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MVMA-PAC MEMBERSHIP
MVMA LEGISLATIVE REPORT
STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE
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Dear MVMA members,

Hello, my name is Pat Hidalgo, and I am honored to be your MVMA president for 2018-19. My husband and I own a mixed animal practice in Amory. Our practice has two other Mississippi State alums, Dr. Erik Halbach, and Dr. Alana Owen. We all love Mississippi State and are thankful to have such a highly regarded institution within an hour’s drive.

Recently, the MVMA executive board completed its second Strategic Planning Session. The first one was completed in November 2014. At this session the Executive Board developed a plan to guide successive boards, committees, and management. At both planning meetings the board focused resources on three goals to advance the profession and serve the members: to develop a strong professional association, to help the members realize the value in becoming active association members, and to be advocates for veterinarians in government relations.

At the most recent planning session on September 20, we evaluated the success of goals established in 2014 and made some minor adjustments for the goals to 2019-2021. The strategies discussed were developed to help Mississippi veterinarians in their practice and professional lives. These goals could be more easily attained, if more members would become involved in the various task forces in our association. Involvement is needed for you to have your voices and opinions heard.

To the veterinarians that attend our summer and/or winter conferences, the members of the continuing education program task force work extremely hard at providing speakers and topics that are beneficial to the private practitioner. If you have ideas on topics you would like presented at either conference, please contact me or anyone on the CE task force. We would love to hear from you.

For those of you not familiar with the MVMA-PAC, it is the non-partisan political arm of the MVMA. Its primary purpose is to raise funds that are contributed to campaigns of candidates running for public office in Mississippi. When we pool our resources to rally with candidates who support our profession, the voice of the veterinary community becomes more powerful. Please consider contributing to the MVMA-PAC. Issues such as pharmacy and vaccination, ownership vs. guardianship, animal welfare, practice and business legislation, all affect the private practitioners and their economic stability, and we need a friend that will lobby on our behalf.

Veterinary medicine is changing, and it is imperative that we stick together and face the changes head on. Topics such as staggering student debt, corporate vs private practice, and online pharmacies have all changed the way we practice. Our profession will flourish only if we stick together and work towards a common goal. So, please become involved in your professional association.

Veterinary medicine has been a major part of my life, and I am thankful to be a part of this profession. It is my hope that recent graduates and future graduates will continue to be involved and love this profession the way I do. If I can be of assistance, please contact me.

Pat Hidalgo, DVM

Mission: To promote the importance of the veterinarian as a medical professional protecting animal and public health.
The veterinary profession is constantly changing. Legislation pertaining to medical professionals and small business owners are in the forefront more and more these days. If you become aware of a problem or have issues pertaining to the veterinary profession, please do not hesitate to contact your district representative.

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Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association

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The MVMA offers opportunities to expand your network and build professional relationships that will benefit you and your practice.

Website - www.msvet.org - The MVMA website provides a wealth of information for members including the membership directory, CE opportunities, relief veterinarian options, classified ads and other tools for the veterinarian on this site. Take a moment to look around at all the resources here for you.

MVMA Staff - The MVMA staff is dedicated and eager to assist you with any questions or help you find resources. If they don’t know the answer they will do the research and find it for you. Call them at 662-323-5057 or send them an email.

Continuing Education - At the annual Winter Conference and Summer Conference you can stay on top of veterinary medicine in Mississippi by meeting with your colleagues and hearing world-class speakers at the same time. MVMA members receive a registration discount.

Educational Webinars – another form of continuing education, available to MVMA members through the MVMA website. There are also links to the required USDA National Veterinary Accreditation modules on the website.

Legislative Representation - The voice of many is more powerful than the voice of one. The MVMA represents the interests of veterinarians across the state. This is a powerful voice that gets work done to benefit you in the legislature and other government bodies. The MVMA Legislative Task Force along with our legislative consultant, Harry Dendy, tracks bills related to animal legislation with the Executive Board reviewing and deciding positions.

Member Participation - The MVMA is for veterinarians, and run by veterinarians. The Executive Board, elected by the membership, along with MVMA Task Forces look out for your interests. Your participation is critical in helping the MVMA be successful. When a key issue in veterinary medicine surfaces, members have peace of mind knowing a group of their peers is working to address it.

The Mississippi Veterinarian magazine is the association’s official publication dedicated to keeping members informed on veterinary issues. Brought to you in full-color, this quality magazine brings the latest news and trends from around the state, along with feature articles about your fellow MVMA members.

E-Newsletters - The MVMA E-Newsletter and Legislative Updates are broadcast via email to keep you abreast of current issues as they arise. The e-newsletter and urgent-issue Member Alerts will keep you informed on high-priority issues like pet food recalls, disease outbreaks and other emergencies.

Free Online Ad for Relief Veterinarians - Relief veterinarians who are members receive a free listing on the MVMA website, making it easier for members to find timely help on short notice or long-term help for an illness or extended travel.

"Find-A-Vet” for Pet Owners - Pet owners have the ability to locate an MVMA member veterinarian by searching by name, city or county. The public view will contain the MVMA members’ clinic address and phone number. A member may opt out of this feature at any time.
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Advocacy

- Update veterinary community to new laws and regulations.
- Speak to news media on your behalf.
- Impact state legislation and regulation.
- Educate lawmakers and the public to veterinary views and concerns.
- Monitor Mississippi legislation affecting veterinary medicine in our state.

NEXT STEP: Donate to the MVMA's Political Action Committee (PAC).

Community

- Build your network of professional colleagues across the state.
- Develop leadership skills by serving on MVMA task forces.
- Receive personal support from MVMA staff by phone or online.
- Create lasting relationships with fellow animal lovers.
- Collaborate on current topics via MVMA VetChat to be launched in December 2019.
- Learn from individuals in all disciplines of veterinary medicine.

NEXT STEP: Join one of the task forces and get involved in the premier organization for veterinarians in the state.

Education

- Gain knowledge at the MVMA Winter and Summer Conferences.
- Save up to $100 on your conference registration.
- Access members-only informational resources from www.msvet.org.
- Strengthen professional skills through MVMA task forces and CE events.
- Stay informed of veterinary community activities through publications.

NEXT STEP: Register to attend the MVMA Winter Conference at www.msvet.org.
Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association & Dr. Harvey F. McCrory

Memorial Scholarship Award Recipients

Jessica Wilson

Michelle Riehm

Mary Hannah Lawrence

Kaitlyn Hennessy

Andrea Seitz
Scholarships & Awards

MVMA Veterinary Technician Scholarship Recipient, **Anabel Debruhl** pictured with Dr. Jack Smith, MVMA Vice President

MVMA Veterinary Technician Scholarship Recipient, **Sydney Saucier** pictured with Dr. Jack Smith, MVMA Vice President

Dr. Pat Hidalgo (MVMA President); Rebecca Price (MVMA Large Animal Award); Isaac Jumper (MVMA Economic & Performance Medicine Award); Brittany Curtis (MVMA Companion Award); Dr. Kevin Smith (MVMA Past President)
The MVMA is now seeking nominations for the Annual Awards. As usual, the association will present the Young Veterinarian of the Year and the Veterinarian of the Year. Before the honorees can be selected we need you to nominate them. Please review the criterion and complete the form below for the deserving friend or colleague and send it in to the MVMA office by January 1, 2019.

Once selected, award recipients will be notified and there will be a presentation during the Winter Conference. The nominator of the selected recipients will also be asked to attend the Winter Meeting to present the award.

**Young Veterinarian of the Year**: Individual must be a current member of the MVMA, have graduated within the last 8-10 years, be 40 years of age or younger, and demonstrated activity that has promoted and enhanced veterinary medicine within Mississippi.

**Veterinarian of the Year**: Individual must be a current member of the MVMA for at least 5 years and demonstrated activity that has promoted and enhanced veterinary medicine within Mississippi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR</th>
<th>YOUNG VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nominee_________________</td>
<td>Nominee_________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address_________________</td>
<td>Address_________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>City___________________ State_____ Zip__________</td>
<td>City___________________ State_____ Zip__________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Phone______________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year of Graduation_________</td>
<td>Year of Graduation_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterinary School__________</td>
<td>Veterinary School__________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialty or area of practice________________</td>
<td>Specialty or area of practice________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local, state and national committees served on/positions held</td>
<td>Local, state and national committees served on/positions held</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe nominee participation in promoting animal health and welfare</td>
<td>Describe nominee participation in promoting animal health and welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe any other activity which should make this individual a good candidate for the Veterinarian of the Year</td>
<td>Describe any other activity which should make this individual a good candidate for the Veterinarian of the Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nominated by
Veterinarian Name________________|
Phone________________|

Please return this form to MVMA no later than January 1, 2019.
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Run with the PAC

WHAT IS MVMA-PAC?

MVMA-PAC is the non-partisan political arm of the organization. It’s primary purpose is to raise funds that are contributed to campaigns of candidates running for public office in Mississippi. When we pool our resources to rally with candidates who support our profession, the voice of the veterinarian community proves more powerful. MVMA-PAC’s strength comes from Mississippi veterinarians who contribute their resources, enabling the MVMA to lobby with policy makers in our state.

BECOME A LEADER

Choose a level of giving that is comfortable for you. Let us recognize you for the veterinary leader that you are. Return the form below with your contribution.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the MVMA at (662) 323-5057 or email msvetmed@gmail.com.

As a veterinary leader, you know how important it is for our profession to impact public policy and awareness on animal health and welfare, zoonotic diseases, and small business issues. As veterinarians we speak more effectively when we speak collectively. One very effective way in which to ensure our voice is heard is to support the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association’s Political Action Committee.

CONTRIBUTION LEVELS

☐ PAC Backer $200
☐ Sustaining Member $300
☐ Contributing Member $50
☐ Member $25

Please send non-corporate checks only to MVMA-PAC, P.O. Box 395, Clinton, MS 39060. Thank you!
We launched a new and improved website in November and it’s easier than ever to navigate and stay up to date! It also features a mobile version. Check it out!
Prior to adjourning a motion was passed to adopt the new mission and strategic plan for 2019-2021, pending a final review of the report. The board sets the direction and task forces advance elements of each goal. The task forces aligned with the goals include:

- Continuing Education/Programs - Dr. Kent Holifield
- Budget and Finance - Dr. Stanley Robertson
- Government Affairs - Drs. Bob Filgo and Katie Ebers
- PAC - Drs. Bob Filgo and Katie Ebers
- Membership - Dr. Charles Edwards and District Representatives
- Nominating and Awards - Dr. Jack Smith

Mission

To promote the importance of the veterinarian as a medical professional protecting animal and public health.
Strategies

These strategies are ways to advance the goals and should be supported by performance metrics and timelines carried out by task forces, board and staff over a span of 2-3 years.

Voice of the Veterinarian - Advancing and protecting the practice and promoting good public policy.

• **Lobbying** - Amplify the presence and representation of the veterinary profession through the retained lobbyist.
• **PAC** - Improve influence and impact of the PAC by increasing contributions by members, using new ideas, leveraging customized approaches through the North, South and Central Districts. Annually raise $2,500 from professionals to support PAC contributions.
• **Grassroots Engagement** - Encourage members to be more engaged in governmental relations. Continue the Legislative Appreciation luncheon and consider if there is space to include more members. Identify who knows who among lawmakers, asking veterinarians to introduce and host lawmakers locally to improve understanding. Maintain effective channels of communication between members and association to receive input and share the issues.
• **Public Awareness of Veterinary** - Improve public awareness of the profession, animal issues, and resources available through veterinarians, AVMA and MVMA.

Value for Members - Providing relevant programs and services to benefit members.

• **Knowledge Delivery** - Use varied mechanisms to deliver knowledge through the annual conferences (winter and summer) and on-line resources. Evaluate the conferences to ensure relevant content, attendance and sustainable revenue.
• **Veterinary Team** - Provide opportunities for education, practice management tracks, and MVMA participation.
• **Awards and Recognition** - Recognize the veterinary team, analyzing the criteria for “young veterinarian of the year.” Transfer process from a board responsibility to that of the Nominations and Awards Task Force.
• **Social Media** - Maintain social media platforms to engage veterinary professionals and keep the public aware of the issues.
• **Resource Availability** - Connect members to AVMA resources, programs and expertise that support practice success.
• **Animal Disaster Relief Fund** - Make best use to the fund to benefit members.

Viability of the Association - Leading a dynamic professional association advancing Mississippi's veterinary community.

• **Membership Growth** - Continue membership growth to reach 800 members by 2021.
• **Communications** - Improve member and public communications of MVMA’s achievements and goals; making best use of the new website.
• **Governance** - Offer board support with an annual orientation and budget for access to an attorney if questions arise. Use dashboards for consistent reporting and tracking of programs.
• **Committees** - Align task forces with the three goals and rely on committee chairs to keep the board updated at meetings.
• **Resource Management** - Serve as excellent stewards of the finances. Develop a policy on the best use and rationale for savings.
CE CREDIT

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MEET YOUR CONSULTANT

Wendy S. Myers, CVJ, owns Communication Solutions for Veterinarians in Denver. Her consulting firm helps teams improve communication skills, client service and compliance. Communication Solutions for Veterinarians is a leader in phone-skills training. Wendy is a certified veterinary journalist and the author of five books, including 101 Communication Skills for Veterinary Teams.

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FEBRUARY 15
Change Your Approach: Every Month Is Dental Month

MARCH 15
Master the Art of Presenting Treatment Plans

APRIL 19
How to Train a New Receptionist

MAY 17
How to Tame Rude Clients

JUNE 21
Are Your Wiggle Words Killing Compliance?

JULY 19
Be an Energetic, Efficient Receptionist

AUGUST 16
Take the Fear Out of Anesthesia

SEPTEMBER 20
Get Clients to Accept Diagnostic Tests

OCTOBER 18
Callers Hate to Hold: Solutions to Manage Hold-Time

NOVEMBER 15
Be Efficient in the Exam Room

DECEMBER 20
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Reserve by 1/21/19

Special rates will be available until 1/21/2019, or until the group block is sold-out.
## 2019 MVMA WINTER CONFERENCE

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21 (4 HOURS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>GENERAL SESSIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm– 3:00 pm</td>
<td>GS-01 Dr. Gail Golab – AVMA topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm– 3:15 pm</td>
<td><strong>BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 pm– 5:15 pm</td>
<td>GS-02 Dr. Amanda Willey – FDA Antibiotic Stewardship and the new regulations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22 (8 HOURS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SMALL ANIMAL TRACK 1</th>
<th>SMALL ANIMAL TRACK 2</th>
<th>LARGE/FOOD ANIMAL</th>
<th>EQUINE</th>
<th>PRACTICE MANAGEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am – 9:30 am</td>
<td>SA01 - Geriatrics Dr. Laurie McCauley</td>
<td>SA05 - Critical Care Dr. Lenore Bacek</td>
<td>LA01 – Bull Breeding Soundness Exam; Morphologic abnormalities Dr. Chance Armstrong</td>
<td>EQ01 - Front Limb Lameness, Imaging &amp; Case Discussions Dr. Britta Leise</td>
<td>PM01 Topic TBA Wendy Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am – 9:45 am</td>
<td><strong>BREAK WITH THE EXHIBITORS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td>SA02 Laser Therapy Dr. Laurie McCauley</td>
<td>SA06 - Critical Care Dr. Lenore Bacek</td>
<td>LA02 - Hernia Repair in Food Animals; Diseases of the Bovine Foot Dr. Chance Armstrong</td>
<td>EQ02 - Front Limb Lameness, Imaging &amp; Case Discussions Laminitis Dr. Britta Leise</td>
<td>PM02 Topic TBA Wendy Myers</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 am – 1:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td>SA03 - Chronic Pain Dr. Laurie McCauley</td>
<td>SA07 - Renal Disease Dr. Andrew Bugbee</td>
<td>LA03 - Neurologic disease in cattle; Vaccination to prevent reproductive loss in cattle Dr. Benjamin Newcomer</td>
<td>EQ03 - Laminitis (continued) Hind Limb Lameness, Imaging &amp; Case Discussions Dr. Britta Leise</td>
<td>PM03 Topic TBA Wendy Myers</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 pm – 3:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15 pm – 5:15 pm</td>
<td>SA04- Laurie McCauley, DVM Rehab</td>
<td>SA08- Diabetes Management Andrew Bugbee, DVM</td>
<td>LA04 - Fetal programming – what happens to calves during gestation? Update on bovine neosporosis Dr. Benjamin Newcomer</td>
<td>EQ04 - Hind Limb Lameness, Imaging &amp; Case Discussions Dr. Britta Leise</td>
<td>PM04 Topic TBA Wendy Myers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mix & Mingle with Exhibitors & CVM Students @ 5:15-6:30pm
### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 (8 HOURS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SMALL ANIMAL TRACK 1</th>
<th>SMALL ANIMAL TRACK 2</th>
<th>LARGE/FOOD ANIMAL</th>
<th>ONE HEALTH</th>
<th>TECH TRACK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am – 9:30 am</td>
<td>SA09 - Heartworm Felines: Cats Are Not Small Dogs&lt;br&gt;Dr. Brian Patrick</td>
<td>SA13 - Feline pruritic skin disease&lt;br&gt;Dr. Juli Gunter</td>
<td>LA05</td>
<td>OH01&lt;br&gt;• One Health Hot Topics – Dr. Diana Care&lt;br&gt;• Preventing and Controlling Enzootic and Zoonotic Avian Influenza Viruses: Not a Mission Impossible – Dr. Henry Wan</td>
<td>TECH01&lt;br&gt;Hypertension&lt;br&gt;Dr. Tekla Lee-Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am – 9:45 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>OH02&lt;br&gt;• Emergency Response to Avian Influenza Outbreak in Mississippi – Dr. Jim Watson</td>
<td>TECH02&lt;br&gt;Hypertension&lt;br&gt;Dr. Brittany Thames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 am – 10:45 am</td>
<td>SA10 - To Bite or Not to Bite: What Is the Real Goal of Tick Control?&lt;br&gt;Dr. Brian Patrick</td>
<td>SA14 - atopy/food allergy crossovers&lt;br&gt;Dr. Juli Gunter</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am – 12:00 pm</td>
<td>MVMA BUSINESS MEETING &amp; LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00pm-3:00 pm</td>
<td>SA11- Canine Otitis Externa&lt;br&gt;Dr. Brian Patrick</td>
<td>SA15 - Food Allergy cont'd.&lt;br&gt;Dr. Juli Gunter</td>
<td>LA06 - Nutrition and toxicology in food animals&lt;br&gt;Dr. Steve Ensley</td>
<td>OH03&lt;br&gt;• Pet Ownership Increases Human Risk of Encountering Ticks - Dr. Katherine Feldman&lt;br&gt;• Interactive case studies at Maryland Dept of Health -- Dr. Katherine Feldman&lt;br&gt;• Global Updates on One Health&lt;br&gt;Dr. Margaret Khaitsa (2:00-2:30)&lt;br&gt;• Recent Trends in International Food Safety&lt;br&gt;Dr. Hart Bailey (2:30-3:00)</td>
<td>TECH03&lt;br&gt;Emergency&lt;br&gt;Kelly Cronin</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 pm-3:15 pm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 pm-5:15 pm</td>
<td>SA12- Which “S” is Best?&lt;br&gt;Tools to Better Interpret Culture and Sensitivity Data&lt;br&gt;Dr. Brian Patrick</td>
<td>SA17 - feline endocrinopathies and a potpourri of endocrine cases&lt;br&gt;Dr. Patty Latham</td>
<td>LA07 - Nutrition and toxicology in food animals (PART 2)&lt;br&gt;Dr. Steve Ensley</td>
<td>OH04&lt;br&gt;• Antibiotic Stewardship in Animal Populations&lt;br&gt;Dr. David R. Smith (3:15-3:45)&lt;br&gt;• Lessons from the Stanton Project&lt;br&gt;Dr. Kimberly Woodruff (3:45-4:00)&lt;br&gt;• Management of Zoonotic diseases in Shelter Medicine&lt;br&gt;Dr. Cooper Brookshire (4:00-4:30)&lt;br&gt;• Salmonella serotypes Found in the Poultry Production Continuum&lt;br&gt;Dr. Karen Galarneau (4:30-4:45)&lt;br&gt;• Students Abroad - A Look to the Future&lt;br&gt;Dr. Skip Jack (4:45-5:15)</td>
<td>TECH04&lt;br&gt;Emergency&lt;br&gt;Kelly Cronin</td>
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**Total CE Hours:** 20 for veterinarians; 8 for technicians
REGISTRATION FORM

2019 MVMA Winter Conference - February 21-23, 2019 - Mill Conference Center

Pre-registration deadline: January 21

ATTENDEE

Full Name: __________________________

FIRST Name for Badge: ______________________

Address: ________________________________

City/State/Zip: ____________________________

Phone: ________________________________

E-Mail: ________________________________

REGISTRATION FEE

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<tr>
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<th>before Jan 21</th>
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<tr>
<td>MVMA Member</td>
<td>$325</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td>MVMA Life Member</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterinarian (non-MVMA)</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<td>Technician (Sat only)</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Health Track only</td>
<td>$75</td>
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Proceedings are available on a PDF thumb drive for your computer or in printed booklets. Both contain notes from all conference tracks. Availability of proceedings not guaranteed after Jan. 21.

Select ONE (only one version available per attendee):

___ PDF Thumb Drive (FREE)   ___ Printed proceedings ($75)

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Please select the CE tracks you plan to attend on each day. Refer to agenda for session codes.

Thursday, February 21 (4 hours)
GS01   GS02

Friday, February 22 (8 hours)
SA01   SA05   LA01   EQ01   PM01
SA02   SA06   LA02   EQ02   PM02
SA03   SA07   LA03   EQ03   PM03
SA04   SA08   LA04   EQ04   PM04

Saturday, February 23 (8 hours)
SA09   SA13   *LA05(lab)   OH1   TECH1
SA10   SA14/15  LA06   OH2   TECH2
SA11   SA16   LA07   OH3   TECH3
SA12   SA17   OH4   TECH4

*Space limited to 30 participants

Registration Subtotal $___________
Printed Proceedings $___________
TOTAL: $___________

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NOTES:
1. Member pricing is for Mississippi VMA members only.
2. Conference proceedings are not guaranteed for on-site registrants.
3. Topics and/or speakers are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

CANCELLATION POLICY:
100% refund if requested in writing before January 10, 2019. 50% refund if requested in writing between January 10 and January 21, 2019. No refunds after January 21, 2019.

CE CREDITS
CE hours will be posted to your MVMA online account at the conclusion of the conference. Instructions on how to retrieve your proof of attendance will be in the conference packet at registration.

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT TO
MVMA WINTER CONFERENCE
PO Box 395
Clinton, MS 39060

Fax: 877-872-3731
or register online at www.msvet.org
In the summer of 2017, Dr. Katie Leech Ebers was named as one of 10 young veterinarians to the American Veterinary Medical Association’s Future Leaders Program. The yearlong program encompassed a series of workshops and a group project to enhance leadership skills for both the group and each individual. The group project is designed to provide resources for veterinarians on a pertinent current issue selected by the AVMA. Candidates have graduated within the past 15 years from an accredited veterinary school and are nominated for this honor.

This year’s topic was Animal Obesity. The group was tasked to make a “toolbox” that is accessible to veterinarians and can be found on the AVMA’s website at www.avma.org/animalobesity. The toolbox includes a copyrighted video for AVMA member use, consolidated resources, and a packet of questionnaire material focused on behavior change theory. The group unveiled their toolbox during AVMA’s Convention in Denver in July. Other sessions included a One Health panel and a communication session to highlight their change theory questionnaire.

Ebers was nominated by the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association due to her leadership on the Programming Planning Task Force as well as her service as an at-large representative to the MVMA Board of Directors.
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