



AMERICAN COLLEGE  
OF THERIOGENOLOGISTS

# Newsletter

Spring 2014



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[Therio Conference news](#)

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[Early bird rates end June 16!](#)

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Dear Colleagues,

It is finally Spring and I sit at my desk a bit distracted as I look out the window to relish over the thaw that has finally come to the Mid-Atlantic. Sunny days provide sufficient warmth to leave one's overcoat unbuttoned as you move about outside. The snow has melted enough to allow exposure of grass, which in turn has excited our resident herd of horses as they meander about the pasture with their muzzles to the ground grazing on newfound growth.

Since I last wrote, the BOD has wrapped up its winter business meeting in Portland, Oregon. My first time to the northwest, I found Portland to be an excellent venue choice for the upcoming SFT Annual Therio Conference in August. The hotel is located in a vibrant portion of downtown with an abundance of walking paths, storefronts, restaurants and gathering places within a short stroll from the hotel. When you add the location's ambience to what appears to be another excellent conference program coming together, the 2014 meeting is really a must-attend for everyone!

There has been a lot of recent work by the BOD, ACT members and Franz Management to mention in my column. I'd like to describe some exciting opportunities and initiatives and to encourage your participation in.

First, the Job Task Analysis study for theriogenologists has been completed. A requirement for maintaining AVMA recognition as a specialty college, the study identified tasks and knowledge that are critical to the work performed by theriogenologists today. Although primarily driven to help guide in the development of test specifications for our examination, the BOD also found the findings of this study valuable during a recent strategic planning session for the College.

The ACT last had a strategic planning session in 2005. Timely strategic planning is important to the long term viability of the ACT as it helps our organization focus precious efforts and resources which will lead to our continued growth and success in the near future. In the 2014 Session, four key areas of focus were identified: 1) Branding and Promotion, 2) Research Development and Focus, 3) Expanding Horizons, and 4) Refining Credentialing. Under each of these areas, specific objectives were established. For Branding and Promotion, objectives include more active roles in social media, development of written promotional materials for distribution, and support of branding efforts by the TF and SFT. In Research Development you will see the ACT take a more active role in identifying current research needs and emerging opportunities in the specialty and in sponsoring research updates/sessions at conferences. Under Expanding Horizons, ACT activities over the next 5 years will be focused on expanding collaborative opportunities with similar organizations and through the One Health initiative. Through mission and position statements we'll formalize the ideals that encompass the practice of theriogenology, including incorporation of rapidly evolving disciplines such as genomics and population control/management. Lastly, the Training and Credentials Committee will be asked to develop a case log component as part of a residency program. Many of these objectives will be addressed through the formation of

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President *continued from p.1*

short-term task forces. I strongly encourage any Diplomate to reach out to me or any board member after you read this if you have an interest in serving on one of these focus areas. I'd really like to see broad diversity in these work groups, capturing that which is theriogenology with respect to species, practice type and years as a specialist.

During our winter business meeting, the board worked over a two day period to address the College's programs, services and management needs. The College currently consists of 467 members (384 active Diplomates, 62 emeritus/inactive Diplomates, and 21 honorary members). The organization's finances continue to be stable, with the board looking at potentially new revenue streams in the near future. Reports and actions thereof were addressed for the Scientific Information Abstract, Examination, Nominating, and Training/Credentialing Committees. I'm always impressed with the level of detail and effort each of these committees provide in keeping the ACT running smooth and forward. A hearty Thank You to y'all!

In closing, I would like to remind you that the executive board is elected by you to represent your interests. For the board to be effective in making decisions that best represent the concerns and wishes of the membership, it is crucial that members provide input to these elected individuals. Any Diplomate should feel free to contact any of the board members or our executive director, Dr. Charles Franz, to have an item presented for board discussion. As with past ACT presidents, I strongly encourage each of you to participate in the governance of our College by volunteering to run for a position on the executive board or to serve on the many active committees and task forces. Please feel free to email me at [gca@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:gca@vet.upenn.edu) if you are interested in serving the College.

Take care and I look forward to seeing you in Portland in August!

Gary Althouse



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# Welcome to the Class of 2013 Diplomates!

Drs. Julie Cecere, Elizabeth Coffman, Jacques Fuselier, Klips Neblan Galvao, Jennifer Hatzel, Renee Jaklitsch, Catherine May, Martha Mellish and Peter Morrow. 2013 Exam Statistics: If you would like more information and statistics from the certifying exam data, please visit the ACT web site and follow the link "Becoming a Diplomate".

Species	Sat the exam	Passed the exam
Multi-species	10	2
Equine	6	3
Bovine	3	2
Companion Animal	4	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9 (39%)</b>

Route	Sat the exam	Passed the exam
Standard	17	6
Alternate	6	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9</b>

COUNTRY	ACTIVE	EMERITUS	HONORARY	TOTAL
	DIPLOMATE	DIPLOMATE	MEMBER	
Argentina	1			1
Australia	19			19
Brazil	1			1
Canada	44	4	1	49
Colombia	3			3
Denmark	1			1
France	2			2
Germany	2			2
Israel	2			2
Italy	1			1
Jordan	3			3
Malaysia	1			1
Mexico	1			1
Netherlands	1		1	2
New Zealand	5	1		6
South Africa	8			8
Spain	1			1
Sweden		1	1	2
United Kingdom	2		1	3
United States	285	55	17	357
Venezuela		1		1
West Indies	1			1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>467</b>

#### Breakdown by Employment Type:

Academia	129
Government	7
Industry	22
Private Practice	104
Retired	62
Other	119
Honorary	22
Inactive	2

# Board of Directors

## Officers:

### Dr. Gary Althouse

#### President

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### Dr. Reed Holyoak

#### Secretary

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### Dr. Bruce Eilts

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#### Director

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# Committees

**Awards Nominating (2014)** - Dr. Barry Ball (chair), Dr. Richard Fayrer-Hoskens, Dr. Rob Gilbert, Dr. Mushtaq Memom, Dr. David Pugh, Dr. Don Sanders, Dr. Christine Schwizer

**Awards Nominating (2015)** - Dr. Sara Lyle (chair), Dr. S.H. Cheong, Dr. Maria Soledad Ferrer, Dr. Cheryl Lopate, Dr. Donald H. Schlafer, Dr. Pete Sheerin, Dr. Regina Turner

**Exam** - Dr. Leo Brito (chair), Dr. Jack Smith (past chair), Dr. Kara Kolster (Vice Chair), Dr. Reed Holyoak (ACT Secretary), Dr. Marco da Silva, Dr. Carlos Risco, Dr. Michelle Kutzler

**Job Task Analysis** - Dr. Ram Kasimanickam (Chair), Dr. Sherri Clark-

Deener, Dr. Maria Soledad Ferrer, Dr. Dale Paccamonti, Dr. Donald Sanders, Dr. Ahmed Tibary

**Nominating** - Dr. Gary Althouse (chair), Dr. Sara Lyle, Dr. Chuck Estill, Dr. Margo Macpherson

**Scientific Information / Abstract** - Dr. Ram Kasimanickam (chair), Dr. Sandra Ayres, Dr. Fernando Campos-Chillon, Dr. Igor Canisso, Dr. Sherrie Clark, Dr. Maria Soledad Ferrer

**Training/Credentialing** - Dr. Brian Whitlock (chair), Dr. Milan Hess (past chair), Dr. Ahmed Tibary, Dr. Etta Bradecamp, Dr. Claire Card (past ACT president), Dr. Bruce Christensen, Dr. C. Scott Bailey

## Nominees for Officers and Directors of the College

The newly elected vice-president will assume the offices of president-elect and president in 2015 and 2016, respectively. Additional officers and honorary nominees are listed below. Active ACT Diplomates and Emeritus Members will vote on the following candidates and the newly elected officers will be sworn in at the 2014 Annual ACT board meeting held at the Therio Conference this year in Portland.

### Vice President:

**Dr. Ram Kasimanickam** is a graduate of the Madras Veterinary College, India. After six years of mixed animal practice in India, he entered into a multi-species clinical residency and Doctor of Veterinary Science program at the Ontario Veterinary College. In 2002, he completed this combined program, with emphasis in bovine theriogenology and joined as an assistant professor in the theriogenology section. Kasimanickam became a Diplomate of the ACT in 2003 and shortly thereafter moved to VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine to become a food animal theriogenologist. In 2009, he relocated his clinical and research program to Washington State University, where he currently is an associate professor in the Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Kasimanickam has served the ACT in varying capacities: as an ad-hoc member of Scientific Information Abstract Committee, as a member of the board of directors, as chair of the Job-Task Analysis Committee, and as a full member of the Scientific Information Abstract Committee. He also continues to serve on the editorial board of the Clinical Theriogenology Journal. Kasimanickam's current research interests include the application of genomics in population-based clinical reproductive medicine. He has published more than 60 original research papers in peer-reviewed journals and has written numerous book chapters.

Many challenges continue to face the specialty of theriogenology, especially recognition at both the academic and public levels. In addition, new and exciting developments in technology open up several growth opportunities that will significantly impact the way we practice and conduct research in reproductive medicine in the near future. Now is a critical time to address and embrace opportunities which will further delineate and strengthen our specialty. Kasimanickam is looking forward to working with all members to further the College's mission in these exciting and ever-changing times.

### Treasurer:

**Dr. John J. Dascanio** graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1988 and afterwards completed a residency and internship at Cornell University. Dascanio achieved ACT Diplomate status in 1997 through the residency route. He has worked with camelids, dairy cattle, horses, small ruminants and with some small animals, although his emphasis is with the horse. He has been on the executive committee for the Northeast Association of Equine Practitioners (NEAEP) for the last six years and served as treasurer from 2008 to 2012 with an annual budget of ~\$400k. Dascanio is currently the president-elect for the NEAEP. He has also been a board member for the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners from 2010 to 2014. He has been on the Nominations Committee for the ACT and has acted as the faculty liaison for the Student Chapter of ACT/SFT. Dascanio wants to become more involved with the ACT and feels that his experience with other groups can bring potential new insight. The position of treasurer requires development and oversight of the annual

budget, a vision towards new program development and a consideration for maintenance of reserve funding. The past treasurers have paved an excellent path forward. Dascanio feels his past experience as treasurer for the NEAEP has allowed him to work directly with an executive director in the formulation and oversight of annual budgets and to work with educational sponsors to insure their needs are considered. He hopes to continue the success of the ACT and would be honored to be considered for this position. Currently, Dascanio is a professor at Ross University's School of Veterinary Medicine; however, he will be starting as Director of Large Animal Clinical Skills and as a Professor of Theriogenology at Lincoln-Memorial University's College of Veterinary Medicine in August 2014.

### Executive Board Member Director-At-Large:

**Dr. Dawna Voelkl** is an assistant teaching professor of theriogenology at the University of Missouri. Dr. Voelkl earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bryn Mawr College in 1991 and subsequently pursued a variety of opportunities in education and health care administration at an academic medical center. She then earned a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Cornell University in 2003, after which she spent one year at the University of Minnesota developing skills in large animal medicine, surgery and theriogenology. Dr. Voelkl completed a residency in Large Animal Reproduction (equine emphasis) at New Bolton Center in 2006. From Penn, Dr. Voelkl joined the faculty at the University of Missouri as Assistant Clinical Professor of Equine Ambulatory Practice, providing general equine ambulatory services, including routine breeding management. In 2009, Voelkl joined the theriogenology section and offers routine and referral reproductive services for beef and dairy cattle, small ruminants, camelids, horses, dogs and cats year-round while educating veterinary students. In 2011, Voelkl assumed the responsibility of coordinator for the comprehensive didactic course in theriogenology required of all third year students. She serves as the SFT Student Chapter Liaison and presents monthly theriogenology clinical skills laboratories for a variety of student organizations. Over the past three years, Voelkl has received several awards recognizing her clinical and didactic teaching efforts, including the SCAVMA Teaching Award for Clinical Sciences. If elected to the board, Voelkl will strive to advance a comparative approach to clinical theriogenology and education.

**Dr. Karen Wolfsdorf** graduated from The University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine with a passion for theriogenology. This continued at North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine where she did an Equine Field Service Internship only to return to her alma mata and complete a two year residency in theriogenology. Upon acquiring board certification in theriogenology Wolfsdorf embarked on five consecutive breeding seasons between Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, Lexington, Ky. and Oakey Veterinary Practice, Oakey, Australia, giving her a diverse and intense experience in equine practice and reproduction. Wolfsdorf is presently a partner, field practitioner and theriogenologist in the McGee Fertility Unit at Hagyard Equine Medical Institute. She is intrigued and challenged by sub-fertile and pregnant mare problems participating in clinical research projects on Progesterone, Persistent endometrial cups, Nocardioform placentitis and Cranio-cervical dislocation. Wolfsdorf has presented at and organized both national and international meetings including the AAEP, SFT, The Bluegrass Symposium, Rosedale's reproductive courses, New Market Equine Symposium and the International Symposium for Equine Reproduction. She participates as an active board member of Hagyard Equine Medical Institute as well as an executive board member of The Hagyard Pharmacy. In addition she was one of the initial members and chairs of the ACT Training and



Credentialing Committee aiding in the development of the General Information Guide and standardized requirements for present and future theriogenologists. Wolfsdorf would like to utilize the group's experiences and knowledge to help promote the specialization within the College and promote the benefits to the student, practitioner and public. Additionally, she thinks it is important to identify strategies between and within residency programs so all can be considered equal. Theriogenologists are a diverse group of people whom Wolfsdorf believes are united by their passion for the clinical and scientific aspects of reproduction. This should make the College strong allowing it to set future goals as a role model for other specialty organizations.

### Honorary Members:

**Dr. Tom Riddle** is a staunch advocate of the veterinary profession and is a founding partner of Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital. His professional career has been centered on providing the highest level of clinical reproductive service in arguably one of the most competitive environments, Central Kentucky. As a natural extension of this, Riddle has provided many contributions to the body of scientific knowledge in the discipline of reproductive medicine that have been pivotal in maintaining the efficient management of the brood mare, including elucidation of the pathogenesis of Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome (MRLS), the utility of culture and cytology in the management of the brood mare, and ultrasonographic findings during endometritis.

Riddle, a graduate of the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine and co-founder of Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital in Lexington, Riddle began practicing in Lexington immediately upon his graduation from veterinary school in 1978 as part of the resident veterinarian team at historic Spendthrift Farm. Four years later, he and Dr. Bill Rood formed a partnership, and in 1986, expanded their successful ambulatory practice by opening Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital. Today, Rood & Riddle is known and respected throughout the world for its innovative and highly skilled treatment of horses.

Riddle's practice focuses primarily on reproductive medicine, where his expertise in clinical reproduction including mare management, fetal sexing and pregnancy evaluations make him indispensable to his clients and colleagues. Riddle has contributed to the academic field of equine reproduction in many areas. He was one of the first to evaluate the epidemiology and cause of MRLS in Kentucky in the aftermath of major losses. Riddle has also published and had data presented at numerous meetings and conferences on topics such as the significance of endometrial cytology/culture, ultrasonographic appearance of endometrial edema, the significance of manual reduction of adjacent twin embryos and continues to be actively involved in multiple research projects. In addition to his very robust veterinary practice, Riddle is an active board member of the Kentucky Horse Park Foundation, a past president of the Kentucky Association of Equine Practitioners, past president of the Society for Theriogenology and founding president of the Theriogenology Foundation. He has also been honored with the John D. Steiner award for Excellence in Practice by the Society for Theriogenology.

Riddle is involved in many organizations to further our knowledge and ability to care for the horse and is also a very active mentor to interns, colleagues and the community at large. He is a valued member of his church and has helped support the development of a new church in Lexington. Riddle takes on a new veterinary graduate each year and mentors them in the busy, and challenging environment that provides veterinary service to approximately 800-1,000 brood mares and does this with kindness, grace and patience. Riddle is well loved by everyone in his

practice and is known as a man of impeccable character, intelligence and kindness.

**Dr. Phil L. Senger** graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with a Doctorate in Philosophy in 1974 and joined the faculty at Washington State University, Department of Animal Sciences. He has held positions of assistant professor, associate professor and professor at Washington State University where is now an emeritus professor since 2005. He has also held faculty position at Pennsylvania State University. Senger's dedication to the field of applied animal reproductive physiology is evident from his curriculum vitae as well his reputation in the USA and abroad.

Senger's research interest is primarily in bovine reproduction and management of reproduction to increase reproductive efficiency in dairy herds. His work on estrus detection and effect of site of semen deposition is a landmark in the approaches to improve reproductive performance in dairy herds. Senger's leadership is well illustrated by his service to Washington State University both at the college level as well as at the university level. He has also been a key player in many national and international organizations with a major focus on reproduction and service to cattlemen. He served on the editorial board of the Journal of Animal Science and the Journal of Dairy Science and is highly respected in the dairy industry. He received the National Association of Animal Breeders Research Award in 1990. Senger's contributions to the field of theriogenology include not only his publications but also his impact on teaching animal reproduction. He is the author of over 50 refereed publications and numerous research abstracts and lay publications. Without a doubt, one of his major contributions to the field is his book "Pathways to Pregnancy and Parturition" which has become the major text used to teach reproductive physiology in many universities throughout the world. In fact, this book is recognized by the majority as an important resource for preparation for the ACT board certification examination.

His leadership and vision for the importance of training students in reproduction has been recognized by numerous teaching awards and recognitions on a national and international scene. He received the American Society of Animal Scientists Distinguished Teacher Award in 1998 and delivered a keynote paper on animal reproduction training at the last International Congress of Animal Reproduction. He has been involved in the preparation of educational material for Monsanto, Pfizer Animal Health (now Zoetis) and Pharmacia.

Senger has always played a role of rapprochement between the clinical aspect of Theriogenology provided in veterinary colleges and preparation instruction provided in animal science curricula. He is a firm believer of the important role that Theriogenology plays in the training of future veterinarians and emphasizes reproductive physiology education for the preparation of veterinary students. He served as a mentor to veterinary students in their pre-veterinary training and continued to follow their professional career well after graduation and into their practice years. He has helped several veterinary clinics conduct continuing education programs for breeders on artificial insemination and reproductive management.

Senger is well known to the membership of our College and all appreciate his efforts in the discipline and his support to the causes of the ACT, the Society for Theriogenology and the Theriogenology Foundation.

# Dr. Gregg Adams

## 2014 Theriogenologist of the Year



### Sponsored by Zoetis

Dr. Gregg Adams is honored with this award for his outstanding contributions to theriogenology. Adams and his team developed a successful reproductive management program involving the wood bison, which is a threatened species. The novelty of the program included a noninvasive approach to estrous cycle manipulation, superstimulation of ovaries, monitoring follicular dynamics, artificial insemination, embryo flushing, and embryo transfer. The project's success is based on the birth of live calves – a first!

Adams has recently served as president of the 17th Congress of ICAR in Vancouver, BC, Canada in July 2012. This meeting, which is held only once every four years, was attended by approximately 800 persons from around the world. Adams is apparently the first ACT member to have earned this honor to organize and preside over a conference of a world renowned reputation for bringing scientists together to communicate and exchange information on the state of the science in animal reproduction. A responsibility of this nature can only be entrusted to an individual for his/her life-long scholarly contribution and who is recognized as an authority in animal reproduction. Adams continues to serve this world body on its executive and standing committees.

The above two accomplishments are the result of Adam's longstanding (and ongoing) involvement as an educator, clinician and researcher in theriogenology. Adams pursued a graduate program and residency at the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus under the tutelage of eminent theriogenologists. Following his research/clinical training, he became a faculty member at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and attained the rank of full-professor in a record time. To date, he has trained 19 students (10 MS and nine PhDs) and supervised two post-doctoral fellows. He has also co-supervised nine graduate students (eight MS and one PhD), and a postdoctoral fellow. Apart from his commitment to his own graduate students, Adams has also served on 23 graduate student committees (13 MS and 10 PhD). In addition he has supervised research projects of 52 undergraduate students. He and his colleagues have secured more than \$25M in grant money.

Adams is recognized internationally for his work on ovarian function. He has published classic studies of ovarian follicle development, ovulation and fertility in both terrestrial and marine mammal species including bovids, equids, camelids, cervids, humans, and pinnipeds. Technical applications resulting from his work include hormonal and non-hormonal methods of ovarian synchronization and superstimulation, oocyte collection, in vitro embryo production and transfer, 2- and 3-dimensional ultrasonography, and computer-assisted image analysis of the female reproductive organs and pregnancy. He has won the University of Saskatchewan's Distinguished Researcher Award and the SmithKline Beecham Award for Research Excellence. His current research focuses on an ovulation-inducing factor in seminal plasma, factors influencing oocyte competence in cattle, and synchrotron-based biomedical imaging.

Adams teaches Veterinary Anatomy in the veterinary curriculum and participates in team-taught graduate courses on Advanced Physiology and Endocrinology of Reproduction in Mammals, Advanced Bovine Reproduction, Bovine Reproductive Ultrasonography and Embryo Transfer, and Research Techniques in Endocrinology and Reproduction. He is a team member of the course Biomedical Rounds that was awarded the Provost's Prize for Innovative Practice of Teaching and Learning, University of Saskatchewan (2008). Adams also consults on theriogenology cases admitted to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. In summary, he has and will continue to further awareness and understanding of theriogenology within the veterinary profession from students to clinicians, researchers, producers/breeders/conservationists that will have broad application among other professions and disciplines involved in human and animal reproduction.

# 2014 SPECIAL EVENTS

Opening Session Abstracts

Opening Session Reception

David E. Bartlett Award for Lifetime Achievement in Theriogenology

Dr. Jerry Rains Memorial Abstract Competition  
Sponsored by **Merck Animal Health**

SFT Business Meeting

ACT Business Meeting

Student Case Presentations  
Sponsored by **Zoetis**

Student/Mentor Reception

Exhibit Hall Opening Reception

Therio Fun Night - Oregon Zoo  
Sponsored by **Merck Animal Health**

Student Quiz Bowl I Beer & Wine Tasting

Drs. Phillip Senger and Angela Oki  
Opening session speakers

Dr. Shoukhrat Mitalipov  
Opening session speaker

Awards Dinner and TF Live Auction  
Sponsored by **Merck Animal Health** and **Zoetis**

Theriogenologist of the Year  
Sponsored by **Zoetis**

TF Silent Auction

Group Soccer Outing  
Portland Timbers vs. Chivas USA

Tour de Therio Bike Ride and Brunch

## In Memoriam

The American College of Theriogenologists fondly remembers the following members and Diplomates that have passed away since the 2013 spring newsletter:

**Dr. Keith Beeman**  
April 24, 2013

**Dr. Ingemar Settergren**  
June 4, 2013

**Dr. Harold E. Amstutz**  
June 11, 2013

**Dr. James L Voss**  
July 12, 2013  
Honorary member

**Dr. Wolfgang Jochle**  
November 18, 2013

**Dr. Lloyd C. Faulkner**  
December 20, 2013  
Charter member

**Dr. Charles E. Martin**  
May 5, 2014  
Charter member

**Dr. David E. Bartlett**  
May 8, 2014  
Charter member

## Scientific Information/Abstract Committee Report

"Excellent job" mentors! "Good work" mentees!! There is a great increase in the total number of abstract submissions this year, compared to previous years. Let us give ourselves a pat on the back!!

The Scientific Information Abstract Committee is delighted to have received 73 abstracts for the 2014 Annual Therio Conference in Portland, Ore. There are 31 in the competitive, 35 in the non-competitive and seven in the case report categories. The submissions between species were: 30 for equine, 23 for food and fiber animals, and 20 for small animals.

The members of the committee who scored the abstracts were Dietrich Volkmann, Sandra Ayres, Fernando Campos-Chillon, Soon Hon Cheong, Sherrie Clark Deener and myself. Abstracts were reviewed anonymously by each member of the committee. Committee members with a conflict of interest for a particular abstract did not participate in scoring of that abstract. The highest scoring abstracts were selected for presentations.

As usual, the 2014 Therio Conference will begin with presentations of the Opening Session Abstracts on Wednesday evening. The top eight abstracts with the highest score in the non-competitive category will be presented. It will be an exciting session! The Competitive Abstract Session will follow on Thursday and will include the top eight abstracts submitted by graduate students, residents, veterinary students or undergraduate students. Be there to grill and drill the presenters! Game on students!! On Friday, abstracts will be presented in concurrent species-specific sessions: equine, food and fiber animals, and small animals. Due to an increased number of submissions, the Scientific Information Abstract Committee and conference organizing committee are pleased to add another parallel session on Friday in which four equine and four food and fiber animal abstracts will be presented.

The Committee would like to welcome new members: Drs. Maria Soledad Ferrer (four-year term, equine emphasis) and Igor Frederico Canisso (two-year term, ad hoc member recent graduate). The new members are replacing Drs. Dietrich Volkmann and Soon Hon Cheong, respectively. We thank Dietrich and Soon Hon for their selfless contributions to this committee. Dr. Sandra Ayres will be the next chair (2015) of this committee. Next year we will seek nominations for a regular member with an emphasis in food and fiber animal theriogenology and for a new ad hoc member. These nominations are open to all ACT Diplomates with interest in basic or applied theriogenology research and that are willing to further the dissemination of scientific information within the College and the Society.

I would like to thank my colleagues in the Scientific Information Abstract Committee for all their dedication and effort in preparing a multi-species and high quality scientific program for the 2014 meeting. For 2015, the Committee will consist of Drs. Sandra Ayres, Fernando Campos-Chillon, Maria Soledad Ferrer, Igor Frederico Canisso, Sherrie Clark Deener and myself. We thank Dr. Charles Franz and Roberta Norris at Franz Management for their continuous support!

Finally, on behalf of the Scientific Information Abstract Committee, a big "THANK YOU" to all who have submitted abstracts this year. Without your submissions we would have no assignments. Let's keep this up!

We look forward to seeing you in Portland!

Cheers,

Ram Kasimanickam

Chair, ACT Scientific Information Abstract Committee

## Certifying Exam Committee Report

The Certifying Exam Committee of the ACT met in St. Augustine Beach, Florida, from Jan. 8-11, 2014. The current members in attendance were: Drs. Jack Smith, Past Chair; Leo Brito, Chair; Kara Kolster, Vice Chair; Reed Holyoak, ACT Secretary, and Marco Coutinho da Silva. We also welcomed two new Committee members during our meeting, Drs. Carlos Risco and Michelle Kutzler.

The review of questions began the first afternoon of our meeting. Much effort was spent editing and refining questions to assure they covered relevant learning objectives, assessed higher order skills rather than simple recall information, had up-to-date "ideal responses" with detailed point distribution, were clear, and had relevant references. Time was also spent ensuring that the test was equitably constructed in the various species specific portions.

The SMT Bank software continues to be used by the committee for test construction. SMT Bank is moving to a web-based system that will allow for remote storage of the question bank and exam development, giving the committee more flexibility in exam preparation. The Committee agreed that the Chair will oversee the transition before this year's examination and that training for all members will be scheduled for sometime before we begin the preparation of next year's examination. We are additionally investigating the purchase of a scan-tron machine that will allow us to more efficiently grade the multiple choice portion of the exam as well as provide us useful data on candidate responses.

The Committee reviewed and approved the adoption of a question construction guide that will be distributed to all new members and should help them understand what is expected regarding preparation and review of exam questions. We also discussed the possibility of assisting with the exam preparation listserve, but agreed that that would be a conflict of interest for current members and could not expect a commitment longer than the current six years if aiding with the listserve was to be a formal responsibility of past committee members.

In addition, based on the results of the job task analysis, the challenges involved with always ensuring the presence of a true specialist in the committee, the timing that candidates declare their species specific category selection, and the historical use of the option, there was consensus among the Committee members that the species specific options for the exam should include only equine, bovine, companion animals, and multi-species and that porcine theriogenology should be covered in the exam the same way as ovine, caprine, camelids, laboratory, and exotic; this proposal was presented to the executive board for evaluation.

Dr. Jack Smith will step down from the Committee this year and we acknowledge his years of service and dedication; his expertise, thoughtfulness and common sense will be missed. The newest member of our committee whose term will begin immediately following our annual conference is Dr. Patricia Sertich.

The 2014 Certifying Exam will be given on Aug. 5-6, 2014 prior to the SFT/ACT Annual Therio Conference in Portland, Ore.

Sincerely,

Leo Brito

Chair, ACT Certifying Examination Committee

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### ACT Educator's Forum

#### Wednesday August 6, 2014

Please join us the evening of Wednesday, August 6 at 7:30 p.m. for the ACT Educator's Forum. Colleagues from across the country will discuss the use of models and simulations for teaching.

Commercial and homemade models for fetotomy, dystocia, placement of obstetrical chains, uterine torsion and use of a Buhner needle

Dr. John Dascanio

Breed'n Betsy

Dr. Sherrie Clark-Deener

Homemade OB boxes for dystocia training, Breed'n Betsy and Breed'n Bonnie, fresh and preserved tracts, manual dexterity toys

Drs. John Herrmann  
and Cliff Shipley

Veterinary Simulators: Holstein dystocia model

Dr. Jennifer Roberts



# 2014 Therio Conference Seminars & Sessions

## Camelid Seminar

### Wednesday August 6, 2014

Reproductive disorders in the female camelid	Dr. Ahmed Tibary
Reproductive disorders in the female camelid	Dr. Lisa Pearson
Reproductive disorders in the male camelid	Dr. Lisa Pearson
Reproductive emergencies in camelids	Dr. Ahmed Tibary
Infectious diseases Part 1	Dr. Chris Cebra
Infectious diseases Part 2	Dr. Chris Cebra
Roundtable discussion	Drs. Cebra, Pearson and Tibary

## Bull Seminar

### Wednesday August 6, 2014

Twenty years of BSE records from a teaching hospital	Dr. Robert Carson
Surgical problems of the bovine genitalia	Dr. Dwight Wolfe
Increase in average testis size of Canadian beef bulls	Dr. Albert Barth
Bull lameness - should we make them better?	Dr. Gary Warner
Bovine sperm abnormalities: prevalence, etiology and mechanisms leading to infertility	Dr. Jacob Thundathil
The association between sperm function and field fertility	Dr. Jacob Thundathil
Genetic improvement of feed efficiency	Dr. Bob Weaber
Genomic tools: genetic testing for genetic defects in various breeds	Dr. Bob Weaber

## Production Animal:

### Friday August 8, 2014

Safety and efficacy of viral vaccines for bovine reproductive pathogens	Dr. Dan Givens
Update on testicular infections with bovine viral diarrhea virus	Dr. Dan Givens
Foothill abortion and new vaccine	Dr. Jeffrey Stott

### Saturday August 9, 2014

Chlamydia and chlamydia in bovine reproduction	Dr. Johannes Kauffold
Chlamydia and chlamydia in small ruminant and other food animal species	Dr. Johannes Kauffold
Schmallenberg virus update	Dr. Johannes Kauffol
Abortion diagnosis in cattle	Dr. Larry Holler
Infectious infertility in small ruminants	Dr. Larry Holler
Rediscovering the silent enemy in cattle reproduction health: from the latest findings about sexually transmitted trichomoniasis and campylobacteriosis to the current control and future therapeutics	Dr. Eduardo Cobo

## Small Animal:

### Track I

#### Friday August 8, 2014

Recent advances in swine reproduction	Dr. Sherrie Clark
Pot belly pig reproduction	Dr. Sherrie Clark
What are breeders looking for in their therio-genologist? MOOC data	Dr. Peggy Root

#### Saturday August 9, 2014

Reproductive ultrasound Part 1	Dr. Judith Hudson
Reproductive ultrasound Part 2	Dr. Judith Hudson
Windows of opportunity: a new look at canine socialization Part 1	Dr. Christopher Pachel
Windows of opportunity: a new look at canine socialization Part 2	Dr. Christopher Pachel
Reproductive diseases of the spayed bitch	Dr. Cheryl Lopate
Feline breeding management - evaluation of the tom	Dr. Aime Johnson
Feline breeding management	Dr. Aime Johnson

### Track II

#### Friday August 8, 2014

ABC's of the stud dog breeding soundness evaluation	Dr. Clare Scully
Control of bacterial growth in extended canine semen held at various temperatures	Dr. Peggy Root
Sperm gradients and oocyte collection	Dr. Cheryl Lopate

#### Saturday August 9, 2014

The use of frozen-thawed semen in the bitch. Which should I do: transcervical (TCI) or surgical insemination?	Dr. Stuart Mason
The use of intranasal oxytocin therapy for mothering in bitches post caesarean section	Dr. Stuart Mason
An update on treatment modalities for cystic endometrial hyperplasia - pyometra complex in the bitch	Dr. Stuart Mason
Small animal reproduction ultrasound in practice	Dr. Judith Hudson
Behavioral effects of spaying/neutering	Dr. Christopher Pachel
Practical applications of canine uterine biopsies ,case reports and discussion	Dr. Cheryl Lopate
Unwanted pregnancy - from prevention options to termination	Dr. Cynthia O'Connor

## Equine:

### Friday August 8, 2014

Adaptation of ART to private practice	Dr. Robert Foss
Embryo biopsy techniques	Dr. Lisa Metcalf
Roundtable discussion	Drs. Metcalf and Foss

### Saturday August 9, 2014

Immunologic endometritis	Dr. Kristina Lu
Equine subclinical endometritis caused by dormant beta-haemolytic streptococci	Dr. Morten Petersen
Biofilm/Pathogens	Dr. Ryan Ferris
Equine viral arteritis	Dr. Reed Holyoak
Use of molecular diagnostics for infectious equine pathogens	Dr. Nicola Pusterla
Bio-security approaches for equine reproduction	Dr. Nicola Pusterla
Roundtable discussion	Drs. Lu, Petersen, Ferris, Holyoak, Pusterla

# Abstracts

## August 6, 2014 Opening Session Abstracts

- Justin McNaughten, BVMS .....Bilateral anorchia in a dog
- Jennifer N. Roberts, DVM .....Diagnosis and management of a granulosa theca cell tumor in a nulliparous Holstein heifer
- Patrick M. McCue, DVM, DACT.....Semen collection from a stallion with a permanent perineal urethrostomy: a case report
- Orsolya Balogh, DVM, PhD, DACT .....The canine corpus luteum expresses IGF1 and its receptor: implications in luteal function
- Ahmed Tibary, DVM, MS, DSc, PhD, DACT. ....Accuracy of behavioral testing for pregnancy diagnosis in the dromedary camel
- Robyn Wilborn, DVM, MS, DACT .....Neonatal exposure to medroxyprogesterone acetate alters canine uterine development
- Charles Estill, VMD, PhD, DACT .....Prenatal exposure to an androgen agonist and antagonist alters the ovine sexually dimorphic nucleus in male but not female lamb fetuses
- Rejean Lefebvre, DVM for Nicholas Tison .....Leukocyte esterase test for diagnosis of endometritis in dairy cows

## August 7, 2014 Competitive Session

- Sonya M. Lawlis, DVM .....Viscoelastic modifiers and hyperactivating agents as potential selectors of superior sperm for *in vitro* fertilization
- Amanda J. Cain .....Evaluation of the effects of pre-breeding beef heifer management on mid to late gestation uteroplacental hemodynamics.
- Jamie L. Stewart, DVM .....Effects of different applications of pyrethrin/pyrethroid insecticides on bull reproductive parameters
- Clare Scully, DVM.....Comparison of surgical vasectomy or chemical epididectomy as a sterilizing method for feral horse populations
- Derek Howell, BS .....Can serum amyloid A predict reproductive efficiency in the postpartum of mares?
- Jessica Bradford, BS. ....The effects of bovine sperm-bound anti-sperm antibodies on capacitation
- Camilla Jane Scott, BVetmed, MRCVS .....Endometrial tissue concentrations of ceftiofur following intrauterine infusion in mares
- Rachel Shutter, BS. ....Relative sperm volume shift, Aquaporin 7 mRNA abundance and bull fertility estimates

## August 8, 2014 Equine

- Maria Schnobrich, VMD, DACT .....Comparison of Serum amyloid A concentrations in Thoroughbred mares experiencing embryonic loss and in mares maintaining pregnancy
- Aurie Page Bouchard, BS .....Necrosis of the spermatic cord, epididymis, and testis of a Friesian stallion caused by *Salmonella abortus-equi* Running title: Epididymo-orchitis cause by salmonella abortus-equi in a Friesian stallion
- Chelsie Burden, DVM .....Follicular dynamics following cloprostenol administration in the diestrous mare
- Young Ho Choi, DVM, PhD .....Effect of early medium pH on equine embryo development *in vitro* after intracytoplasmic sperm injection
- Carleigh E. Fedorka, BS .....Sperm motility and fertility of cooled preserved stallion semen in either INRA96 or EquiPro CoolGuard extender
- Mariana Diel de Amorim, DVM, DVSc, DACT.. ..Urethral diverticulum in a breeding stallion
- Katherine DeHaan, BS. ....Incidence rate and effects of persistent mating-induced endometritis (PMIE) in Quarter Horse mares
- Igor Canisso, DVM, MSc, DACT, DECAR .....Dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate and testosterone concentrations in mares carrying normal pregnancies

## August 8, 2014 Production Animal

- Clare Scully, DVM.....Comparison of two electroejaculation methods in rams
- Persia Neumann .....Fatty acid composition of the yolk sac membrane in the chick embryo
- Heidi Fishman, DVM .....Cystic endometrial hyperplasia with hydrometra and inappropriate lactation syndrome in a Nigerian Dwarf goat, a case report
- Jacobo S. Rodriguez, DVM, MS, DACT.....Comparison of two superovulation treatments in the dromedary camel (*Camelus dromedarius*)
- Roberto A. Palomares, DVM, MS, PhD, DACT ..Evaluation of a Monday-Friday 4-day Co-Synch+CIDR protocol in dairy heifers. A pilot study
- Sherrie Clark-Deener, DVM, MS, PhD, DACT. ..Effect of 14 d CIDR treatment prior to 7 d CIDR CO-Synch
- Desiree Shasa.....Evaluation of vaginoscopy in ewes utilizing the SILS™ port
- Alexis Campbell, DVM .....Comparison of two semen extenders for cryopreservation of Bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis canadensis*) epididymal sperm

# Abstracts

## August 8, 2014 Small Animal

- Adaji Temitope Ayisat, DVM . . . . .Comparison between immunocastration and surgical castration in dogs
- Ellie Bohrer. . . . .Comparison of penile spines and sperm morphology in juvenile and adult feral tom cats
- Sherrie Clark-Deener, DVM, MS, PhD, DACT . . . . .Evaluation of pseudopregnancy in the American Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*)
- Clare Scully, DVM. . . . .Surgical correction of a perineal fistula in a 9 month old Dandie Dinmont Terrier with urinary incontinence
- Seth Bynum . . . . .Post-natal developmental expressions of Cytochrome P450, family 26 genes in canine testis
- Arokya Mary Sashi PapuJohn, PhD. . . . .Developing a non-surgical contraceptive method for female dogs
- Rachel Hegedus. . . . .Comparison of canine spermatozoa RNA concentrations and purity using two density gradient centrifugation solutions

## August 8, 2014 Large Animal

- Christina Marth, DVM, PhD student. . . . .The influence of the hormonal environment and a bacterial challenge on global gene expression in the equine uterus
- Bethany Gibson, DVM. . . . .Effect of frozen-thawed granulosa cells and serum additives on individual bovine embryo development
- Sandra Ayres, DVM, MA, DACT . . . . .Fertility in goats during the non-breeding season using a short P4 priming protocol with either GnRH or hCG to induce ovulation.
- Stephanie Schroeder, BS . . . . .Reproductive performance following long- vs short-term progesterone-based synchronization protocols for fixed-time artificial insemination in beef heifers.
- Natalie S. Fraser, DVM . . . . .Evaluation of effects from chlorhexadine hydrochloride intrauterine suspension administration in normal mares.
- Tad Thompson, DVM . . . . .A split-double intramuscular administration of Folltropin-V with hyaluronan - a new approach to superstimulate ovaries for embryo flushing in ewes
- Maria Schnobrich, VMD, DACT . . . . .Deep-horn intra-uterine application of prostaglandin (PG) E2 does not hasten oviductal transport of equine embryos
- Clare Scully, DVM. . . . .Comparison of cauda epididymal sperm morphology following surgical vasectomy or chemical epididectomy in feral horses

# 2014 poster session

- Theresa Beachler, DVM. . . . .Uterine artery blood flow and arterial diameter correlate closely with gestational age in the mare
- Mette Christoffersen, DVM. . . . .Diagnostic double guarded low-volume uterine lavage in mares
- Gabriel Monteiro Davoli, DVM. . . . .Effects of a third-generation GnRH antagonist on reproductive parameters in the stallion
- Aurie Page Bouchard, BS . . . . .Sudden infertility of a stallion collected with a commercial artificial vagina. Running title: Infertility of a stallion collected with artificial vagina
- Lisa Pearson, DVM, MS, DACT. . . . .Comparison of two pharmacologic protocols to induce ex copula ejaculation in novice stallions
- Margret Casal, DVM, PhD, DECAR. . . . .Longevity of chilled canine semen with Fresh Express®
- Ghislaine Dujovne, DVM, MS, DACT . . . . .Evaluation of etonogestrel, altrenogest and medroxyprogesterone bioactivity in mares using an in vitro bioassay
- Julie T. Cecere, DVM, MS, DACT. . . . .Thyroid hormone profiles in pregnant euthyroid and supplemented hypothyroid bitches
- L. Dawne Nairn, DVM . . . . .Effects of transvaginal ovarian biopsy on health and fertility in mares
- Alejandro Esteller Vico, DVM, PhD . . . . .Effects of low progesterone concentrations on endometrial transcription at days 8 and 12 of the estrous cycle in mares
- Marty Greer, DVM, JD. . . . .Transcervical endoscopic catheterization technique (TECT) with uterine lavage to improve clinical outcomes of medically managed pyometra in the bitch
- Katherine McKelvey, DVM . . . . .A comparative efficacy trial for timethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, gentamicin, and penicillin, using an ex vivo model of gestational disease
- Anthony Claes, DVM, DACT . . . . .Endocrine and molecular changes in the equine follicle associated with ageing in mares



# ANNUAL THERIOGENOLOGY FOUNDATION AUCTIONS



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## SUGGESTED ITEMS

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- ★ Veterinary Books
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For all donations please fill out the [Auction Donation Form](#) online at [TherioFoundation.org](http://TherioFoundation.org) or send the form on the following page to Roberta Norris at the Theriogenology office via email: [Roberta@franzmgt.com](mailto:Roberta@franzmgt.com), fax: 334-270-3399, or by mail: TF Auction, PO Box 3007, Montgomery, AL 36109. The deadline for all auction donations is **July 15**.

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