



NCVP

National Center for Veterinary Parasitology

2022: Major Achievements

Excellence in Residency Training

Five veterinarians supported as full-time residents in veterinary parasitology.

- Elanco Resident in Veterinary Parasitology – Dr. Katy Martin, Iowa State University
- Zoetis Resident in Veterinary Parasitology – Dr. Nicole Szafranski, University of Tennessee
- IDEXX Resident in Veterinary Parasitology – Dr. Timothy Wu, Cornell University
- Merck Resident in Veterinary Parasitology – Dr. Ranju Manoj, Cornell University
- Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) Resident in Veterinary Parasitology – Dr. Sarah Myers, Oklahoma State University

Our residents have gone on to great success in academia and industry.

- Dr. Caroline Soboty, former Merck Resident in Veterinary Parasitology at Texas A&M University, joined the faculty of University of Pennsylvania as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Parasitology.
- Dr. Kathryn Duncan, former BI Resident in Veterinary Parasitology, joined the faculty at Oklahoma State University as a lecturer as she continues her board preparations.
- Additional former NCVP Residents now on faculty at veterinary colleges include Dr. Lindsay Starkey (Auburn University), Dr. Alice Lee (University of Florida), Dr. Ruth Scimeca (Oklahoma State University), Drs. Jeba Jesudoss Chelladurai and Brian Herrin (Kansas State University), Dr. Cassan Pulaski (University of Georgia), and Dr. Ashley Steuer (Texas Tech University).
- Former NCVP Residents accepting leadership roles in industry include Dr. Jessica Rodriguez (Senior Principal Scientist, Global Companion Animal Therapeutics, Zoetis) and Dr. Yoko Nagamori (Head of Parasitology, Global Diagnostics, Zoetis).

Clinical Veterinary Parasitology Research Grows

Small grants support clinical parasitology research.

- The small grants program remains a popular, appreciated, and oft-tapped source of funds for supporting American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists (AAVP)-member veterinary parasitology research. As our total disbursed funds approaches \$1M USD, we are awed by the ways our grant recipients have leveraged this modest funding into significant advances in the discipline. With researchers at almost 30 institutions receiving funding to date, the NCVP continues to realize the goal of creating a broad base of support for veterinary parasitology research.
- In 2022 we received a variety of strong proposals requesting more than \$100,000 in funding to address research questions on important arthropod, helminth, and protozoal parasites, and with funding available from both NCVP and the American Heartworm Society, we are excited to support parasitology research in the coming year.

Results from NCVP-supported research shared with the larger field.

- Several presentations at AAVP 2022 in Utah presented data from research supported by the NCVP small grants program in areas of research as varied as identifying novel diagnostic markers for *Onchocerca lupi*, characterizing the microbiome of *Parascaris* sp., and defining the mitochondrial genome of *Dermacentor albipictus* variants.
- The high-quality peer-reviewed publications NCVP grant recipients and residents contribute to leading journals also serve to further the discipline. Whether a timely, current review of common parasites, documentation of a novel parasite in dogs across the US, or even development of rapid assays to identify anthelmintic resistance, NCVP support continues to lead to important contributions in the field. For a list of publications, please see the NCVP newsletters at ncvetp.org.

Capitalizing on Our Momentum

Our many friends in parasites

- NCVP continues to enjoy rich, rewarding relationships with many like-minded parasitology organizations active in the specialty. Whether it be our colleagues in the AAVP, the American Society of Parasitologists, the American Heartworm Society, the veterinary health industry, commercial and state-run parasitology diagnostic laboratories, or specialists and general practitioners providing veterinary care to patients and herds, NCVP is there to provide support, consult, and resources.
- AAVP remains the core professional organization of veterinary parasitology in North America. NCVP continues to enthusiastically support AAVP directly by requiring membership for all residency and grant applicants, and indirectly by providing research funding opportunities for members and supporting graduate student and residency training in parasitology. Better together indeed.
- In 2022 we continued to offer veterinary parasitology educational experiences to veterinarians and paraprofessionals, including in-person training with the United States Department of Agriculture. These experiences share NCVP educational resources broadly and provide opportunities for our residents to hone their teaching skills, helping to secure the future of parasitology education for the next generation.

Shared endeavors with the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists.

- The ever-popular NCVP clinical case clicker session was again held at the annual AAVP meeting, with interesting cases and fun, challenging questions provided by our amazing NCVP residents. Each year new residents and emcees rotate through, keeping the session fresh and engaging and providing a favorite and familiar closing session for the meeting that allows us to all enjoy the wonder of parasites together.
- NCVP teaching resources are an established, valued component of the educational portfolio of AAVP members with instructional responsibilities. Our annual specimen gift sets, on demand specimen distribution system, and ever-expanding image and video database provide a ready source of high-quality materials to help share the joy and wonder of parasites with students of veterinary parasitology at all levels of education.

Further Development of the NCVP

Residency training and sponsor support are cornerstones of the NCVP.

- The NCVP continues to enjoy robust interest in the residency program and a growing number of applications each year, allowing us to support five full-time residents. As additional programs become available and excitement about the opportunities in parasitology grows, even more future veterinary parasitologists are expected to embark on their clinical training journey. NCVP will be there to help them succeed.
- With increasing challenges in the discipline, sound veterinary parasitology education has never been more important. Fortunately, thanks to our sponsors, NCVP has the resources and expertise needed to foster the development of outstanding parasitologists dedicated to the veterinary profession. The future looks very bright.

2023: Next Goals

2023 here we come – and there is so much for the Center to look forward to! Our NCVP residents will continue to progress through their training, allowing them to take the ACVM examination and officially join the specialty. We'll see even more parasitologists earn MS and PhD degrees, contributing to research knowledge in the field while honing their own expertise. As they move on from their graduate programs and progress in their careers, even more of our residents will take on the mantle of leadership in academia and industry. Through it all, NCVP will be there, cheering them on.

These achievements were only possible through the generous support and commitment of our sponsors. Thank you for working with us to help shape the future of veterinary parasitology.



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