

2017 Quad Symposium Speaker Bios

Dr. Scott Mischler received a BS degree in Agriculture from Cornell University, an MS degree in Reproductive Physiology from New Mexico State University, a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Kansas State University, and an MS and PhD in Pharmacology from Albany Medical College. Dr. Mischler is Board Certified by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM), has nearly 30 years of experience in Laboratory Animal Medicine, and has over 30 publications and abstracts. Dr. Mischler is also actively involved in many professional associations, and served as a long-time Board Member culminating in serving as the 2014 President for National AALAS. Dr. Mischler also serves on the AALAS Journal(s) Editorial Review Board, serves on the Council for Accreditation with the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, Int. (AAALACi), and is a specialist in agricultural species, pharmacology and toxicology. Dr. Mischler retired from Pfizer Inc., after 15 years of service, and now works as a private consultant.

Dr. Ahrens was born and raised on the beaches of San Diego and was actually a professional skateboarder before pursuing his dreams of working with animals. He earned degrees in biology and physiology from UCSD, then went on to earn his DVM from Western University in Los Angeles; where he is now an adjunct professor. He is presently only a few weeks away from completing his laboratory animal residency and earning his PhD in Biological Sciences at City of Hope and the University of Southern California. For his thesis work, Dr. Ahrens created a novel PET imaging agent that noninvasively differentiates malignant vs. benign breast cancers, which is currently undergoing human clinical trials at City of Hope. Dr. Ahrens specializes in exotic animal research models, and currently works as a consulting veterinarian for several exotic animal facilities and as the head veterinarian for Universal Studios.

Michael Brunt has a M.Sc. in Applied Ethology and Animal Welfare from the Ontario Veterinary College. He is a Registered Master Laboratory Animal Technician and a Certified Manager of Animal Resources. Michael volunteers on several local, national and international committees that strive to provide accurate information to people about the importance of animal research. He sits on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science, serves on the Americas Regional Committee for the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science and collaborates as part of the organizing committee of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine.

Dr. J. Koudy Williams is currently a professor at the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine (WFIRM). He spent his first 17 years at Wake Forest in The Department of Pathology/Section on Comparative Medicine exploring the effects of oral contraceptives and hormone replacement therapy on coronary heart disease risk in the coronary arteries of atherosclerotic monkeys. Eight years ago, he joined WFIRM and has since focused his research on regenerative medicine approaches for organ repair and replacement. He is currently funded to explore regenerative medicine approaches to urological diseases.

Dr. Emily Patterson-Kane is a New Zealand-born psychologist, former animal behavior researcher, and co-author of *The Sciences of Animal Welfare* (Wiley-Blackwell). She is currently employed as an animal welfare scientist at the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. Manuel Martin-Flores has been practicing veterinary anesthesiology since 2004 with a research projects on neuromuscular function, gastrointestinal effects of anesthetic drugs, and hemodynamic monitoring. He received his veterinary medicine degree from the Catholic University of Cordoba in Argentina, where he also worked as in the Section of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology. He then completed his residency in Anesthesiology at Cornell University. He is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia.

Jackie Howard is a licensed veterinary technician and has worked for the State University of New York (SUNY) in Delhi in the Veterinary Science Technology Program for 25 years. As an instructor in the Animal Care II course, Jackie started the “Enrichment Project” in 2010, which pairs second-year veterinary technician students with a wide variety of the program’s animal species as well as partners with the local animal shelter. Animal enrichment, especially using the “clicker”, is her passion and she hopes you will catch her enthusiasm!

Erin Daugherty received her Veterinary Degree in 2007 from University of Wisconsin-Madison. After completing a residency in Laboratory Animal Medicine at Cornell University in 2010, she pursued a 2 year Clinical Fellowship and received a Master’s of Science while studying non-alcoholic fatty liver disease in various mouse models. Erin has been a Clinical Veterinarian and Assistant Director of Technical Services at Cornell University’s Center for Animal Resources and Education since 2012 and achieved ACLAM Diplomate status in 2014. Her primary duties include providing veterinary and regulatory oversight to two rodent barrier vivaria and a poultry facility; overseeing rodent import, health monitoring and quarantine programs; and overseeing the breeding and colony management program.

Dr. Karicheti is the Technical Manager for Charles River Surgical Services and principal point of contact for technical issues related to rodent surgical services and models. Dr. Karicheti received his Ph.D in biomedical engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay India. He has more than ten years of hands on surgical experience in rodent and non-rodent models. Dr. Karicheti worked in startup and midsize biotech/pharma companies and has published numerous scientific articles. He was also co-founder of Urogenix, Inc and Dignify Therapeutics and holds issued US patents.