

CALL FOR PAPERS
JOINT ACVB/AVSAB SCIENTIFIC MEETING
Preceding the AVMA ANNUAL MEETING, Seattle, WA
Friday, July 10, 2009

The joint scientific veterinary behavior meeting of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists (ACVB; www.dacvb.org) and the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB; www.avsabonline.org) will be held on FRIDAY, July 10, 2009 preceding the AVMA meeting in Seattle, WA. Scientists and practitioners from all related disciplines are encouraged to submit abstracts for consideration. These may be in the form of original (unpublished) research results, case studies or scientific reviews. Actual presentations will be in the form of full spoken papers, spoken short communications and posters. Speakers of full and short presentations will receive complementary registration for the conference including published proceedings.

Submission and review procedure:

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All submissions should be completed on the Official Submission Form which may be down-loaded from the ACVB web site (www.dacvb.org) or the AVSAB web site (www.avsabonline.org). Except for the AVSAB student award (see below), all submissions must be e-mailed by **December 1, 2008** by midnight, PST to the appropriate addresses:

- AVSAB Student Award to lbergmanvmd@yahoo.com. Submission deadline is April 1, 2009.
- AVSAB How I Treat (HIT) short communications ONLY to lbergmanvmd@yahoo.com
- SVBT Teaching in Practice Sessions (TIPS) ONLY to amandamiller@mfire.com
- ALL OTHER SUBMISSIONS (posters, short communications, full papers, and all award-eligible submissions) to acvb.avsab.meeting@gmail.com.

You may contact Dr. Melissa Bain (mjbain@ucdavis.edu) with specific questions regarding the application process.

Each submission will be triple-reviewed anonymously, and evaluated according to scientific merit, originality, and interest to the discipline. Please refer to the "Guide for Submissions" below. An individual may submit more than one abstract; however each should be submitted separately. *Note* that applicants for consideration of the ACVB Resident Award and the SVBT Award are required to submit a longer (2-3 page) and more detailed abstract than other applicants, whose abstracts are limited to one page. Details for application for the AVSAB Veterinary Student Award are listed below.

Note: The Committee is not responsible for abstracts submitted incorrectly and therefore not reviewed.

In **all** cases, submissions are due via e-mail by **December 1, 2008** and authors of all submissions will be notified of the outcome of the review process by **January 30, 2009**. By **April 1, 2009**, authors of accepted submissions must submit a short paper (2-3 pages), suitable for publication in the proceedings. In the case of work destined for journal publication elsewhere, authors may emphasize the basis of the topic with brief details of the methods and key experimental findings in order to limit the risk of jeopardizing publication through prior publication. However, full experimental results should be presented at the meeting. Upon written request, assistance with English will be available to those for whom English is not their first language. If not received by the due date of **April 1, 2009**, the committee will assume that the paper has been withdrawn by the applicant and it will not be scheduled for the meeting.

ACVB Resident Award Information: Continuing a tradition started in 2005, the R.K. Anderson Resident Award will be granted for outstanding research by a veterinarian in an ACVB-approved residency, or ACVB-approved non-conforming training program, who has not yet passed the board certification examination. The award of \$1500 is generously sponsored by Premier Pet Products, and honors Dr. R. K. Anderson, a founding member of the ACVB. **Papers for consideration must be in the area of applied companion animal behavior (canine and feline only); other topics will not be reviewed for this award.** Selection of the award winner is based upon the anonymous reviews of the abstract submitted for consideration for presentation at the ACVB/AVSAB Scientific Paper Session. The deadlines provided above apply to this award. Please note that veterinarians in an ACVB-approved residency or training program who wish to have their paper considered for the award must apply to present a full spoken paper. Short communications and posters will not be considered for the award. The abstract must contain sufficient information regarding the hypothesis, materials and methods, data, data analysis, results, discussion and pertinent references to permit evaluation of the scientific merit of the research, although final data, data analysis, conclusions and discussion are not required. The abstract must be at least two pages, but not more than three pages in length. Previous award winners are ineligible. The award winner and other applicants whose papers were accepted for presentation will be notified so that they may submit notes for the proceedings by April 1, as described above. Contact Dr. Gerry Flannigan (GFLANNIGAN@triad.rr.com) with specific questions about the Resident Award.

SVBT Award Information. The Society of Veterinary Behavior Technicians' (SVBT; www.svbt.org) third annual Award, in the amount of \$1000, will be granted to the highest scoring abstract submitted by a veterinary technician and recommended by the committee. Individuals submitting abstracts for consideration must be professional members of the SVBT. Abstracts for this award should be 2-3 pages in length. The deadlines provided above will apply to this award. In addition, the SVBT will award 1-2 Teaching in Practice Sessions (TIPS) for short communications at the meeting. Contact amandamiller@mfire.com or visit www.svbt.org for more information about these submissions. The TIPS submission should be e-mailed to amandamiller@mfire.com by December 1, 2008.

AVSAB Student Award Information. The American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) will make an award to the highest scoring paper presented by a current veterinary student. Applicants must be the first author of original research in the area of applied animal behavior conducted while in veterinary college. Submission is to be a full paper, written in the format of JAVMA. The student award winner will present a full paper at the ACVB/AVSAB Scientific meeting and will receive an award of \$1500 generously contributed by Premier Pet Products; runner-up will make a poster presentation and will receive \$500 from AVSAB. The deadline for application to AVSAB for the student award is **April 1, 2009**; submission is made directly to Dr. Laurie Bergman lbergmanvmd@yahoo.com (NOT to acvb.avsab.meeting@gmail.com). Please refer to the AVSAB web site www.avsabonline.org or contact Dr. Laurie Bergman lbergmanvmd@yahoo.com for more information.

AVSAB "HIT" Presentations. AVSAB will select three "How I Treat" (HIT) abstracts to be presented as short communications. These will be selected by an AVSAB committee among those abstracts submitted in the short communication abstract format, listed under the "Guide for Submissions." Topics should be some aspect of clinical behavior, such as a unique treatment approach, client communication strategy, or behavior practice management or communication "tip." As examples, HIT abstracts from 2006 and 2007 may be found in the meeting proceedings on the "members only" portion of the AVSAB web site www.avsabonline.org. HIT abstracts should be submitted directly to Dr. Laurie Bergman (NOT to acvb.avsab.meeting@gmail.com). The deadline for application to AVSAB for these awards is **December 1, 2008**. Please refer to the AVSAB web site www.avsabonline.org or contact Dr. Laurie Bergman lbergmanvmd@yahoo.com for more information.

Guide for Submissions

The Committee would like to encourage submissions from both practitioners and academics working either directly in the field or in related fields of interest, which can contribute to the development of the discipline.

Full papers:

Full papers should summarize substantial research projects, theoretical reviews, or case series. In all cases, the hypothesis, thesis statement or objective must be stated clearly. Each abstract should include a few sentences to place the work in context, but the majority of the abstract should be devoted to methods and results. Please include a brief conclusion at the end of your abstract.

Full papers will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Originality and/or relevance of the work to the field of veterinary behavior medicine, and the clarity and significance of hypothesis being tested
- Scientific rigor, including statistical assessment in the case of experimental work, and clarity of the analytical method in the case of theoretical or case reviews
- Whether or not the conclusions are justified by the results
- The potential or realized significance of the investigation

Short communications:

Short communications summarize preliminary studies, brief discussions of points of theoretical interest, practical tips, and individual case reports of importance. Each abstract should emphasize the relevance of the work, and its potential impact for extending our knowledge within the discipline.

Short communications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Originality of the work within the field of veterinary behavioral medicine
- Relevance of the work to the field of veterinary behavior medicine
- Intellectual content of the work
- Potential implications of the work to the field of veterinary behavior medicine

Poster presentations:

Poster presentations may be used to summarize research projects, reviews, practical tips, or case reports amenable to visual presentation as a single poster. In order to insure that posters receive the full attention of attendees and to allow authors the opportunity to verbally expand on their work, a dedicated poster session will form part of the conference.

Posters will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Originality of the work within the field of veterinary behavior medicine
- Relevance of the work to the field of veterinary behavior medicine
- Intellectual content of the work
- Potential implications of the work to the field of veterinary behavior medicine

Please use the ACVB/AVSAB Submission Form and submit electronically according to the instructions. Thank you!