1821@gmail.com  
Katie Steneroden, ksteneroden@gmail.com  
Danielle Buttke, Danielle_buttke@nps.gov

1. **WVA Position on the Global climate Change Emergency**  
2. **Vet Sustain**

### Committee Corner

**Communications Committee**

The communications committee is always looking for contributions to the newsletter and social media. If you have seen something interesting or if you were involved in an exciting project or situation, we are always happy to include them in the upcoming newsletters! We are coming up on
the 75th anniversary of the ACVPM. If you have any interesting stories or information on the history of the college, please let us know and we would be happy to include them. For social media contributions, please contact acvpm-comm@iastate.edu and for newsletters contact Brent Moore (brent.moore@dshs.texas.gov). We also have a listserv, to join, you can start at the following link: https://acvpm.org/page/Listserv_enrollment.

Twitter  Facebook  Instagram

**Maintenance of Certification Committee**

As I’m sure you know by now, beginning in 2016, all certificates awarded by ACVPM will have to be renewed every 10 years. Members certified prior to 2016 are not required to renew, but are encouraged to do so. In order to ensure that members are prepared to complete the recertification process smoothly once their time arrives, the Maintenance of Certification Committee or MOCC has been working around the clock to streamline the recertification process. In fact, earlier this year we launched a short beta test of the online system being used to log recertification credits and will be using participant feedback to create resources to further improve the process. Stay tuned for updates.

In the meantime, here are a few action items that you can implement to ensure that you are ready to recertify when the time comes:

1. Familiarize yourself with the MOC SOP and other relevant resources on the MOC webpage. Be sure to review the video embedded in the MOC main page explaining the purpose and process to maintain your certification.
2. Devise a plan for reaching the 100 credit recertification requirement. We encourage members to focus on the “big ticket” items first (see the MOC SOP for more details on credit allocation). Note the MOCC will only review up to 100 credits. If additional credits are submitted they will not be reviewed/approved.
3. Contact us with questions and/or concerns: acvpm-maint-cert@iastate.edu

**Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee (FC) has been busy since the last update. I presented the semi-annual financial report at the annual meeting. ACVPM is financially sound and has established a robust investment plan. With the recent approval by you for allotting 15% of revenue toward non-certifying expenses such as CE webinars, portions of College overhead to support non-certifying activities, Listserv, enhanced communication, recognition of volunteers, partnerships, affiliations, etc. The FC will be determining those categories and allotting the related expenses for next year’s budget.

At the annual Executive Board (EB) meeting, the EB approved moving the secretary-related duties of the Secretary/Treasurer to ACVPM Staff. ACVPM financial stewardship has taken huge strides since the 2019 strategic planning meeting. Seven years ago when I assumed the position, the duties of the Secretary/Treasurer included taking monthly EB meeting minutes and reporting on ACVPM finances annually at the annual meeting, using un-reviewed data from the bookkeeper. The Treasurer now leads
monthly FC meetings and closely tracks all ACVPM revenue, expenses, and investments. With the new 2022 strategic planning meeting goals, the Treasurer will be leading other efforts which you Diplomates have voiced support for. The planned move to seek additional funding streams (restricted and unrestricted) and to fund non-certifying activities along with maintaining extensive oversight over ACVPM finances, the Treasurer is a full-time position by itself.

We continue to meet 1-2 hours monthly to approve the monthly financial reports and to analyze data, discuss proposals, and to draft strategic financial policies to meet ACVPM goals.

Thanks, and please feel free to contact me if you have specific questions regarding any ACVPM financial issues or concerns!

Tom

Thomas J. Doker, DVM, MPH, DACVPM (Epidemiology), CPH
Secretary/Treasurer and Chair, FC
thomas.doker@gmail.com
acvpm-finance@iastate.edu

Internal Affairs Committee

The IAC would like to thank Dr. Sarah Speth for her four years of service. The IAC flourished under her leadership and the remaining members are thankful for her time and dedication to the committee. We also welcome our newest member, Dr. Ethel Taylor. Dr. Taylor brings a new perspective and an array of experiences that the IAC is looking forward to garnering for the benefit of both the IAC and ACVPM.

The 2022 - 2023 IAC voting members include: Dr. Stacey Schwabenlander (chair), Dr. Robert Lavan, Dr. Sean Stockwell, and Dr. Ethel Taylor.

One of the IAC’s major responsibilities every three years is putting together the Triennial Report, which will be due this year, along with maintaining both the ByLaws and Constitution. Expect to hear from one of us regarding any needs for either of these tasks in the near future!

Please reach out with questions for the IAC using acvpm-int-affairs@iastate.edu.

Ad Hoc Partners Committee

The Ad Hoc Partners Committee has worked hard over the past two years to build collaborative relationships with NAFV, AAFSPHV, and USAHA and explore possible collaborations with other organizations. Because of the overlap in committee tasks, the Membership and Outreach Committee will take over the tasks of the Partners Committee. The Ad Hoc Partners Committee has enjoyed the opportunity to work with these organizations.

Membership and Outreach Committee

The Membership and Outreach Committee would like to thank our outgoing Chair, Dr. Jennifer Wishnie, for her leadership and guidance throughout the past year. Thankfully, we will continue to be able to use her as
a resource. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our newest committee member, Dr. Sarah Watkins. In this upcoming year, the M & O committee plans to continue to modify and improve the mentoring program for exam candidates. A reminder to all diplomates to indicate if you are interested in serving as a mentor to an exam candidate in your ACVPM profile. We are also looking for diplomates to present “Lunch and Learns” at the various veterinary colleges promoting the ACVPM. We had good success over this past year with vet school instructors incorporating the presentation into their public health lectures. A PowerPoint is available and we would gladly welcome any volunteers. If you are interested in participating please reach out at acvpm-member-outreach@iastate.edu

**Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)**

After several months of member/external surveys and strategic planning meetings, the Executive Board presented the “final” version of the College’s 2022-2025 Strategic Plan at our July 30, 2022 Annual Diplomate Meeting in Philadelphia/Virtual. If you didn’t get a chance to attend, the Strategic Planning Committee presentation on the strategic roadmap is found on slides 25-45 of the Annual Diplomate Meeting slide deck found on the [ACVPM Annual Reports](#) website.

In summary, the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan includes four (4) main strategic Goals (Integrity, Awareness, Knowledge, and College Excellence) with 3-4 key Strategies for each Goal. Specific Tactics have been developed and prioritized for each Strategy. Below this article is the ACVPM’s 2022-2025 Strategic Plan.

These Tactics will guide future activities of College Committees and Task Forces and will provide many opportunities for Diplomates that may want to get involved in the strategic activities of the College. If you are interested in shaping the future of the College, recruitment notices will be posted in the near future. Tactic leaders will track and report progress and challenges to the Strategic Planning Committee and the Executive Board.

Thanks to the efforts of last year’s Strategic Planning Committee and Dr. Danelle Bickett-Weddle (Chair), the College has a bright future, and we will be positioned well for a celebration of our 75th anniversary in 2025. Feel free to reach out with any questions.

Rick Hill (Chair), on behalf of the 2022-23 Strategic Planning Committee (acvpm-strat-plan@iastate.edu)

**Strategic Planning Committee**

- Communications Committee - Stephanie Wire
- Continuing Education - Bob Larson
- Examinations Committee - Reid Harvey
- Secretary/Treasurer - Tom Doker
- Internal Affairs Committee - Bob Lavan
- Marketing - Peggy Brinkman
- Maintenance of Certification - Marianne Martinson
- Membership & Outreach - Morgan Mander
- Epidemiology Specialty - Sean Altekruse
- VSOC - Suzanne Todd
- President - Barbara Jones
- President-Elect - Kristen Voehl
- Councilor - Danielle Stanek
American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (ACVPM)

Mission Statement
ACVPM certifies veterinarians globally who are dedicated to improving the health of animals, humans, and the environment.

Strategic Plan Framework 2022-2025

Goals and Strategies

INTEGRITY: Safeguard the integrity of the ACVPM and board certification
- Preserve the credibility and defensibility of the certification process
- Align certification activities with the American Board of Veterinary Specialties' standards and policies through the certification life cycle
- Certify the quality of veterinary preventive medicine and public health training programs
- Future: Align ACVPM culture and content to ensure continued relevance

AWARENESS: Increase global visibility and engagement with internal and external audiences
- Maximize involvement of Diplomates and communicate value to Candidates
- Increase recognition of the ACVPM and credentials of Diplomates to external audiences
- Future: Collaborate with synergistic preventive medicine organizations

KNOWLEDGE: Promote and advance the knowledge of veterinary preventive medicine
- Develop and promote resources to improve the health of animals, humans, and the environment
- Position the ACVPM to share knowledge and expertise with audiences seeking education
- Future: Support opportunities that align with the ACVPM Model Curriculum core competencies

COLLEGE EXCELLENCE: Optimize excellence in organizational structure and strategy
- Promote excellence in volunteer leadership on the Executive Board and Committees
- Be mindful stewards of ACVPM's financial assets
- Maintain the professional staffing, tools, and technology to efficiently carry out ACVPM functions
- Future: Create an endowment to expand veterinary preventive medicine knowledge and opportunities

Tactics have been developed and prioritized for each strategy. These guide future activities of ACVPM Committees and Task Forces. Each tactic has one or more leaders who will track and report progress and challenges to the Strategic Planning Committee.
Epidemiology Specialty Update

Meet an Epi Specialty Diplomate

Emi Kate Saito, VMD MSPH MBA DACVPM (Epidemiology)
Senior Manager Patient Outcome Improvement
Banfield® Pet Hospital, Vancouver WA (USA)

Born and raised in Pittsburgh PA, I have had a meandering (or serendipitous) career. Thinking I wanted to be a field biologist, I attended the University of Wisconsin – Madison, obtaining my bachelor’s degree in Zoology and Biological Aspects of Conservation. I somehow managed to get into vet school at the University of Pennsylvania, despite never having stepped inside a veterinary clinic (either as client or employee) – during that time I was introduced to epidemiology. Given my undergraduate studies focused on wildlife ecology, it’s not terribly surprising that epidemiology became my new obsession. With an interest in species-specificity of infectious diseases, I obtained an MSPH in epidemiology from Emory University. I was fortunate to work with Dr. Peter Schantz at the CDC for my master’s thesis and as a student intern in one of county health departments in Atlanta on West Nile virus (WNV) preparedness (education and surveillance) for a then-novel virus that was rapidly spreading in the US and was expected to arrive in Atlanta that summer (2001). I then joined the USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC), working as their national WNV coordinator, working with local, state and federal officials to detect the virus in dead wild birds. Subsequently, a too-cool-to-turn-down opportunity arose to join the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health working in surveillance for regulatory diseases in livestock and poultry, species I never previously in my life imagined I would be focused on. During that time, I obtained diplomate status (2008) and did some fun stuff with constant intellectual stimulation on how to think about epidemiology differently than I had been trained. What I learned about myself is that I thrive on figuring out how to use existing methods/technologies in different ways to meet gaps in the animal health side, regardless of the species.

I distinctly recall the 2009 AVMA conference in Seattle, after sitting for the Epidemiology specialty exam, having dinner with a few friends, where Dr. Eric Ebel jokingly (I think) asked “So, what’s next?” and when I mentioned I was thinking of an MBA, I heard a strong “You should totally do it!” I admit I was sort of hoping that Drs. Tom and Ellen Kasari would tell me that it was not worthwhile and that I could stop this credentialing thing. So, this perpetual learner went on to obtain an MBA from the University of Colorado in 2012 (and yes, it was worth it!). I subsequently returned to the small animal medicine world, accepting a position at Banfield® Pet Hospital headquarters (Central Team Support), in a supercool position of working with the MARS pet nutrition brands (e.g., Royal Canin, Nutro, Greenies) leveraging Banfield pet health data to better understand pet health trends of importance to their businesses. In 2018, I pivoted roles to be more Banfield-facing, leveraging data to support quality of care in Banfield hospitals.
My current role is as the Senior Manager Patient Outcome Improvement. I currently am enrolled at Thomas Jefferson University in their MS program in Applied Health Economics and Outcomes Research (AHEOR) to better understand what might be transferrable from the human health to the companion animal space. Our ultimate goal when we talk about patient outcome improvement is to provide real-world data (RWD) to support decision making on the best treatment option(s) for the outcome appropriate for each pet and the pet owner based on their needs, expectations, and resources. Bigger picture thinking also includes using RWD to support our Formulary team as they review products to keep or add to our hospitals’ toolbox.

It’s an exciting time to be a veterinarian and a VPM diplomate, in my mind! While WNV and the 2006 influenza pandemic helped raise awareness, I think the current SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has significantly raised the status of veterinarians for what we can contribute to public health and preventive medicine. While I don’t wish for more pandemics (I’m looking at you, monkeypox), I hope that the momentum from the last couple of years continues.

My last words, particularly to early career veterinarians – as you can see from my career path, it is ok to not have a clear set goal or plan on how to obtain it. Once you identify what you are passionate about and why you have that passion, then follow it! Read research publications, reach out to and build a multi-disciplinary network, and pursue opportunities to get involved. The world really is your oyster now more than ever!

In Memoriam

Diplomates past and present are important to us, and it always hits home hard when we hear of the passing of one of our esteemed colleagues. The ‘In Memoriam’ section aims to keep our members updated and serves as a memorial to our deceased members, and provide an opportunity for colleagues to remember and share their experiences and memories.

Please send notices, write-ups, and links to the obituaries when available to: Dr. Erik Torring admin@acvpm.org, and Dr. Tom Berg evp@acvpm.org.
Reminder about our social media:

ACVPM has added outward facing social media for the public, students, and veterinarians interested in veterinary preventive medicine and the college. The Communications Committee would like to encourage all Diplomates to consider following us and sharing the sites with your networks!

Facebook Instagram Twitter

We will of course retain our inward facing groups, which are limited to Diplomates only. Please consider joining our Facebook group and/or LinkedIn private pages where we share interesting news, ACVPM announcements, and job postings.

LinkedIn Facebook

Also don’t forget to subscribe to the YouTube page for CE and more.

Contact Holly Richmond on the Communications Committee if you have any questions or have something to share hrichmond@savannahvet.com

Important Dates for the next issue:

Submissions for nominations for “Get to know a diplomate” - 1 November 2022
Next newsletter submission deadline - 10 November 2022
Next issue out 20 November 2022
Please forward to the Communications Committee, via email (brent.moore@dshs.texas.gov)