

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BOVINE PRACTITIONERS

55TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 22-24, 2022 | Long Beach, California



AABP “Gathers the Herd” at 2022 AABP Annual Conference



The American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) 2022 55th Annual Conference Sept. 22-24 in Long Beach, Calif. provided a beautiful setting to “gather the herd” for beef and dairy veterinarians, students and veterinary technicians who were able to network and gain excellent continuing education. Preconference seminars were held earlier in the week for in-depth instruction on a variety of topics. This was the first conference since 2019 that was in-person only.

“The meeting in Long Beach gave us the opportunity to personally thank all of our members for efforts over the last year,” AABP “Gathers the Herd” at 2022 Annual Conference

says now-AABP Past President Dr. Pat Gorden. “AABP has made tremendous strides toward addressing mental health and diversity, equity and inclusion in our organization and the veterinary profession as a whole. However, there is still much work to be done.” Gorden notes that many in attendance connected with keynote speaker Dr. Vernard Hodges, veterinarian and star of Nat Geo Wild’s “Critter Fixers: Country Vets” television show who spoke on diversity, equity and inclusion and “expanding the herd”, which dovetailed on the “Gathering the Herd” conference theme. “His message was that we all must work toward helping young people find the path to a veterinary degree if we are going to sustain bovine veterinary practice,” adds Gorden.

Hodges gave an inspiring talk on how he managed to overcome a poor, rural Georgia upbringing, and how he became exposed to veterinary medicine which led him on his path as a successful practice owner, motivational speaker and TV show personality. His goal is to “expand the herd”, and show minority and under-represented youth what veterinarians do and how they also can find a way to join the profession. His presentation is posted at http://aabp.org/meeting/2022/key_note.mp4 for public viewing.

The 2022 conference gave in-person attendees up to 22.50 hours of continuing education on beef, dairy, clinical skills, practice management, joint beef/dairy sessions, student/new graduate and other sessions, plus preconference seminars and clinical forums. Awards, a scholarship auction, a 5K and \$249,500 in scholarships were also high points of the conference.

“It was wonderful to ‘gather the herd’ in a beautiful location for the 55th AABP Annual Conference,” says AABP Executive

Director Dr. K. Fred Gingrich, II. “I am thankful to our volunteers, leaders and staff for putting on a great event that provides relevant CE to bovine veterinarians, networking opportunities, and collaboration to continue to improve the health, productivity and welfare of the cattle in our care.”

“Our conference theme, ‘Gathering the Herd’, after a long and miserable pandemic, was a nod to wanting to reconnect with friends and colleagues, and make new friends and colleagues, all while getting some excellent quality continuing education that can be taken home and immediately implemented in practice,” states current AABP President and 2022 Program Chair Dr. Sandra Godden. “And I believe we were very successful in achieving this aim. We had more than 800 participants, including over 200 students, and AABP members from several countries including Canada, Columbia, Deutschland, Germany, Israel, México, St. Kitts-Nevis and the United Kingdom.”

New initiatives discussed at conference were the first ever salary survey currently being conducted by AABP for bovine veterinarians of all types, and work with the Veterinary Hope Foundation and the AABP Mental Health Task Force for virtual mental health and well-being support for members.

Smartphone technology was heavily used at the 2023 conference with attendees having the ability to scan QR codes for schedules, auction item viewing, donation opportunities and more. The Slido app was also used for attendees to ask questions during presentations and for presenters to conduct polls on the fly during their presentations.

There was an introduction of the 2023 AABP vice president candidates, Dr. Jessica Gernhard and Dr. Callie Willingham.



2022 AABP Annual Conference Program Committee

Your 2022 Annual Conference Program Committee met in beautiful Long Beach last year to plan this year's program.



Back Row (L-R): Dr. Blaine Melody (*Practice Tips*); Dr. Clare Scully (*Small Ruminants*); 2022 AABP President-Elect Dr. Sandra Godden (*Chair*); 2022 AABP Vice President Dr. Michael Capel (*Preconference Seminars*); Dr. David Welch (*Practice Management*)

Front Row (L-R): Dr. Dusty Nagy (*Clinical Skills*); Dr. Amanda Emery Durell (*Cow-calf*); Dr. Whitney Knauer (*Research Summaries*); Dr. Natasha Kutryk (*Feedlot*)

Not pictured: Dr. Daryl Nydam (*Dairy*); Dr. Benjamin Newcomer (*Student Sessions*); Dr. Claire Windeyer (*Research Summaries*)

2022 AABP Annual Conference Meeting Stats

Total attendance of 1,145 including:

- 220 veterinary students
 - 150 members of the American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners
 - Nine preconference seminars and 7 clinical forum breakfast talks and a symposium for academic veterinarians
 - 10 countries represented
 - 78 exhibitors with 225 exhibitor representatives
 - 110 5K Stampede participants
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“Overherd” at AABP



As bovine veterinarians, we probably deal with more adversity in the first hour of our day than most people do in a week. That's what makes you stronger and better in life.

Dr. Vernard Hodges
Critter Fixers: Country Vets
AABP Keynote Address

2022 AABP Awards

Boehringer Ingelheim Bovine Practitioner of the Year

Dr. John Groves
Eldon, MO



AABP Award of Excellence

Dr. Meredyth Jones
Perkins, Okla.



Merck Animal Health Mentor of the Year

Dr. Joe Klopfenstein
Corvallis, Ore.



James A. Jarrett Award for Young Leaders

Dr. Tera Rooney
Barnhardt
Johnson, Kan.



Amstutz-Williams Award

Dr. Robert Smith
Stillwater, Okla.



Other awards given at the 2022 55th AABP Annual Conference include:

2022 AABP Research Summaries Graduate Student Awards

First Place – Clairia Seely, *Cornell University*

Mediators of Calcium Homeostasis in Cows with Differing Postparturient Calcium Dynamics

Second Place – Santiago Cornejo, *Mississippi State University*

Bovine Myeloid Antimicrobial Peptide-28 (BMAP-28) mRNA Expression by Bovine Cells and Effects of Synthetic BMAP-28 on Bovine Respiratory Disease Pathogens

Third Place – Iago Leao, *University of Wisconsin*

Effect of an Additional GnRH 2d after the Initiation of the Resynch-25 Program on Pregnancy per Artificial Insemination in Lactating Dairy Cows

2022 AABP Foundation

Competitive Research Grant Award

Investigation of T. foetus collection and shipping techniques along with evaluation of epididymal semen harvesting from T. foetus-positive bulls

–Dr. Jennifer Koziol, *Texas Tech University*

A randomized clinical trial assessing the effect of supportive care following correction of left displaced abomasum on performance and survival of dairy cows

–Dr. Luciano Caixeta, *University of Minnesota*

2022 AABP Foundation Cattle Welfare Grant Awards

Evaluation of pain associated with scours in calves

– Dr. Michael Kleinhenz, *Kansas State University*

Veterinarian and producer attitudes, perceptions and experiences with socially housed dairy calves

– Dr. Whitney Knauer, *University of Minnesota*

2022 Student Case Presentation Competition Winners

Overall Winner

Rachel Hensen, *Texas A&M University*

Still Alive but Barely Breathing

Clinical Case Report

First Place – Rachel Hensen, *Texas A&M University*

Still Alive but Barely Breathing

Second Place – Hailey Drerup, *Texas A&M University*

So, it's Not the Throat

Research Report

First Place – Eleni Casseri, *Cornell University*

Understanding Antibiotic Resistance as a Threat toward Dairy Cattle Health: a Survey-based Study of Dairy Farmers' Beliefs and Practices

Second Place – Payton Smith, *North Carolina State University*

Accuracy Comparison of On-farm Antemortem Disease Diagnosis to Post-mortem Necropsy Evaluation in Dairy Cattle

Keynote Speaker Discussed How to “Expand the Herd”

There's one thing AABP keynote speaker Dr. Vernard Hodges made very clear to those in attendance. He loves cows! Hodges, a mixed-animal practitioner from Georgia, is an owner of Critter Fixer Veterinary Hospital, is a cattle farmer and co-star of the popular TV show “Critter Fixers: Country Vets” on Nat Geo Wild and Disney+.



Hodges' presentation "The Importance of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Bovine Veterinary Practice", dovetailed nicely with the AABP theme of “Gathering the Herd”, as he spoke about “expanding the herd” and recruiting new and diverse people into the profession.

Hodges grew up in Fort Valley, the poorest city in Georgia. Raised in a single-wide trailer with a hole in the floor, he failed the ninth grade and says he was almost that untapped talent who faced a future without a lot of opportunity. “I was street smart but not very book smart,” he said. “It was my first dealing with adversity.”

He loved animals – all types, even fish. Hodges says he was adopted by a Japanese man who had raised koi fish when he was young, and he taught him about managing a koi pond, spawning Hodges' love of aquatics, and he later majored in fisheries biology. He also came to realize he didn't know what veterinarians did, and no one he knew had ever used a veterinarian. He said an amazing advisor believed in him and set him on a course toward veterinary medicine. This advisor sent him to the University of Missouri where he worked in a lab, then he worked in Blacksburg at Virginia Tech and came up with a project to work on a protein source for the people in Nepal. Through the Agency for International Development, they realized carp was an inexpensive food choice and they figured out how to suspend carp cages feeding them phytoplankton. Hodges then gave applying at the Tuskegee veterinary school a shot and was accepted, subsequently graduating in 1997.

He got his practice started in an 800-square-foot building with vintage equipment in rural Georgia and bought a WWII era X-ray machine. “I was probably the only black practitioner within 75 miles in any direction,” he noted. With those clients who were more apprehensive accepting him, he figured out a way to connect with people. “In the South, it was NASCAR,” he explained. “I wasn't into it, but they were, so I learned about NASCAR and would dialogue with them about it. We have to find a way that works and embrace that dialogue with people.”

Hodges also spoke about his son and passing on his love of cows to him, and leading him by example, such as taking him out with him to palpate cows for the first time. He showed a video of he and his partner interacting with inner city kids out in a pasture about palpating and caring for cows on a farm.

“Have you ever seen a field full of minority kids ready to palpate a cow? They just have to be shown. It was an incredible moment. We just have to expose them. We have to go where there is diversity and embrace that.”

Hodges tied in the conference theme “Gathering the Herd” and AABP’s fairly new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) task force. He noted we, AABP included, need to expand the herd, including all cultures, in order to grow veterinary medicine. “DEI became the new buzzword,” he said. “Diversity is kind of like making sure everyone is invited to the party in the pasture. If they don’t know about it, they won’t come. Ensure that everyone is represented. Equity equals making sure everyone has the same access to the pasture. Inclusion ensures everyone is welcome, not just invited. Help them clear any hurdles they need to get there. Make sure their voices are heard. To me, that’s DEI in a nutshell.”

Hodges emphasized that we have to find other talent if we are to grow. “We need to look for that other pool of people who can help. Only 1.4% of farmers are Black. Nearly half that are cattle farmers. Many don’t have access to veterinarians. And only 2% of veterinarians are Black. There is untapped talent and opportunity. And there are a lot of places we can tap.”

Though he has a large successful mixed animal practice and a TV show, Hodges still embraces his first love. Cows. “This is what it’s all about it,” he said as he showed a slide of himself holding an Angus calf. “People said there was no way I could do this, but I figured out a way.”

View the keynote address by Hodges at http://aabp.org/meeting/2022/key_note.mp4.

2022 AABP Scholarships

In 2022, the AABP Foundation received 177 scholarship applications from AABP student members and awarded 51 scholarships to veterinary students, totaling \$249,500.

2022 Amstutz Scholarship

Nine veterinary students received the \$10,500 2022 Harold E. Amstutz Scholarship. Funding sources are AABP member contributions, investment fund interest and dividends, AABP 5k Stampede registrations sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim, and proceeds from the AABP Live and Silent Auctions and raffle. The 2022 recipients are:

Caroline Beninger, *University of Calgary*
Lillian Feider, *University of Wisconsin*
Peter Liddell, *Oregon State University*
Gabrielle Merry, *Cornell University*
Tucker Roberts, *Texas A&M University*
Paige Schmidt, *Kansas State University*
Emily Smith, *University of Missouri*
Payton Smith, *North Carolina State University*
Tanya Weber, *Washington State University*

2022 Zoetis Foundation Scholarship

Veterinary students graduating in 2023 were eligible for the Zoetis Foundation Scholarship. This year 12 students received the \$5,000 award which is generously funded by the Zoetis Foundation. The 2022 recipients are:

Wyatt Catron, *Oklahoma State University*
Molly Cleveland, *The Ohio State University*
Trevor Copes, *Tufts University*
Payton Duitscher, *Iowa State University*
Monika Dziuba, *Michigan State University*
Lindsey Fenster, *University of Georgia*
Tristen Fulton, *Iowa State University*
Alec Lucas, *Mississippi State University*
Ened McNett, *Oregon State University*
Jessica Meseck, *Iowa State University*
Jared Sanderson, *Michigan State University*
Emily Schuurmans, *Michigan State University*

2022 Merck Animal Health Bovine Veterinary Student Recognition Awards

Eighteen 3rd and 4th year veterinary students have been chosen to receive this \$5,000 scholarship generously sponsored by Merck Animal Health. The 2022 recipients are:

Madison Baumgartner, *University of Minnesota*
Caroline Beninger, *University of Calgary*
Eleni Casseri, *Cornell University*
Cayley Childress, *University of Arizona*
Emma Cijka, *Cornell University*
Trevor Copes, *Tufts University*
Gregor Greer, *Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine*
Jessie Hoagland, *Ross University*
Paige Isensee, *University of Missouri*
Mallory McConathy, *Louisiana State University*
Hannah McCray, *Cornell University*
Elisabeth Regusci, *Cornell University*
Emily Schuurmans, *Michigan State University*
Seth Shirky, *Cornell University*
Lilly Smith, *North Carolina State University*
Payton Smith, *North Carolina State University*
Emily Violini, *Washington State University*
Kaci Way, *The Ohio State University*

2022 Dr. Francis Welcome Future Dairy Practitioner Scholarship

The purpose of the Francis Welcome Memorial Scholarship is to support superior 3rd year veterinary students who demonstrate the character, knowledge and potential to become outstanding dairy veterinarians upon graduation. The award is \$2,000.

The Francis Welcome Memorial Scholarship was endowed by the Welcome family, and supported through member donations, to honor the memory of AABP Honor Roll member Dr. Francis (Frank) Welcome who was actively involved in the AABP organization throughout his career.

Monika Dziuba, *Michigan State University*

Jared Sanderson, *Michigan State University*

AABP Announces Dr. James Hendrix Bias Scholarship for 2023

The AABP Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force introduces the Dr. James Hendrix Bias Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Scholarship to be given in 2023 to two veterinary student members from under-represented racial and ethnic backgrounds who demonstrate excellence in their studies and a passion in their pursuit of a career in beef or dairy medicine. This is a \$5,000 scholarship.



Dr. James Hendrix Bias

Born in 1880, Bias was the first Black man to graduate from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1910. Upon graduation, he assumed a veterinarian position at Tuskegee University where he established the veterinary medical program there. The courses he developed, which focused on the study of the anatomy and physiology of the diseases and treatments of farm animals, helped encourage livestock production in the region. Dr. Bias is credited with establishing veterinary medicine as a critical component of the agricultural science department at Tuskegee, and fostering a positive image of veterinarians in the local community.

Welcome Reception Sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim

What better way to kick off the Annual Conference than the Welcome Reception Wednesday evening sponsored by **Boehringer Ingelheim**?!



Boehringer Ingelheim Welcome Reception

Diamond V Sponsors Thursday Morning Breakfast

It's always great to start off the day with breakfast and food for thought! Thanks, Diamond V, for sponsoring the Thursday breakfast. Dr. Matias Stangaferro presented "What next? How to use research & data to drive effective decisions".



Diamond V Breakfast

Veterinary Students Live It Up at Endovac Student Reception

There were 220 veterinary students registered for the AABP Annual Conference and it seemed like they are all in attendance at the



Endovac Veterinary Student Reception

Thursday night student reception sponsored by Endovac. At an indoor-outdoor space called "The Cove", students were treated to drink tickets, food trucks, music and games by Endovac.

University of Calgary for the Win! 2022 AABP Quiz Bowl

For the second time in three years (there was no Quiz Bowl in 2020), the team from the University of Calgary swept the Quiz Bowl, then later finished off the "AABP Dream Team" in a special match! Thanks to Newport Laboratories/Vaxxinova for sponsoring the quiz Bowl.



*University of Calgary Quiz Bowl Winners
L-R: Ryan Koop, Jacob Narbonne,
James Ritchie and Cale Toews*

Friday Breakfast Sponsored by Zoetis

Attendees had a delicious hot breakfast Friday morning and received some great information from breakfast sponsor Zoetis. Dr. Daniel Scruggs presented "New concepts for prevention of BRD associated with *Mycoplasma bovis*".



Friday Zoetis Breakfast

Thanks, Virbac, for Sponsoring Friday's Milk Breaks!



Virbac Milk Breaks

Amstutz Scholarship Fund Auctions Raise \$46,000

The successful Amstutz Scholarship Live and Silent Scholarship Auctions raised \$46,000 for AABP's premiere scholarship.

Vacation homes, art, tools, student chapter bundles, food and more were donated by students, members and AABP exhibiting partners. AABP's favorite auctioneer Bryan Mergen had the joint jumpin' with bids! Zoetis generously sponsored the Friday night auction dinner.

Start thinking about what you, your company or your student chapter might donate next year!



*Amstutz Auctioneer
Auctioneer Bryan Mergen*



Amstutz Auction room

Amstutz and Foundation Raffle Winners

Amstutz Raffle

First Place (free Recent Grad or Annual Conference registration), **Dr. Enrique Scholnik**

Second Place (Carhartt vest), **Dr. Allen Hodapp**

Foundation Raffle

First Place (free Recent Grad or Annual Conference registration), **Dr. Jason Bravos**

Second Place (Carhartt vest), **Dr. Rachel Oman**

Raffle ticket purchases benefit the Amstutz Scholarship Fund and the AABP Foundation. Thank you to all who purchased tickets!

5K Stampede Race Results

The 2022 AABP 5K Stampede sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim was held Saturday, Sept. 24 on Alamitos Beach. It was a beautiful Southern California morning and a great group of 110 runners! The run/walk supports the Amstutz Scholarship Fund.

Top male winner was Dr. Alexandre Morin and top female winner was Dr. Hibah Abuhamdieh.

Find all 5K Stampede Race Results at <http://aabp.org/meeting/5K.asp>. See more race photos on the AABP Facebook page or search for #AABP2022.



*Medalists of the 5K Stampede Fun Run
sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim*

Christian Veterinary Mission Breakfast

Over 50 people attended the Christian Veterinary Mission Breakfast on Saturday. Dr. Troy Sammons shared his work in South Sudan, and Emily Smith shared about her summer apprenticeship with CVM in Africa.



Christian Veterinary Mission Breakfast

AABP Leadership and Board of Directors



AABP Board of Directors

Front Row, L-R: *President Dr. Sandra Godden, District 4 Director Dr. Mark Hardesty, District 11 Director Dr. Elizabeth Kohtz, District 5 Director Dr. Wilfred Schuler, Past President Dr. Carie Telgen, Vice President Dr. Dave Sjeklocha,*

Middle Row L-R: *District 9 Director Dr. Jeff Ondrak, President-Elect Dr. Michael Capel, Immediate Past President Dr. Pat Gorden, Outgoing District 3 Director Dr. Lee Jones, Outgoing District 6 Director Dr. Vickie Cooper, District 1 Director Dr. Elizabeth Brock, District 3 Director Dr. Jenna Bayne*

Back Row, L-R: *District 12 Director Dr. Murray Gillies, District 13 Director Dr. Ryan Rademacher, District 8 Director Dr. Arn Anderson, Treasurer Dr. Brian Reed, District 2 Director Dr. Randall Hinshaw, Parliamentarian Dr. Dick Wallace, District 7 Director Carl Meyer, District 10 Director Dr. Paul Cook*

Not Pictured: *District 6 Director Dr. Erika Nagorske*

Get Your CE Certificate!

The 2022 55th AABP Annual Conference offered 22.50 RACE-approved continuing education (CE) credits. RACE approval is one benefit in addition to having online CE free of charge for AABP members.

If you attended the 2022 AABP Annual Conference you can access and print your CE certificate by logging on to the AABP website at <https://aabp.org>, and in the upper righthand corner at “Member Log On”, click on “My CE Certificates”. You can edit the certificate and check the presentations you watched, then click Create Your CE Certificate and print.

Find more conference recaps and photos on the AABP Facebook page!

#AABP2022

*Conference photos by AABP 2022 Conference
Media Intern Layla Simmonds-Short*