



AO

VET

North America

# The Companion

The newsletter for the AO VET North America community

Fall 2021





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# From the Editor

Like the fresh air at the change of the seasons, fall is bringing fresh life to AO VET. There is nothing better than getting together and talking shop, and with the return of face-to-face events that is exactly what we get to do again. Robust protocols are in place, including distancing measures, personal protective gear, vaccine requirements and contact tracking through event registration.

The first courses to run under these protocols were in Trauma and CMF; both were well attended and went smoothly. The Equine Principles laboratory section and skills lab, Equine Advanced, Small Animal Principles, and the Feline Orthopedics Master's course will all be delivered face-to-face in Q4 of 2021.

We look forward to teaching and learning with old friends and resuming what is the essence of the AO community.

We are also continuing to grow the AO VET NA community online. The redesigned myAO brings powerful new tools to help us curate relevant and personalized content on a daily basis. The use of the groups functions, which allows us to create and/or join existing groups set up by topic, is becoming a fruitful discussion medium for cases and queries. With all of this brought directly to your phone or tablet via the myAO app, help, mentorship and engagement are just a click away. We are looking forward to seeing you all both in person and in the digital realm!

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Janik Gasiorowski'.

Janik Gasiorowski, DVM, DACVS  
AO VET NA Community Development Chair



# Message from the President of AO North America

Amy S. Kapatkin, DVM, MAS, DACVS



**Dear All at AO VET NA,**

AO North America is excited to report that in-person courses are up and running successfully. The Clinical Divisions (CD) and the Educational Advisory Board (EAB) worked collaboratively to ensure AO NA had safe policies in place. Every CD has had at least one face-to-face event and the feedback has been universally positive. CD Boards are having or had their strategy retreats. Despite a time of change, there are many commonalities that the CDs recognized and all are working to maximize resources and processes. Please thank the AO NA staff when you see them, because they have worked tirelessly to pivot, adjust and ensure that quality events and activities are delivered in this constantly changing environment.

As I reflect on my first year as AO NA President, I can humbly say that I have learned a lot. There were many firsts this year that we had to adapt to: The money flow for AO NA changed and came directly from the AO Foundation Board through the international CD boards and then to AO NA CDs. AO NA had to adjust to significant budget reductions. We established an Audit Committee and appointed a surgeon to the Board of Directors with credentials and knowledge as a finance expert. We aligned all the governance between the AO NA CDs, closer to that of the Foundation. The AO NA Board of Directors and the Executive Council leadership came together to define distinct governance roles but also recognized that it was important to work in sync with each other to help the team function well. We launched our new web site, improved marketing and social media group which have helped AO NA communicate to those in and out of our network.

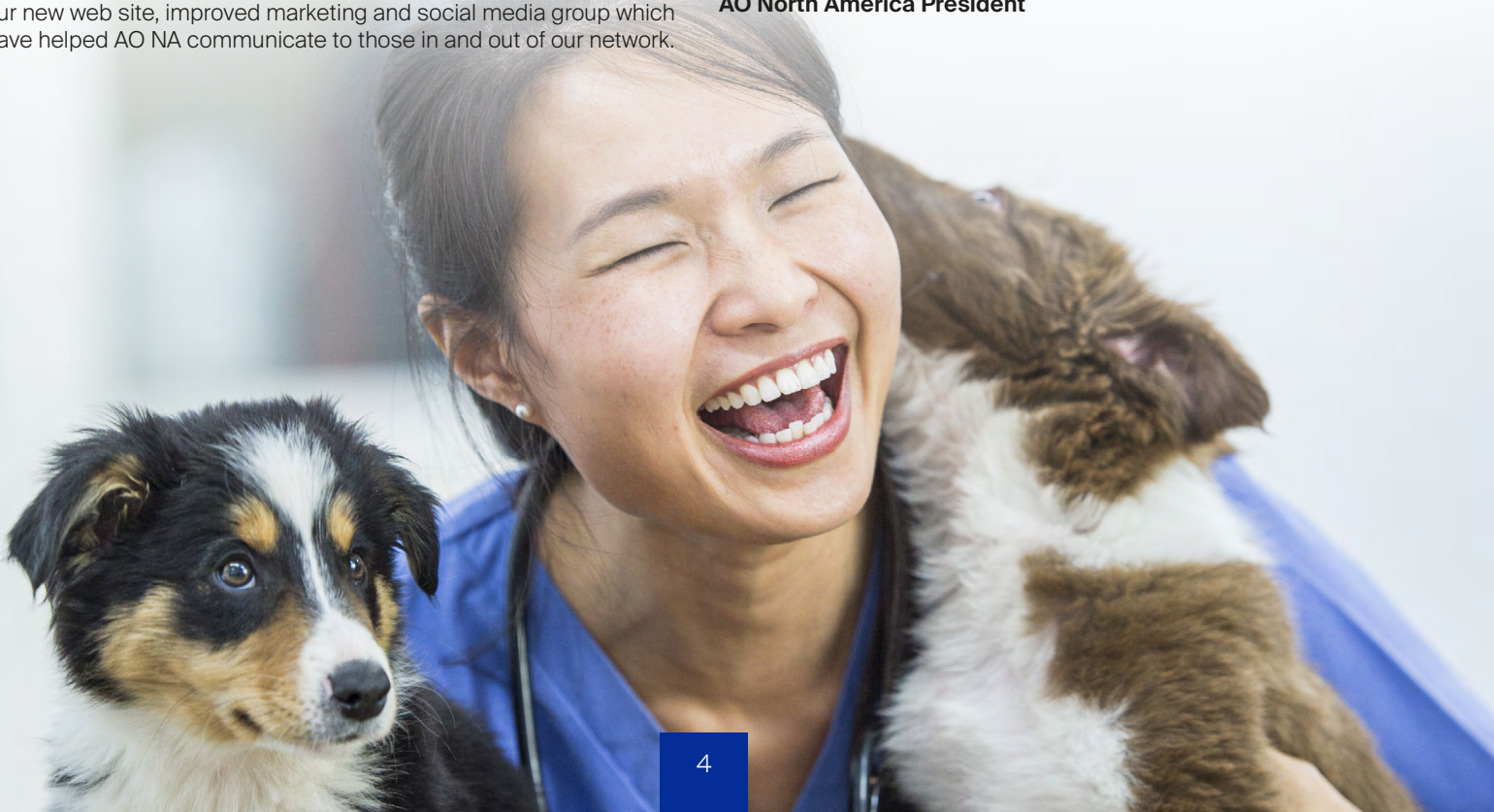
We had a new LMS platform for online learning. For the first time we had no face-to-face courses or major meetings because of COVID. There was an office reorganization to have shared resources and to adapt to online learning needs. We significantly increased our engagement with the surgical community through online courses and YouTube. There may be others I've forgotten, but I have also learned there are things we still need to do differently to achieve the AO mission even better. AO NA is fully committed to continually improve and innovate.

I cannot thank the AO VET NA surgeons enough for their enthusiasm and hard work that make this organization special to all of us. For those of you who have not yet served on committees or boards, please apply for positions and get involved more if you want to. Continue to communicate through AO VET NA leadership your ideas and needs.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Kapatkin".

**Amy Kapatkin, DVM, MAS, DACVS**  
**AO North America President**







# Chair's Corner

By José García-López, VMD, DACVS, DACVSMR  
Chair, AO VET North America

**Dear AO VET NA Friends and Colleagues:**

**As I write my first Chair's Corner update for all of you, I wanted to first take a moment to express my immense gratitude and sincere thanks for having elected me as your chair for the next three years. I also don't want to continue without thanking once again our past chair Dr. Jeff Watkins for his outstanding years of service to our beloved organization and for moving AO VET NA forward with his vision, leadership, and inclusiveness. Thank you, Jeff!**

As you know all too well, COVID continues to be a centerpiece of our lives and with the emergence of the Delta variant, many aspects of our daily lives continue to be severely affected. I hope that everyone continues to be vigilant, stay healthy by following safe practice protocols, and get vaccinated. Only by working together we can protect our loved ones and our community, and hopefully emerge out of this terrible period that we are living as a stronger and united community.

From an educational standpoint fortunately, and thanks to the outstanding work and efforts by both our AO VET NA's staff and Educational Committee led by Dr. Laurent Guiot we have continued to move ahead with our face-to-face educational courses for this coming fall semester. As I write this, we have already completed a successful Vet CMF course and our Principles, Advanced and Master's Courses in both small and large animal are on schedule to be offered between the months of September through December. If you have not signed up, please don't miss the opportunity to be a part of these courses and rest assured that we are taking all possible precautions to offer an outstanding in-person learning experience that is also safe for everyone.

From a financial standpoint, the coming years will see some changes in how budgets are constructed which will have an impact on all AO

NA divisions, including VET. Although from a distance this might sound like a potential reduction in what we might be able to do, it represents an opportunity to expand our reach in areas such as education, preceptorship, and research. We are being proactive both at the Board and Executive Council level to ensure that our divisions and AO NA continue to prosper and serve our membership as we all want to. One positive aspect of this pandemic has been how we as a group have been able to adapt, try new ideas and move forward with initiatives that might have taken us several years to develop. We will use these experiences in all facets of AO VET NA, including education, research, community development and preceptorship to continue to improve in how we deliver our mission of improving the care and clinical outcomes of our veterinary orthopedic patients.

I don't want to finish this without sharing some important news. This coming December, our beloved Regional Director Andrea McClimon will be retiring after 25 years of service. Andrea has been a key person in making AO NA what it is today and has been an important voice at the AO Foundation level. Through the years Andrea has held positions within AO NA, in addition to her current role as Regional Director for Trauma and VET, such as Interim Director during AO NA's transition from Synthes, Education Director, Faculty Relations Manager to name a few. She has been a go-to person for all of us involved in the leadership of AO NA and she also has been a huge resource to our faculty. To me personally Andrea has been a voice of reason and perspective that has allowed me to grow within this wonderful organization. Although we will miss Andrea beyond words, I am so happy that she will finally be able to have more time to enjoy with her family. Thank you, Andrea, for all your contributions to AO NA, for your wisdom, your patience when dealing with folks like me, and for making us better. I would encourage you to email Andrea ([mcclimon.andrea@aona.org](mailto:mcclimon.andrea@aona.org)) in the coming months to thank her for all that she has done for AO VET NA.

## Message from AO VET International Chair

**I would like to take this opportunity to thank the AO VET NA board members and the AO NA staff who I had the pleasure of working with during my tenure as chair of AO VET NA. It was an incredible honor for me to serve in that position. We've navigated some tough times but, as expected, are coming back stronger than ever.**

I know that as I move on to the chair of the international board, North America is in good hands

with the capable leadership of José García-López and the other members of the AO VET NA board. You can rest assured that your board will continue to move AO VET NA forward and continue the strong tradition of leading by example.

As we re-enter the world of face-to-face gatherings, I'm excited to take what we've learned from our experiences with remote meetings and leverage this knowledge to make our future offerings even better learning

experiences. I know there is much to be done, but I also know that your board is looking to the future and the future is bright.

The following page will be committed to providing an overview of the educational events throughout the non-NA regions of AO VET as well as provide an outlook for the flagship courses forthcoming in Davos. We've enlisted Tobias Hövekamp, manager for the AO VET Education Commission, to provide this overview.



**Jeff Watkins, DVM, MS, DACVS**



# AO VET International Update

By Tobias Hövekamp, PhD, Senior Project Manager, Education



Despite the pandemic still taking its toll, AO VET (outside North America) has been able to deliver many educational activities in 2021 so far, and thus engage a large community. Offerings ranged from an online course that replaced a face-to-face event on complications, to a seminar conducted face-to-face in Latin America, a Study Club piloted in Italy, and many webinars hosted by all regions and conducted in various languages. In total, more than 2750 participants were reached.

AO VET Online Course—Complications (66 participants)

AO VET Seminar (Spanish)—Ortopedia y traumatología en razas pequeñas (17 participants)

AO VET Study Club Italy (26 participants)

AO VET Webinar—Complications: The Humerus (607 participants)

AO VET Webinar—Patella Luxation (581 participants)

AO VET Webinar (Spanish)—Toma de decisiones en el manejo de la enfermedad del ligamento cruzado en perros (262 participants)

AO VET Webinar—The legs are bent! What should I do? (449 participants)

AO VET Webinar—Complications of Fracture Repair in the Horse (158 participants)

AO VET Webinar (Chinese)—Live Case Discussion on Small Animal Hindlimb Fracture (161 participants)

AO VET Webinar (Spanish)—Puntos clave en la artrodesis tibio-társica (176 participants)

AO VET Webinar (Japanese)—How to Handle the Fracture in Your Practice (65 participants)

AO VET Webinar (Spanish)—Consejos para cirugías en estación y la artrodesis del pie equino (133 participants)

AO VET Webinar (Japanese)—How to Handle the Tibial Fracture (68 participants)

## Upcoming Davos Courses

Join us this year in one of our two face-to-face AO VET Masters Courses, which will take place during our flagship event between November 28 and December 2, 2021, in Davos!

**AO VET Masters Course—Back to the Future—Cutting Edge Techniques in Small Animal Orthopedics**

[Register here](#)

**Chairpersons: Julien Cabassu and Philipp A Schmierer**

As orthopedic surgeons, it is important to be aware of the available information and the latest techniques developed, and to answer questions such as: "Is all that we did before bad? Are there new techniques with better outcomes?" Answers to these important questions will be provided in this course by our expert surgeon faculty.

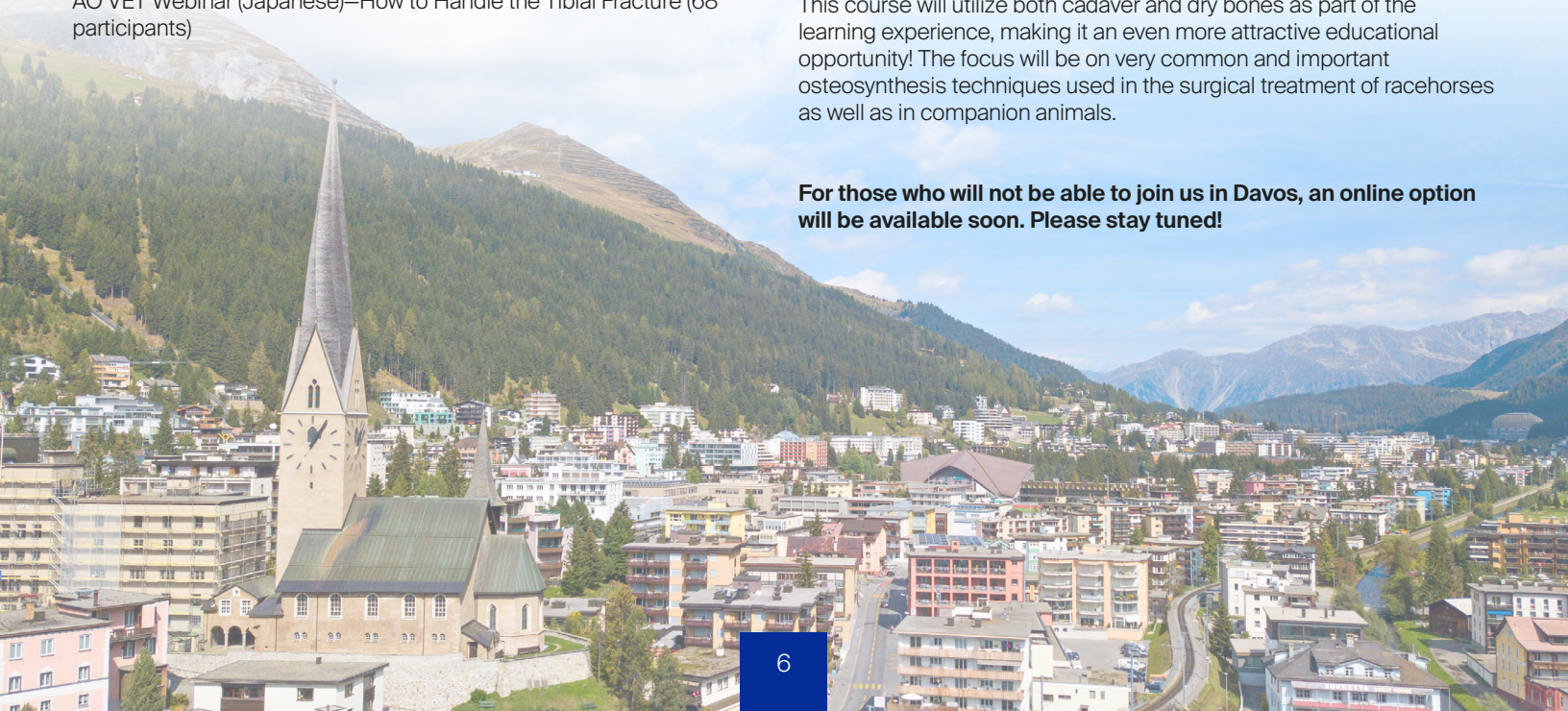
**The AO VET Masters Course—Equine Arthrodesis Techniques and Fracture Fixation**

[Register here](#)

**Chairpersons: Anton Fürst and Christoph Lischer  
Invited chair: Jeff Watkins**

This course will utilize both cadaver and dry bones as part of the learning experience, making it an even more attractive educational opportunity! The focus will be on very common and important osteosynthesis techniques used in the surgical treatment of racehorses as well as in companion animals.

**For those who will not be able to join us in Davos, an online option will be available soon. Please stay tuned!**





# AO VET North America Courses and Events 2022

## In-person courses

Title	Date	Location
<b>Principles Courses</b>		
Surgical Approaches to Long Bones	January 10-11	Las Vegas, NV
Small Animal Fracture Management	April 7-10	Columbus, OH
Principles in Equine Fracture Management	April 7-10	Columbus, OH
Small Animal Fracture Management	November 2-5	Glendale, AZ
<b>Masters and Advanced Courses</b>		
Small Animal Minimally Invasive Osteosynthesis Traumatology	January 13-15	Las Vegas, NV
Advanced Techniques in Small Animal Fracture Management with One-Day Wet Lab	April 7-10	Columbus, OH
Arthroscopic-guided Repair of Equine Articular Fractures and Treatment of Subchondral Bone Cysts	September 12-14	Ft. Collins, CO
Canine Limb Alignment and Deformities Correction—Thoracic Limb	November 2-4	Glendale, AZ

## Webinars

Title	Date	Location
<b>Wednesday Evening Webinars</b>		
Management of Joint Injuries in Athletes	TBA	Online
Arthroscopic Guided Fracture Repair	TBA	Online
TPLO Complications in Small Animals and How to Avoid Them	TBA	Online
Rehabilitation Strategies for Joint Related Injuries	TBA	Online





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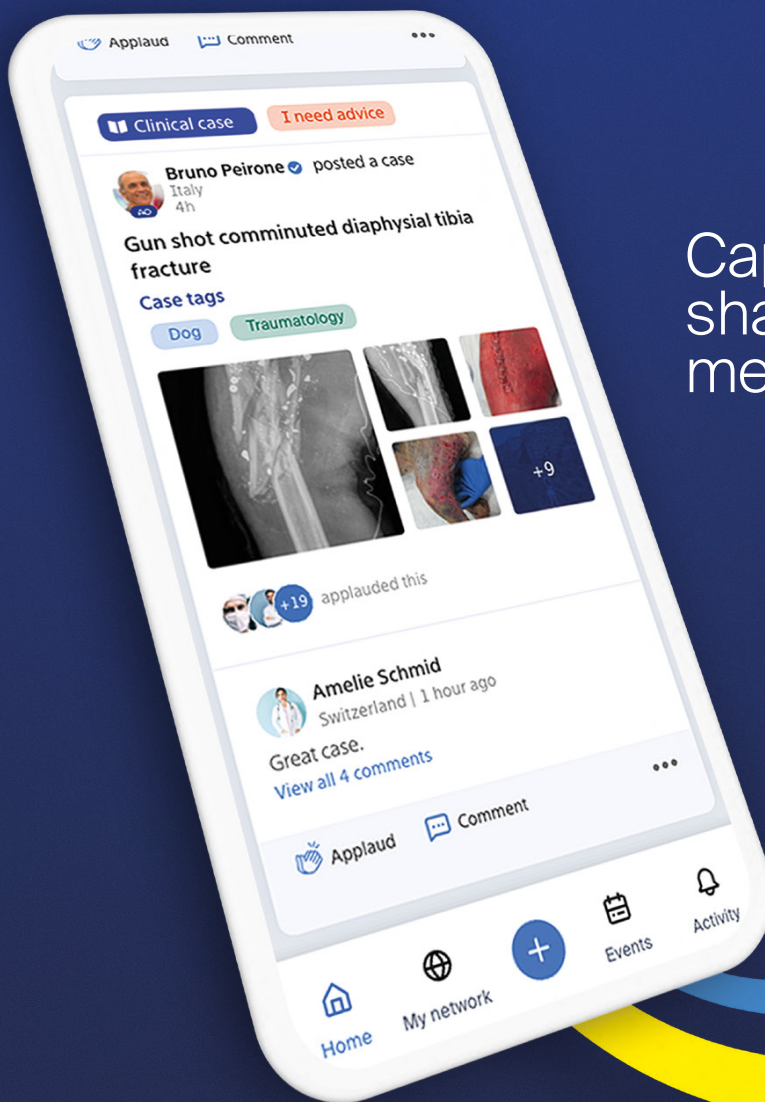
### Learn

Engage in secure topic groups and learn from journals and verified surgical videos.



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Get it on:





# Committee Reports

## AO VET NA Education Committee



**Laurent Guiot,  
DVM, DACVS, DECVS  
Chair, Education**

**Dear friends, I am very pleased to report that we have started our transition back to face-to-face (F2F) events after over a year and a half of online activities. This fall is very busy for us with three master level courses (CMF, Sports Medicine and Feline), two equine courses, three principles, and one advanced course scheduled between August and December.**

The high density in course offering is not specific to VET; the other divisions also have a very tight schedule to make up for some of the deficits that developed over the past year. I want to take this opportunity to thank the entire AO NA staff who is working relentlessly to make these courses possible. Despite some organizational challenges, the course delivery has been outstanding and participants are very appreciative of our efforts. While the rate of enrollment does not reach pre-Covid levels, the F2F meetings conducted so far have been very successful with adherence to the safety protocols established by AO NA to mitigate health risks to our staff, faculty, and participants. I would encourage you to increase awareness of course offerings amongst your trainees and colleagues as new and exciting events such as the feline medicine course still have openings for enrollment.

In parallel to the delivery of our classic portfolio of educational events, the committee along with the backward planning group is working on developing modules aimed at addressing specific injuries of individual anatomical regions. This new offering has been titled the "Spotlight Series" and will be targeting an audience of finishing residents and junior surgeons. A couple of pilot modules, including fractures of the ulna in horses and fractures of the humeral condyle in small animals, are being built with the objective of delivering them in 2023. We are confident that this new series will fill gaps in current course offerings and allow for long-term engagement of our course participants. With that in mind, we are also looking at ways to continuously improve current courses. The last two years have demonstrated that online education can be effective for the learners. To capitalize on the investment made in delivering online education, we will be pushing for all courses to become blended with an online and a F2F component. Moving some materials into pre-course modules will allow refocusing of teaching methods during F2F events to increase laboratory exercises and small-group discussion while reducing travel time needed to attend a course. It will also allow us to increase the faculty pool per event and promote the inclusion of newly recruited faculty into our educational events.

Finally, I want to thank all the chairs involved in our current programs for their dedication. Adapting to the ever-changing requirements associated with F2F meetings while keeping our standards for excellence is challenging. I would encourage you to be as proactive as possible so the AO NA staff can help you in setting up successful courses.

Please feel free to reach out to me or any of the committee members if you have questions related to our programs, recommendations to improve current course offerings, or ideas for future events.

## AO VET NA Preceptorship Committee

**It was a great pleasure talking to two preceptees who took advantage of the AO VET preceptorship program last year.**

First, a newly graduated equine surgeon and I chatted on a video conference platform. We discussed his experience during the two weeks he attended with one of our AO VET faculty at an equine preceptorship program site. I was glad to know that it was a fantastic experience for him.

He was able to see various kinds of fracture repair at the busy equine surgery site. I was also pleasantly surprised to know that the candidate was offered a job he gladly accepted during his preceptorship program.

The second candidate shared similar information. As a budding surgeon in residency, she chose to attend a facility that offered experience in minimally invasive osteosynthesis. During her preceptorship program (two weeks), she was able to see and help with multiple fracture repairs, primarily focused on using a minimally invasive osteosynthesis.

Both candidates were very appreciative that AO VET paid a stipend for those two weeks, which was of immense help. When asked if they would recommend this program to their peers, the answer was an unequivocal yes! After interacting with both preceptees, I learned that our preceptorship program offered a precious experience to both of them. I strongly recommend that all the ACVS surgery residents apply to this program and take advantage of this offering.



**Shantibhushan Jha,  
DVM, MS, DACVS  
Chair, Preceptorship**



# Committee Reports

## AO VET NA Research Committee



**Kyla Ortved,  
DVM, PhD, DACVS,  
DACVSMR  
Chair, Research**

The level 1 AO PEER course was successfully completed at ECVS in 2021. AO VET NA has been in discussions with ACVS to offer an AO PEER level 1 course at the Surgical Summit in Portland, Oregon, in October 2022. This would be a hybrid course where learners would complete the first half of the course asynchronously online and then attend a one-day face-to-face course at the Surgical Summit on the day before the full conference commences.

AO VET NA is looking for additional regional options to offer AO PEER, in collaboration with the other clinical divisions, to trainees and early career surgeons interested in performing clinical and translational research. This is an exciting course with tremendous potential, and we are looking forward to extending its reach in North America.

Keep your eyes out for upcoming research funding opportunities including a call for seed grants and AO VET-ARI Collaborative Research Grants. Seed grants (7,500 CHF) will be awarded to the highest scoring proposal or proposals. AO VET-ARI Collaborative Research Grants will fund proposals to facilitate research projects at the AO Research Institute Davos. All research proposals should seek to answer questions in veterinary and/or comparative orthopedics.

Please remember that AO VET NA members can also apply for grants from other clinical divisions as long as they are either paid-up members of that division or collaborate with a paid-up member. Therefore, it is possible to obtain research funding from Trauma, Spine, or CMF if there are appropriate calls for research.

## AO VET NA Community Development Committee

**Certainly, the most exciting Community Development news is that we are going to be seeing each other in person again. Courses and events are the backbone of our society and are what the membership all enjoy most. Most standard AO courses will be getting back into their annual patterns. ACVS went virtual but VOS 2022 is looking like it will be in person. AO VET will be a sponsor and we will have a booth there as well; stop by and say hello!**

The student lecture initiative is getting back into gear as well, with presentations happening at three universities in 2021 and five in 2022. The goal is to bring awareness of who we are and what we do to students at the earliest stages of their careers.

The advances in **myAO** (redesigned web interface and app) are making this platform ever more relevant. We urge you to engage via the group's functions. The more of us on there, the more fluent the discussion becomes. If the topic (group) that interests you is not yet there, create it! When groups are created, they may be slow to pick up followers but once they do, the discussion takes off.

Peruse the small animal complications group, or the discussion group about women in veterinary medicine... you will see cases, complications, successes, and life challenges posted there by surgeons all over the world. Learn from what they did or didn't do. Comment to ask questions or offer suggestions. Have you treated something similar a different way? Teach us about it! Case discussions are one of the events many of us enjoy most at meetings and this enables it to happen on a daily basis. We look forward to engaging with you there.



**Janik Gasiorowski,  
VMD, DACVS  
Chair, Community  
Development**



# Committee Reports

## Social Media Committee



**Karen L Perry,  
BVMS, CertSAS,  
DECVS, MSc, MRCVS**

## Constructing Social Media Committees to Encourage Diffusion of Innovation

Over the past six months, the Social Media Committee have spent considerable time debating how to integrate the use of social media into each clinical division such that we create a scalable way of generating engaging content which has a value exchange for the viewer, is searchable, and sustainable.

While all divisions envision a social media strategy which both welcomes and facilitates contributions from all, equally they present a uniform opinion that some mode of oversight, in the form of a social media committee, will be required to ensure consistent production and quality of material. As such, pending approval from the respective board meetings, it is proposed that a social media committee will be developed for each clinical division that does not already have one in place. Now we need to consider, who are the individuals best placed to comprise these teams?

Within each division, there are recognized areas of specialty, often represented by educational offerings. As these are areas which have previously been identified as appealing to the target audience, these courses and webinars form the basis of the content calendars that are currently in production. Considering that much of the content will align closely with specific events, it may seem intuitive to invite respective chairs and faculty to serve on our social media committees. Alternatively, this may represent an ideal opportunity to engage newer faculty, maybe those with demonstrated interest and experience in the use of social media. The question remains, is there a “right” way to proceed, or can we, as *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*’s Scarecrow would suggest, go both ways?

The diffusion of innovation perspective dominates much of the literature that addresses professional development for academic staff in relation to the use of information and communication technologies, including the use of social media. Diffusion is defined as the process by which an innovation is communicated through certain channels over time among members of a social system; a kind of social change. E.M. Rogers’ Diffusion of Innovation Theory developed in 1962 suggested that people are inherently more or less predisposed to innovative behavior. He theorized that individual adoption rates of innovation are usually distributed along a bell-shaped curve and can be grouped into five categories:

- **Innovators** (representing 2.5% of the population)
- **Early adopters** (representing 13.5% of the population)
- **Early majority** (representing 34% of the population)
- **Late majority** (representing 34% of the population)
- **Laggards** (representing 16% of the population)

The innovator is the first to try out new products and processes. The early adopters take up and utilize the innovation. They see technology as fun and challenging; they are risk takers. Early adopters are confident in their ability to integrate technology into instruction and make adoption of technology look relatively easy thereby disguising the knowledge and skills that mainstream faculty need in order to adopt such processes.

The mainstream majority of faculty favor evolutionary change, are pragmatic or conservative, risk averse and seek proven applications of the use of technology before adopting it.

Comprehensive adoption strategies cannot be based upon the support of early adopters but must be designed to appeal to the mainstream faculty (Anderson et al. 1998). Therefore, role models must be drawn from the mainstream faculty. They will be essential for the diffusion of innovation as these members are better integrated into the traditional administrative and social norms of faculty culture.

Based on this research, we can appreciate that while it may be tempting to recruit the innovators and early adopters from within our faculty to spearhead this program, in order for our social media strategy to be sustainable, and for the use of social media to be adopted uniformly across our clinical divisions, we must engage the “early majority.” As such, broad representation will be encouraged within the social media working groups.

In conjunction with this, social media committees will endeavor to distribute evidence regarding the benefits of social media, as this will be integral to the engagement of the “early majority” and the subsequent long-term success of this venture.





# Meet Your New Professional Services Team!

Andrea Mower

Chief Human Resources and Administrative Officer

I recently sat down with the members of the Professional Services Team to learn more about them and what they provide to the organization. Josh Block, Manager, Professional Services, Allison Babb, Research Coordinator, and Kim Cosner, Fellowship Coordinator, comprise the tightly-knit group of three who work together to serve our North American surgeons and its institutions.

## What is the Mission of your department?

**JB:** We administer a wide variety of grants and initiatives across the clinical divisions to encourage, facilitate, and foster surgeon engagement.

**AB:** We manage research, fellowship, and community development.

**KC:** It's knowing that what we are doing is bigger than we are—we are here to help the people who help others heal.

## Josh, what individual services do your team provide?

**JB:** My focus areas are Society Relationships, Engagement, and team oversight. Allison's main area is Research Grants and Awards. Kim's main focus is Fellowship Grants and Awards.

## Allison, let's get into the overall services you provide.

**AB:** Part of my role is to provide research support to all our grant and award recipients, serve as a liaison to the research committees, submit check requests, and answer research related questions during "Calls for Applications" after recipients are selected.

## Allison, share a fun fact about yourself.

**AB:** I've been skydiving!

## Josh?

**JB:** During the pandemic, I got married, bought a new house, bought a new car, and have a baby due in December!

## Kim?

**KC:** I worked for the University of Otago School of Medicine in Wellington, New Zealand, for the Department of Surgery & Anesthesia for over four years.

## All, give our readers tips on how to stay organized.

**KC:** I am a list person and love spreadsheets. I also ask a lot of questions to understand the process.

**AB:** Keep your computer/workspace clean and tidy!

**JB:** Use the technology you have available to you to keep organized. I especially like the 'Sticky Notes' application to keep my tasks front and center on my desktop!

## How can your audience get in touch with you?

**JB:** Kim's hours are 8:30am–4:30pm, Monday–Friday, and Allison's and my hours are 8:00am–4:00pm Monday–Friday.

Allison Babb: [babb.allison@aona.org](mailto:babb.allison@aona.org) 484-568-4061

Kim Cosner: [cosner.kim@aona.org](mailto:cosner.kim@aona.org) 610-993-5136

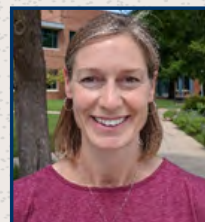
Josh Block: [block.josh@aona.org](mailto:block.josh@aona.org) 484-568-4063



**Josh** graduated from Penn State with his Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and spent six years teaching technology and mathematics. He completed his master's degree in Instructional Technology at Arcadia University and transitioned to full time project management work. Josh earned his Project Management Professional (PMP) certification last year. Josh began his career at AO NA as a Project Manager and moved into his new role as Manager earlier this year.



**Allison** is a graduate of West Chester University with a degree in Sociology. During her college career she enlisted in the Army National Guard as a Finance Specialist where she completed her six-year contract and is now a Veteran! Prior to joining AO NA, she worked as a Clinical Research Coordinator in the MS division at Penn Medicine. She worked closely with research subjects in various drug and observatory trials.



**Kim** has a Bachelor of Science degree in Therapeutic Recreation and a Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction. Kim has seven years of experience working in higher education. Kim was a Program Coordinator managing the musculoskeletal course modules for medical students and postgraduate distance learning programs. She has also worked as a patient ambassador; responding and investigating patient grievances about care and treatment received while in the hospital.

## Any last words?

**JB:** The Professional Services Team welcomes your emails and phone calls and strives to respond quickly.

**KC:** We don't just want to be good; we want to be excellent.

**AB:** I am here to assist you with anything relating to research.

**Well said. Thank you!**



# AO North America is Growing

## Join us in welcoming Michael and Marie



**Michael Cole is a Learning Management System Specialist (LMS Specialist) and our Totara expert. Michael currently resides in Wichita, KS where he previously taught literature courses as an adjunct in horror and LGBTQ+ studies at Wichita State University. He has an MA in English literature and an MFA in creative writing. Most recently Michael was an instructional technologist and has extensive experience with learning management systems.**

Michael's role includes serving as the single point of access for online and instructor-led training for employees, customers, and other stakeholders. His position is responsible for supporting the learning operations through Totara.

On a personal note, Michael is a professional writer and is a co-author of the graphic novels *The Cardboard Kingdom* and *The Cardboard Kingdom 2*. He has three dogs—Hal, Atlas, and Benny—who have been very happy to have him at home during the quarantine.

Michael can be reached at [cole.michael@aona.org](mailto:cole.michael@aona.org) or at 316-518-7819.

**Marie Lewis joined the team in August as a Program Coordinator. Marie grew up in Brooklyn, NY before moving to the greater Philadelphia area. She has several years' experience working with Medical Associations and is happy to be back in the Continuing Medical Education realm after working in Higher Ed.**

**She considers herself a lifelong learner and enjoys being in environments that promote education. The last 10 years working at Delaware Valley University she has seen the importance of different learning methods and the necessity of being diverse in not just what is taught but the pedagogy.**

Marie is a self-professed homebody who enjoys spending time with her husband and watching her daughter dance on stage. During the pandemic, she added knitting to her list of crafting skills, a craft she had tried to learn many times before, but it apparently took a pandemic for the lessons to stick.

You can reach Marie at [lewis.marie@aona.org](mailto:lewis.marie@aona.org) and at 610-324-9335 or 610-993-5122.



Hello  
I am...  
New



# One AO 2022: Connections

Join your AO NA friends and colleagues for our annual One AO meeting

**Feb. 10-13, 2022**

Wild Horse Pass Resort, Phoenix, Arizona



## **RECONNECT**

with friends, peers, and colleagues



## **REFLECT**

on how our lives have changed in the past two years



## **RENEW**

your commitment to fellowship and community

*One AO 2022 featured speakers will include:*

When online meets offline \_\_\_\_\_



### **Stephen K. Klasko, MD, MBA**

President, Thomas Jefferson University

Learning connections \_\_\_\_\_



### **Shiv Gaglani**

CEO and Founder of Osmosis.org



### **Amin Azzam, MD, MA**

Director of Open Learning Initiatives & Lead Faculty Advisor at Osmosis, Clinical Professor at UCSF and UC Berkeley, and Simulation Educator at Samuel Merritt University

Making human connections work:  
the role of emotional intelligence \_\_\_\_\_



### **Catherine A. Sanderson, PhD**

Chair and Professor of Psychology, Amherst College

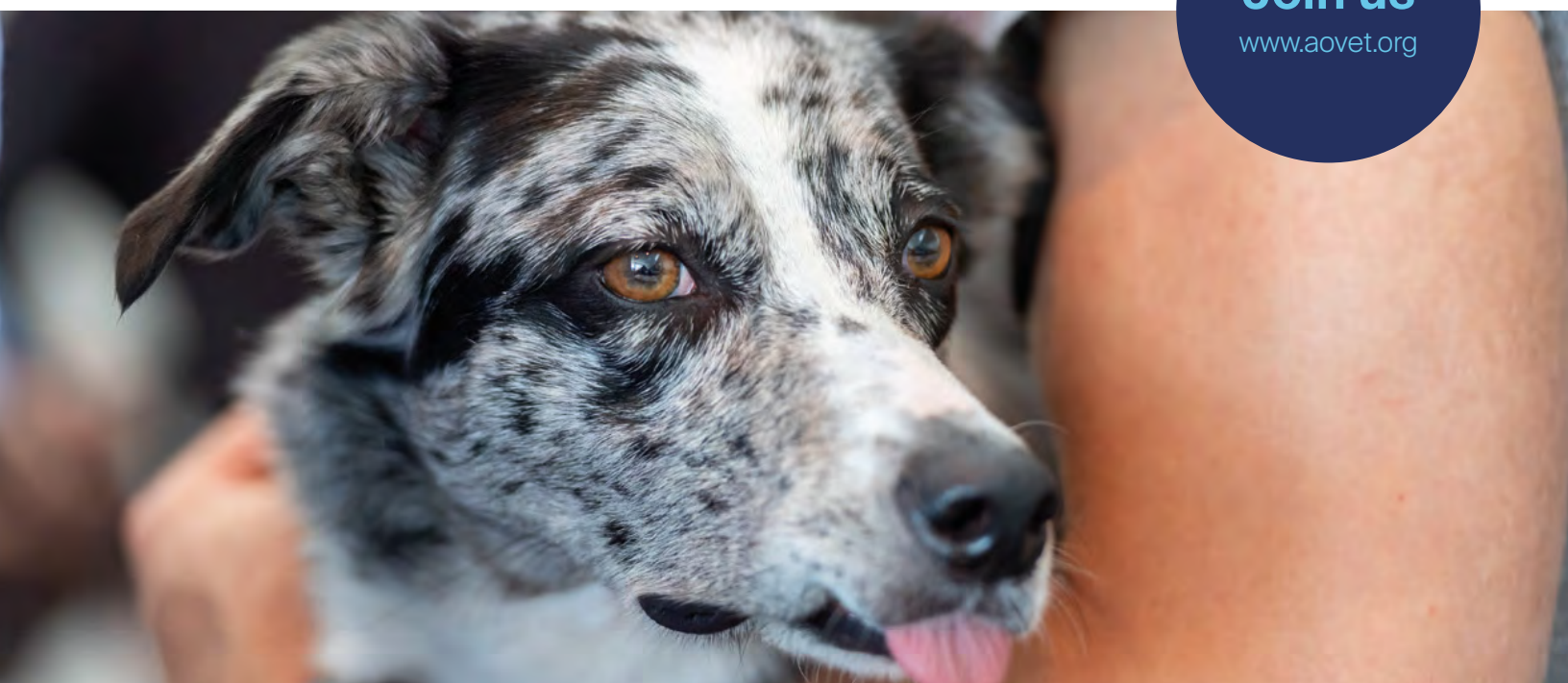


# AO VET membership

## Creating a vital link for veterinary specialists across the globe

Join us

[www.aovet.org](http://www.aovet.org)



AO VET is the only worldwide academic community in the field of veterinary surgery of the musculoskeletal system that delivers innovative educational, research, and networking opportunities.

**Becoming a member is the first step in joining the AO VET family, and sharing your passion for veterinary surgery.**

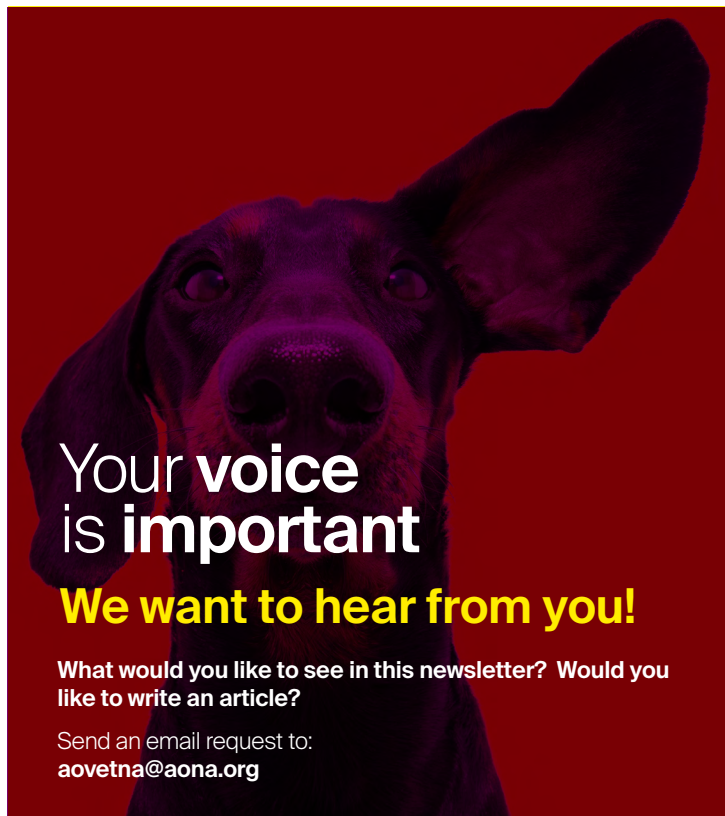


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AO  
VET





## In the Summer 2022 Issue...

- A look back at One AO
- Education update
- Plus much more!

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