



American College Of Theriogenologists

Newsletter

Summer 2006

**Annual Conference
In
St. Paul, MN
August 22-26, 2006**

Don't Miss these special events:

Happy Hour Abstract Presentations – Wednesday August 23, 6:00 p.m.

Happy Hour Abstract Reception – Wednesday, August 23, 8:00 p.m.

Bartlett Award Winner Address – Thursday, August 24, 8:00 a.m.

Educator's Forum – Thursday, August 24, 6:00 p.m.

ACT Annual Business Meeting – Friday, August 25, 4:30 p.m.

Riverboat Dinner Cruise – Friday, August 25, 6:30 p.m.

Informational Session for Mentors, Applicants, Interested Others – Saturday, August 26, 7:00 a.m.

Abstract Competition – Saturday, August 26, 8:00 a.m.

Awards Luncheon—
Theriogenologist of the Year,
Saturday, August 26, 12:15 p.m.

Report from the president...

Dr. John Steiner

The Executive Board of the American College of Theriogenologists has been working on a variety of fronts this past year. As always, issues come up during the year that are either discussed at our face-to-face board meeting or via conference calls as needed.

In November 2005, as President of the ACT, I attended the annual board meeting of the European College of Animal Reproduction (ECAR) that was held in Ghent, Belgium. This was an extremely rewarding visit, ECAR faces many of the same challenges that we do and hearing how they handle some of these issues was very informative.

In 2005, ECAR held their annual certifying examination with 17 candidates taking the exam. Unlike the ACT certifying exam, the candidates do not find out whether they passed or not for three to four weeks. Their biggest problem seems to be the language one, since the examination is given in English and the examinees come from many different countries all over Europe. To help overcome this, ordinary dictionaries will be al-

lowed during the examination while medical dictionaries will be banned.

The one very nice thing that ECAR does is hold a dinner at a local restaurant after the examination is over. The candidates that sat for the examination are invited to attend the dinner along with the exam committee and ECAR Executive Board. I think that this informal atmosphere is a great way to welcome the candidates as colleagues and to get feedback about the examination. The ACT will try this, this year.

The Europeans are also struggling with residency programs in Theriogenology, as we are here. Many programs have been dropped or several limited which has somewhat limited the pool for candidates taking the examination. There are only 18 residents at this time throughout the European Union.

ECAR also has a recertification requirement every five years. Recertification may be an issue we will face in the future. The Europeans feel at this time the recertification every five years is too soon and may be better



every ten years. Because they are a relatively new college, 2005 was the first year for recertification and as of November about 40% had not responded yet. This is something the ACT is keeping an eye on and perhaps we should become proactive at some time rather than having it mandated upon us. We will keep you up to date as things progress.

The ACT has agreed to several cooperative ventures with ECAR. First, a list of training centers approved by ECAR in Europe has been added to our website. Now, our website also has a link to the ECAR website. Lastly, ECAR will



cooperate with the ACT and SFT in updating the Information Handbooks that were originally written in the 1980's and 90's.

The ACT continues to be financially sound and the treasurer Travis Meredith has done an outstanding job in overseeing our finances. The Executive Board at its January 2006 board meeting voted to increase dues by 15% for 2007 to \$200 and increase examination and application fees to \$500 and \$250 respectively for 2007. These are the first increases in a number of years. This has become necessary since, as you all know, costs continue to rise.

The Examination Committee continues to work extremely hard. Finally, new exam software is being purchased from SMT – Bank (Schroeder Management Technologies). At this writing, the finishing touches are being put on the contract and it should be in place shortly. This new software will make it much easier for the exam committee to do its job and help maintain an up-to-date data base. I want to thank all of you that have agreed to help with the Exam Question Developing Teams. This subcommittee, which is chaired by Dr. Sylvia Bedford-Guaus is an extremely important one and vital to the Examination Committee and the college.

Dr. Walter Zent (President of the SFT) and I have met several times with David Foley, the Executive Director of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP). Our meetings concerned partnering with the AAEP in several areas such as AAEP wetlabs as they pertain to reproduction, input into AAEP reproduction forms and input and co-sponsoring various reproductive pamphlets that the AAEP provides. This type of cooperation will also be pursued with the Bovine practitioners and AAHA. I feel that these types of ventures will only strengthen our presence

in the veterinary and lay communities and help educate them about the ACT.

The Nominating Committee of the ACT has put together a slate of candidates for two open positions. These positions are for Vice President and Executive Board Member Director. These candidates are profiled in the newsletter. Please review the information on each candidate and take a few moments to vote. Your vote, as always, is very important.

Many items from last year's strategic planning session have been completed and some are ongoing. The issue of branding of the SFT and to a lesser extent the ACT in which the image of the organizations will be enhanced, is still in progress. Phase I of the project by Stewart and Associates of Louisville, KY has been completed. This phase consisted of interviews with various people to elucidate the perceptions of the two organizations. Phase II, more of an implementation phase to address concerns brought out in Phase I is almost complete. A meeting with Stewart and Associates is scheduled for the end of March to address this phase. One item that was addressed in Phase I was the term 'Theriogenology' and whether a name change was in order. The recommendation made by Stewart and Associates was not to change the word or names of the organization but to address the issue of educating people about the terminology. How this will be done will be addressed in Phase II. Stay tuned! There is no question that increasing our visibility will be a positive thing for both the ACT and SFT.

Visits by Diplomates to veterinary colleges continue and will be an ongoing project to raise awareness of the ACT to students. The on-site visitors are practitioners that are ACT Diplomates and perhaps will give students another perspective on Theriogenology outside of academia.

The Speakers Bureau continues to be updated. This is a list of ACT Diplomates that are willing to provide presentations at various venues. This list is posted on the ACT website and is intended to provide a reference to organizations looking for speakers that are willing to talk on reproductive topics. Speakers are listed according to species of interest and various topics within the species. If you have not signed up for this list and would like to, please contact Dr. Charles Franz at the ACT office.

An ACT Policy Manual has been started and is in the process of being up-dated and edited. This will be an extremely important reference source for the future leaders of the college since all policies that the board has instituted will be in one place and readily available. In addition, duties of all officers and committees will be spelled out.

Lastly, please make plans to attend the SFT/ACT Annual Conference August 22 – 26, 2006 in St. Paul Minnesota. This is always an excellent meeting and a great place to see and talk to colleagues on an informal basis. In addition, the ACT annual business meeting is held during this time. This is a great time to be heard if you have ideas or any concerns about the college. As always, you don't have to wait until then if you want to express ideas or want a concern addressed, please contact me, any of our board members or Dr. Charles Franz, our Executive Director.

Hope to see you all in St. Paul!



Welcome to the Class of 2005 Diplomates!

Dr. Misty Abrams	Dr. Abdul Aljarrah	Dr. Henry Annandale	Dr. Chris Berezowski
Dr. Etta Agan Bradecamp	Dr. Stan Bychawski	Dr. Wynne Collins	Dr. Ben Espy
Dr. Maria Soledad Ferrer	Dr. David Hidalgo	Dr. Natali Krekeler	Dr. Soren Rodning
Dr. Kelly Rosenkrans	Dr. Elizabeth Scholtz	Dr. Dickie Vest	Dr. Myrthe Wessel

2005 Exam Statistics Would you like more information and statistics from the certifying exam data? Please visit the ACT website and follow the link "Becoming a Diplomate."

<u>Species</u>	<u>Sat the exam</u>	<u>Passed the exam</u>
Multi-species	8	4
Equine	9	7
Bovine	3	1
Small Animal	5	4
TOTAL	25	16 (64%)

American College of Theriogenologists 3/21/06

COUNTRY	ACTIVE	EMERITUS	HONORARY	TOTAL
UNITED STATES	254	46	16	316
CANADA	32	4		36
AUSTRALIA	10			10
UNITED KINGDOM	1		1	2
NEW ZEALAND	4			4
SOUTH AFRICA	3			3
JORDAN	2			2
COLOMBIA	1			1
FRANCE	1			1
GERMANY	1			1
NETHERLANDS	2		1	3
SWEDEN		1	1	2
SWITZERLAND	1			1
VENZUELA	1			1
DENMARK	1			1
ARGENTINA	2			2
	316	51	19	386

BREAKDOWN BY EMPLOYMENT TYPE

ACADEMIA	147
GOVERNMENT	9
INDUSTRY	22
OTHER	16
PRIVATE PRACTICE	112
RETIRED	50
NOT NOTED	30



From the ACT Certifying Examination Committee:

The members of the ACT Certifying Examination Committee spent a week in January 2006 developing the 2006 Certifying Examination for the American College of Theriogenologists. The Certifying Examination comprises questions for the multiple choice, essay, and practical portions of the examination.

The Certifying Examination will be administered in St. Paul, Minnesota, on Monday and Tuesday, August 21 and 22, immediately preceding the SFT/ACT Annual Conference. There could again be a large group of candidates to take the certifying examination, with 36 candidates (13 candidates who were newly approved in 2006 and 23 candidates who were approved in previous years) eligible for examination. Candidates had until April 15 to pay examination fees and verify their intention to take the 2006 ACT Certifying Examination.

After last year's examination, candidates were initially notified of their results via e-mail. Candidates will again be notified of their successful or unsuccessful attempt to become a diplomate in the ACT via e-mail as soon as possible after the 2006 Certifying Examination is completed and graded. A hard copy will also be mailed to them, and another copy will be available during a meeting between the examinees and examination committee on Wednesday morning.

As part of our long-standing tradition, successful candi-

dates will be introduced as new diplomates at the ACT Annual Business Meeting. Mentors are urged to encourage candidates who pass the certifying examination to make plans to attend the Annual Business meeting. With the increasing number of diplomats in foreign countries, this may be the only opportunity for members of our College to meet our newest diplomats and welcome them to the College.

One of the exciting developments in the upcoming year will be the purchase and implementation of our new examination software. Dr. Cheryl Lopate spearheaded the efforts to identify and evaluate several software vendors. The software from Schroeder Management Technologies (SMT) Bank appears best able to meet the ACT's needs for managing the database of test questions and integrating test results. It is hoped that the new software system will be available for use in creating the final version of the 2006 Certifying Examination. One extremely important feature of the SMT Bank system is the ability to record data (ie, examination performance) for the various questions. Another vital component of the system is the ability to handle images, which will greatly assist the committee's capabilities when preparing the practical portion of the certifying examination.

The Certifying Examination Committee thanks all of those who have volunteered to participate on ACT Question Development Teams. The teams have enthusiastically assisted

in providing multiple choice and essay questions to eliminate gaps in the examination topics. Dr. Sylvia Bedford Gaus is coordinating the efforts of the Question Development Teams during the upcoming year.

Current members of the ACT Certifying Examination Committee are Drs. John Kastelic (Chair), Herris Maxwell (Vice Chair), Cheryl Lopate (Immediate Past Chair), Sylvia Bedford Gaus, Beverly Purswell, Reed Holyoak, and Craig Smith (Secretary). In addition, the ACT Executive Board has selected Dr. Mary E. Stanton to serve a 6-year term on the ACT Certifying Examination Committee beginning in August 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig A. Smith, DVM, PhD,
Diplomate ACT,

Secretary ACT

Have Your 2006 Dues Been Paid?

As of the date of this printing, 27 Diplomates have not paid their 2006 dues. If you have any question concerning the status of your membership in the college, please contact the executive office today. Pertinent sections of the Bylaws are printed on page 5 for your review. The complete Bylaws may be found on the website (www.theriogenology.org) by following the link "About ACT."



From the ACT Bylaws (as amended, August 5, 2004):

Article I, Section 4. The annual dues for all Diplomates, except Emeritus and Inactive Diplomates, shall be established by the officers and shall be payable at the commencement of the fiscal year. Dues or assessments not paid by March 31 of each calendar year shall remove said Diplomat from good standing as well as all College mailing lists and rosters. Diplomates not in good standing shall not be eligible to vote or hold office until dues and assessments in arrears are paid in full.

Article VII Maintenance of Certification

Section 1. Any Diplomat may be expelled, asked to resign, or otherwise disciplined for non-professional or unethical conduct, misstatement, or misrepresentation of facts in his/her application for certification, nonpayment of dues for two years, or other action against the best interest of, or in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the College. The accused person will be given opportunity to reply to charges in writing or in person to the Board before final action.

Section 2. In case of revocation of certification, it shall be the duty of the person having possession of the same to return the certificate attesting to his/her status to the Secretary of the College upon demand by the Board to do so. The Board shall have powers to proceed in

any manner permitted by law to enforce the return of any certificate which shall have been revoked.

Terry Blanchard Chosen Theriogenologist Of The Year For 2006

Terry L. Blanchard, D.V.M., MS, has been honored with the annual “**Theriogenologist Of The Year**” award for 2006, according to an announcement by Dr. John Steiner. Dr. Blanchard is the 8th recipient since the award was established in 1999. Dr. Blanchard was recognized for his contributions to the field of Theriogenology as an educator, mentor, clinician and scientist. Following his clinical residency at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Blanchard held faculty positions at the University of Missouri, Pennsylvania and Texas A&M. His excellence as a clinician and teacher have been recognized with prestigious Distinguished Service Teaching Awards conferred to him while at Texas A&M. Dr. Blanchard has authored and co-authored over 100 peer-reviewed publications, served as author and editor for 4 textbooks, and author of 12 book chapters.

In 2005, Dr. Blanchard elected to leave the academic field and enter private reproductive practice and is currently associated with Hill n’ Dale Farm in Lexington, KY as a resident veterinarian.

Make plans to attend the SFT and ACT conference scheduled for August in St. Paul, Minnesota, at which time Dr. Blanchard will be presented with a plaque and honorarium.

Scientific Committee Report...

The Scientific Abstract Committee is responsible for soliciting and scoring both competitive and noncompetitive research abstracts submitted for consideration for the Society for Theriogenology’s Annual Meeting. Additionally, members of the committee review nominations for new committee members and subsequently make recommendations to the Executive Board of the ACT. The committee consists of four permanent members appointed to 4 year terms and 2 ad hoc members. The permanent members include 1 small animal emphasis individual, 1 equine emphasis individual, 1 food animal emphasis individual, and 1 individual with skills across multiple species. One of the 2 ad hoc members is unrestricted. The second ad hoc member also can specialize in any species, but must be a new diplomate (Board Certified within the past 5 years). The makeup of the committee helps to minimize species bias during abstract scoring, but also allows for expertise in each major species area. This year, 19 competitive abstracts and 31 noncompetitive abstract were submitted for consideration. Members of the committee read and scored each abstract, the scores were compiled, and the top submissions were selected for presentation at the annual meeting. The quality of the submitted abstracts appears to improve every year. As a result, conference attendees in 2006 can expect to hear top quality research abstracts covering

See “Scientific” Page 9



Nominees for Officers, Director, and Honorary Member

The newly elected Vice-President will assume the offices of President-elect and President in 2007 and 2008, respectively. Please mark the enclosed ballot and return in the pre-addressed envelope. Your ballot should be mailed in order for it to reach the ACT office by June 15, 2006.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dr. Philip E. Prater is an Associate Professor of Veterinary Technology. He received his DVM from the Ohio State University (1984) with an internship in Large Animal Ambulatory Medicine at OSU in 1985-86. Dr. Prater continued his education with a residency in theriogenology at the University of Tennessee in 1986-88, where he attended to in-house reproductive referrals and performed routine ambulatory visits. While at UT, his research projects focused on assisted reproductive techniques in domestic animals. He became a Diplomate of the ACT in 1989. After seven years in private practice, Dr. Prater joined the faculty at the Morehead State University - Veterinary Technology Program. His primary responsibilities include teaching large animal clinical procedures and health maintenance of the equine and food animal herds at MSU. He has developed a large animal referral center for patients from veterinarians in the region. His current research interests are in beef heifer development programs, estrous synchronization in beef cattle and beef bull infertility. Dr. Prater serves on the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association's Food Animal Committee, Emergency Management Committee and on the advisory board of the Kentucky Cattleman's Association and the Kentucky Beef Network. He has authored and co-authored several peer reviewed articles and two

book chapters on large and small animal reproduction. He serves as faculty advisor to Pre-Veterinary Medicine students at MSU. Dr. Prater served and chaired the Public Relations Committee of the ACT from 1996 – 1998. From 1999-2001, he served on the ACT Board of Directors. "I am honored to be a part of such a vibrant professional specialty. If elected, I would like to pursue the continued exploration of new and creative promotional opportunities for our diplomates, especially those in clinical private practice. I would try to explore creative methods for obtaining examination questions so that our exam data base remains relevant and challenging. I would also pursue the issues that are so timely to our professional specialty such as animal welfare issues in breeding soundness and the use of lay personnel in veterinary reproductive practice. It would truly be an honor to serve this organization as vice-president."

Dr. Ahmed Tibary graduated in 1980 with a degree in Veterinary Medicine from the Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire in Morocco. He earned his MS (1984) and PhD (1989) in Theriogenology from the University of Minnesota and was certified as a Diplomate in the American College of Theriogenologists in 1991. Dr. Tibary maintained an ongoing affiliation with the university in Morocco, teaching Theriogenology to veterinary students from 1985 to 1990 and is credited with building the equine Theriogenology program that now exists at the school. To this day he continues to conduct annual CE programs in equine Theriogenology for Moroccan veterinarians and serves as a consultant for the National Stud Farms.

While working as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Theriogenology at the University of Minnesota (1990-1991), Dr. Tibary accepted a position as the Scientific Director of the Veterinary Research Center in Abu Dhabi in the

United Arab Emirates (1991) where he was instrumental in developing a referral center for infertility and artificial breeding in Arabian horses and camels. In 1998, he accepted a position as an associate professor and head of the Theriogenology service in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University.

Dr. Tibary has devoted most of his career to teaching Theriogenology and conducting applied research. He has been honored with several awards recognizing his excellence in teaching including the Norden Distinguished Teacher Award in 2001 and 2005 and the Moroccan Veterinary Association Award for his contribution to the advancement of Equine Practice.

Dr. Tibary has served on the Board of Directors of the Society for Theriogenology and Ad hoc committees of the ACT (small ruminant and animal welfare). He recognizes our ongoing concern with image and recognition of worth (among veterinary students, veterinarians, animal owners, industry and academic administrations) along with resident training as important issues facing our college. He feels his varied professional experiences, both in the United States and abroad, has given him a unique ability to effectively interact with his ACT colleagues as Vice President to address these and other issues. Dr. Tibary would be humbled by and very appreciative of your support.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

Russell O. Crisman received his DVM from Purdue University in 1970, and his Diplomate ACT in 1981 via what was considered a residency route at the time. By that, his 3 years in a PhD program in reproductive physiology allowed him to take the ACT Boards without doing a clinical residency or via the practitioner route at the time. Since



1979 he has been at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Oregon State University. In addition to teaching theriogenology Dr. Crisman has been an ambulatory clinician involving multiple large animal species. His primary interest and experience has been in the bovine species. Although the vast majority of his career has been at OSU, he states he is probably much more like an ACT Diplomate in bovine practice than an academician in that he has done very little research since graduate school and his emphasis has been in teaching theriogenology and clinical practice. His qualifications include: practical experience, university experience and he has served on the ACT Examination Committee from 1993-1999. His vision is that theriogenology will continue to grow as a specialty. He also believes more theriogenologists will in the future be employed by private practice and industry. Those in private practice may not be limited to exclusive theriogenology cases but more than likely will predominantly be species oriented. He believes the opposite will be true in industry. He also believes the ACT Diplomate status should be available to anyone regardless of gender, country of origin, or species interest. Dr. Crisman says a broad based training across species is of great value to the individual and should be required by ACT with a species specialization, as per current examination procedures. He also believes if an individual is going into a species oriented practice, above minimal training in non-theriogenology is important for the future employment of that individual.

John J. Dascanio, received his degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1988, and achieved Diplomate status in 1997 via residency program. He has worked on all large animal species, but focuses mainly on horses, secondarily with llamas and alpacas. He has been active

in the American Association of Equine Practitioners as the past chair of the computer applications committee and member of the research committee. He has also served for greater than 6 years as the Equine Credentials Vice-Chair for the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, Equine Specialty. Currently, he is involved in equine molecular biology research at Virginia Tech, teaches equine Theriogenology to the veterinary and animal science students, participate in a Theriogenology residency training program and provides clinical service in the hospital and Equine Field Service Unit. He feels there are a number of issues the ACT faces including examination of our role in the global animal reproduction world, especially with the European College of Animal Reproduction. He says we also need to continue to work on finding qualified residents, demonstrating our contribution as specialists and solving the age old question of our identity as "Theriogenologists". As a member of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners he is required to recertify every 10 years, which he has done once now, and "Can bring perspective from that Board to our College as we examine recertification in the ACT. I feel that my background in all large animal species can serve the membership well and I will represent the College with much enthusiasm."

Dr. Carlos R. F. Pinto received his veterinary degree from the Universidade Estadual Paulista (UNESP, São Paulo, Brazil) in 1986 and began his professional career as a full-time veterinarian for Guten Tag Dairy Farms. From 1987 until June 1995 he worked in his privately owned mixed practice in Bebedouro, São Paulo, where he provided veterinary assistance to several dairy and beef farms. In 1995, he started a residency program in Theriogenology in the Department of Veterinary Clinical

Sciences, Louisiana State University (LSU) and became board certified in the ACT in 1997. After completing his residency, he was employed as a Clinical Fellow in Theriogenology in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences while working on a PhD in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences at LSU. His doctoral work included studies investigating the role of nitric oxide in equine and bovine ovulation and follicular dynamics. He has also collaborated with research leading to the improvement of assisted reproductive technologies for ruminants and horses. He obtained his PhD degree in December 2001 and became an assistant professor in Theriogenology in the Department of Population Health & Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine at the North Carolina State University. Dr. Pinto designed and now coordinates an Equine Theriogenology clinical and research program at the NC State Equine Health Center at Southern Pines, NC. He also founded the student chapter of the Society for Theriogenology (SCSFT) at NC State in 2004; this new student chapter currently has 72 active members. Dr. Pinto believes that a strong and active student chapter is key to stimulating interest in Theriogenology. Involvement of ACT Diplomates in supporting student chapter activities is important to promote growth of both SFT and ACT membership. Dr. Pinto hopes his blend of experiences from private practice and academia will help to create strategies to continue to bring national recognition to the Society.

Dr. Juan C. Samper obtained his veterinary degree from Colombia in 1982 and after practicing for 3 years enrolled in the reproduction program at the University of Minnesota where he earned a Masters and a PhD. At the same time he did his residency and specialty training in Equine reproduction and became board certified in 1991. In 1990



Juan joined the faculty at the Ontario Veterinary College. After 3 years in academia he established his own equine reproduction practice in Vancouver, Canada which he has had for 12 years. In 2001 he accepted a position as associate professor in Equine Theriogenology at Kansas State University. Personal reasons brought Dr Samper back to Vancouver where he is back in private practice. Besides his private practice, he has consulted extensively in North and South America as well as in Europe. Dr. Samper has published several articles and book chapters in equine reproduction and is the editor of "Equine Breeding Management and AI" and co-editor of Current Therapy in Equine Reproduction..

In 1996 he was elected as a board member of the SFT and had the honor to serve as its president during 2000-2001. During that time he was fortunate to work together with the ACT and SFT boards in solidifying the symposia that are now held on a yearly basis. "I am honored to have been nominated for the board of the ACT and if elected I would like to explore ways to make our College more visible within the veterinary community and the general public. I would like to have the opportunity to continue to help implement the strategic plan that the board has been working on for the past couple of years. My past experience as an SFT board member as well as being involved with numerous meetings with the combined ACT/SFT board should help me be a productive member of the ACT board of directors."

HONORARY ACT MEMBER

Dr. Reuben Mapletoft was raised on a farm in Saskatchewan, Canada. After graduating from the Ontario Veterinary College (Guelph) in 1967, he did an internship (Small Animals) and subsequently served as a lecturer at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (Saskatoon). After a few months in private practice

in British Columbia, he spent 3 years as a lecturer at the University of Pretoria (Onderstepoort). From 1973 to 1977, he acquired his MS and PhD under the guidance of Professor O.J. Ginther at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During his graduate studies, he co-authored several landmark, classic papers on the vascular pathways for utero-ovarian transfer of prostaglandin. In 1977, he assumed a faculty position at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, where he still works (he is also a consultant for Bioniche Animal Health). For more than two decades, he performed clinical duty and taught numerous graduate and undergraduate classes. He has been a supervisor, co-supervisor or committee member on more than 60 graduate committees. He has given numerous talks, workshops and courses on animal reproduction, particularly embryo transfer (and allied topics, including superovulation, embryo freezing and synchronization of estrus for donors or for AI) in many countries around the world; he truly has had a global influence in animal reproduction! As a result of his extensive research and collaboration, he is author or co-author of more than 100 peer-reviewed papers and more than 300 abstracts, proceedings articles, reports, etc. His contributions to the scientific community include serving as President of the International Embryo Transfer Society and the Canadian Embryo Transfer Association, as well as several committees within those organizations. In addition, Dr. Mapletoft has served on various editorial boards and reviewed countless papers and proposals. He has received numerous awards, including Distinguished Researcher and an earned D.Sc. (both from the U. of Saskatchewan), and a Distinguished Service award from the International Embryo Transfer Society. Throughout his career, Reuben has always worked with enormous enthusiasm and passion and has consistently had the

highest standards of excellence and professionalism. He would be an exemplary recipient of Honorary Diplomate status in the ACT.

Dr. Michael Skinner is a Professor in the School of Molecular Biosciences at Washington State University. He did his B.S. in Chemistry at Reed College in Portland Oregon, his Ph.D. in Biochemistry at Washington State University and his Postdoctoral Fellowship at the C.H. Best Institute at the University of Toronto. He has been on the faculty of Vanderbilt University and the University of California at San Francisco. Dr. Skinner's research is focused on the investigation of how different cell types in a tissue interact and communicate to regulate cellular growth and differentiation, with emphasis in the area of reproductive biology. Recent studies have elucidated several critical events in the initiation of male sex differentiation, testis development and ovarian primordial follicle development. Dr. Skinner has over 150 peer reviewed publications and has given over 75 invited symposia, plenary lectures and university seminars. Dr. Skinner has been the Director of the Washington State University and University of Idaho Center for Reproductive Biology (CRB) since its inception in 1996. The CRB has over 80 faculty and is one of the largest reproductive sciences research Centers in the world. Dr. Skinner is also the Director of the Center for Integrated Biotechnology (CIB). The CIB was established in 2002 and has over 150 active research faculty members. In addition to his administrative duties, Dr. Skinner remains actively involved in research and participates in several program projects within the CRB.

Dr. Walter W. Zent received his DVM from Cornell University in 1963. Following an internship at Purdue University, he joined the Department of Veterinary Science, University of Kentucky



where he spent the next two years assisting Drs. J. Bryans and R. Doll in developing a vaccine against the then new A2 equine influenza. In 1966, Dr. Zent joined Hagyard-Davidson-McGee Associates. He has been instrumental in developing the practice from a small ambulatory practice into the world's largest and one of the most renowned equine practices. He is a senior partner and Director of the Reproductive Referral Units in this practice. Dr. Zent's extensive clinical experience in combination with his devotion to theriogenology has made him well sought after by national and local professional organizations. He served on the Council of Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association between 1994 and 2000. He has served as president of the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (1994) and its Foundation (2002), and the Central Kentucky Equine Practitioners Association (1983-1984). He is currently a member of the Executive Board of Gluck Equine Research Foundation. Dr. Zent is an Adjunct Faculty Member at the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida, and has been one of the leaders in developing a combined academic and private practice residency program in equine theriogenology. This collaborative program between Hagyard-Davidson-McGee and the University of Florida was created to prepare the next generation of ACT Diplomates for a successful career in equine reproduction. Dr. Zent is the author and co-author of several peer-reviewed professional articles and book chapters in equine theriogenology. He also contributes numerous articles in lay equine journals. He has presented data from research collaborations with academic institutions and from his practice at national and international professional and scientific meetings. Dr. Zent is currently the president of the Society for Theriogenology. In his leadership within SFT, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to take the

Society to a new level in order to meet future expectations of its members and industry partners.

Scientific...Continued (page 5)

a variety of topics in a range of species. The competitive abstract session is always a highlight of the meeting. Members of the abstract committee will be in attendance to score the oral presentations and prizes will be awarded to the individuals with the highest combined written and oral scores. On behalf of the abstract committee, I invite all of you to consider nominating yourself or your colleagues to serve as part of the abstract committee. Nominations are sought in the fall of each year. In 2006, we will be searching for a new equine emphasis permanent member and a new ad hoc member. Additionally, we encourage all of you to continue to submit abstracts for consideration for either the competitive or non competitive abstract sessions at the SFT annual meeting. The first call for abstracts for the 2007 meeting should go out in late November or early December with an abstract submission deadline of approximately mid-February, 2007.

Respectfully,

Regina Turner, Chair,

Scientific Abstract Committee

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

President: *John Steiner* (Private practice; equine)

President-elect: *Margaret Root Kustritz* (academia; canine, feline)

Vice-President: *Gary Nie* (Private practice; equine)

Immediate Past President: *Margo Macpherson* (academia; equine)

Secretary: (term ends in 2007) *Craig Smith* (organized veterinary medicine; bovine, porcine)

Treasurer: (term ends in 2008) *Travis Meredith* (industry; equine)

Director-at-Large (term ends in 2006) *Patricia Sertich* (academia; large animal; predominantly equine)

Director-at-Large (term ends in 2007) *Dirk Vanderwall* (academia; equine)

Director-at-Large (term ends in 2008) *Regina Turner* (academia; equine)

Executive Offices of the College

Executive Director-Charles Franz
(charles@franzmgt.com)

Membership-Tammy Wallace
(tammy@therio.org)

PR/Communications-Rick Derrick
(rick@franzmgt.com)



2006 SFT/ACT

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

August 23-26, 2006

SMALL ANIMAL

Collection of Tissues and Culture Samples from the Canine Reproductive Tract, *Margaret Root Kustritz*

Canine Brucellosis: Outbreaks and Compliance, . *Bruce Hollett*

Vaginoscopy in the Dog, *Jody Lulich*

A Review of Sample Handling Considerations for Reproductive and Thyroid Hormone Measurement, *Rebecca Davies*

Genetic Counseling in the Era of Molecular Diagnostics, *Anne Traas*

Use of Topical Medication in Breeding Animals, *Fran Smith*

Pyometra in the Bitch, *Fran Smith*

Documented and Anecdotal Effects of Certain Pharmaceutical Agents on Semen Characteristics in the Dog, *Hess Milan*

Acupuncture in Small Animal Reproduction and in Performance Dogs, *Joni Freshman*

Practitioner Tips for the Reproductive Pocket Pet and Rabbit, *Marcia Brower*

FOOD ANIMAL

Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus: Alter Ego As A Reproductive Pathogen, *Dan Grooms*

Review Of And Diagnosis Of Reproductive Losses Caused By Leptospirosis, *Dan Grooms*

Neosporosis in Dairy Cattle: An Update from the Epidemiology Perspective, *John Gay*

A Clinical, Evidence Based Approach to Infectious Causes of Infertility in Beef Cattle, *Dan Givens*

Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome, *Scott Dee*

Diagnosing and Controlling Abortions in Sheep, *Dr. Cindy Wolf*

EQUINE

Late Gestational Pregnancy Loss in the Mare, *Margo Macpherson*

Embryonic Loss in the Mare: A Review and Update, *James Brendemuehl*

Stallion Fertility: The Role of Record Evaluation, *Charles Love*

Insemination Doses: How Low Can We Go? *Steve Brinsko*

Disease Transmission in Stallions, *Juan Samper*

Pathogenesis and Treatment for Endometritis, *John Hurtgen*

Interactive Case Presentations, *Samper & Panel*

Clinical Aspects of Equine Reproduction, *Samper & Panel*





2006 SFT/ACT

ANNUAL SYMPOSIA

August 22-23, 2006

BOVINE SYMPOSIUM

August 22-23, 2006

Analysis and Interpretation of Reproductive Performance in Dairy Herds

How do you determine the reproductive performance level on a dairy? This Symposium will present a cutting-edge look at the evaluation and interpretation of reproductive performance in commercial dairy herds. A systematic process that identifies management and cow factors that influence reproduction on dairies will be taught. In this way performance problems can be identified early and corrected on a timely basis.

- ◆ Reproductive Strategies & Current Performance in a Commercial Dairy Operation Utilizing a Specialized Transition Management Facility, *Paul Rapnicki*
- ◆ Pregnancy Wastage, *Mike Overton*
- ◆ Consideration for Early Detection of Open Cows, *Steven Stewart*
- ◆ Sire Selection, (Bullseye/GES) *Steve Eicker*
- ◆ Pregnancy Risk Calculations, Team Teach
- ◆ Reproductive Data Screens, *Steve Stewart*
- ◆ Monitoring Approaches, *Steve Eicker*
- ◆ How To Incorporate Ultrasound Into The Reproductive Management of Dairy Cattle to Maximize Pregnancy Rates, *Kevin McSweeney*
- ◆ Bull Programs, *Carlos Risco & Mike Overton*
- ◆ Milk Production & Reproduction, *Steve Eicker*
- ◆ Repro Program Economics, *Mike Overton*
- ◆ Q & A Session, Panel

SMALL ANIMAL SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday, August 23, 2006

Learn the latest regarding immunologic, pharmacologic, and surgical methods of population control in dogs and cats. Lecture topics to be covered include: surgical options beyond ovariohysterectomy, latest information about early spay-neuter in dogs and cats, pros and cons of progestogens for estrus suppression in queens and bitches, and an update on "spay vaccines." An associated Wet Lab is available, at which participants will have an opportunity to perform ovariohysterectomy or castration of puppies or kittens aged 16 weeks or less under the guidance of veterinarians experienced in these surgeries.

- ◆ **"Nip & Tuck!" - SURGICAL METHODS OF CONTRACEPTION AND STERILIZATION**, *Lisa Howe* - The surgical methods of contraception for the female and male domestic dog and cat will be described and discussed. Procedures to be discussed will include the traditional midline ovariohysterectomy, the flank ovariohysterectomy, early age gonadectomy, laparoscopic ovariohysterectomy, ovariectomy, castration and vasectomy. Advantages and disadvantages of each technique will be discussed, as well as relevant current literature.
- ◆ **IMMUNIOLOGIC CONTRACEPTION**, *Beverly Purswell* - The Broad area of immunocontraception as it applies to dogs and cats will be discussed as well as recent advances, the various approaches and the challenges faced in this area.
- ◆ **PHARMACOLOGIC METHODS OF CONTRACEPTION AND STERILIZATION**, *Michelle Kutzler* - Although many veterinarians recommend surgical sterilization for population control in dogs and cats, non-surgical methods exist. Pharmacologic methods of contraception and sterilization can be reliable and reversible.

Annual Conference and Symposia
August 22-26, 2006
St. Paul, Minnesota

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