



# NEWS & VIEWS

Newsletter of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine

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**Please forward any news that you would like for us to consider publishing in the next Newsletter!**  
Next issue deadline: **May 10, 2018**

## President's Commentary... Dr. Marianne Ash



Greetings to you all,

A few years back I received a nice communication composed by a great friend. In his short message he expressed his appreciation for the contributions of those that were serving under his leadership. I find the thoughts that he expressed to be very consistent with how each of us should feel about our ACVPM members. Below is a slightly altered version of the above mentioned communication.

*Although our busy lives place extraordinary demands upon us, it is important for us to pause occasionally to reflect.*

*Reflect upon our accomplishments as individuals, Reflect upon our contributions as members of the ACVPM family, and Reflect upon the talents we can share with others in the year to come.*

*Our ACVPM task is an important one. While it may not always be highly visible, it is always deeply appreciated. Remember that, Because of you, our food is safer and more wholesome, Because of you, our citizens and animals are healthier and live better lives, Because of you, the wheels of commerce continue to turn, jobs are preserved and our citizens don't go hungry, and Because of you, there is an ACVPM.*

*So, for me, mere words cannot fully express how thankful I am for all of you. I am thankful because, You give of your time and talent so unselfishly, You go the extra mile when no one asked, and You dare to do the difficult and accomplish the impossible.*

Here we are in a new year with continued opportunities to make our world a better place. I know that our ACVPM members will again be making a difference in 2018 and for years in the future.

Thanks to you all for all you do!



## ~~~Committee Updates~~~

### Continuing Education Committee

Looking for timely professional continuation education? Here is what the Continuing Education Committee has for you in the coming months.....

#### AVMA One Health Program

The AVMA 2018 One Health program will be terrific. There you will hear 16 lecture hours on 4 content areas sure to interest everyone in the College - (1) *One Health Outbreak Investigations*, (2) *Rats in Urban Environments: Ecology, Disease and Control*, (3) *Novel Diagnostic Techniques: Insights into Clinical and Public Health Utilities*, and (4) *Antimicrobial Stewardship*.

We are already beginning to plan for AVMA 2019. Have an idea for a speaker or topic area? Let us know - we can be reached at [CE@acvpm.org](mailto:CE@acvpm.org).

#### ACVPM/CDC COCA Webinars

*Upcoming Webinars – you don't want to miss these.....*

- April 2018: Dr. Karen Snowden; American Trypanosomiasis (Chagas Disease)
- TBA: Organic farms and associated food-borne risks

*Recently we have hosted the following webinars:*

- Dr. Jonathan Epstein; Understanding the Ecology of Emerging Zoonoses
- Dr. Susan Little; The Changing Distribution of Ticks and Tick-borne Infections
- Dr. Heather Fritz; What has Toxoplasma in Sea Otters Taught Us About Risks and the One Health Approach to Global Public Health

Missed one of our recent webinars? Not to worry – the recordings for these and many others are posted on the ACVPM website (under 'Continuing Ed' – 'Webinars') and on the ACVPM YouTube channel. Remember to subscribe to the ACVPM YouTube channel - it's free, quick and easy. Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), search for 'ACVPM' and click on the subscribe button.

Have a question or comment for our Committee? Have a good idea for a topic or speaker for an upcoming conference or Webinar? We want to hear from you! We can be reached at [CE@acvpm.org](mailto:CE@acvpm.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Stull  
CE Committee, Chair

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### **Maintenance of Certification Committee**

The Maintenance of Certification Committee is currently working to standardize information that will be sent to members about recertification and are investigating how they can support the online database development.

Karyn Havas  
Maintenance of Certification Committee, Chair

### **Examinations Committee**

The Examination Committee is scheduled to meet February 20, 2018 to finalize the 2018 Essay Exam Questions and will administer the entire exam in June at The Ohio State University in Columbus Ohio. More than 160 Candidates have registered to sit the Exam this year and it is likely they are studying-up on recent reports of runny-nosed dogs (*Corynebacterium ulcerans*), or reports of multidrug-resistant Campylobacter infections linked to contact with pet store puppies. As in recent years, two section exams will be administered: 1) a Subject Matter Expertise Evaluation (essay) and 2) a Comprehensive Knowledge Evaluation (multiple-choice) exam.

The Exam Committee is pleased to welcome Dr. Reid Harvey as the Subject Matter Expert for Environmental Health (2017-2023). Reid Harvey currently serves as an epidemiologist with the Respiratory Health Division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). His work experience includes a Master in Public Health degree, veterinary practice, the CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service, a Department of Defense contractor for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and serving as an American Veterinary Medical Association Congressional Fellow in Washington D.C. His education and work experiences provide broad-based expertise in environmental, public, and animal health and he is a welcome addition to the Committee. For reference, contact information for the current committee can be located at <http://www.acvpm.org/leadership/>.

As a reminder, the Membership and Outreach Committee also offers a mentoring program to provide candidates with professional advice, exam study hints, and career guidance. See <http://www.acvpm.org/certifying-exam-information/> if you are interested serving as a mentor.

Respectfully submitted,  
R. E. Hill, Exam Committee Chair

### **Credentials Committee**

In December 2017, the ACVPM Credentials Committee met to review the applications of 92 candidates who had applied to sit for the 2018 ACVPM Board examination for the first time. The Committee approved 90 applications and denied 2 (due to insufficient qualifying experience); the committee's recommendations were forwarded to ACVPM's EVP.

Nina Marano  
Chair, Credentials Committee

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### **Membership and Outreach Committee**

- 1) We are in the midst of matching our annual mentor/mentee list, and the response has been amazing. We have over 60 participants at this time. We could still use (5 or more) ACVPM diplomates to serve as mentors for the candidates who are preparing for the upcoming board exam. Recent diplomates are especially encouraged. To volunteer: Email to [membership@acvpm.org](mailto:membership@acvpm.org); and if you can include your areas of expertise, we will work to get a good match with an eligible mentee.
- 2) The M & O Committee is continuing outreach activities with the American College of Preventive Medicine, and is also working on efforts for outreach at the 2018 American Public Health Association annual meeting.
- 3) Julie Lench will be rotating off the committee at the end of my term, so we are looking for one new member to join. Please send your letter of interest to [membership@acvpm.org](mailto:membership@acvpm.org).

Julie Lench  
Chair, Membership and Outreach Committee

### **Communications Committee**

Are you interested in helping our College with communications? If you are, the Committee would love to hear from you. We seek a new member for the next Association year, so please reach out to any Committee member if you're interested in learning more. Likewise, please keep sending us ideas for the newsletter. The Committee is delighted to hear from fellow Diplomates about your newsworthy events, activities, and continuing education presentations. We'd like to raise even more awareness about all our fellow Diplomates do, so we welcome your suggestions. Thanks for your continued interest and support.

Lynne White-Shim  
Chair, Communications Committee



## ~~~Epidemiology~~~

Three ACVPM Diplomates applied for certification by the Epidemiology Specialty this year, and all three were approved to sit for the exam. The exam has been scheduled for June 14. The exam will be given simultaneously to the 3 candidates at separate locations by approved proctors.

The ACVPM Epidemiology Specialty Nominations Committee is looking for two new members. This committee is responsible for soliciting nominations for Specialty president and secretary in alternate years. Participation on this committee is an easy, low-stress way to serve the Specialty and to get to know more Specialty members. If you are interested in joining the committee or want to learn more before committing, reach out the current committee chair, Dr. Christa Hale (CRHale@cdc.gov).

From Dr. Trevejo and the CE committee. The epidemiology specialty CE committee is working with ACVPM's CE committee to help identify speakers and topics for the 2019 AVMA meeting.

In addition, I would ask that if anyone is interested in becoming board certified in epidemiology give it a try! I'd be glad to answer any questions from prospective applicants. You can email me at kimorr@aol.com or kimorr62@gmail.com.

Kimberly Orr



## ~~~Meet a Fellow Diplomate~~~

The Communications Committee invites you to get to know fellow ACVPM Diplomate Dr. Shelley Stonecipher.



### **What degrees do you hold and where did you obtain them?**

DVM – Texas A&M University, College Station (1990)

MPH – Tulane University, New Orleans (2001)

EIS – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2002-2004

### **What was your path to obtaining your ACVPM board certification?**

After finishing with the CDC, (EIS and CEFO program) I started working for the Texas Department of State Health Services, as a Regional Zoonosis Veterinarian in 2006. I have been in that position ever since. On the encouragement of colleagues, I decided to sit for the boards as a way to expand my knowledge base for my work. However, the position I currently hold helped prepare me for the exam. I love my career, my work, the diversity of people I work with, the disease investigations and situations; it is always challenging. I feel like I help the community and it's a good fit for me.

### **How does your current work allow you to engage in 'One Health'?**

Through the diversity of groups that I work with. I consult and network daily with both the medical and veterinary profession and many others. Examples, include infection control practitioners, animal control officers, municipal and county officials, mosquito control personnel, vector control personnel and different subject matter experts. I routinely lecture in different educational settings on many zoonotic related topics. We work closely with the local jurisdictions, so we have a good perspective on the local problems. All of this of course, results in working with a variety of federal agencies such as the CDC, USDA and others. It really is 'One Health'.

### **Do you have any advice for veterinarians starting a public health career?**

Be open to different opportunities that you hadn't considered. Also, consider the job tasks of any position you are interested in. Those tasks can vary depending on jurisdiction and the level of government. I have found that working at the state and with the local level is very rewarding and so interesting. You have the opportunity to work with so many people, on so many levels. I really enjoy this work.



## ~~~Announcements~~~

### Promotion

This past October, Dr. Kis Robertson Hale was appointed deputy assistant administrator for the Office of Public Health Science in the Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Dr. Robertson Hale began her FSIS career in the Office of Field Operations soon after receiving her DVM degree from Tuskegee University in 2003. She was a member of OPHS' applied epidemiology staff for nearly a decade, most recently as deputy director.

In her new role, Dr. Robertson Hale provides leadership along with serving as deputy to FSIS Assistant Administrator David Goldman.

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