

Tammy Anderson, DVM, DACVIM

Dr. Anderson is a New Jersey Native who received her DVM from Ohio State University in 1995. She completed her Small Animal Internship at Michigan State University in 1996, and completed her residency in Small Animal Internal Medicine at the University of Tennessee in 1999. She remained at UT as an Assistant Professor of Small Animal Medicine until 2001, when she returned to New Jersey and entered private practice. Dr. Anderson advocates compassionate patient care along with advanced medical treatment and management. Her focus is primarily on the pet's health and the clients goals. She works collaboratively with the family veterinarian to formulate diagnostic treatment plans tailored to meet each patient and client's needs. She considers her collegial relationship with the family veterinarian essential to provide quality, comprehensive and successful treatments. Dr. Anderson joined our team in December 2004.

Lisa B. Bell, M. Ed.

Lisa Bell is a passionate leader with more than 18 years of diverse human resources, organizational design/development and business transformation experience. She has demonstrated success in driving business results with the implementation of HR operational efficiencies, prudent financial management, leading change management strategies and maximizing the organizational health of companies.

Lisa was a Vice President, Human Resources and then Vice President, Organization & People Development, at INTTRA where she managed INTTRA's transition from an entrepreneurial culture to a corporate structure. She was responsible for institutionalizing the company's organizational culture globally with the implementation of high performing teams. During her tenure, she established internal 'branding' to ensure the company hired, developed and retained the best and the brightest in the industry. Lisa successfully planned, implemented and managed the direction of INTTRA's global human resources programs and policies from the early inception of the company. She ensured day-to-day HR 'best practices' for recruitment, succession planning, employee relations, compliance, benefits/compensation analysis, training, visa administration, employment handbook, general office management, HRIS/ Payroll and facilities were performed worldwide and within the scope of local practice/employment regulations.

Lisa was an Executive Director, Human Resources, at CIBC Oppenheimer where she worked with senior management, specializing in employee relations, strategic planning, internal partnerships/alliances, and leadership development. Before her work at CIBC Oppenheimer, Lisa was a Business Systems Analyst at Citibank and Bankers' Trust. Previously, Lisa was a Corporate Trainer at Chase Manhattan Bank.

Lisa received a bachelor's degree from Douglass College and a master's degree from Boston College. She has attended ongoing seminars offered by The Conference Board, NYU Law School, Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations, NASD and various NY/NJ employment law firms in employment law, employee relations, mediation, conflict resolution, negotiation skills, organizational change and compensation analysis. Lisa has participated in the following speaking engagements - Mercer Consulting, The Conference Board, and SHRM. Her memberships and affiliations include - Member of Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), Member of the Council of Mid-Market HR Executives (The Conference Board) and Member of the HR Leadership Council (The Corporate Executive Board).

Allyson Berent, DVM, DACVIM

Dr. Berent graduated from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. She completed an internship at the University of Minnesota and a residency in internal medicine at the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. After completing a fellowship in interventional radiology at the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and a fellowship in Endourology at Thomas Jefferson University she served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in Internal Medicine and Interventional Radiology/ Interventional Endoscopy at the Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She now is the director of the interventional endoscopy service at the Animal Medical Center in NYC and particularly focus ureteral diseases, urinary incontinence and minimally invasive management of urinary stone disease. She also has an interest in hepatobiliary interventions and nasopharyngeal stenosis

Mary L. Berg, BS, RLATG, RVT, VTS (Dentistry)

Mary received her B.S. in Biology/Microbiology from South Dakota State University, her A.S. in Laboratory Animal Science from Redlands Community College, and her A.S. in Veterinary Technology from St. Petersburg College. She is a Charter member of the Academy of Veterinary Dental Technicians and received her Veterinary Technician Specialty in Dentistry in June 2006. Mary is currently serving as the treasurer of the AVDT. She currently has memberships to the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, and the American Veterinary Dental Society. Mary worked in research for over 13 years, specializing in on products aimed at improving oral health of companion animals. She is currently the practice manager and technician dental specialist at Gentle Care Animal Hospital in Lawrence, Kansas as well as the president of MLB Consulting, a veterinary dental consulting service. She has authored or co-authored over 50 publications including publications in the Journal of Dental Research, the Veterinary Technician Journal and the NAVTA journal and has been a speaker and wet lab instructor at numerous conferences to include Western Veterinary Conference, North American Veterinary Conference, Annual Veterinary Forum, American Veterinary Medical Association Conference, AAHA conference and multiple state conferences.

Mary Sarah Bergh, DVM, MS, DACVS

Dr. Bergh is a board certified small animal surgeon and an Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She graduated from veterinary school at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine, completed a rotating internship at the University of Pennsylvania, and a research fellowship at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine. She earned her Masters of Science degree and completed her small animal surgical residency at The Ohio State University. Her clinical and research interests include joint replacement, osteoarthritis, arthroscopy, TPLO/TTA, and racing/athletic injuries. She also has interests in sports medicine and rehabilitation therapy and is the director of the ISU Canine Rehabilitation Service.

Stephen Birchard, DVM, MS, DACVS

Dr. Stephen Birchard went to veterinary school at the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine (Class of 1976). He then was an associate veterinarian in a small animal practice in New Jersey for 2 years. Dr. Birchard then completed a small animal surgical residency program and Masters degree at Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine in 1981, and became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1984. Dr. Birchard spent 2 years as an Associate Staff Surgeon at the Animal Medical Center in New York City, and then joined the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University in 1983. Dr. Birchard was Head of Small Animal Surgery at Ohio State from 1988 to 1994. While at Ohio State, he received the Norden Distinguished Teacher Award (1985), the Omega Tau Sigma Fraternity National Gamma Award for distinguished service to the veterinary profession (1994), the John Lyman Jr. Award for Clinical Teaching Excellence (2006), and the Excellence in Teaching Award (2008). Dr. Birchard retired from Ohio State in July 2010 and is now doing part time consulting in private practice and continuing education for practicing veterinarians.

Dr. Birchard's clinical specialty is small animal soft tissue surgery. His research interests are in oncologic surgery, general thoracic surgery, portosystemic shunts, and chylothorax. Dr. Birchard has written numerous articles for refereed journals and book chapters. He is the chief editor of the Saunders Manual of Small Animal Practice, co-edited by Dr. Robert Sherding.

Nan Boss, DVM

Dr. Boss received her DVM from the University of Illinois in 1985. She has served on many committees for veterinary organizations, and consults for PetCare TV and Banfield. She has written four books: The Client Education Notebook, 3 volumes of client education materials from AVLS PetCom; How We Do Things Here, which consists of team training materials; and Educating Your Clients From A to Z, What to Say & How to Say It, both published by AAHA Press; and a book and client education materials on breed specific wellness available from VetThinkInc.com. She was also a contributing author for Blackwell's 5-Minute Veterinary Practice Management Consult. Dr. Boss has also written articles for Trends, DVM and other veterinary magazines, and is a frequent speaker at major veterinary conferences, including AAHA, TNAVC, WVC & AVMA. Her practice was awarded the Practice of Excellence Award from Veterinary Economics. Dr. Boss currently owns and manages Best Friends Veterinary Center.

Kara M. Burns, Veterinary Technician Specialist; MS, MEd, LVT

Kara Burns is a licensed veterinary technician originally from New England, now living in Kansas. She holds a master's degree in physiology and a master's degree in counseling psychology. She began her career in human medicine working as an emergency psychologist in the Maine Medical Center emergency department. She also worked at Maine Poison Control as a poison specialist dealing with human and animal poisonings.

She then made the move to veterinary medicine and worked in small animal private practice and a small animal and avian practice in Maine.

Kara is the President of the Academy of Veterinary Nutrition Technicians, the tenth recognized specialty for veterinary technicians.

She is a member of many national and state associations and holds positions on many board in the profession - such as the AAHA Yearly Conference Development Committee – Technician Chair, AAVN technician liaison, the NAVTA Journal editorial board, Chair - NAVTA Committee on Veterinary Technician Specialties, NAHERC, KS SART, and is the president of the Kansas Veterinary Technician Association, to name a few.

Kara works for Hill's Pet Nutrition as the veterinary technician specialist.

She has authored many articles and textbook chapters and is an internationally invited speaker, focusing on topics of nutrition, leadership, and technician utilization.

Ms. Burns has been featured on the cover of the Veterinary Technician Journal and the NAVTA Journal. She is the 2010 NAVTA Veterinary Technician of the Year, as well as the 2011 Dr. Franklin Loew Lecturer. Kara has also been named the National Association of Professional Women "Woman of the Year" for 2010-2011 and the Cambridge Who's Who in Professionals V.I.P. for 2010-2011.

She enjoys spending time with her wife Dr. Ellen Lowery and their children. They are actively involved in youth sports, 4-H, school activities, and church ministry. The family also includes three horses, two sheep, 2 pugs, a French bulldog, 4 birds, 5 indoor cats, and a bearded dragon!

Peter S. Chapman, BVetMed, DECVIM-CA, DACVIM, MRCVS

Dr. Peter Chapman graduated from the Royal Veterinary College, University of London in 1998. After a year of a mixed practice in the United Kingdom, he returned to the Royal Veterinary College where he completed an internship and residency in internal medicine. Dr. Chapman joined the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 2003 as a Lecturer in Internal Medicine. He was appointed to the faculty as an Assistant Professor – Clinician Educator in 2006. In 2009, he joined the Veterinary

Specialty and Emergency Center, a large multidisciplinary practice serving the Philadelphia metropolitan area. He is board-certified by the European and American Colleges of Veterinary Internal Medicine and has a particular interest in endocrinology.

Lynette K. Cole, DVM, DACVD

Dr. Cole received her veterinary degree from the University of Tennessee in 1989. She completed her Residency in Veterinary Dermatology at The Ohio State University in 1997 and obtained her Master of Science degree from The Ohio State University in 1999. She is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology. She is currently an Associate Professor of Dermatology at The Ohio State University. Her main professional interest is ear disease.

Joann Colville, DVM, BA, BS

1971 – graduate of University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine

1971-1972 – Small animal practice, New Orleans, LA.

1972-1976 – Small animal relief veterinarian, Arlington, VA.

1976-1980 – Assistant Professor, North Dakota State University Veterinary Technology Program, Fargo, ND. Teaching responsibilities: Introduction to the Veterinary Profession, Medical Terminology, Clinical Pathology (Parasitology, Hematology, Clinical Chemistry, Urinalysis, Immunology), Reproduction, Small Animal Diseases.

1981-1998 – Associate Professor, North Dakota State University Veterinary Technology Program, Fargo, ND. Teaching responsibilities: Introduction to the Veterinary Profession, Medical Terminology, Clinical Pathology (Parasitology, Hematology, Clinical Chemistry, Urinalysis, Immunology), Reproduction, Small Animal Diseases.

1998 – 2000 – adjunct professor, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND. Teaching responsibilities: Human Hematology, Skills for Academic Success.

1998 – present – editor, author, contributor, Elsevier Publications, St. Louis, MO.

- TEACH manuals for veterinary technology textbooks.
- Clinical pathology chapters contributor: Clinical Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians. 2008.
- Chapter contributor: Clinical Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory Manual for Veterinary Technicians. 2009.
- Co-author: Handbook of Zoonoses: Identification and Prevention. 2007.

Thomas Colville, BS, DVM, MSc

Education:

- BS degree, University of Minnesota, 1969
- DVM degree, University of Minnesota, 1971
- MSc degree, University of Stirling (Scotland), 1981

Professional Experience:

- Private veterinary practice, New Orleans, LA, 1971-1972
- Private veterinary practice, Arlington, VA, 1973-1976
- Director, Veterinary Technology Program, North Dakota State University, 1976-2010

Teaching-related Awards:

- Alpha Zeta Outstanding Educator in Agriculture, North Dakota State University, 1987 & 1990
- Certificate of Commendation for Excellence in Teaching, North Dakota State University, 1991 & 1993
- H. Roald & Janet Lund Excellence in Teaching Award, North Dakota State University 2003
- Awarded Life Membership in the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators for "...lifelong efforts in veterinary technician education ..." 2003

Recent Publications:

- Colville, T.P., and Bassert, J.M., Clinical Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians, Second Edition, Mosby, Inc., St. Louis, MO., 2008
- Colville, T.P., and Bassert, J.M., Clinical Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory Manual for Veterinary Technicians, Mosby, Inc., St. Louis, MO., 2009
- Colville, T.P., Review Questions and Answers for Veterinary Technicians, Fourth Edition, Mosby, Inc., St. Louis, MO, 2010

Kristen Cooley, BA, CVT, VTS (Anesthesia)

Kristen holds an AAS degree in both laboratory animal and veterinary technology from MATC. Soon after graduation in 2002, Kristen went on to work at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. Here she found her niche in Anesthesia and Pain Management where she underwent intense training that prepared her for acceptance into the Academy of Veterinary Technician Anesthetists in 2007. During that time, she also completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology.

After leaving the University, Kristen was integral in leading the Veterinary Technology Program at Globe University in Middleton, Wisconsin through their AVMA accreditation before moving into her present position as the Veterinary Education Specialist with Smiths Medical/SurgiVet. With a strong interest in education, her current position allows her to share her passion, knowledge and anesthesia expertise with veterinarians and technicians around the world through the development of continuing education literature and seminars.

Anthony Fischetti, DVM, MS, DACVR

Dr. Fischetti is the Department Head of Diagnostic Imaging at the Animal Medical Center in Manhattan, New York. A native New Yorker, Dr. Fischetti received undergraduate and veterinary degrees from Cornell University. He then completed an internship at the University of Pennsylvania, followed by a Diagnostic Imaging Residency and Master's Degree from The Ohio State University. Dr. Fischetti's enthusiasm and expertise span all imaging modalities, including radiology, ultrasound, computed tomography (CT), and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Dr. Fischetti is a member of the board of examiners for the American College of Veterinary

Radiology. He speaks nationally on a variety of radiology-related topics and has co-authored numerous peer-reviewed articles relating to veterinary diagnostic imaging.

Philip R. Fox DVM, MS, DACVIM/ECVIM (Cardiology), DACVECC

Dr. Philip Fox graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine at the Ohio State University. At the Animal Medical Center in New York City, he completed an Internship in medicine and surgery, a Cardiology Residency, and stayed on as a cardiologist in the Department of Medicine. He is certified in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, subspecialty of Cardiology, European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, subspecialty of cardiology, and is a charter member of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. Research interests include cardiovascular pathology, myocardial diseases, and congestive heart failure. He has been an author on numerous scientific articles, abstracts, and chapters, has produced two Cardiology Textbooks, is an Editor of the Journal of Veterinary Cardiology, and speaks internationally on clinical cardiology. He has been awarded the Small Animal Speaker of the year at the NAVC.

Karyn Gavzer, MBA, CVPM

Ms. Gavzer is a practice management consultant specializing in marketing, training and customized solutions. She says her job is to help practices “go and grow” with new ideas and practical plans.

She has worked with industry, associations, and veterinary practices for over 18 years. She is best known, however, as the former director of marketing for the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) where she created public campaigns with industry, such as “Pets Need Dentistry, Too” and training programs to help veterinarians and their staffs market their services more effectively.

Karyn has an MBA and she is one of less than 200 certified veterinary hospital managers (CVPM) in North America. She is a member of the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), an AAHA adjunct faculty member and one of the founders of VetPartners (formerly the Association of Veterinary Practice Management Consultants and Advisors).

Karyn is particularly well known for helping practices with strategic planning and with implementing improvements from the AAHA compliance study. She is a sought-after consultant, speaker and writer on these and other management and marketing issues. Above all else, Karyn says she is a pet lover and one of the people that walk through the front door of your office every day. She makes a point of sharing that perspective in all of her work.

Deborah Gross Saunders, DPT, MSPT, OCS, DABPTS,CCRP

Debbie began her physical therapy career with a Bachelor's of Science degree in physical therapy from Boston University. It was during her physical therapy education that she began to think about combining her love for animals with the principles of physical therapy. However, it was not until she continued on in the 'human' field of physical therapy that she seriously followed through with the combination of animals and physical therapy. (Read more of Deb's story.)

She holds a Master of Science degree from Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut in Orthopedic Physical Therapy with distinction and became board certified in orthopedic physical therapy from the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties. Debbie earned her doctorate in Physical Therapy in August 2008 at the University of Tennessee.

Debbie has been working with small animals for over fourteen years. During the past seven years, she has become passionate about the recognition and treatment of injuries in athletic dogs. She currently runs a facility on her 23 acre farm that can accommodate lengthy stays for the rehabilitation of dogs, and in particular athletic dogs.

Michelle Guercio-Winter, CVT, CVPM

Michelle is a Practice Management Specialist with Webster Veterinary. She is the creator of the Webster Veterinary University educational series including specialized classes for Veterinary Practice Owners, Managers and Receptionists. She brings to her speaking and teaching a passion for the business of veterinary medicine backed by more than 25 years experience in practice. Michelle continues to develop material relevant for all positions in the veterinary practice and commonly speaks to veterinary and management groups nationwide.

Ralph C. Harvey, DVM, MS, DACVA

Dr. Ralph Harvey teaches anesthesiology at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. He has served there as the Director of Small Animal Surgical Services and as a member of the University Faculty Senate. His advanced training included internship, residency and fellowship at Cornell's Veterinary and Medical Colleges. He has also worked in private small animal practice. He is certified by the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists as a Veterinary Anesthesiologist, has served as the Executive Secretary of the ACVA, and as a member of the ACVA Board of Directors. Dr. Harvey has received the UTCVM Brandy Memorial Award for “sensitivity and compassion for veterinary patients and the ability to instill these qualities in veterinary students,” and he has also received the Outstanding Faculty Member Award from the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association. His community and public service activities have included work with regional science fair programs, Explorer Scouting, The Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, and regional environmental advocacy.

Keith A. Hnilica DVM, MS, MBA, DACVD

Dr. Keith Hnilica graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1993. After graduating, Dr. Hnilica completed a small animal internship and a residency in Dermatology at Auburn University. He received his Masters of Veterinary Medicine and became a board certified member of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology in 1997. Dr. Hnilica was selected into the University of Georgia's Lilly Teaching Fellowship Program and in 2007 he completed an MBA program at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Hnilica was on faculty at the University of Georgia for 3 years and at The University of Tennessee for 8 years. Dr. Hnilica is the author of itchnot.com, and Small Animal Dermatology; A color Atlas and Therapeutic Guide 3rd Ed. Published in 2010.

In 2009, Dr. Hnilica left the University to develop a progressive referral and learning center focusing on cutting-edge medicine with exceptional client service and the absolute best patient care possible. Dr. Hnilica continues to teach and lectures throughout out North America.

Carlos Hodges, DVM, MS

Dr. Carlos C. Hodges is the owner and surgeon at Valley Central Veterinary Referral Center. He has been caring for pets in the Lehigh Valley area since 1996.

Dr. Carlos Hodges comes from a family of veterinarians. His father is a retired general practitioner in Philadelphia and he works with his brother, a veterinary internist. Dr. Hodges graduated from Tuskegee University, School of Veterinary Medicine in 1985. He completed both a one-year rotating internship in small animal medicine and surgery and a one-year fellowship in surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine from 1985-87. The next three years were spent in a surgical residency program at Texas A & M University, College of Veterinary Medicine from 1987-1990. In 1990, he accepted an appointment as Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Orthopedics at the teaching hospital of the Texas Veterinary Medical Center at Texas A & M University. He remained in that capacity with interests in soft tissue surgery, orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery and veterinary dentistry until June of 1996.

Dr. Carlos Hodges' surgical interests include but are not limited to Soft Tissue Surgery, Neurosurgery, & Orthopedics. Dr. Hodges is certified in the Kyon TTA & Total Hip, and performs TPLO and Tight Rope surgeries for the cruciate deficient stifle. Dr. Hodges is also certified in the Biomedtrix Total Knee Replacement. Dr. Hodges performs Minimally Invasive Orthopedic, Arthroscopic, Laparoscopic, and Thoracoscopic procedures. Dr. Hodges also has an interest in Stem Cell Therapy.

Dr. Hodges is a member of the AVMA, AAHA, PVMA, LVVMA, and serves on the Board of the Valley Central Veterinary Emergency Hospital. Dr. Hodges co-hosts the Animal Doctor Show on Channel 69 WFMZ-TV Allentown, PA with Kathy Craine. Dr. Hodges is a frequent participant on MyFox Philly 29 and WCAU-TV Philadelphia. Dr. Hodges has hosted a Wednesday's Foster Child segment sponsored by Fannie Mae from WCAU-TV Philadelphia. The segment won the PVMA's Media Award in 2002.

Todd C. Huspeni, BA, MA, PhD

Associate Professor of Parasitology & Curator of Parasites; Dr. Huspeni teaches courses in parasitology, field ecology, and general zoology. He also mentors both undergraduate and graduate students in parasite-related research.

Dr. Huspeni is a Professor of Parasitology & Curator of Parasites at the University of WI - Stevens Point. Dr. Huspeni received his BA degree from the University of Minnesota and completed both of his graduate degrees at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Dr. Huspeni's research interests include examining effects of introduced parasite species on native waterfowl, as well as parasites of wildlife in North America. Dr. Huspeni engagingly and enthusiastically teaches parasitology to students with a wide variety of backgrounds and interests, including pre-veterinary professionals and veterinary technicians.

Elise M. Lacher, CPA

Elise Lacher is a Certified Public Accountant who has worked with entrepreneurs for over 30 years. For the last 10 years her focus has been with veterinarians helping them to achieve the success that they want for their practices. She has helped them get over their "fear of numbers" by helping them view their financial statements as lab reports for their practices. Once they understand what the reports are telling them, she works with them to develop a treatment plan to insure the health of their practice. She helps them set achievable goals and works with them to monitor their progress in reaching them.

Charlotte A. Lacroix, DVM, JD

Dr. Charlotte Lacroix owns and manages Veterinary Business Advisors, Inc., a consulting firm which advises veterinarians and attorneys nationwide on veterinary business and legal issues. Dr. Lacroix received her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine in 1988 from the University of California at Davis. After completing a large animal internship at the University of Guelph (Ontario, Canada), she worked for several years at an equine medical and surgical referral practice serving northern New Jersey's large equine community. In pursuit of her goal to make greater contributions to the veterinary profession, Dr. Lacroix attended law school and received her Juris Doctor from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Dr. Lacroix is a skilled negotiator and business strategist. She assists her clients in determining the relevant and important business aspects of a diverse array of transactions. Her legal and consulting activities include: legal document preparation and negotiation; advising on all aspects of veterinary partnerships, including associate buy-ins, specialty and general practice governance and management, and partner retirement and withdrawals; negotiating and facilitating the purchase and sale of practices of all types, as well as, entity selection and start-ups; consulting on issues unique to specialty practices; assisting with all employment related issues; and advising on malpractice cases, animal law and other legal and business problems. Dr. Lacroix lectures extensively on all these topics nationwide and overseas, and is a frequent speaker at AVMA, NAVC, WVC, VSIPP and other veterinary association and industry meetings and seminars. She is also an enthusiastic adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Lacroix is a regular contributor to JAVMA, Veterinary Economics, DVM Magazine, Partners in Practice and AAHA publications. She has written numerous other articles, contributed to several books, and appeared on radio and television. Dr. Lacroix also volunteers her time and expertise to veterinary and other organizations, including AVMA, AAHA, AAEP, NJVMA, PVMA and NAVC.

Meryl P. Littman, VMD, DACVIM

Dr. Littman received her V.M.D. and Interned at the University of Pennsylvania. After several years in private practice in Boston, she returned to Penn for Residency in Small Animal Internal Medicine and has remained on their faculty since 1979. As an Associate Professor in the Clinician-Educator track, most of her time is spent seeing clinical cases and teaching. Her research interests include infectious diseases (especially tick-borne), renal and urologic diseases (especially protein-losing nephropathy), hypertension,

and the genetic diseases of Soft-coated Wheaten terriers (SCWT, including inflammatory bowel disease, protein-losing enteropathy/nephropathy, Addison's disease, and juvenile renal disease). Currently she is doing genome-wide-association studies for PLE/PLN with the SCWT DNA Bank and updating the SCWT Open Registry which lists almost 1000 affected dogs. She was Chair of the ACVIM Lyme Consensus Statement in 2006. She served as Chief of the Section of Medicine and Chair of the Intern Program at Penn for many years. Dr. Littman has 1 husband, 3 daughters, 2 sons-in-law, 2 grandchildren, 1 Portuguese Water Dog (but she misses her Labradors) and 1 guinea pig. In her spare time, Dr. Littman likes to knit and listen to Bruce Springsteen or Italian opera.

Douglas Mader, MS, DVM, DABVP, FRSM

Dr. Mader, a graduate from the University of California, Davis in 1986, is the co-owner the Marathon Veterinary Hospital, a referral hospital in the Conch Republic. Dr. Mader is a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (Canine and Feline Practice) and a Fellow in the Royal Society of Medicine. Currently he is the consulting veterinarian for the Marathon Sea Turtle Hospital, the Monroe County Sheriff's Zoo, the Key West Aquarium and the Theater of the Sea. Dr. Mader is an internationally acclaimed lecturer and is on the review boards of several scientific journals. He has published numerous articles in scientific and veterinary journals, national magazines, and is the author/editor of the Elsevier publication, Reptile Medicine and Surgery. The University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Achievement Award and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Wildlife Conservation Award are amongst Dr. Mader's many recognitions. Dr. Mader is on the Board of Directors and is the immediate Past President of the North American Veterinary Conference.

Elisa M. Mazzaferro, MS, DVM, PhD, DACVECC

Elisa Mazzaferro received her Bachelors and Masters Degree in Animal and Veterinary Science from the University of Rhode Island in 1991 and 1993, respectively. She received her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Michigan State University in 1997, and then completed an internship at the Veterinary Institute of Trauma, Emergency and Critical Care in Milwaukee, WI in 1998. From 1998 – 2002, she was enrolled in a simultaneous PhD/Residency program at Colorado State University. She successfully was admitted into the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care in 2002. Since that time, she has been the Director of Emergency Services at Wheat Ridge Veterinary Specialists, in Wheat Ridge, CO. Elisa has published a number of manuscripts and three textbooks on the subject of veterinary emergency and critical care. She routinely lectures at national and international veterinary conferences. She is currently an consultant on the Veterinary Interactive Network (VIN), Associate Editor for the Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care, the Scientific Program Coordinator for the International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Symposium, Vice-President of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care, Chair of the Denver Area Veterinary Medical Society's Continuing Education Committee, and a member of the scientific program committee for the American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Conference. In her spare time, Elisa mentors high school students and is a certified Jazzercise instructor.

Tasha McNerney, BS, CVT

I started working in the veterinary field in 1998 as a veterinary assistant. I attended Michigan State University where I obtained a bachelors of science in 2002 majoring in wildlife biology. After graduation I worked in the field of wildlife rehabilitation in the Florida Keys working with shore birds specifically. In 2003 I moved to the Philadelphia area and started at Manor College in Jenkintown, PA. There I obtained my associates of science in veterinary technology. I passed the VTNE in June of 2005. I have worked at Rau Animal Hospital in Glenside, PA for eight years as an O.R. / Anesthesia technician. I have also held summer internships at a local emergency clinic and the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ. I share my home with my husband, two cats, and a Catahoula leopard dog!

Nolie Parnell, DVM, DACVIM

Clinical Associate Professor, Small Animal Internal Medicine, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, Purdue University, School of Veterinary Medicine

Education

- DVM: North Carolina State University, 1993
- BS: Zoology, North Carolina State University, 1989

Certification

- Diplomate: American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, 1999

Stuart L. Porter, VMD

Currently Professor of Veterinary Technology and program director, Blue Ridge Community College, Weyers Cave, VA
Co-founder and former director of Veterinary Services for the Wildlife Center of Virginia, Waynesboro, VA
Former zoo veterinarian at the Memphis Zoo and the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville, TX; Author of numerous scientific articles and book chapters on wildlife related topics. Formerly vice-president of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association.

Karen E. Purves, M.A.

Want to say "I didn't want the session to end"? Do you think you've seen and heard it all? Karen's inspiring, entertaining and funny approach connecting science with emotion, has built a solid veterinary client base through results-oriented programs. Karen frequently speaks to standing room only crowds, and has the unique background of 13 years in the animal field followed by 11 years as a Professional Speaker.

In addition to being described as "one of the best" or "favorite" speakers of entire conferences dozens of times, other attendee comments include: "Refreshingly honest", "contagiously enthusiastic", "attention grabber and keeper", "breath of fresh air" and giving "real answers to real life".

Karen combines a Bachelor's Degree in Business, Master's Degree in Environmental Public Policy and over 20 years business experience along with extensive training at "The Second City" leave audiences feeling energized, inspired and empowered. Karen also has the rare distinction of being a 3-time game show winner!

Throughout the US, Canada, Europe and Asia, Karen guarantees that attendees will receive useful material, in an engaging way, and practical tools to implement immediately for success!

Deborah B. Reeder BA, AS, RVT, VTS-EVN

I recently returned to California and reside in the North County of San Diego, having lived in Texas for the past 22 years. I was raised on a working cattle ranch in the San Joaquin Valley in California, and have ridden horses all my life. Having received my Bachelor's degree from University of Colorado and San Diego State, I went back to obtain a degree in Veterinary Technology. I graduated from Cedar Valley College with honors in 1985 and took my State and National Boards, receiving my RVT designation that same year. I worked in and managed a variety of equine practices in the Dallas area for about 15 years, most notably Las Colinas Equine Referral Hospital and Lone Star Park Equine Clinic. I was very active in the Texas Technician Association and served as President for three terms. I was also with NPC for several years as an Area Manager overseeing 14 hospitals nationwide. I am the founding President of the AA EVT and now serve as it's Executive Director as well as one of the Organizing Members of the AEVNT (Academy for Specialty in Equine Nursing). I have spent the past 10 years working in practice management and consulting for equine practices, as well as the equine industry. My passion and my time is now mainly devoted to the AA EVT and working to promote the equine veterinary nursing profession and the industry. I have also taken a position as Adjunct Instructor for Equine / Large Animal with the Penn Foster College on line VT Program. Loving teaching ! I am married (husband, Jeff), Corporate Pilot and have two children, Brooke, a flight attendant, and Sam, Finance/Insurance Company in SFO. Both of whom are soccer enthusiasts. As a technician my love was rehabilitation work with horses, equine anesthesia, and working the ICU with foals.

Ilona Rodan, DVM, DABVP

Dr. Ilona Rodan is the medical director and owner of the Cat Care Clinic in Madison, WI. In 2010, she also started a consulting business, Feline-Friendly Consulting, to help teach other veterinarians and veterinary teams internationally to better understand the feline patient; respectful handling of cats to prevent distress and pain, and making the hospital environment more cat friendly.

Dr. Rodan is also a past-president of the American Association of Feline Practitioners, and has co-chaired a number of guidelines developed by the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) and joint AAFP and AAHA guidelines, including the AAFP Feline Behavior Guidelines, AAHA/AAFP Pain Management Guidelines, AAFP/AAHA Feline Life Stage Guidelines, and the AAFP Feline Handling Guidelines. In 2005, she was awarded the AVMA Animal Welfare Award for her leadership and contributions to advancing feline welfare.

Jeffrey J. Runge, DVM, DACVS

Dr. Runge is a lecturer of small animal surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. He focuses on minimally invasive surgery, and has lectured internationally on minimally invasive surgery for both human and veterinary conferences alike. Through collaboration with leading human physicians in laparoscopy, Dr. Runge and the University of Pennsylvania have become one of the leaders in veterinary reduced port surgery. Utilizing new human laparoscopic techniques such as Single Port Access (SPA), Single Incision Laparoscopic Surgery (LESS), Dr. Runge's group continues to "minimize minimally invasive surgery." Dr. Runge is an active member of two human laparoscopic surgical societies, SAGES (Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons) and the RPSG (Reduced Port Surgical Group). Dr. Runge has helped PennVET become a world leader in veterinary reduced port surgery. PennVET has currently become one of the only institutions performing single port laparoscopic surgery on clinical cases regularly.

Dr. Runge graduated from Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA and received his DVM from Ross University. His clinical year was completed at the University of Pennsylvania, and he proceeded to do an internship at the Animal Medical Center in New York. Following his internship, Dr. Runge participated in the PennHIP orthopedic research fellowship program and additionally completed his surgical residency at PennVET.

Margie Scherk DVM, DABVP (Feline)

Margie graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1982. In 1986 she opened Cats Only Veterinary Clinic in Vancouver, Canada practicing there until 2008. She achieved ABVP Board certification in feline practice in 1995 and published several clinical trials whilst in practice. She has written numerous book chapters and is an active international speaker as well as enjoying teaching on-line. She is Co-editor of the Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery. Margie has served extensively in the American Association of Feline Practitioners as well as other veterinary organizations. Her interests include all things feline, but in particular, analgesia, the peculiarities of the feline digestive system and enabling more positive interactions with cats.

Claire Sharp, BSc, BVMS (Hons), MS, DACVECC

Claire Sharp is an assistant professor and diplomate in small animal emergency medicine and critical care at the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in North Grafton, Massachusetts. Her primary clinical interests are the diagnosis and management of the systemic inflammatory response syndrome, sepsis, shock, polytrauma, and respiratory distress. Dr Sharp's research endeavors have involved identifying clinically relevant biomarkers for the diagnosis and prognostication of ECC diseases such as sepsis, feline asthma and hemangiosarcoma. At Tufts, Dr Sharp is Course Director for the Problem Based Learning course for first and second year veterinary students, and is heavily involved in the clinical instruction and mentoring of 14 critical care residents and 7 interns.

Margi Sirois, EdD, MS, RVT

Margi Sirois, EdD, MS, RVT received her AAS degree in veterinary technology from Camden County College. She also holds a BS and an MS in Biology and an Ed.D in instructional technology and distance education. She is certified as both a veterinary technician & laboratory animal technician and has over 20 years experience as a veterinary technician educator in both traditional and distance education programs. Dr. Sirois is a past-president of the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators and is the Program Director of the Veterinary Technician Distance Education Program at Penn Foster College. She has numerous publications, including several textbooks for veterinary technicians and is a member and of the editorial board for Veterinary Technician.

Jörg Steiner, DVM, PhD, DACVIM, DECVIM-CA

Jörg Steiner received his veterinary degree from the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich, Germany in 1992. He did an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the University of Pennsylvania from 1992 to 1993 and a residency in small animal internal medicine at Purdue University from 1993 to 1996. He received his Dr.med.vet. degree from the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich, Germany in 1995 in recognition of research on feline trypsin and feline trypsin-like immunoreactivity. In 1996 he achieved

board certification with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. In 2000 Dr. Steiner received a PhD from Texas A&M University for his work on canine digestive lipases and their use for the diagnosis of gastrointestinal disorders in the dog. He currently serves as Professor with the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery and the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology at Texas A&M University. Dr. Steiner also serves as Director of the GI Laboratory at Texas A&M University and is involved in a wide variety of research in small animal gastroenterology.

Beth L. Strickler, MS, DVM

Dr. Beth Strickler is the owner of Veterinary Behavior Solutions, a specialty referral practice in Northeast Tennessee, devoted exclusively to solving behavioral problems in companion animals (dogs, cats, horses, birds and small exotics). Dr. Strickler sees clients from Southwestern Virginia, Northeast Tennessee and Western North Carolina.

Dr. Strickler received her B.S. in psychology from Westminster College, PA and her M.S. in psychology from Penn State University. She received her doctor of veterinary medicine from the University of Tennessee and practiced in both mixed and small animal practices in Tennessee prior to completing her residency in veterinary behavior at Appalachian Veterinary Specialists in Knoxville, TN. She has also had additional training through the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine, the University of Pennsylvania New Bolton Center and Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine in equine, cattle and swine behavior. Dr. Strickler has been an adjunct professor at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Strickler is proficient in obedience training techniques and clicker training of all species. Her area of special interest is enrichment. Dr. Strickler is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), The American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) and The Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT).

Kristina R. Vygantas, DVM, DACVO

Kristina R. Vygantas, DVM, Diplomate ACVO, is a graduate of the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University. She completed an internship in small animal medicine, as well as her residency, in ophthalmology at Auburn University. Dr. Vygantas became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists in 2002. Dr. Vygantas was in private practice in Birmingham, Alabama, for the four years prior to joining our team in July 2005. She is also on the board of the exam committee for the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. Her special interests include corneal surgery and wound healing, as well as equine ophthalmology.

Chick Weisse, VMD, DACVS

Chick Weisse, VMD, DACVS completed his small animal surgical residency training at the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 2002 and then pursued advanced training through a customized fellowship in Interventional Radiology at the (human) Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 2003. He held dual appointments in surgery and radiology as an Assistant Professor at both the veterinary and human hospitals, respectively (Univ. of Pennsylvania) before coming to the Animal Medical Center in New York City in 2009 as staff surgeon and Director of Interventional Radiology Services. Educational interests include expanding minimally-invasive veterinary interventional radiology (IR) techniques through describing new procedures and training veterinarians. Research interests include IR techniques for non-resectable and metastatic cancers, palliative stenting for malignant obstructions, vascular anomalies such as portosystemic shunts and AVMs, and stenting for tracheal collapse.

Ann Wortinger BIS, LVT, VTS (ECC, SAIM)

I'm a 1983 graduate from Michigan State University, and received my Veterinary Technician Specialists certification in (Emergency/ Critical Care) in 2000 and in Small Animal Internal Medicine in 2008. I am on the organizing committee for the Academy of Veterinary Nutrition Technicians. I have worked in general, emergency and specialty medicine over the past 25+ years. I'm currently in education as a Program Chair for the Veterinary Technology Program at Sanford-Brown College in Dearborn Michigan.

I am active in both my state and specialty associations. I've had more than 30 published articles as well as a book on Nutrition for Veterinary Technicians and Nurses. I have presented on-line sessions through VSPN, and act as their nutrition board moderator. I am the nutrition section editor for Veterinary Technician Magazine. I have spoken at local, state, national and international conferences on a variety of topics.