



31st Annual Research Symposium

**“Intersection of veterinary and human
medicine to combat global diseases”**

March 25 & 26, 2021

Blacksburg, Virginia



Virginia-Maryland
College of **Veterinary Medicine**



Welcome to the 31st Annual Research Symposium

Each year, the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine hosts this event to support the College's mission of providing education to a diverse population of professional and post-graduate students in preparation for careers in the broad areas of veterinary medicine, biomedical sciences, and public health. The event serves to showcase the research of our graduate and training programs. The MS and Ph.D. degree curriculum operates as a single multi-disciplinary Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences (BMVS) graduate program.

For more information about our program, please visit our new program website:

bmvs.vetmed.vt.edu



Program at a Glance

March 25, 2021

- 12:30 pm** Welcome and Introduction
- 1:00 pm** Keynote Speaker Dr. Corrie Brown
"Global Animal Health – How Can Our Profession Contribute?"
- 2:00 pm** Poster Session 1
- 2:45 pm** Poster Session 2
- 3:30 pm** Oral Session

March 26, 2021

- 12:45 pm** Introduction
- 1:00 pm** Keynote Speaker Dr. Anne Schuchat
"Outbreaks and Opportunities: From Research to Response"
- 2:00 pm** Poster Session 1
- 2:45 pm** Poster Session 2
- 3:30 pm** Oral Session

This year's symposium will be hosted virtually on the VT Canvas site.

<https://canvas.vt.edu/enroll/RPY9KC>

Speakers and Oral Presentations will be available via Zoom at the time listed above. Links available on [VT Canvas site](#).

Poster Presentations are available on [VT Canvas site](#).

Dr. Corrie Brown

DVM, Ph.D., DAVP

Anatomic Pathology, Josiah Meigs

Distinguished Teaching Professor,

University Professor

Department of Pathology

College of Veterinary Medicine

University of Georgia

1:00 pm



Corrie Brown, DVM, Ph.D., DAVP, received her DVM from the University of Guelph and PhD from the University of California, Davis. Dr. Brown has been at UGA for over 20 years where her research, instruction and outreach have shaped global initiatives and transformed lives. Dr. Brown is a well-loved member of the faculty and has guided numerous students and visiting scientists through her research program. She is the author or co-author of 170 publications, six books, and 23 book chapters, and she is active in international outreach projects across the globe.

Dr. Brown has been honored as a University Professor and Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor of Pathology. She has been the recipient of numerous awards from the College, the AVMA, and other units of the university.

Brown has also worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the U.S. Agency for International Development, Veterinarians Without Borders and the federal departments of state, defense and agriculture to create programs to help veterinarians understand how to build sustainable animal health systems that improve health, food security and economic stability. She has presented workshops or conducted training in more than 50 countries and authored several manuals that are in use across the globe.

Brown created an elective course in international veterinary medicine at the college and helped spearhead the creation of the International Certificate Program, which allows veterinary students interested in global affairs to develop a portfolio that prepares them for international work. Brown has also played a role in sending veterinary students overseas to experience animal healthcare delivery in a foreign setting and positioned the college to host international students through grants funded by the Department of Education.

Dr. Anne Schuchat

MD (RADM, USPHS, RET)

Principal Deputy Director

Center of Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC)

1:00 pm



Anne Schuchat, MD, is the Principal Deputy Director of CDC. She has been CDC's principal deputy director since September 2015. She served as acting CDC director from January-July 2017 and February-March 2018.

Dr. Schuchat also served as director of CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases from 2006-2015 and Chief of the Respiratory Diseases Branch from 1998-2005. She joined CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer in 1988.

Dr. Schuchat played key roles in CDC emergency responses including the 2009 H1N1 pandemic influenza response, the 2003 SARS outbreak in Beijing, and the 2001 bioterrorist anthrax response. Globally, she has worked on meningitis, pneumonia and Ebola vaccine trials in West Africa, and conducted surveillance and prevention projects in South Africa.

Dr. Schuchat graduated from Swarthmore College and Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine and completed her residency and chief residency in internal medicine at NYU's Manhattan VA Hospital. Upon completing 30 years of service in 2018, Dr. Schuchat retired from the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service at the rank of Rear Admiral.

March 25th Schedule

- 12:30 pm** Welcome and Introduction
Dr. M. Daniel Givens
Dean, VMCVM
Dr. Ansar Ahmed
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies
Zoom ([Link](#))
- 1:00 pm** **Keynote Speaker Dr. Corrie Brown**
“Global Animal Health – How Can Our Profession Contribute?”
Zoom ([Link](#))
- 2:00 pm** Poster Session I
Canvas ([Link](#))
- 2:45 pm** Poster Session II
Canvas ([Link](#))
- 3:30 pm** Oral Session
Chair: Alessandra Franchini
Zoom ([Link](#))
- “Thermostable Dissolvable Oral Film Rotavirus Vaccine was Highly Effective in Gnotobiotic Pigs”
Casey Hensley
- “The effects of bit chewing on gastric emptying and oro-cecal transit time in clinically normal horses”
Molly Patton
- “Brucella abortus genomic DNA enhances inflammasome recognition and facilitates protective inflammatory cell death during brucellosis”
Juselyn Tupik

March 25th Schedule, continued

- “Gallbladder Motility in Dogs with Hyperlipidemia”
Jessica Villm
- “Biofilm growth assessment for MSC treatment of equine orthopedic infections”
Sarah Khatibzadeh
- “Seroprevalence of Anaplasma phagocytophilum in the equine population of Southwest Virginia”
Hannah Hinson

March 26th Schedule

- 12:45 pm** Introduction
Dr. Ansar Ahmed
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies
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“Outbreaks and Opportunities: From Research to Response”
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- 3:30 pm** Oral Session
Chair: Sarah Kuchinsky
Zoom ([Link](#))

March 26th Schedule, continued

“Pharmacokinetics of a highly concentrated formulation of buprenorphine (Simbadol®) in male dogs”

Jeremy Hansford

“Temporal characterization of blood-brain barrier disruption induced by high-frequency irreversible electroporation (H-FIRE) treatment in the brain”

Brittanie Partridge

“High-Frequency Irreversible Electroporation (H-FIRE) for the treatment of canine hepatocellular carcinoma”

Jennifer Carroll

“Vaccination against West Nile virus may offer protection against Usutu virus”

Rebecca Salgado

“The comparison of two glucose monitoring systems for use in horses”

Caitlin Malik

“In vitro pharmacokinetics of alpha-carboxyl terminus 11 peptide in rat plasma”

Yagmur Tasemirolglu



March 25th Poster Presenters

Session I

Leila Abdelahamid
Sadia Ahmed
Razan Alajoleen
Nam Joo “Polly” Baik
Xavier Cabana Puig
Christina Chuong
Chris Dominic
Renee Eaton
Alessandra Franchini
Telvin Harrell

Session II

Hannah Leventhal
Melissa Mercer
Holly Morrison
Alexander Murray
Margaret Nagai-Singer
Vanessa Oakes
Rusha Pal
Swagatika Paul
Pallavi Rai
Nadia Saklou

March 26th Poster Presenters

Session I

Krishna Shah
Ashton Shiraz
Nicola Steers
Valentina Stevenson Salinas
Tristan Stoyanof
Briana Trusiano
Elodie VerHulst
Zhuang Wang
Xiaoran Wei
Youjing Zheng

Session II

Anna Hassebroek
Alyssa Helms
Elizabeth Hiebert
Hyeon Jeong
Jing Ju
Alexandra Kaloss
Yutitaka Kani Kani
Kelli King
Sarah Kuchinsky
Lina Kwapisz

VMCVM Maryland Campus Posters

Yanli Chen
Ishita Roy Chowdhury
Shelby Floor
Mostafa Ghamen

Seyedehmasha Moghimi
Ashley Strickland
Berin Varghese
Yanjin Zhang



Virtual Informational Booths

([VT Canvas site Link](#))

BMVS Graduate Student Association
VMCVM Service Centers
Flow Cytometry
Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) Program
Laboratory for Study Design and Statistical Analysis
BMVS Seminar Services

Links to:

Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences (BMVS) Program
Office of Research and Graduate Studies (RGS) Blog
VT Graduate School Professional Development
VT LabConnect

Acknowledgments from Dr. S. Ansar Ahmed:

On behalf of the faculty, graduate students, and staff of the VA-MD College of Veterinary Medicine, I would like to thank our invited speakers, Dr. Corrie Brown and Dr. Anne Schuchat, for participating in our 31st Annual Graduate Research Symposium. This year has been challenging due to the pandemic, which warranted unparalleled adjustments. I am deeply indebted to graduate students, faculty, and research staff who adapted to changes to ensure compliance associated with preventing and mitigating exposure to COVID-19. This year, our annual graduate research symposium will be virtual, a first of its kind for our college as a part of our continuing pandemic challenges. We appreciate the speakers' willingness to deliver their presentations virtually. Their talks are central to our research theme of "Intersection of veterinary and human medicine to combat global diseases," an area of current and future importance. We believe that vet schools will likely play a significant role in addressing this topic. This year, the 31st Annual Research Symposium marks an essential milestone in our graduate program with 162 MS and 116 Ph.D. students graduated. We are very proud that our graduate students have found positions in elite universities, government, big-pharma, corporate and private practices, and are in leadership positions.

Our Research Symposium is graduate student-centric and a collaboration with the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and the Graduate Students Executive Committee. My deepest thanks to BMVS-GSA and the organizational and administrative support personnel from the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, especially Dr. Jessica Crawford, Andrea Green, and Monica Taylor. I want to thank the members of the Graduate Students Executive Committee members. We sincerely thank the VMCVM Research Committee faculty for reviewing abstracts and other faculty for evaluating presentations and posters.

We sincerely appreciate the sponsors' support William A. Truban VMD Visiting Scholar Endowment Fund and the College for supporting this symposium.



Sponsors



**William A. Truban VMD Visiting Scholar
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