

## NATIONAL CENTER FOR VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY

### NEWS FROM THE NCVP



December 2014

#### 2014 ANNUAL FALL IN-PERSON NCVP MEETING OF THE BOARD AND RESIDENTS



In the photo above, from left to right, front row: Drs. Jennifer Thomas (OSU), Lindsay Starkey (OSU), Anne Zajac (Virginia Tech), Joyce Login (Zoetis), Alice Lee (Cornell), Mason Reichard, (OSU) Jessica Rodriguez (Texas A&M). Middle row: Drs. Mike Dryden (Kansas State), Heather Clay (OSU), Chris Adolph (OSU), Susan Little (OSU), Doug Carithers (Merial), Frank Guerino (Merck), Kelly Allen (OSU). Back row: Drs. Joe Hostettler (Bayer), Dan Snyder (Elanco), Dwight Bowman (Cornell), Jason Drake (Novartis).

The **2014 Annual Fall In-Person NCVP Meeting** was held October 29–30 at the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center in Stillwater, OK. Major NCVP achievements of 2014 were discussed, which included the selection of Merck resident Dr. Cassan Pulaski, NCVP and AHS funding of parasitology research grants, novel research findings of NCVP members which are assisting veterinarians in practice, and continued collaborations with CAPC and AAVP. Also, NCVP residents presented their latest research findings to the Board. Exciting plans for 2015 were discussed including offering research funding for small grants in 2015/2016 and the recruitment of additional residents.



**Dr. Michael Dryden** (pictured right) delivered an engaging **Keynote presentation** to NCVP board members, residents, and Oklahoma State University veterinary students which described experiences of the **Kansas State University Flea Team** in mitigating **extreme flea infestations**. The talk was held over dinner at Brooklyn's restaurant in downtown Stillwater, and was very well received by the audience, although at times there was some noticeable squirming. Thank you, Dr. Dryden, for a very entertaining presentation! In the photo to the right, Dr. Dryden explains flea life stages in the environment to the audience as NCVP Novartis resident, Dr. Alice Lee, listens intently.



NCVP members and OSU veterinary students take a picture after Dr. Dryden's Keynote talk at Brooklyn's restaurant in downtown Stillwater.

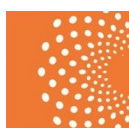
Excitingly, **Oklahoma State University President Burns Hargis and First Lady Ann Hargis** made an appearance during dinner to greet everyone associated with the NCVP and to thank industry sponsors and academic members for their support, which has led to the tremendous success of the Center.



Oklahoma State University President Burns Hargis and First Lady Ann Hargis drop in during dinner to say thank you to NCVP board members.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO 2014 NCVP AND AHS RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS!

The NCVP received **18 research proposals** in response to the second **annual request for proposals (RFP) for 2014/2015 funding** circulated to AAVP members in September 2014. The NCVP is delighted to announce the funding of 6 research projects totaling \$78,270.



**NCVP**  
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**AMERICAN HEARTWORM SOCIETY™**  
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The American Heartworm Society partnered with the NCVP in its endeavor to support 2014/2015 parasitology research and is funding three *Dirofilaria immitis* research proposals totaling \$42,000. All submitted proposals were critically reviewed following a rubric designed to assess criteria including proposal background and significance, objective(s), experimental design and methods, expected study outcome(s), and itemized budget. Funds were disbursed in November. Grant awardees are listed below with their academic institutions and research topics.

- **Dr. Roberto Cortinas**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln — Assessment of various essential oils and their constituents for activity versus northern fowl mites.
- **Dr. Timothy Geary**, McGill University — *Dirofilaria immitis* microRNAs influence the expression of canine immune system genes.
- **Dr. John Gilleard**, University of Calgary — Population genomic analysis of invasion pathways and transmission dynamics of *Dicrocoelium dentriticum*.
- **Dr. Sarah Hamer**, Texas A&M — Culture-based detection and next generation sequence analysis of *Trypanosoma cruzi* from vectors and domestic dogs along the US-Mexico border.
- **Dr. Jennifer Ketzis**, Ross University — Evaluation of two praziquantel treatment methods for *Platynosomum* spp. infections and cholecystocentesis as a diagnostic tool in cats.
- **Dr. Charles Mackenzie**, Michigan State University — Characterizing the new molecular approaches to the diagnosis of heartworm infection in dogs and cats.
- **Dr. Michael Suderman**, Cell Systems-3D — Developmental and biochemical investigations of *Dirofilaria immitis* from infective (L3) larvae to patency in an in vitro three-dimensional (3D) primary canine dermal cell microenvironment.
- **Dr. Adrian Wolstenholme**, University of Georgia — Microfluidic electrophysiological recordings from *Haemonchus contortus* as a new tool for anthelmintic research.
- **Dr. Michael Yabsley**, University of Georgia — Mange in black bears (*Ursus americanus*) in Pennsylvania: etiologic agent(s), diagnostic assays, and environmental persistence of mites.

#### AAVP MEMBER PRESENTATIONS AT OSU-CVHS 2014 ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

The **2014 Annual Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences Fall Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians** was held November 13–14. Excitingly, American Association of Veterinary Parasitology (AAVP) members **Drs. Lora Ballweber** (Colorado State University), **Andrew Peregrine** (University of Guelph, Canada), and **Karen Snowden** (Texas A&M University) were speakers during the Parasitology session. See presentation titles below.



- Dr. Lora Ballweber—Anthelmintic Resistance in GI Nematodes of U.S. Cattle: Where are We and What Does the Future Hold?
- Dr. Andrew Peregrine—Anthelmintic Resistance in Horses: How Bad is It?
- Dr. Andrew Peregrine—Designing a Sustainable Parasite Control Program in Horses.
- Dr. Karen Snowden—Unwanted Shelter Critters: Parasite Control in a Shelter Population of Dogs and Cats.
- Dr. Karen Snowden—What's New on the Parasitology Radar?



Lora Ballweber, MS, DVM, DACVM.



Andrew Peregrine, BVMS, PhD, DVM, DEVPC, DACVM.



Karen Snowden, DVM, PhD, DACVM.

Many thanks to Drs. Ballweber, Peregrine, and Snowden for coming to Oklahoma State University to talk about these important topics in parasitology!



## Happy Holidays, Everyone!

#### About the National Center for Veterinary Parasitology

Veterinary parasites impact human health and society in many ways. With the generous support of our sponsors, the National Center for Veterinary Parasitology works to promote greater understanding and control of parasitic diseases in animals through innovative partnerships between academia and industry. Housed in the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences at Oklahoma State University, the Center strives to create future generations of veterinary parasitologists, conduct targeted research, and provide diagnostic and consulting services worldwide. To learn more, please visit [www.ncvetp.org](http://www.ncvetp.org).



Center for Veterinary Health Sciences  
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