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ACC&D
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June 20–22, 2013  ♣ Portland, Oregon, U.S.

5th International Symposium
On Non-Surgical Contraceptive Methods
of Pet Population Control

Best Friends
Coalition for Pets
IFAW
www.ifaw.org
MICHELSON PRIZE & GRANTS
June 20, 2013

Dear Symposium Participants,

Welcome, and thank you for attending ACC&D’s 5th International Symposium on Non-Surgical Contraceptive Methods of Pet Population Control.

Our cause is a wonderful example of the One Health concept, illustrating that the health and well-being of humans and animals are inextricably linked to each other and to the health of the planet.

A wide array of skills sets and passions are needed to achieve our goal. This symposium convenes an incredibly diverse group of stakeholders. Our attendees’ individual habitats are greatly varied, from business suites to university classrooms, animal shelters to research laboratories, veterinary and human hospitals to remote clinics. We can all play a role in successfully advancing initiatives for a “new neuter” or a “new way to spay.” Once it has been accomplished, we will have created win/win scenarios benefitting both animals and humans.

We have seen important progress in our mission “to expedite the successful introduction of methods to non-surgically sterilize dogs and cats and to support the distribution and promotion of these products to humanely control cat and dog populations worldwide” since our 4th symposium in 2010. October marks the fifth anniversary of the launch of the Michelson Prize and Grants. So far, 25 proposals have been approved, committing approximately $11.5 million in grant funding. We are pleased to have some of those scientists reporting on their progress at this event. In the meantime, we are on the brink of having a new tool to use in the U.S., when Ark Sciences introduces Zeuterin™ later this year for male dogs.

Whether you are new to this community or a longtime advocate and friend, we welcome you and invite your participation. ACC&D is committed to be a catalyst for change that moves us forward, and to partnerships that create synergy and identify common ground for the good of the cause. Our key objective for this gathering is to inspire ideas and strategies to this end, both via the formal presentations and through less formal networking. Don’t be shy, join in the speed-networking session at the end of Friday’s lunch! Use these opportunities to share, learn and establish relationships and plans to move forward.

We anticipate a historic event, and we thank you for being part of it.

Joyce Briggs, M.S.
President, ACC&D

Stephen Zawistowski, Ph.D., CAAB
Board Chair, ACC&D
Keeping It Green

Thank you to our “green” sponsor, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, for making it possible for us to reduce the environmental impact of the symposium by:

- Holding the event at a Green Seal Certified hotel and conference center
- Printing this program on recycled paper using equipment optimized for low carbon emissions, using low volatile-organic-compound (VOC) toner, and avoiding use of harmful metallic and fluorescent inks
- Providing reusable coffee mugs for all attendees
- Offering recycling containers for paper, name badges, and other items

Please help by using your coffee mug and taking advantage of recycling where possible. Thank you!

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Acknowledgements

ACC&D’s 5th International Symposium on Non-Surgical Contraceptive Methods of Pet Population Control takes place thanks to the support of many individuals and organizations.

Symposium Sponsors

We acknowledge sponsors of our 5th International Symposium with sincere gratitude. Their generosity allowed us to keep registration fees low, supported travel expenses for speakers who would otherwise have been unable to attend the symposium, and ultimately made it possible for ACC&D to offer this unique event. Special thanks to Alley Cat Allies and the Morris Animal Foundation for sponsoring the printing of this program. Sponsors are listed on the front and back covers of this program, as well as throughout the symposium venue.

Council of Stakeholders

We greatly appreciate ongoing support and strategic leadership from ACC&D’s Council of Stakeholders. Council members are defined by their interest in advancing and monitoring this emerging field in animal health, public health, and animal welfare, as well as their financial support of ACC&D. Since the Council’s inception three years ago, members have, without question, strengthened the work and progress of ACC&D. Council of Stakeholders members are listed on the interior front cover of the program and in the symposium venue.

Speakers and Poster Authors

We would like to thank the speakers and poster authors who are attending the symposium and sharing their ideas, research, and expertise. Your demonstrated dedication to this field is recognized and appreciated. We are so pleased to have the opportunity to learn from and with you.

Symposium Planning

Members of ACC&D’s Board of Directors and Scientific Advisory Board, each of whom serves in a volunteer capacity, have been vital to the planning and production of this event. They have helped to develop symposium sessions, reached out to colleagues to attend and sponsors to support the event, and provided invaluable strategic and scientific guidance. Additionally, several Board members and Scientific Advisors have volunteered to serve as session chairs, panel moderators, and members of our Scientific Review Committee. As always, we extend a tremendous thank you for your support and commitment to ACC&D and this field!

Scientific Review Committee

We extend thanks to members of our Scientific Review Committee, each of whom invested significant time, attention, and care by reviewing abstracts submitted for oral presentations and posters: Dr. Cheri Asa, Dr. John Boone, Dr. Amy Fischer, Dr. Elly Hiby, Dr. Michelle Kutzler, Dr. Kevin Morris, Dr. Linda Rhodes, Dr. Doral Skinner, Dr. Margaret Slater, Dr. Bob Weedon, and Dr. Steve Zawistowski.

Session Chairs and Panel Moderators

We also wish to acknowledge the Board members, Scientific Advisors, and subject experts who are serving as session chairs and panel moderators: Dr. Cheri Asa, Valerie Benka, Karen Green, Dr. Elly Hiby, Dr. Michelle Kutzler, Cathy Moldave, Dr. Linda Rhodes, Dr. Doral Skinner, and Dr. Steve Zawistowski.

On-site Volunteers

Our on-site volunteers have committed time and energy to ensure that this event is a success, from check-in to audio/visual production: Kimberly Bruce, Diane Charlton, Stephanie Dawes, Jennifer Douthwaite, Ed de la Fuente, Mike Greenberg, Caitlin McLagan, Julie Snyder, Annamaria Tadlock, and Sonya Wedin. Thank you!
In-Kind Support
Additionally, we acknowledge the institutions and organizations that either sponsored speakers or provided in-kind support through directly covering the costs of a speaker from their organization to attend the symposium.

- Alley Cat Allies
- The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)
- American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
- Ark Sciences, Inc.
- AZA Wildlife Contraception Center, St. Louis Zoo
- Best Friends Animal Society
- Bose Institute
- The Cat Fanciers’ Association, Inc.
- Department of Animal Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Department of Clinical Sciences of Companion Animals, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Utrecht
- Found Animals Foundation
- Global Alliance for Rabies Control
- The Humane Society of the United States
- International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
- Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida
- Parsemus Foundation
- Petfinder.com
- Target Zero Institute
- United Kennel Club
- United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/International Services México
- Wise-Monkey Foundation

Symposium Staff and Support
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Valerie Benka, Project Manager, Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs
Donna Kimball, Executive Assistant, Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs

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Margaret Slater, D.V.M., Ph.D.
Senior Director of Veterinary Epidemiology, ASPCA Shelter Research and Development
**Symposium Content Overview**

ACC&D’s 5th International Symposium features General Sessions and two distinct tracks: Sterilant/Contraceptive Discovery and Implementation.

### General Sessions

In General Sessions, speakers will explore the need for and significance of new tools for fertility control. Invited speakers represent a range of interests and are leaders in their respective fields: veterinary medicine, animal sheltering, free-roaming cat and dog population control, animal sheltering, and public health. General Sessions also include presentations on two pertinent topics for the non-surgical contraception/sterilization field: the health impacts of suppressing reproductive hormones, and the social and ethical considerations of trialing new technologies in diverse communities. You’ll also hear reflections on the first five years of the Michelson Prize & Grants, which has infused key financial resources into, and attracted additional great minds to, the field of non-surgical sterilization.

### Sterilant/Contraceptive Discovery and Implementation Track

The Sterilant Discovery track highlights the current work of researchers, including Michelson Grants recipients, to humanly suppress reproductive function in dogs and cats without surgery. Over one dozen researchers from across the globe and a combination of university laboratories and private research institutions are presenting their work. The sessions showcase research on immunological interventions and inactivation and/or destruction of gonadal stem cells. They also feature research on GnRH agonists and antagonists along with a cohort of unique and combination approaches to the challenge of non-surgically sterilizing or contracepting companion animals.

### Implementation track

The Implementation track explores the use of products currently in-market or entering field trials around the world, and it convenes experts to share their experiences and lessons learned. Participants can look forward to learning about the results of a study on dog behavior following Esteriliz™/Zeuterin™ sterilization. The session will also showcase a new sophisticated simulation modeling of feral cat populations that examines multiple population control methods, as well as new efforts to improve humane identification of free-roaming cats and dogs worldwide.

### Daily Snapshot

**Thursday, June 20**

The 5th International Symposium opens on Thursday with Reproductive Biology 101. A crowed favorite at past symposia, this optional session is designed for anyone seeking a primer on (or review of) canine and feline reproductive science. It’s highly recommended as a way to gain maximum value from the symposium. Segue from this session to the symposium’s Welcome Reception—an opportunity to connect with old friends and network with new contacts.

**Friday, June 21**

Friday features a morning General Session, afternoon Sterilant/Contraceptive Discovery and Implementation Track sessions, a Networking Lunch, a Poster Session, and an evening Symposium Banquet.

**Saturday, June 22**

Saturday begins with an optional Special Breakfast with Dr. Judith Samson-French, this year’s winner of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association’s Humane Award. She will present on “The one-minute contraceptive implant – when science meets ancient cultures”:

The advent and positive preliminary trial results of non-surgical implants offer hope for stabilization of dog populations in First Nations and Aboriginal communities. But what are the impediments to promoting such technology to people with different cultural heritage, attitudes, and resources toward surgical sterilization? How we value dogs and understand their true nature is culturally specific: roaming is not just about sex, cannibalism is not just about aggression, and incest is normal. These topics will be explored in an exclusive photo expose!

You’ll transition from breakfast to a morning General Session, followed by afternoon track sessions. Although the symposium concludes late Saturday afternoon, we invite you to stay in Portland and explore all that this great city has to offer! ACC&D has facilitated two optional events:

The Oregon Humane Society (OHS) has generously offered a private tour of its 22,000 square foot facility in North-east Portland. OHS’s Animal Medical and Learning Center represents a unique partnership between OHS and the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine; veterinary students complete a two-week residency at the Center as part of their graduation requirements. This tour runs from 7:30-8:30 p.m., with hotel departure at 7:00 p.m. from the Plaza Foyer. Interested? Please sign up at the symposium registration and support desk no later than Friday afternoon. A small fee covers transportation to and from OHS. You can find OHS on the web at www.oregonhumane.org.

Those seeking a change of pace are invited to see the Tony Award-winning musical Avenue Q at Triangle Productions (www.tripro.org) on Saturday evening for a discounted price of $15 for any seat in the theater. (Tickets must be reserved online in advance and are subject to availability; use code ASPCA when ordering.) Please meet in the Hilton Hotel lobby at 6:45 p.m. to share taxis to the theater for a 7:30 p.m. performance.

**Sunday, June 23**

As a complement to the symposium, Ark Sciences will offer a Zeuterin™ certification training for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. This is an opportunity to become certified to use the only FDA-approved product to neuter male dogs. The training begins at the Hilton; participants later travel to the Portland Animal Welfare (PAW) Team Clinic for the wet lab portion of the training. The cost is $65. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m., and training begins at 8:30 a.m. Participants will return to the hotel by 4:00 p.m.

Those not seeking Zeuterin certification can attend an informational session and observe a demonstration of the procedure at the hotel between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Please visit www.arksciences.com for more information about Zeuterin. If you are interested and have not signed up in advance, please do so at the symposium registration and support desk. Certification and observation registration are on a first-come, first-served basis, and there are limited spaces for both.

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Note: The reference to the upcoming symposium content in the image seems to be a placeholder and may not be relevant to the content of the image or the symposium itself. If this is a part of a longer document or event program, it should be removed or replaced with relevant information.
### Symposium Agenda

#### Thursday, June 20

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Check-in/Registration and Symposium support desk</td>
<td>Plaza Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Reproductive Biology 101</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom West</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom East</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Continental breakfast</td>
<td>Plaza Foyer</td>
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#### Friday, June 21

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.</td>
<td>General Sessions</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:40 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Understanding the need and products that could meet that need</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Refreshment break</td>
<td>Plaza Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Implications for different stakeholders of different profile products</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch and “Speed Networking”</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom I and II</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Sterilant/Contraceptive Discovery Track</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom West</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Refreshment break</td>
<td>Plaza Foyer</td>
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#### Field Implementation Track

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<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Focus on felines: Tools to help you plan your programs and measure your success</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom East</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Refreshment break</td>
<td>Plaza Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Already sterilized or not? Methods of marking animals</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom East</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Population dynamics of free-roaming dogs</td>
<td>Pavilion Ballroom East</td>
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#### Evening Events for all Attendees

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Evening Events for all Attendees</td>
<td>Plaza Foyer</td>
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#### Saturday, June 22

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<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Evening Events for all Attendees</td>
<td>Plaza Foyer</td>
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</table>
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Continental breakfast   Plaza Fooyer
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Special breakfast session (optional)  Dr. Judith Samuelsen-French  Pavilion Ballroom
“The one-minute contraceptive implant: when science meets ancient cultures,” presented by 2013 Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Humane Award winner
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  Poster viewing  Pavilion Ballroom
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.  Session Chair: Dr. Donal Skinner
9:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  Approaches with potential for nearer-term impact  Pavilion Ballroom
“Zeuterin™ in male dogs and cats”  Dr. Byron Maas
“Cacium Chloride in male dogs and cats”  Elaine Lissner
“GonaCon™ in female dogs”  John Eisemann
“GonaCon™ in female and male cats”  Dr. Julie Levy
“Suprelorin™/Deslorelin in dogs and cats”  Dr. Linda Rhodes
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  Refreshment break  Plaza Fooyer
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Timely topics for the non-surgical sterilization field  Pavilion Ballroom
“Reproduction hormones in the dog: friends or foes?”  Dr. Auke Schaefers-Okkens
“Different strokes for different folks: Navigating ethical questions and cultural differences partnering technologies, test sites, and target audiences”  Dr. Monica List
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  Networking Lunch  Grand Ballroom I
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.  Session Chair: Dr. Cheryl Aas
3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  “Gene silencing technology as a tool to induce permanent sterility”  Dr. Sergio Ojeda
“Hypothalamic pituitary targeted approaches for non-surgical sterilization of cats and dogs: Using a GnRH antagonist to deliver a toxin to gonadotrophs”  Dr. Scott Struthers
5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.  Closing  Pavilion Ballroom West
Field Implementation Track
1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  Getting involved in field testing of non-surgical sterilants: Lessons learned, and what organizations and veterinarians should consider when getting involved  Pavilion Ballroom East
Panel Moderator: Dr. Linda Rhodes
“A trial with Deslorelin in free-roaming female dogs on First Nations reserves”  Dr. Judith Samuelsen-French
“Testing GonaCon for female dogs in Nepal: Preliminary results”  Dr. Giovanna Massel
“Could your organization use Calcium Chloride? Nuts and bolts”  Elaine Lissner
“What to consider when undertaking a field trial”  Dr. Linda Rhodes and Dr. Julie Levy
2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.  State and local regulations: Preparing the way for use of new non-surgical tools  Pavilion Ballroom East
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  Refreshment Break  Plaza Fooyer
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Zeuterin™ (Esterilsol™): Intratesticular injectable sterilant for male dogs  Pavilion Ballroom East
Panel Moderator: Karen Green
Speakers: Dr. Mary Blankova, Dr. Kelly Farrell, Dr. Ismail Thoya, Dr. Amber Valinski
“Behaviour assessment of male free-roaming dogs following surgical and non-surgical sterilization in Puerto Natales, Chile”  Dr. Raphael Vandenstichel
5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.  Closing  Pavilion Ballroom West
Optional Evening Events for All Attendees
6:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  Avenue Q (Tony Award-winning musical) 7:30 p.m. show  Hilton hotel lobby / Triangle Productions
Please see p. 7 for additional information.
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  Oregon Humane Society private tour at 7:30 p.m.  Plaza Fooyer / Oregon Humane Society
Advance registration required. Please see p. 7 for additional information.
Sunday, June 23
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  Optional Zeuterin™ (Esterilsol™) certification training offered by Ark Sciences  Broadway / PAWTeam Clinic
Advance registration required. Please see p. 7 for additional information.
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Optional Zeuterin™ (Esterilsol™) information session and demonstration  Broadway Rooms
Advance registration required. Please see p. 7 for additional information.
*Denotes research with multiple authors. Please view the complete list of authors in our online proceedings.
**Poster Session**

**Poster Titles and Authors**

Dr. Camila Louise Ackermann*  
"Effect of deslorelin acetate (Suprelorin®) short-term contraceptive treatment on triiodothyronine (T3) and thyroxine (T4) blood concentrations in queens"

Dr. Camila Louise Ackermann*  
"Effect of deslorelin acetate (Suprelorin®) short-term contraceptive treatment on triiodothyronine (T3) and thyroxine (T4) blood concentrations in tom cats"

Dr. Alper Baran*  
"Intratesticular chemical castration with zinc chloride in male cats"

Joseph A. Cacioppo*  
"Changes in ovarian contraction by Endothelin-2/receptor system in the feline ovary"

Caitlin Donovan*  
"Role of LH in the pathophysiology of urinary incontinence in ovarioectomized bitches"

Dr. Cristina Gobello  
"GnRH antagonists in dog and cat contraception: What should we know?"

Dr. William Ja*  
"Modular design of ligand-toxin conjugates"

Dr. Raffaella Leoci*  
"Intratesticular injection of a calcium chloride tincture in the dog"

Dr. Erika C.S. Oliveira*  
"Single intratesticular injection of zinc gluconate as a contraceptive method for captive Capuchin monkeys (Cebus libidinosus)"

Dr. Charles Rupprecht  
"A role for immunocontraception in dual animal population management and rabies prevention?"

Dr. Oswaldo Santos*  
"Contraceptive methods used in a community of São Paulo, Brazil"

Dr. Oswaldo Santos*  
"Mathematical modeling of temporary non-surgical sterilization of dogs and cats"

Dr. Min Wang*  
"Effect of intratesticular injection of zinc gluconate neutralized by arginine on reproductive parameters"

*Denotes research with multiple authors. Please view the complete list of authors in our online proceedings.

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**Continuing Education Credit**

Continuing Education Credit for U.S. Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians

ACC&D’s 5th International Symposium was reviewed and approved by the AAVSB RACE program for 17.0 hours of continuing education (CE) credit in jurisdictions that recognize AAVSB RACE approval. (The maximum number of CE credit hours available for any one veterinarian or veterinary technician is 11.5.) The subject matter category is scientific/clinical; subject matter subcategories are shelter medicine, theriogenology/reproduction, and contraception/sterilant methods and implementation in pet populations. The method of delivery is seminar/lecture.

Sunday’s Zeuterin™ certification training, offered by Ark Sciences, has been approved for an additional 5 CE credit hours. The subject matter category is scientific/clinical; the subject matter subcategory is theriogenology/reproduction. The method of delivery is seminar/lecture and lab/wet lab.

Participants should be aware that some boards have limitations on the number of hours accepted in certain categories and/or restrictions on certain methods of continuing education.

To receive CE credit, participants are required to sign in and out at the registration/check-in table each day they attend sessions. Each person’s name and mailing address will also be collected, as these items are needed to prepare your certificate.

RACE Provider Name: Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs  
RACE Provider Number: 520  
RACE Program Number: 520-11334

RACE Provider Name: Ark Sciences  
RACE Provider Number: 754  
RACE Program Number: 754-10650

Please e-mail symposium@acc-d.org with any questions or requests for additional information. Please contact the AAVSB RACE program if you have any comments/concerns regarding this program’s validity or relevancy to the veterinary profession.

The American Association of Veterinary State Boards RACE committee has reviewed and approved the programs referenced above as meeting the Standards adopted by the AAVSB.
C.H.J. (Karin) Albers-Wolthers, D.V.M., Resident ECAR
Dr. Karin Albers-Wolthers graduated from Utrecht University, the Netherlands (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine) in 2008. After a short period in general practice, Dr. Albers-Wolthers returned to Utrecht to complete an internship in the Department of Clinical Sciences of Companion Animals. In November 2009 she started her residency in Animal Reproduction (ECAR), where her special interests lie in canine reproductive physiology and contraceptive methods. Together with an interdepartmental research group (Infectious Diseases and Immunology, Medical Biochemistry and Clinical Sciences of Companion Animals), Dr. Albers-Wolthers is currently involved in a research project titled “Kisspeptin: The endocrinological gatekeeper to reproductive function. A realistic target for non-surgical contraception in the dog.” The project is funded by the Found Animals Foundation.

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Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands
E-mail: c.h.j.albers-wolthers@uu.nl | Phone: 0031 (0) 302534126

Cheryl Asa, Ph.D.
Dr. Cheryl (Cheri) Asa has managed the contraception program for the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AAZA) for more than 20 years. She started as Chair of the Contraception Advisory Group, and upon formation of the AZA Wildlife Contraception Center in 1999, she became its President. The Center oversees contraceptive monitoring, research, and product distribution for North American zoos and provides information and recommendations on its website (www.zlizo.org/contraception). Dr. Asa is also Director of the Saint Louis Zoo’s Research Department, specializing in comparative reproductive processes, particularly in canids and equids.

Dr. Asa was recently named to the National Academy of Sciences Wild Horse and Burro Management Committee in recognition of her prior research with feral horse sterilization and contraception. She received her B.A. in Biology and Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She received her M.S. and Ph.D. in Endocrinology and Reproductive Physiology from the same institution. Dr. Asa teaches Endocrinology at Saint Louis University and Animal Behavior at Washington University in St. Louis. She has authored more than 150 publications and edited the book Wildlife Contraception: Issues, Methods, and Application.

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ACC&D Scientific Advisor
Kate Nattrass Atema, M.Sc.
Kate Nattrass Atema leads the International Fund for Animal Welfare’s (IFAW) global Companion Animal Programme, overseeing community-based animal welfare projects in South Africa, Indonesia, China, Germany, France, Mexico, China, and Native communities in Canada. Her work is currently focused on adapting methods for engaging communities directly in developing sustainable long-term animal welfare projects, and in improving measurement and monitoring methods for assessing animal and community welfare. IFAW’s Companion Animals Programme also contributes expert advice to groups in Russia, Bosnia, Nepal, Chile, and other countries around the world, grounded in the perspective that animal welfare interventions are community-specific.

Ms. Atema is currently Chair of the International Companion Animal Management Coalition (ICAM), a collaboration of non-governmental organizations providing guidance on dog and cat population management. ICAM has teamed up with several academic institutions to test and refine its present guidelines to ensure that the guidance is regularly updated to ensure the best animal welfare.

Ms. Atema is also a contributing companion animal expert with the University of Edinburgh’s online MSc program in International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law. She received her M.Sc. degree in Animals and Public Policy from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University and has returned to her alma mater to serve as a Clinical Instructor in Qualitative Research Methods. Ms. Atema is also a member of the school’s Center for Animals and Public Policy Advisory Committee.

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Valerie Benka, M.S., M.P.P.
Valerie Benka joined ACC&D as Project Manager in February 2013. She brings a background in nonprofit management and animal welfare work to the organization. After graduating from Middlebury College she worked as a grant writer for a nonprofit committed to increasing college enrollment among low-income youth. At the same time she coordinated a feline adoption program in Virginia, an experience that helped her realize she wanted to work full-time in the field of animal welfare.

In addition to interning at both the International Fund for Animal Welfare and The Humane Society of the United States, Ms. Benka enrolled in the Animals and Public Policy Program at Tufts University’s Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. While at Tufts, Ms. Benka explored strategies to expand humane canine population control in Kathmandu, Nepal. Closer to home, in central Massachusetts, she conducted research on reduced-cost feline spay/neuter, including the factors that motivate people to have their pets sterilized and both the life histories and long-term outcomes of feline clients. Ms. Benka also has graduate degrees in Conservation Biology and Public Policy from the University of Michigan, where she focused on human-wildlife conflict and zoos in rural Kenya.

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Think Tank Participant
Mary Blankevoort, D.V.M.
Dr. Mary Blankevoort grew up in Spokane, Washington, and attended veterinary school at Washington State University, graduating in 1973. Her first job brought her to Portland, Oregon, where she worked in laboratory animal medicine for the Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU). Developing an interest in small ruminant medicine and surgery while at the OHSU Medical School’s small animal department, she travelled around the countryside treating sheep and goats after she left the university.

Dr. Blankevoort fulfilled a lifelong dream of working in the developing world when she served in the Peace Corps in West Africa from 1983 to 1985. After returning to Oregon, Dr. Blankevoort resumed working in small animal practice. She is currently an associate at St. Johns Veterinary Clinic in Portland and helps out at Multnomah County Animal Shelter performing spays and neuters. In addition, Dr. Blankevoort has been volunteering for the Portland Animal Welfare (PAW) Team for about ten years, the last four on the Board of Directors, where she is currently Board Chair. She is committed to helping ensure health, happiness, and development for the disadvantaged through providing care for their companion animals.

She is married to Dale Siefert, D.V.M. They have two adult daughters who are also animal lovers in their own right. Dr. Blankevoort enjoys bicycling, horseback riding, hiking, and snowshoeing.

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"Think Tank Participant" denotes persons who have participated in one or more of ACC&D’s three Scientific Think Tanks held since our 4th International Symposium. This format provides dynamic modeling and field studies to improve development of technologies for non-surgical sterilization of cats and dogs (2011); Controlled release of depot and implant technologies, as it applies to developing non-surgical alternatives to sterilize cats and dogs (2012); and Identifying and prioritizing marking methods for non-surgically sterilized cats and dogs (2013). Outcome reports from the first two Think Tanks are available at www.acc-d.org/ThinkTanks; the outcome report from the third will be available with proceedings from this symposium.
John Boone, Ph.D.

Dr. John Boone is a wildlife biologist whose work focuses on applied conservation issues. He received a B.S. in Biology and Physics from George Washington University, an M.S. in Biology from Idaho State University, and a Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. After graduate school he joined a research group at the University of Nevada, Reno studying how environmental factors influence the maintenance and spread of zoonotic diseases. In 2004 Dr. Boone signed on with the Great Basin Bird Observatory, a Nevada nonprofit organization that provides biological and planning services to federal and state resource management agencies. Dr. Boone’s involvement in the animal welfare world began in 2000 at the SPCA of Northern Nevada, where he served as Board Chair from 2002 to 2008, directed the “Maddie’s Spy Neuter Project in Nevada” from 2007 to 2009, and helped the Washoe County animal shelter coalition to receive a Maddie’s Lifesaving Award in 2012. Dr. Boone joined ACC&D’s Scientific Advisory Board in 2012. During the past year he has contributed to organizational initiatives to develop a simulation model for outdoor cat populations and improve upon existing options for marking free-roaming animals. Most recently he has worked with Humane Society International to develop and implement monitoring and censuses programs for street dogs around the world.

Joyce Briggs, M.S.

With ACC&D since 2004 and serving as its President since 2006, Joyce Briggs has helped substantially advance interest in, work toward, and support for creating non-surgical sterilants for progress-ive population control of cats and dogs. She has led ACC&D’s strategic planning, fundraising, and program development, established a respected Scientific Advisory Board, and produced and directed (now) three international symposia and five scientific think tanks. Additionally, she has played a key role in cultivating strategic partnerships to advance this field.

Ms. Briggs has worked in animal welfare since 1995 in top management, marketing, development, program and public relations positions at national nonprofits. When she worked as a management consultant, she bridged nonprofits, corporations, and communities. Ms. Briggs served as Executive Director of PetSmart Charities from 1999 to 2004, and prior to that she was Senior Director of Marketing and PR for the American Humane Association. She served on the national Board of Directors for the Delta Society (a.k.a. Pet Partners) for three years and is a founder of and active with the Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland (ASAP), a regional coalition of animal shelters. Prior to working full-time in animal protection, Ms. Briggs held corporate positions for 15 years. Her career spans management positions with New York City advertising agencies, including Ogilvy & Mather, and marketing leadership positions with Nabisco, Nutri-System, and the Franklin Mint. She holds a master’s degree in advertising from Northwestern University.

Ms. Briggs shares her home in Portland, Oregon, with her husband, daughter, two dogs, two cats, two hens, two rats, and three goats.

Gregory Castle

One of the founders of Best Friends Animal Society, Gregory Castle now serves as the CEO of Best Friends. For more than 25 years Mr. Castle has been a key leader in animal welfare, as well as a voice of reason and reconciliation among grassroots rescue groups, animal shelters, and national animal organizations.

Mr. Castle created No More Homeless Pets in Utah, a campaign involving animal welfare and rescue organizations, animal control officers, veterinarians, schools, and animal lovers from across the state that promoted in aggressive spay/neuter, adoption, and public awareness programs. Now merged with Best Friends, the campaign is called Best Friends Animal Society-Utah. Mr. Castle also initiated Utah’s Week’s for the Animals, now in its 16th year. The week includes educational and public awareness programs, special discount spay/neuter services, pet adoption fairs, and public service awards. It is a model for cooperative efforts in the humane community throughout the country.

Mr. Castle grew up in England and is a graduate of Cambridge University with a master’s degree in philosophy and psychology. His background includes extensive administrative and accounting work for nonprofit human services and church organizations.

Wayne R. Cavanaugh

Wayne R. Cavanaugh represents the third generation in a family of active dog enthusiasts. He served on the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy (NCPPSP) that evolved from an overpopu-lation symposium held at UC-Davis in 1991. He was a charter board member of the American Kennel Club (AKC) Canine Health Foundation and Vice-President of Communications and Public Education for the AKC from 1991 to 1997. Since 1999, Mr. Cavanaugh has been President of the United Kennel Club (UKC). Established in 1899, the UKC is the second largest dog registry in the nation and the larg-est performance based registry in North America.

Mr. Cavanaugh has also worked as an Executive Producer, Producer, Technical Consultant, and Writer on several dog-related television shows and series, including Breed All About, for Animal Planet and Discovery. He served as host and commentator for more than 100 televised dog events and has written extensively for dog magazines in America and the United Kingdom. He has also been a presenter at the World Congress of Kennel Clubs in Hamilton, Bermuda and Dublin, Ireland.

Mr. Cavanaugh resides in rural southwest Michigan with his wife, two children, three dogs, and a cat. He has his B.A. in Contemporary American Poetry and builds handmade acoustic and electric guitars.

John D. Eisemann, M.S.

John Eisemann has been working in the field of wildlife biology for more than 25 years. He received a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University and an M.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Maryland, with an emphasis on wildlife toxicology. As a Wildlife Biologist, Mr. Eisemann worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge system and in the environmental contaminants lab at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. With a background in environmental contaminants and wildlife toxicology, he went on to work for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and conducted ecological risk assessments of agricultural pesticides. For the past 15 years Mr. Eisemann has worked for USDA APHIS Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center as the product Registration Manager. In that position, he is deeply involved in the registration of two wildlife contraceptive products, OvoControl for Canada goose and pigeons, and CormoCon for white-tailed deer and wild or feral horses and burros.

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Mr. Cavanaugh resides in rural southwest Michigan with his wife, two children, three dogs, and a cat. He has his B.A. in Contemporary American Poetry and builds handmade acoustic and electric guitars.
Kelly Farrell, D.V.M.

Dr. Kelly Farrell is a graduate of Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. She practiced as a private small animal veterinarian until she was drawn into nonprofit work by the need for leadership in the burgeoning spay/neuter clinic movement. For 14 years she has specialized in designing efficient systems to deliver high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter services to both privately owned and sheltered animals. Her programs have ranged from small one-surgeon clinics, mobile spay/neuter services, and in-house spay/neuter programs, to high-production, multi-doctor, and full-service nonprofit hospitals. Currently she is medical director at First Coast No More Homeless Pets in Jacksonville, Florida. Performing over 24,000 sterilization surgeries each year, they are on the verge of achieving a no-kill community.

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Think Tank Participant

Dr. Amy Fischer, Ph.D.

Dr. Amy Fischer is a faculty member at the University of Illinois Department of Animal Sciences, where she coordinates undergraduate teaching and outreach activities in Companion Animal Biology and Human Education and co-advises the Illinois Student Chapter of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. She received the North American College and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teacher Fellow Award in 2012 and the University of Illinois Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award in 2013.

Dr. Fischer has proudly served on ACC&D’s Board of Directors since 2010. She is also a board member of the Champaign County Humane Society and a founding member of the Central Illinois Animal Welfare Coalition. She regularly provides animal transport, foster care, and disaster response services for multiple groups. She has volunteered with numerous domestic and international cat and dog populations control campaigns and is deeply committed to advancing non-surgical methods for human population control.

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ACC&D Board of Directors

Think Tank Participant

John Friar

Originally trained as a geophysicist with a degree from the University of Southampton, John Friar has spent more than 20 years working in the IT industry as a software developer, designer, and architect across many commercial sectors. Finding this less than rewarding, Mr. Friar has also collaborated closely with a number of data modeling projects in ecology and epidemiology. This has included developing modeling systems for grassland fire dynamics in Australia and elk ecology in Alberta, as well as providing data management and analysis to the UK government during the 2001 foot and mouth crisis. More recently he has worked closely with epidemiologists and animal welfare agencies supporting the rollout of mass dog rabies vaccination programs and community participation projects.

With experience in both the commercial and non-commercial worlds, Mr. Friar recognized an opportunity to apply modern data management tools and techniques to assist the effective rollout of public and animal health interventions. To this end, as founder of Wise Monkey Foundation, he has built a data management and analysis platform that is being utilized by projects in Indonesia, the Philippines, India, and Romania.

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Think Tank Participant

Sandra Goerick-Pesch, Dr. Med. Vet., Diplomate ECAR

Dr. Sandra Goerick-Pesch studied veterinary medicine at the Justus-Liebig-University (JLU) in Gießen, Germany, from 1996-2001. After finishing her studies, she started a voluntary placement at the Clinic for Obstetrics, Gynecology and Andrology of Large and Small Animals with Veterinary Ambulance, JLU Gießen. She received a Scientific Assistantship at the Clinic in 2002, initially under the supervision of Dr. R. Hoffmann. In 2006 she defended her doctoral thesis about “Light and electron microscopic investigations on stallion semen and biochemical analysis of the seminal plasma.” Dr. Goerick-Pesch was approved to be a German Diplomate for Reproduction (breeding hygiene and biotechnology of reproduction) in 2006 and a Diplomate of the European College of Animal Reproduction in 2010. She received the European Veterinary Award in 2011, the post-doc prize of the German Society for Small Animal Medicine of the German Veterinary Society in 2012, and an award from the Drs. Jutta and Georg Bruns Foundation for Innovative Veterinary Medicine in 2013.

Although Dr. Goerick-Pesch began her career working with equines, she expanded her work to ruminants and finally specialized in small animal reproduction. She continues to treat all aforementioned species in her clinical duties, however. Dr. Goerick-Pesch’s primary current research focus is the control of gonadal function with special attention to GnRH agonist implants in several species, as well as the factors controlling recrudescence of spermatogenesis following abolition of treatment, using the “downregulated dog” as a model.

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Gail C. Golab, Ph.D., D.V.M., MANZCVS, DACAW

Dr. Gail Golab earned her Ph.D. in biochemistry from Texas A&M University, and her D.V.M. from the University of Illinois. After completing an internship and three years in private companion animal practice, she accepted a position with the AVMA as an Assistant Editor for its clinical and research journals. In 2007 she was named Director of the AVMA’s Animal Welfare Division.

Dr. Golab has served as one of the AVMA’s nominees to the Board of Directors for the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy and on a coalition that created voluntary animal care guidelines for the retail pet industry. Currently she represents the AVMA on the Steering Committee for the American College of Animal Welfare, an AVMA-recognized veterinary specialty board.

In 2005 Dr. Golab was inducted as a Distinguished Practitioner into the National Academies of Practice, she is medical director at First Coast No More Homeless Pets in Jacksonville, Florida. Performing over 24,000 sterilization surgeries each year, they are on the verge of achieving a no-kill community.

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Think Tank Participant

Dr. Amy Fischer, Ph.D.
Karen Green
Karen Green joined the Cat Adoption Team (CAT) as Executive Director in December 2012, after serving for a year on its Board of Directors. In her role at CAT—the largest adoption-guarantee, feline-focused shelter in the Pacific Northwest—Ms. Green oversees all aspects of organization operations, development, and programs. Before working at CAT, she served as the Senior Director of the Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs (ACC&D) for over six years, managing communications and special projects and programs, as well as participating in development, planning, and program administration.

Previously, Ms. Green worked for Best Friends Animal Society as the assistant director of the national No More Homeless Pets campaign, where she oversaw community program and consultation efforts and assisted with the development and management of the campaign. Prior to that, as the Community Programs Manager for the Western U.S., Ms. Green consulted with shelters, rescue groups, other humane organizations, and individuals across the country. Additionally, she developed resources and assisted with the organization of No More Homeless Pets conferences and workshops. Her other roles focused on pet retention, re-homing, adoption, and medical care.

Ms. Green holds a B.A. in Organizational Communication and a Certificate in Conflict Resolution and Mediation from Maryhurst University. She shares her home in Portland, Oregon, with her cat, Sterling.

David H. Grimm, Ph.D.
Dr. David H. Grimm is an award-winning journalist and the Online News Editor of Science, the world’s largest journal of science news and scientific research. He is the recipient of the 2010 Animal Reporting Award from the National Press Club and the author of “The Mushroom Cloud’s Silver Lining,” which was featured in The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2009. His work has appeared in Science, U.S. News and World Report, and The Financial Times. He has a Ph.D. in Genetics from Yale University and teaches science writing at Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Grimm has written on numerous topics, but his favorite stories involve animal welfare. His 2009 article “A Cure for Euthanasia?” followed the quest to develop a birth control vaccine for cats and dogs in an effort to curb the mass killing of these animals in shelters and streets around the globe. He has also written about the use of cats and dogs in U.S. research laboratories and the ethics of keeping dolphins in captivity. In addition to the National Press Club’s Animal Reporting Award, his work has won multiple honors from the Humane Society of the United States.

Dr. Grimm is currently writing a book on the evolving status of cats and dogs in society, and the consequences of turning pets into people. He lives in Baltimore with his wife, twin baby girls, and two cats.

Sharon Harmon, CAWA
Sharon Harmon, Oregon Humane Society Executive Director, has been a professional in the field of animal care and welfare for 32 years. She has helped lead the Oregon Humane Society, the state’s largest and oldest animal protection organization, for 24 years and has served as its Executive Director since 1998. She holds a B.S. in Zoology (Pre-Veterinary Medicine) from Oregon State University and a Certificate in Nonprofit Business Administration and Leadership from Johns Hopkins University, and she is a Certified Animal Welfare Administrator. Ms. Harmon serves in a leadership role with the regional coalition Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland (ASAP), serves on Barkbuilt the Pet Shelter’s Advisory Committee, and is the immediate past Chair of the National Federation of Humane Societies’ Board of Directors. She received the American Veterinary Medical Association’s Humane Award for 2008 and is nationally recognized for innovations in shelter management and program design.

Elly Hiby, Ph.D.
Dr. Elly Hiby is an independent animal welfare consultant. Previously she worked at Dogs Trust as International Director, covering a range of dog welfare issues around the world but with a focus on humane dog population management. Prior to working at Dogs Trust, Dr. Hiby worked for the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) for eight years. In this position she advised on humane dog rabies control, ending the trade in dog meat, improving the welfare of working equines, and the monitoring and evaluation of animal welfare in general. In 2008 Dr. Hiby and her contemporaries from Royal Society for Protection of Animals, Humane Society International, and International Fund for Animal Welfare formed the International Companion Animal Management (ICAM) Coal Veil. This coalition aims to improve understanding of effective population management by sharing experience and data from past and current nonprofit projects, and by combining knowledge to produce documents outlining best practices. Dr. Hiby has also worked as a technical expert with the World Animal Health Organisation (OE), the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on dog population management.

Elly Hiby, Ph.D.
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Raffaella Leoci received her degree in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Bari, Italy, in 2005. She continued at the University of Bari and received her Ph.D. in Human and Animal Reproductive Biology in 2009. In 2010, Dr. Leoci completed a research fellowship (“Ultrasound and magnetic field influence on reproductive functionality of domestic animals: their therapeutic application”) at the University of Bari, followed by receipt of a specialty degree in the Physiopathology of Domestic Animal Reproduction in 2012.

Dr. Leoci served as Principal Investigator for the Parsemus research program, a collaboration between the University of Bari, Italy and Parsemus Foundation in Berkeley, California. She has authored many publications, and is currently a researcher at the University of Bari Aldo Moro, as well as a private practitioner and specialist in pet reproduction. Her primary research focuses on identifying new techniques for non-surgical sterilization of companion animals, including use of ultrasounds (mechanical castration) and intratubicular injection of chemicals (chemical castration). She also conducts research to improve methods for remote visual identification of sterilized stray dogs, as well as on non-conventional therapies for treatment of the most common diseases of the male genitalia.

The Parsemus Foundation has generously supported Dr. Raffaella Leoci’s symposium attendance.

Elaine Lissner is Director of Parsemus Foundation, a California-based foundation focused on non-surgical animal sterilization, breast cancer research, and development of new contraceptives. The foundation’s largest project is bringing Vasalgel™ long-acting nonhormonal human male contraceptive to market with affordable public-sector pricing through its subsidiary, Versacept.

Parsemus Foundation is focused on raising the level of evidence on calcium chloride non-surgical male dog and cat sterilization, both supporting researchers and conducting research itself when needed. To date the foundation has helped the pioneering team in India raise awareness of their work and move the results into publication (Jana/Samanta), as well as funding independent confirmatory trials in Italy (Leoci et al.) that have been submitted for publication. Preliminary results from the Italian dog study were presented at the First International Conference on Dog Population Management, York, England, in September 2012. The foundation is also conducting pilot research in goats to determine calcium chloride’s feasibility as an alternative to banding, the currently used farm procedure, and has provided smaller-scale funding for GonaCon research.

Ms. Lissner’s background is in human male contraceptive development advocacy, where she was Director of the Male Contraception Information Project in the early 1990s and from 2001 to 2012. Her publications include “Frontiers in Nonhormonal Male Contraception: A Call for Research” in Issues in Reproductive Technology: An Anthology, and the foundation’s work has been featured in Scientific American, The Wall Street Journal, and BBC News.

More information about the foundation’s work on calcium chloride can be found at www.ParsemusFoundation.org.

Dr. Julie Levy is Director of Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida. She obtained her D.V.M. from the University of California, Davis and her Ph.D. at North Carolina State University. She completed a clinical internship at Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston and a residency in small animal internal medicine at North Carolina State University, culminating in board certification in ACVIM.

Dr. Levy’s research and clinical interests center on the health and welfare of animals in shelters, feline infectious diseases, and humane alternatives for cat population control. She has performed long-term studies of contraceptive vaccines for cats, with a recent focus on GnRH as the contraceptive target. She is the founder of Operation Castrap, a university-based community cat spay/neuter program that has sterilized more than 37,000 cats in Gainesville, Florida since 1998. Dr. Levy has published more than 100 journal articles and textbook chapters, many focusing on community cat issues. She is the recipient of the Carl J. Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award, Outstanding Woman Veterinarian of the Year, and the European Society of Feline Medicine Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Feline Medicine.

Dr. Michelle Kutzler is a 1993 graduate of Washington State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine in Pullman, Washington, where she received her D.V.M. in 1993 with a special interest in reproduction. After completing a residency in small animal internal medicine at North Carolina State University, she joined the faculty at Oregon State University in 1995.

In 1996, Dr. Kutzler helped launch the Veterinary Contraception Project (VCP), which was later renamed the Male Contraception Information Project in the early 1990s and from 2001 to 2012. Her publications include “Frontiers in Nonhormonal Male Contraception: A Call for Research” in Issues in Reproductive Technology: An Anthology, and the foundation’s work has been featured in Scientific American, The Wall Street Journal, and BBC News.

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More information about the foundation’s work on calcium chloride can be found at www.ParsemusFoundation.org.
Monica List, M.V., Mag.B., Ph.D. Candidate

Dr. Monica List is a doctoral student in the Department of Philosophy at Michigan State University, also completing graduate specializations in Ecological Food and Farming Systems and Animal Studies. She earned her Veterinary Medicine degree in 2002 and a Masters degree in Bioethics in 2011, both from the National University of Costa Rica. Her previous work and research areas include clinical wildlife medicine, wildlife rehabilitation and reintroduction, and animal welfare. From 2006 to 2010 she worked as a Veterinary Programs Manager for the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) office for Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. During her time at WSPA she worked with local animal welfare and protection groups to implement companion animal population management projects, as well as working equine welfare projects.

At Michigan State University, Dr. List is a Research Assistant and Undergraduate Adviser at the Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences. Her current research interests are philosophical, human-animal relations, bioethics, and animal welfare.

Byron Maas, D.V.M.

Dr. Byron Maas has been practicing companion animal medicine and surgery for over 23 years. He is the owner of Bend Veterinary Clinic and President of the Animal Emergency Center of Central Oregon. He co-founded the Bend Spay and Neuter Project in 2005 and has served on both the Board of Directors for the Humane Society of Central Oregon and Bend Spay and Neuter Project as Board President. He was instrumental in establishing the mobile SNP clinic, which serves the greater rural Central Oregon region. Dr. Maas is passionate about humane cat and dog population control worldwide. He was the first veterinarian to volunteer and establish the Esther Honey Foundation’s clinic in Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Dr. Maas collaborates regularly with Animal Balance in developing nations to provide veterinary care, especially in sensitive island communities such as the Galapagos Islands, Indonesia, Samoa, Cuba, and others. He is a Certified Master Trainer for Ark Sciences and provides education to domestic and international veterinarians and students in the proper techniques of non-surgical sterilization using Zeuterin™, thus bringing the newest and most efficient sterilization practices to many organizations.

Owner, Bend Veterinary Clinic, Inc.; Certified Master Trainer & International Veterinary Relations, Ark Sciences, Bend, Oregon, U.S.

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Marjorie MacGregor, M.S., Ph.D. Candidate

Originally from Seattle, Washington, Marjorie MacGregor now calls Wyoming home. Ms. MacGregor received her B.S. degree in Wildlife Biology from Washington State University and her M.S. degree in Animal Science/Environment and Natural Resources from the University of Wyoming. Currently she is studying for her Ph.D. in Zoology and Physiology at the University of Wyoming. Her research is focused on developing a chemical sterilant for coyotes with the overall goal being non-lethal reproductive control of canids. She is a NSF GK-12 Fellow with the University of Wyoming Science Posse and a staff member with Science Kids Wyoming.

Prior to graduate school, Ms. MacGregor worked as a wildlife guide on expeditions in Central America, South America, Alaska, Mexico, Canada and the Yukon Territory, Mexico, and the Caribbean; taught English in Ecuador; and developed outdoor naturalist programs in the Bahamas. Perhaps her favorite past life experience was being a dog musher in Wyoming! She has been involved with various educational projects for the past eight years while conducting research on cougars, small mammals and coyotes. She lives in Laramie with her partner, Jeff, and their three naughty but cute cow dogs (Achilles, Riling Draw, and Hattie Carroll).

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Ana C. Carranza Martin, Vet. Med., Ph.D. Candidate

Ana C. Carranza Martin studied veterinary medicine in the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the Catholic University of Córdoba, Argentina, from 2005 to 2010. In 2008 she was awarded a Morris Animal Foundation Veterinary Student Scholar grant to conduct research on the “Effect of Equisal Melatonin on Prevention of Breeding Season in the Domestic Cat.” Dr. Carranza Martin presented this study at the Morris Animal Foundation’s annual meeting in 2009. At present, she is a Ph.D. candidate at the National University of La Plata and the National Research Council, Argentina. She is conduct- ing research on the effect of GnRH agonists in prepubertal domestic cats under the supervision of Dr. Cristina Gobello.

Giovanna Massei, Ph.D.

Dr. Giovanna Massei is a Senior Ecologist based at the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency in York (UK). She received her BSc from the University of Florence (Italy) and her Ph.D. from the University of Aberdeen (UK). Dr. Massei has over 20 years of experience in non-lethal approaches to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts. She has worked extensively on fertility control applications for wildlife, and more recently on applications for dogs in the context of dog population management and disease control. Dr. Massei has published more than 100 scientific and popular articles, one book, and several book chapters; she is currently Associate Editor for the peer-reviewed journal Human-Wildlife Interactions. In 2012 Dr. Massei led the 1st International Conference on Dog Population Management in York (UK), co-organized by WHO, OIE, WSPL, HSI, RSIPCA and IFAW. The three-day conference attracted approximately 170 delegates from 35 countries and highlighted the widespread stakeholder interest in this area. Dr. Massei is based in the UK, but she is increasingly working in other countries, including Montserrat, India, Italy, Hong Kong, Morocco, and Nepal.

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Betsy McFarland, CAWA

Betsy McFarland is the Vice President of The HSUS’s Companion Animals section, where she oversees a variety of programs aimed at ending euthanasia for healthy, adoptable pets and attracting volunteers to communities to provide quality care for companion animals. During her 14-year career with The HSUS, Ms. McFarland has overseen and grown multiple programs, including Pets for Life, The Shelter Pet Project, Animal Care Expo, and animalshelping.org, among others. She has provided direct assistance to hundreds of animal shelters, humane organizations, and other agencies in handling various animal care and protection issues.

Ms. McFarland possesses a broad communications background, including website creation, book publishing, and media outreach. Additionally, she is National Disaster Animal Response Team (NDART) trained and has extensive hands-on experience responding to numerous natural and man-made disasters—from hurricanes and floods to hoarding cases and large-scale seizures of puppy mill dogs. She is the author of Betsy McFarland, CAWA, published by The HSUS, and has worked with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte to research volunteer management practices.

Ms. McFarland is a Certified Animal Welfare Administrator (CAWA) through the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA). She serves on the Boards of ACC&D and Shelter Animals-Count, and she was a founding Board Member of the Association of Leaders in Volunteer Engagement (ALIVE).

In addition to her animal protection background, Ms. McFarland holds a degree in psychology from George Mason University and a Certificate in Nonprofit Business and Management from the Johns Hopkins University.

Vice President, Companion Animals, The Humane Society of the United States, Washington, D.C., U.S.

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ACC&D Board of Directors
Joan Miller

Joan Miller cares for all cats: pedigreed, random-bred, and community. Her involvement with cats began as a breeder of national award-winning Abyssinians. She served as an elected member of the Cat Fanciers’ Association (CFA) Board for 25 years, including four as Vice President. She has recently retired as a CFA Allbreed Judge. Currently Ms. Miller is CFA Legislative Information Liaison and Chair of the CFA Outreach and Education Committee. She was also President of the Winn Feline Foundation for 16 years, helping to raise funds and award grants for health studies to benefit all cats, and President of the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy from 2007 to 2009. She has participated in two international feline genetics conferences, presented at the AYMA Animal Welfare Forum in 1995, and served as a track leader/presenter for the Tufts Animal Expo in 2002. Ms. Miller wrote two chapters in Feline Husbandry: “History of Cat Breeds” and “Cattery Design and Management” and contributed the chapter “What is a Pedigreed Cat” for The CFA Complete Cat Book. She writes monthly articles and gives talks on numerous cat-related topics such as pet population issues, domestic cat evolution, history of cats breeds, feline color/pattern genetics, the basic nature of cats, choosing a pet cat, handling of cats in shelters, and the multi-cat environment.

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Philip S. Miller, Ph.D.

Dr. Phil Miller is a Senior Program Officer with the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG), an international wildlife conservation organization that is part of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Academically trained as a population geneticist and conservation biologist (Ph.D., Arizona State University), Dr. Miller integrates the use of computer simulation approaches for population viability analysis with group facilitation tools. The outcome: development of practical conservation strategies across a broad diversity of endangered wildlife species and against an equally diverse human cultural background. Through planning and conducting over 80 risk assessment workshops in nearly 40 countries around the world, he has helped local people plan for endangered species conservation in the explicit context of human activities on the landscape.

Through his work with the ACC&D modeling team, Dr. Miller is now exploring new ways that these tools can be applied to the issues around feral animal population management. His current research interests include the design and implementation of revolutionary “metamodeling” technologies that physically link computer simulation programs for more effective analysis of wildlife conservation issues and management planning, and the development of methods for integrating population viability analysis with tools from the field of decision analysis. This in turn helps local wildlife management officials make more informed decisions for species and habitat conservation.

Dr. Miller lives in south Minneapolis with his wife Ellen, twin teenagers Jason and Sydney, and rescued shelter cat Athena.

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Think Tank Participant

The International Fund for Animal Welfare has generously supported Dr. Miller’s symposium attendance.

Katherine (Cathy) Moldave, M.B.A.

Katherine Moldave held various positions in the global organizations of international animal health companies Merck AgVet and Merital Limited. She co-founded AlcheraBio LLC in 2001. After Alchera was acquired in late 2008, she became its Vice President – Market Support. Ms. Moldave has been a supporter of ACC&D since the first symposium in 2002. She coauthored Contraception and Fertility Control in Animals in 2002 and developed the new ACC&D e-book Contraception and Fertility Control for Dogs and Cats, released in 2013. At previous ACC&D symposia Ms. Moldave made presentations on pricing and public/private partnerships she coauthored an ACC&D whitepaper examining public/private partnerships and their potential as models for the development of non-surgical approaches in dogs and cats. She serves on the ACC&D Scientific Advisory Board and in that role has attended several meetings regarding various structures for developing support of non-surgical techniques. Ms. Moldave is now semi-retired from AlcheraBio but is doing business development for the family company and working on her next endeavor: Stay tuned.

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ACC&D Scientific Advisor

The ASPCA has generously supported Katherine Moldave’s symposium attendance.

Kevin Morris, Ph.D.

Dr. Kevin Morris pursues an interest in applying his scientific expertise to the advancement of non-profit missions, particularly in animal welfare, as a professional consultant. He brings an extensive background in medical research and technology development to his work in animal welfare. As Director of Research at the Animal Assistance Foundation from 2008 into 2012, he developed models for better understanding the issues of unwanted animals, especially the effect of animal-assisted therapy, and the human-animal bond. This information was used to drive the foundation’s grantmaking strategy. Currently, his research is with local and national organizations creating new information for the animal welfare community.

Dr. Morris was involved in cancer research for over 20 years, including a 10-year stint as a Co-Founding Partner of Sirius Medicine, a research and development company that generates new radio-surgical technologies for cancer treatment. Dr. Morris received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Chicago, and was a Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Cancer Research Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Colorado.

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ACC&D Board of Directors

Think Tank Participant

Michael W. Munks, Ph.D.

Dr. Michael W. Munks is an Instructor at National Jewish Health in Denver, Colorado, USA. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a BS in Biology. Mike developed an interest in vaccines, adjuvants and anti-viral immune responses during his thesis work with Ann Hill at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, OR, where he became interested in herpesvirus immunity, and the paradox of lifelong herpesvirus persistence in the face of robust adaptive immunity. He studied the CD8 T cell response to mouse cytomegalovirus (MCMV) and the phenomenon of memory inflation, whereby the strength of the CD8 T cell response to MCMV actually increases over time. He performed his post-doctoral training with Pippa Marrack at National Jewish Health in Denver, CO, where he studied the molecular mechanisms of how aluminum adjuvants, used in many subunit vaccines, activate innate and adaptive immunity.

Current work is funded by the Found Animals Foundation and focused on whether Feline Herpesvi- rus-1 (FHV-1) can be developed into an attenuated, recombinant contraceptive vaccine vector. By ex- pressed essential reproductive proteins from FHV-1, thus in an infectious setting, self-tolerance should be broken. It is hoped that this persistent vaccine vector will induce long-lived antibody and T cell responses against essential reproductive proteins, resulting in a permanent, economical non-surgical sterilant for cats.

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Kevin Morris, Ph.D.
Sergio R. Ojeda, D.V.M.

Dr. Sergio Ojeda is a Senior Scientist in the Division of Neuroscience at the Oregon National Primate Research Center. He is also Professor of Physiology and of Cell Biology in the Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine.

Dr. Ojeda received his D.V.M. degree from the University of Chile in 1968 and conducted his post-doctoral training in Neuroendocrinology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. In 1987 he was appointed to the Center as a Professor of Physiology. Dr. Ojeda has served as Associate Editor for the journals Endocrinology and Neuroendocrinology, and as an Editorial Board member for the American Journal of Physiology. He currently serves on the Editorial Board of Endocrinology, Neuroendocrinology, J. Neuroendocrinology, and Methods in Neuroscience; and he is Associate Editor for Neuroendocrinology. Dr. Ojeda has served as a regular member of the NIH Biochemical Endocrinology Study Section, the NIH Population Research Committee, the NIH National Institute of Child Health Development Advisory Council, and the NIH Council of Councils. He is currently a member of the NIH Integrative Clinical Endocrinology and Reproduction Study Section.

Luis Lecuona Olivares, D.V.M.

Dr. Luis Armando Lecuona Olivares received a Doctor in Veterinary Medicine and Zootecnia from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) with specialty in Applied Epidemiology from the General Direction of Epidemiology at the Mexican Ministry of Health, the Faculty of Medicine at UNAM, and High Direction of Public Entities Program in the Public Administration National Institute.

Dr. Lecuona currently serves as Agricultural Specialist in Animal Health, coordinating the Wildlife Program for the United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/International Services-Wildlife Services México. He coordinates and participates in International Meetings of Research Advances and Rabies Control in the Americas, and he is a helper member of the International Scientific Committee. In addition, Dr. Lecuona is a coordinator and participant in the U.S.-Mexico binational meetings of rabies control, and he regularly participates as a U.S. Representative in REDRIPCA (National Directors of Rabies Programs in the Americas), which is coordinated by the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization.

Dr. Lecuona has also served as head of the Rabies Department in the Zoonoses Control Program of the Mexican Ministry of Health, Professor of Statistics, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Zootecnia at UNAM; member of the Committee for Operative Zoonoses Investigation; and epidemiological and statistical advisor for degree programs of the Ministry of Health, UNAM; Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México, and Instituto Politécnico Nacional.

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Kris Otteman, D.V.M.

Dr. Kris Otteman has 26 years of veterinary and leadership experience and is currently Director of Shelter Medicine and Humane Investigations at Oregon Humane Society (OHS). Dr. Otteman leads the team at the OHS Animal Medical Learning Center, the nation’s only in-shelter university teaching hospital which is responsible for the care of 12,000 shelter pets annually. She is also an Adjunct Faculty Member for Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine and serves in a leadership role with the Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland (ASAP), a regional coalition. OHS serves as fiscal agent for ASAP.

A Co-founder of Banfield, The Pet Hospital, Dr. Otteman’s background also includes eight years in mixed animal practice in Southern Oregon. Her broad experience at Banfield included executive leadership and management. She has also served on the Board for Cat Adoption Team, as a trustee of Banfield Charitable Trust, and as a member of the Oregon Veterinary Medical Licensing Board. Dr. Otteman is a Charter Member of the International Veterinary Forensic Sciences Association and a member of the OVMA, AVMA, AVMLA, and AASV. She lives in Washington, just across the border from Portland, with her family and pets.

Deborah Dubow Press, J.D.

Deborah Dubow Press is the Manager of Regulatory Affairs in the ASPCA’s Washington, D.C. office. Ms. Press develops strategy for strong agency enforcement of animal protection laws and builds relationships with federal agency staff overseeing ASPCA priority issues. These include protecting dogs in puppy mills, preventing horse slaughter, and obtaining humane care standards for farm animals. She came to the ASPCA from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, where her responsibilities included analysis of legal issues and pursuit of penalties in connection with the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act. While there, she focused on cases involving dog breeders, animal research institutions, animal exhibitors, and horse shows. Before her time at the USDA, Ms. Press served as Associate Counsel for Farm Animal Programs at the Animal Welfare Institute, where she directed the organization’s effort to challenge misleading humane food labeling claims.

Ms. Press is originally from Rockville, Maryland and has lived in Washington, D.C. since 2009, although her heart remains in beautiful Ithaca, New York, where she received her J.D. from Cornell Law School. She shares her home with human companions, a cat named Hester, and a rotating band of foster kittens from Washington Humane Society.

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Iris Margaret Reichler, PD Dr. Vet. Med.

Dr. Iris Margaret Reichler is head of Small Animal Reproduction, Vetsuisse Faculty, at the University of Zürich in Switzerland. Dr. Reichler is a 1987 graduate of Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, Germany. After completing her doctoral thesis “Endoparasites of puppies and their mothers in South Germany,” she worked in two private small animal clinics for five years. In 1993 she joined the Vetsuisse Faculty at the University of Zürich to train in surgery and, later, in theriogenology. In 1998 Dr. Reichler passed the exam to become a Veterinary Specialist for Small and Companion Animals. Since 2007, when she received the Venia legendi for Reproductive Medicine, she has been head of Small Animal Reproduction, Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Zürich. Her research interests are primarily in the field of small companion animal reproduction, with the main focus on the pathophysiology of the side effects of spaying. Her current emphasis is on GnRH implants for intact and neutered dogs and cats.

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Linda Rhodes, V.M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Linda Rhodes is Chief Scientific Officer of Aratana Therapeutics, a position she recently assumed after serving as the CEO. She has a unique combination of experience and expertise as an executive scientist, manager, and entrepreneur. Dr. Rhodes has worked in the animal health industry for more than 30 years and has demonstrated leadership in veterinary clinical practice, research, pre-clinical development, drug discovery, and regulatory affairs.

Prior to joining Aratana, Dr. Rhodes co-founded Alkheraulto LLC, a contract research organization focused on the discovery and development of new technologies for animal health in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. She grew this organization into the first large full-service veterinary contract research organization in the U.S. In 2008, Alkheraulto was acquired by Arventa, and Dr. Rhodes assumed responsibility for regulatory affairs and oversight of large-scale clinical trials of new animal drugs.
Before launching AlcheriBio, Dr. Rhodes was the Director for Production Animal Development Projects at Merck. Prior to that she conducted research on human health drug targets at Merck. Dr. Rhodes is a member of the Adjunct Graduate Faculty in the Animal Sciences Department at Rutgers and serves on the Board of Directors of ImmuCell Corporation.

Dr. Rhodes earned a B.A. degree from Sarah Lawrence College, a V.M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, and a Ph.D. from Cornell University. She is the proud mother of a son, attending law school in the fall of 2013, and the caretaker of two adopted stray cats, Luna and Ruby.

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ACC&D Board of Directors

Think Tank Participant

Becky Robinson, M.A.

Becky Robinson is President and Co-founder of Alley Cat Allies (ACA), the nation’s only advocacy organization dedicated to the protection and humane treatment of cats.

ACA is leading a national change in how communities view and treat outdoor cats. Since Miss. Robinson started the discussion on Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) 23 years ago, Illinois, Utah, and the District of Columbia have adopted TNR-friendly laws, and more than 300 local governments also allow or endorse TNR. Working directly with volunteers, ACA has helped stabilize cat colony sizes across the United States. Cats are America’s number one companion animal, but they are also the most likely to face death at our animal pounds and shelters; more than 70 percent of cats who enter are killed there.

ACA, founded in 1990, filled the need for a U.S.-based organization providing education and resources for the countless people caring for outdoor cats. Robinson helped establish best-practice standards for TNR in the United States. With a half-million supporters, ACA is the recognized authority on feral cats, and the leader of the movement to protect and improve the lives of all domestic cats.

Ms. Robinson holds an M.A. in Public Administration from the University of Missouri, and a B.A. in Social Work from Bethany College. She lives with her husband and five cats in Arlington, Virginia, where she also cares for a feral cat colony.

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Charles E. Rupprecht, V.M.D., M.S., Ph.D.

Dr. Charles E. Rupprecht was awarded his B.A. in ecology from Rutgers University, an M.S. in Zoology and a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from the University of Wisconsin, and a V.M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania College of Veterinary Medicine. He has held academic positions at several institutions, including The Wistar Institute, Thomas Jefferson University, Emory University, and the University of Pretoria. During the past 20 years, Dr. Rupprecht has served as Chief of the National Rabies Program, Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Rabies, and Head of the OIE Rabies Reference Laboratory at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Currently he is Director of Research for The Global Alliance for Rabies Control and serves on the Board of Directors of ImmuCell Corporation.

Dr. Rupprecht has served as a reviewer for over 100 peer-reviewed papers and received multiple honors and awards. Current research interests include all aspects associated with lyssaviruses, the ecology of emerging infectious diseases, and One Health applications in the developing world.

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Becky Robinson

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An experienced veterinarian and surgeon, Dr. Judith Samson-French owns and operates Banded Peak Veterinary Hospital in the heart of the Rocky Mountain foothills. Dr. Samson-French is a graduate of McGill University (B.S.c.), Ontario Veterinary College (D.V.M.), and the University of Alberta (M.Sc.). She has worked at both the Calgary Zoo and the Honolulu Zoo, has invested several years of her career to pursuing medicine and surgery for ratites in North America and Europe, and has experience as an emergency veterinarian. In addition, Dr. Samson-French has pursued education in aquatic veterinary medicine, studying at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (Massachusetts, USA) and Barnfield Marine Station in western Canada. She has also performed fieldwork on green iguanas in Costa Rica, and has included in her practice small ruminants, equine patients, and rehabilitation of sick and injured wildlife. Dr. Samson-French is currently leading a first-time trial project using contraceptive implants in unwanted dogs on First Nations reserve land to prevent the birth of hundreds of thousands of dogs with no names. She has three dogs, six donkeys, and no cats.

Owner and Veterinarian, Banded Peak Veterinary Hospital, Founder, Dogs With No Names™ scientific pilot project, Bragg Creek, Alberta, Canada
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Betsy Banks Saul, M.S.

In 1996 Betsy Saul harnessed the Internet technology of the Internet and melded it into one of the most successful Web businesses to date — while changing the way the public views shelter pets. Pettfinder, a “social profit” company, is on a mission to see that no pet is euthanized for lack of a home and to elevate the status of pets to family member. Almost 15 years of consistent and steady growth has translated to over five million unique visitors to Pettfinder.com each month and over two million adoptions annually. Ms. Saul was named by Woman’s Day magazine as one of fifty “Women Who Are Changing the World.” She splits her time among Pettfinder and serving on the Pettfinder.com Foundation Board of Directors, ACC&D Board of Directors, Love Animals Board of Directors, and Wake County SPCA Advisory Board. Her newest venture is HEAL, a house call veterinary franchise.

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ACC&D Board of Directors

Tatiana Samoylova, Ph.D.

Dr. Tatiana Samoylova received her M.S. degree in Botany and Zoology from Kiev National University (Kiev, USSR) in 1982 and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the Institute of Experimental Botany (Minsk, USSR) in 1991. She was a postdoctoral research associate at the Institute of Molecular Genetics (IPK, Gatersleben, Germany) from 1994 to 1996. She moved to the United States to join the Scott-Ritchey Research Center (SRRC) at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine (AUCVM) as a Postdoctoral Fellow. Dr. Samoylova currently is a Scientist at the SRRC and an Associate Research Professor at the Department of Pathobiology, AUCVM.

Dr. Samoylova is a protein/peptide Biochemist with a strong research interest in phage display technology. Her major phage display projects are in reproductive biology, focusing on development of contraceptive vaccines for feral and wild animals, including cats, dogs, and pigs. Such contraceptive vaccines are composed of whole phage particles carrying immunogenic peptides, where the phage body plays the role of a carrier protein/adjuvant and multiple peptide copies stimulate production of anti-peptide antibodies. These antibodies interfere with male and female reproductive functions, leading to a reduction in fertility. Examples of antigens used for vaccine construction include zona pellucida-binding peptides, as well as molecules derived from reproductive hormones and their receptors. One of Dr. Samoylova’s projects is directed towards development of a novel contraceptive vaccine for ferrets and stray dogs to be used as an alternative to surgical castration. The project is funded by the Found Animals Foundation through Michelson Grants in Reproductive Biology.

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Ruby, a son, attending law school in the fall of 2013, and the caretaker of two adopted stray cats, Luna and Ruby.

Chief Scientific Officer, AnaTera Therapeutics, Kansas City, Kansas, U.S.
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5th International Symposium  Portland, Oregon, U.S.
Auke C. Schaefers-Okkens, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Dr. Auke Schaefers-Okkens is a graduate of the University of Utrecht, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, the Netherlands. She is a European College of Animal Reproduction diplomate. She taught and conducted research at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology’s companion animals section from 1994 until 2007. Since 1997 she has worked at the Department of Clinical Sciences of Companion Animals in Theriogenology as a Senior Teacher and Researcher. Her Ph.D. thesis concerned “The hormonal regulation of the cyclic corpus luteum of the dog.” The central themes of her postdoctoral research are endocrinology during physiological anestrus and during dopamine-agonist or progestagen influence, parturition, and parturition induction with the progesterone blocker aglépristone. She is presently leading a research team concerned with the role of kispeptin and non-surgical contraception in the dog.

Department of Clinical Sciences of Companion Animals, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands
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Donal Skinner, Ph.D.

Dr. Donal Skinner received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, England in 1994, following a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of South Africa. After postdoctoral fellowships at Cambridge and INRA in France, he was appointed to an Assistant Professorship at the veterinary school at the University of Bristol before relocating to the University of Wyoming in 2002.

Dr. Skinner’s research during the past 20 years has focused on the seasonal mechanisms driving hormone secretion and, most recently, on the roles of gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) outside the neuroendocrine reproductive axis. Although initially a sheep researcher, his loyalty has strayed and much of his current research utilizes rodent models.

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Margaret Slater, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Dr. Margaret Slater obtained her D.V.M. from Cornell University in 1986 and spent a year in small animal practice. She returned to Cornell to complete a Ph.D. in Epidemiology in 1990. Dr. Slater was on the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University from 1990 until 2008, at which time she joined the ASPCA.

Dr. Slater is internationally recognized for her work on the sources of, problems of, and potential solutions for free-roaming cats and dogs. She has been an invited speaker at numerous animal welfare meetings, including the PetSmart Feline Forum and The HSUS Expo. She is on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Michelson Prize & Grants in Reproductive Biology for non-surgical sterilant development. Dr. Slater provides epidemiological and statistical support for staff across the ASPCA. Her emphasis is on animal shelter research ranging from fee-waived cat programs to determining if a shelter cat is pregnant or frightened to assessing the impact of spay/neuter on shelter intake. She is an ACC&D Scientific Advisor and has been working on the ACC&D free-roaming cat modeling team.

Dr. Slater has more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and two books. Her book, Community Approaches to Feral Cats: Problems, Alternatives, and Recommendations, was published by the Humane Society Press in 2002. Her invited chapters on feral cats were published in Consultations in Feline Internal Medicine in 2001 (4th edition) and 2009 (6th edition), The Welfare of Cats in 2004 and The State of the Animals III in 2005. Her most recent chapter on sterilization and population control will be published in Shelter Surgery. Senior Director of Veterinary Epidemiology, Shelter Research and Development, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Northampton, Massachusetts, U.S.
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ACC&D Scientific Advisor
Think Tank Participant

R. Scott Struthers, Ph.D.

Dr. R. Scott Struthers is the Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Crinetics Pharmaceuticals in San Diego, California. Crinetics discovers and develops novel therapeutics targeting peptide hormone receptors for the treatment of endocrine-related diseases and cancers. Dr. Struthers is the recipient of two Michelson Grants for the development of peptide receptor targeted toxins as potential injectable sterilants for cats and dogs.

His scientific accomplishments include the discovery and development of an orally active, nonpeptide GnRH agonist, slaglolis, that is currently in phase III clinical trials for the treatment of endometriosis and phase II trials for the treatment of uterine fibroids. His research interests are the areas of reproductive and metabolic endocrinology, GPCR biophysics and signaling, and drug discovery. Dr. Struthers is an author of more than 75 scientific publications and co-inventor on seven patents.

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Joseph S. Tash, Ph.D.

Dr. Joseph S. Tash is Former Director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Male Contraceptive Research and Drug Development. He is currently President of the American Society for Gynecological and Space Research. Dr. Tash received his Ph.D. (Cantab) in Reproductive Biology from University of Cambridge under the mentorship of Professor Thaddeus R.R. Mann, FRS, OBE, and was a post-doctoral fellow in the laboratory of Anthony R. Means at Baylor College of Medicine.

Dr. Tash’s research interests have focused on male reproductive biology from the start, and include basic regulation of sperm motility and sperm function, and identification of testis and/or sperm-specific components that can be targeted for development of reversible non-hormonal male contraceptive agents. His project has just been renewed for a new 5 year period as a U11 and is focusing on continued drug development and elucidating the mechanism of action of H2-gamendazole (H2-GMZ), an 100% effective and 100% reversible orally-active, highly-potent anti-spermagogenic contraceptive agent. The project is also discovering alternative chemical scaffold lead agents that target the same Sertoli cell molecular targets as H2-GMZ. A pre-IND package for H2-GMZ is in preparation for presentation to the FDA to ultimately enable first-in-human clinical trials. His research is also developing and testing a single injectable non-surgical alternative to spay/neuter operations for companion pets and feral animals. Proof of concept studies in rodents have been completed and are now being conducted in dogs as a prime target species.

Dr. Tash is also a NASA-funded scientist examining the effects of space flight on reproductive health, and has had 5 flight experiments on the Space Shuttle. He just completed a flight experiment on a Russian BION satellite that examined the effect of long term space flight on the male reproductive system.

Professor, Molecular & Integrative Physiology, Department of Urology, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas
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Ismail Thoya, B.V.M.

Dr. Ismail Thoya was born in the coastal city of Mombasa, Kenya, where he also received his primary and secondary education. He obtained his Bachelor’s degree in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Nairobi, graduating in 2006. Dr. Thoya worked as a clinician in small animal veterinary clinics in both Mombasa and Nairobi prior to joining the Kenya Society for the Protection and Care of Animals as a shelter veterinarian. His duties and roles at the shelter range from providing surgical and medical care to all admitted animals, to general supervisory and managerial roles. He is also in charge of running canine and feline population control and anti-rabies vaccination projects in low-income communities.

This work piqued his interest in mass sterilization for pets in low-income communities as a viable strategy to humanely address pet overpopulation control and its attendant challenges: diminished animal
Dr. Raphaël Vanderstichel graduated from the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC, University of Prince Edward Island) with a D.V.M. degree in 2004. After graduation, he practiced veterinary medicine in a mixed-animal practice in East Anglia (England) for two years and spent several months as a locum veterinarian in a small animal hospital.

Dr. Vanderstichel’s interest in research prompted him to return to the AVC to start a Ph.D. in Epidemiology in 2007. During the program, Raphaël participated in a wide variety of workshops specializing in advanced analytical methods, and taught both undergraduate (D.V.M.) and graduate (M.Sc. and Ph.D.) epidemiology topics in courses, rotations, dry-lab sessions, and workshops.

Dr. Vanderstichel just completed a two-year post-doctoral position as a Research Associate, developing and adapting quantitative methods to analyze and report surveillance data for foreign animal diseases in Canadian commercial swine, important for international trade. His three areas of professional interests are disease surveillance, wildlife epidemiology, and spatial epidemiology (geographical information systems - GIS). For the past two years, he has been involved in free-roaming dog and wildlife-related projects and activities with Veterinarians-Without-Borders (VWB) and the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC), respectively, and taught courses and rotations on these topics, including a two-day workshop to the Wildlife Focal Points in Africa (endorsed by the World Organisation for Animal Health - OIE).

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Dr. Raphaël Vanderstichel, D.V.M., Ph.D.
**Student Contest Winners**

Recognizing the importance of fostering new talent in non-surgical population control for companion animals, ACC&D hosted a contest for three veterinary students or residents to receive a fully paid trip to our 5th International Symposium. We were awed by the strength of our applicant pool, which included veterinary students and residents from 26 institutions around the world. Three students stood out for their proven commitment to the field, thoughtful insights on non-surgical sterilization, and potential to be future leaders. Please be sure to congratulate our winners: Joseph Cacioppo, Kendall Foley, and Sy Woon!

Thank you to Aratana Therapeutics and Heal House Call Veterinarian for supporting this contest.

**Joseph A. Cacioppo**

Joseph Cacioppo is a second-year D.V.M./Ph.D. Medical Scholars student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A Chicago native, Mr. Cacioppo first became interested in reproduction and contraception of companion animals after witnessing the pain and suffering of unborn puppies being killed by irresponsible breeders. His goals include furthering the field of non-hormonal contraception research, initially focusing on the biotechnology of reproduction and currently working on reversible contraception in domestic cats, mainly as an experimental model for wild cats. In 2011, Dr. Ackermann received her master’s degree in Animal Reproduction from São Paulo State University (UNESP - Botucatu). She is currently continuing her education at the University of Texas at Austin as a Ph.D. student.

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**Kendall Foley**

Kendall Foley is a member of the Class of 2016 at Auburn University’s College of Veterinary Medicine. Starting in childhood, Ms. Foley has been a committed volunteer in initiatives promoting animal welfare and dog and cat population control. In veterinary school she has been deeply involved with Volunteers for Intercultural and Definitive Adventures (VIDA), a nonprofit organization that recruits veterinary student and professional volunteers from around the world to help reduce the population of homeless cats and dogs in Central America. One of VIDA’s biggest challenges is convincing owners to spay their pets, especially those used as guard dogs. For this reason, Ms. Foley is excited to learn about new non-surgical techniques to help VIDA and similar organizations sterilize more companion animals.

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**Sy Woon**

Sy Woon is a B.V.Sc. student at Sydney University Vets Beyond Borders Student Chapter. One of her greatest passions lies in advocating for the welfare and dog and cat population control of animals. In veterinary school, she has been deeply involved with the Sydney Animal Welfare Society for the past three years and has assumed the role of Social Media Coordinator for Student Veterans. She is currently continuing her education at the University as a Ph.D. student.

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**Poster Author Biographies**

**Camila Louise Ackermann, M.V., Ph.D. Student**

Dr. Camila Louise Ackermann received her Medicina Veterinaria degree from Brazil’s State University of Ceará ( UFC) in 2008. Since graduating, Dr. Ackermann has been involved in feline reproduction research, initially focusing on the biotechnology of reproduction and currently working on reversible contraception in domestic cats, mainly as an experimental model for wild cats. In 2011, Dr. Ackermann received her master’s degree in Animal Reproduction from São Paulo State University (UNESP - Botucatu). She is currently continuing her education at the University of Texas at Austin as a Ph.D. student.

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**Alper Baran, D.V.M., Ph.D.**

Alper Baran is a 1992 graduate of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Istanbul University in Turkey. He completed his doctoral thesis, freezing of dog semen, at the Institute of Health Sciences. For the past five years Dr. Baran has been a Professor in the Department of Reproduction and Artificial Insemination and Director of the Andrology and Spermatology Laboratory at Istanbul University’s College of Veterinary Medicine. His research interests are primarily in the field of small companion animal reproduction (cats and dogs) and artificial insemination. Dr. Baran currently concentrates his efforts on novel approaches to chemical contraception methods, particularly in cats and dogs. Dr. Baran lives with his wife, one child, and a large tropical aquarium in Istanbul.

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**Caitlin Donovan, M.S., Ph.D. student**

Caitlin Donovan is currently a research assistant at Oregon State University, where she is studying different applications of GnRH immunization in various species. She completed her B.S. at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and just recently obtained her M.S. in Animal Sciences at Oregon State University, researching the use of GnRH immunization to treat uterine incontinence in ovariectomized female dogs. She is pursuing her Ph.D. in Animal Biology this fall at the University of California, Davis, where she will be studying the effects of alcohol on the mammary gland using a swine model. Beyond her endeavors with companion animals, Ms. Donovan has also worked with the Niahao Project Peru to help establish self-sustaining veterinary and herd management programs for alpaca farmers of the Peruvian Altiplano. At home, she enjoys her two cats, dog, and horse.

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**Cristina Gobello, M.V., D.M.V., Sm Anim Special, Dipl ECAR**

Dr. Cristina Gobello is a Professor in the Clinical Department & Reproduction, Faculty of Veterinary Science of Argentina’s National University of La Plata (FVS-NULP). She received her veterinary degree in 1985, followed by credentials as a Specialist in Small Animal Medical Clinic; she completed her Dipl. Vet. Med. degree (Ph.D. equivalent) at FVS-NULP in 1999 working on dog reproduction. Dr. Gobello is a Diplomate of the European College for Animal Reproduction (ECAR) and Cancer Scientist with Argentina’s National Research Council (CONICET). She has authored multiple international peer-reviewed publications and book chapters in small animal reproduction.

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William Ja, Ph.D.

Dr. William Ja, an assistant professor at The Scripps Research Institute in Jupiter, Florida, received his B.S. in chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, working with Rich Mathies and Alex Glazer on developing high-throughput DNA sequencing technologies. His doctoral work with Rich Roberts at the California Institute of Technology focused on using mRNA display to identify peptide modulators of G protein signaling. Dr. Ja remained at Caltech to work with Seymour Benzer on developing longevity drugs for Drosophila. Dr. Ja's current research interests include using flies as a model for studying aging and dietary restriction, the genetics of feeding behavior, and the effects of symbiotic gut bacteria on host nutrition. Ja also received a Michelson Grant in Reproductive Biology to develop a modular system for producing immunotoxin-like compounds. In addition to his scientific work, Dr. Ja has served as an assistant coach for Caltech's NCAA D-III women's volleyball team and Jupiter High's varsity boys team.

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Raffaella Leoci, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Please see bio on page 22.

Erika C. S. Oliveira, Ph.D.

Dr. Erika C. S. Oliveira is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine at Federal Rural University of Pernambuco (UFRRPE), Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil. She has served in this position since April 2008. Beginning in October 2012, she additionally assumed the positions of Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research at UFRRPE. Dr. Oliveira's research is focused on the field of animal conservation, either by forming a germplasm bank or controlling populations using non-surgical methods of contraception. Since 2003 she and her team have been developing approaches for chemical sterilization of dogs, cats, and wild animals with intratesticular injection of a zinc-based solution, evaluating the efficacy of drug and mechanism action of zinc when injected into testis. The research group also examines semen cryopreservation of companion animals and wild mammals and is currently working on an alternative substitute for egg yolk in the extender for dog semen.

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Charles E. Rupprecht, V.M.D., M.S., Ph.D.

Please see bio on page 30.

Oswaldo Santos, D.V.M., Ph.D. Candidate

Dr. Oswaldo Santos received his degree in veterinary medicine at the National University of Colombia, and he is currently conducting his Ph.D. research in veterinary epidemiology at the University of São Paulo (Brazil). Dr. Santos provides consultancy services in quantitative methods for companion animal population management and is preparing to release open-source software to estimate companion animal demographic variables and model population dynamics. The software, known as capm (Companion Animal Population Management), is a package of the R Project for Statistical Computing; a version in development can be found on his GitHub account (https://github.com/oswaldosantos).

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Min Wang, M.D.

Dr. Min Wang is one of the world’s leading reproductive scientists. As a medical doctor, his inventions have been targeted for humans, but he has also sought ways to apply his discoveries to companion and farm animal issues in an effort to more humanely make life better for animals, people, and the world.

From 1989 through 2011, Dr. Wang was involved in male reproductive research at the Center of Reproductive Science and Technology, School of Medicine, University of Missouri – Columbia. In this capacity, he contributed to the research and development of Zinc gluconate neutralized by Arginine for chemical sterilization of male dogs and ultimately carried out the work required for obtaining FDA approval. Ark Sciences currently holds the patent to the product, marketed as Zeuterin (U.S.) and Esterilsol (non-U.S.).

Dr. Wang received his medical degree in 1978 and his graduate degree in biological reproduction in 1984 from Xian Medical University, Xian, China. After graduation, he was appointed the Director of the Center of Birth Control and Regulation and Associate Director of Human Embryology and Histology at Xian Medical University, during which time he pursued his interest in male contraception and infertility.

Dr. Wang has been involved with the technologies that Ark Sciences now owns for over 25 years, and he currently serves as partner in research and scientific development at the company.

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ACC&D Special Achievement Award Recipient
ACC&D Scientific Think Tank
Identifying and Prioritizing Marking Methods for Non-Surgically Sterilized Cats and Dogs
May 16–18, 2013 • Phoenix, Arizona

Scientific and Expert Panel

John Boone, Ph.D. *
Senior Biologist, Great Basin Bird Conservatory, Board of Directors, SCPA of Northern Nevada

Kelly Coladarci, CVT
Program Manager, Humane Society International

Bruce Earnest
ASPCA Field Responder

Amy Fischer, Ph.D. *
Teaching Associate and Extension Specialist, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Illinois

John Friar
Founder, Wise Monkey Foundation

Stan Gehrt, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Wildlife Extension Specialist, School of Environment and Natural Resources, The Ohio State University

Michelle Kutzler, D.V.M., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Companion Animal Industries, Department of Animal Sciences, Oregon State University

Cynthia Mills, D.V.M., M.P.H. *
Veterinarian and Science Writer

Anne Olscher
Co-Founder, Animal ID Solutions, Inc.

Gene Pancheri
Proctor & Gamble Research Fellow (retired); Winner, InnoCentive Challenge

* Denotes Think Tank Planning Committee member

Scientific and Expert Panel, continued

William Perlman (Perl)
Inventor and Technology Consultant; Runner-up, InnoCentive Challenge

Sheilah Robertson, D.V.M., Ph.D.
Assistant Director, Animal Welfare Division, AVMA

Aileen L. Walden
Director of Community Programs and Support, Alley Cat Allies

ACC&D Representatives

Joyce Briggs, M.S. *
President, Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs

Valerie Benka, M.S., M.P.P. *
Project Manager, Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs

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Dorian Simpson
Managing Director, Planning Innovations Group

Ed de la Fuente
Co-Founder, Planning Innovations Group

Scientific Reporting

Tamara Golden, Ph.D.
Science Writer/Consultant, Golden Bioscience Communications LLC

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