



# NIAMRRE CONFERENCE

20  
26

MAY 19 - 21 | AMES, IA



NIAMRRE

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*Forward* 

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# NIAMRRE

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF  
ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE  
RESEARCH & EDUCATION



[niamrre.org](https://niamrre.org)

## HISTORY

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**NIAMRRE** was established in 2018 by a joint effort of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) and the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) in recognition of the need for a coordinating body to carry out actionable recommendations to addressing AMR at a national scale.

## THE CHALLENGE

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Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the greatest global health threats to society, human and animal health, and economic prosperity. AMR happens when bacteria develop the ability to defeat the drugs designed to kill them. According to the CDC, antibiotic-resistant bacteria cause at least 2.8 million infections and 35,000 deaths in the United States every year.

## OUR SOLUTION

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**NIAMRRE** is a member organization that works to progress initiatives set out in the U.S. National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant bacteria, using a One Health approach. We address prioritized gaps in knowledge related to antimicrobial use, stewardship, and resistance while organizing resources, convening people, and coordinating ideas.

## MISSION-DRIVEN

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**NIAMRRE** drives cross-sector engagement and coordinated action to combat the global threat of antimicrobial resistance across humans, animals, plants, and the environment.

# Welcome From the Executive Director

The **NIAMRRE Conference** continues to be a highlight for me each year. I am grateful for the opportunity to visit with all of you face-to-face and take one step forward to address antimicrobial resistance. The challenge of addressing the complexity of AMR, with all its nuances, from a One Health perspective, is core to our shared vision and mission at **NIAMRRE**. How can we approach it together?

I believe we can take one step forward by working together across disciplines, professions, and skills to align our efforts to identify common goals and mobilize action against AMR. While that sounds difficult, we in the **NIAMRRE Operations Center** have seen individuals collaborate and innovate across diverse areas of expertise and sectors, time and again, to advance new ideas and overcome challenges.

Several themes emerge when we look at how those successful efforts develop. As we go into the 2026 conference, it is worth reviewing these principles and intentionally applying them this week:

➤ **One Step Forward Through Connection and Shared Purpose:** Addressing AMR effectively demands more than expertise within individual disciplines — it requires trust, curiosity, and meaningful collaboration across sectors. Use this conference as an opportunity to build relationships with people outside your field, listen to their experiences, and better understand the perspectives that shape their work. Strong partnerships are built through respect, open dialogue, and a willingness to learn from one another. Challenge yourself to connect with at least five new colleagues during meals, sessions, or receptions.

➤ **One Step Forward Through Diverse Perspectives and Innovation:** Progress against antimicrobial resistance depends on recognizing the value that every discipline brings to the conversation. Too often, professional silos limit our ability to see the full scope of the challenge and the opportunities for solutions. Embrace this meeting as a space to explore different viewpoints, engage with new ideas, and consider how connecting research and understanding impacts across sectors can inspire innovation and uncover fresh approaches to shared challenges.

➤ **One Step Forward Through Action and Implementation:** Collaboration and learning only create impact when they lead to action. Throughout this conference, take time to reflect on how others are addressing similar challenges and consider what strategies, partnerships, or ideas could be adapted to your own work. Commit to leaving this meeting with at least one new approach you are prepared to test, apply, or champion in your organization or community. Also, think about how you can commit to improving communication about AMR to increase recognition of its importance and galvanize individual action.

I sincerely thank our **NIAMRRE Conference Planning Committee**, the Conference Chair, Dr. Michelle Kromm of Food Forward, and the **NIAMRRE** staff for developing an outstanding conference program. Their efforts, along with those of many other volunteers and AMR stakeholders, are making a difference, and we encourage you to engage in that process. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the work **NIAMRRE** does, please seek out one of the **NIAMRRE** staff members to learn more about how you can engage. Thank you for joining us!



## DR. PAUL PLUMMER

DVM, PhD, DACVIM (LIAM), DESCHR

- Executive Director at NIAMRRE
- Dean at UTCVM



# AGENDA

★ **MONDAY** | MAY 18

**9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**PRE-CONFERENCE RESEARCH & INNOVATION ROUNDTABLE**

★ **TUESDAY** | MAY 19

**9:00 - 11:00 AM**

**PRE-CONFERENCE STUDENT WORKSHOP**

**1:00 - 1:45 PM**

**WELCOME & KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

➤ *One Step Toward Resilience: The Economics of AMR*

Dr. Elliott Dennis | University of Nebraska, Lincoln



**1:45 - 3:00 PM**

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

➤ *Confronting Economic Risks of AMR Across the Spectrum*

Dr. Elliott Dennis | University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Dr. Alison Roberts | Sepsis Alliance

Dr. Mike Lormore | Zoetis

Moderator: **Dr. Paul Plummer**

**3:00 - 3:30 PM**

**BREAK**

**3:30 - 3:45 PM**

**PRESENTATION**

➤ *Comments from the Iowa State University*

Dr. Dan Grooms

**3:45 - 4:30 PM**

**LIGHTNING TALKS: ROUND 1 ( See Page 10 )**



# TUESDAY NIGHT

**4:30PM - 5:30 PM**

TRANSITION TO POSTER  
SESSION & WELCOME RECEPTION

**5:00PM - 6:00 PM**

POSTER SESSION

**5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

WELCOME RECEPTION



## ★ WEDNESDAY | MAY 20

**6:15 - 7:30 AM**

### OPTIONAL MORNING HIKE

Weather permitting: To join the hike, meet in the hotel lobby at 6:15am. Hikers, led by Dr. Ben O'Kelley with BluePearl Pet Hospital will depart hotel at 6:30am and return around 7:30am.

**8:30 - 9:30 AM**

### PANEL DISCUSSION

➤ *One Step Towards Aligning Policy, Regulation, & System Change*

[Amanda Burgess](#) | Genvax Technologies, Inc.

[Sophia Magill](#) | Iowa State University

[Dr. Abby Simmons](#) | CropLife America

[Dr. Dawn Sievert](#) | Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Moderator: [Paul Plummer](#)

**9:30 - 10:40 AM**

### PRESENTATION

➤ *One Step Towards Connecting Research Across Sectors*

[Dr. Erika Ganda](#) | The Pennsylvania State University

[Dr. Melanie Lewis Ivey](#) | The Ohio State University

[Dr. Alexandra M. Medley](#) | Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

[Dr. Mike Roof](#) | Iowa State University

**10:40 - 11:00 AM**

### BREAK

**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

### PRESENTATION

➤ *One Step Towards Impact: Compelling Communications*

[Amanda Carnes](#) | Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

[Tina Rezvani](#) | Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

[Dr. Linda Shenk](#) | Iowa State University

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**12:00 - 1:00 PM**  
NETWORKING LUNCH

**8:30 - 9:30 AM**  
CONCURRENT FACILITATED DISCUSSION BREAKOUTS

➤ *Communications*

Amanda Carnes  
CDC

Tina Rezvani  
CDC

Dr. Linda Shenk  
Iowa State University

➤ *Stewardship*

Dr. Ben O'Kelley  
BluePearl

**2:30-3:00 PM**  
BREAK

**3:00 - 3:30 PM**  
REPORT OUTS *from the discussion breakouts*

**3:30 - 4:00 PM**  
PRESENTATION

➤ *The Tempest & the Art of Scientific Storytelling*  
Dr. Peter Dorhout | Iowa State University

**4:00 - 4:45 PM**  
PRESENTATION

➤ *NIAMRRE AMR Dashboard / NAHLN Presentation*  
Dr. Laura Alt | USDA APHIS  
Dr. Amanda Kreuder | Iowa State University / NIAMRRE

**5:00 - 6:00 PM (Bus Loading at 4:45 PM)**  
OPTIONAL TOUR *Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory*



**6:15 - 7:30 AM**

**OPTIONAL MORNING HIKE**

Weather permitting: To join the hike, meet in the hotel lobby at 6:15am. Hikers, led by Dr. Ben O’Kelley with BluePearl Pet Hospital will depart hotel at 6:30am and return around 7:30am.

**8:30 - 9:15 AM**

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

➤ *One Step Toward Innovation*

Susan Winckler | Reagan-Udall Foundation, FDA



**9:15 - 10:00 AM**

**LIGHTNING TALKS: ROUND 2 ( See Page 10 )**

**10:00 - 10:15 AM**

**BREAK**

**10:15 - 10:45 AM**

**PRESENTATION**

➤ *Advancing Tools & Technologies*

Dr. Ivan Alvarado | Merck Animal Health

Dr. Patrick A. Johnson | Iowa State University

Dr. Richard Spontak | North Carolina State University



**10:45 - 11:00 AM**

**STUDENT POSTER AWARDS**

**11:00 - 11:30 AM**

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe | Mars Veterinary Health



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Stuart B. Levy  
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# LIGHTNING TALKS

 **ROUND 1 | MAY 19**

## **Modeling Agricultural Antibiotics in Agroecosystems with SWAT+**

Shoaib Ahmed / Michelle L. Soupir

> [Iowa State University](#)

## **A systematic review and meta-analysis of antibiotic resistance gene prevalence and abundance in global freshwater**

Jaber Ghorbani / Andrew Ortiz<sup>1</sup>, Michelle Soupir<sup>2</sup>, Shannon Bartelt-Hunt<sup>3</sup>, Adina Howe<sup>2</sup>, Amy Schmidt<sup>4</sup>, Xu Li<sup>3</sup>, and Bing Wang<sup>1</sup>

> [University of Nebraska-Lincoln](#)

1. Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; 2. Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Iowa State University; 3. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; 4. Biological System Engineering, University of Nebraska at Lincoln

## **From signal to silence: Targeting AI-2 to reduce Salmonella virulence**

Yosra Helmy / Bibek Lamichhane<sup>1</sup>, Khaled A. Shaaban<sup>2</sup>, Larissa V. Ponomareva<sup>2</sup>, Jon S. Thorson<sup>2</sup>

> [University of Kentucky](#)

1. Department of Veterinary Science, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, University of Kentucky; 2. Center for Pharmaceutical Research and Innovation, and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Kentucky

## **Bridging Antimicrobial Stewardship Intent and On-Farm Practice: Milk Culturing Adoption and Selective Mastitis Treatment in Western Canada**

Jennifer Ida / Ellen de Jong<sup>1</sup>, Anne-Marieke C. Smid<sup>1,2</sup>, Kristen K. Reyher<sup>3</sup>, David F. Kelton<sup>4</sup>, Caroline Ritter<sup>1,5,6</sup>, Inge van der Velden<sup>1</sup>, Herman W. Barkema<sup>1</sup>

> [The Pennsylvania State University](#)

1. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary; 2. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary; 3. Wageningen Livestock Research, Wageningen University & Research; 4. University of Bristol Veterinary School; 5. Department of Population Medicine, Ontario Veterinary College; 6. Department of Health Management, University of Prince Edward Island

## **antibiogramDSM: A Combined Community Antibiogram**

Andrew Miesner

> [Drake University](#)

## **Where Is One Health in Human AMR Research? A Review of U.S. Case-Control Studies**

Chika Okafor / Charchil Ayodo<sup>1</sup>, Monica Shah<sup>2</sup>, Jonathon Gass<sup>3</sup>, Suzanne Lenhart<sup>4</sup>

> [The University of Tennessee, Knoxville](#)

1. Washington State University, College of Veterinary Medicine; 2. The Ohio State University, College of Public Health; 3. Tufts University, Department of Public Health and Community Medicine; 4. University of Tennessee, Department of Mathematics

## Connecting Antimicrobial Resistance, Agricultural Decisions, And Environmental Systems

Michelle Soupir / Adina Howe<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Andersen<sup>1</sup>, Shoaib Ahmed<sup>1</sup>, Diana Aga<sup>2</sup>, Damalka Balasuriya<sup>2</sup>, Bing Wang<sup>3</sup>, Jaber Ghorbani Kahrizsangji<sup>3</sup>, Moriah Brown<sup>3</sup>, Shannon Bartelt-Hunt<sup>3</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. Iowa State University; 2. University at Buffalo; 3. University of Nebraska-Lincoln

## Reduced Swimming Motility Tracks Efflux-Mediated $\beta$ -Lactam Resistance Evolution in *Escherichia coli*

Lisa Stabryla / William E. Ackerman IV<sup>1</sup>, Jennifer Dootz<sup>2</sup>, Sam Forry<sup>2</sup>, Stephanie Servetas<sup>2</sup>, Scott Jackson<sup>2</sup>, Jason Kralj<sup>2</sup>

> [University of Illinois, Chicago](#)

1. University of Illinois, Chicago, 2. The National Institute of Standards and Technology

## Persuading growers to reduce antimicrobial and chemical use in agriculture - A Case Study

Matthew Tebeau / Ryan Benson<sup>1</sup>, Tyler Homer<sup>1</sup>

> [Phagelux AgriHealth](#)

1. Omnilytics Inc.

## Deploying One Health Biosensors for Rapid, Field-Based Detection of Antimicrobial Resistance in Livestock

Mohit Verma

> [Purdue University](#)

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## **ROUND 2** | MAY 21

## Bridging Perception and Practice: Livestock Producer Attitudes Toward Antimicrobial Resistance, Food Safety, and Manure Management in a One Health Framework

Daniel Andersen / Michelle Soupir, Adina Howe

> [Iowa State University](#)

## Antimicrobial resistance trends in *Shigella* spp. isolates in the United States, 1999-2018

Muhammad Rashid Bajwa / Rebecca Lee Smith

> [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#)

## Free-living Protozoa as Our Next Options for Therapeutic Antibacterial Modalities Once We Abandon Current Antibiotics

Steve Carlson / Krisit Anderson<sup>1</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. AeroGenics LLC

Continued on Next Page >>>

## **Pandemic-Associated Redistribution of Enterobacterales in Urinary Tract Infections and Implications for Empirical Therapy**

**Kien Trung Dang**<sup>1,2,4</sup> / Doan Mai Phuong<sup>2</sup>, Nguyen Thi Thuy Hang<sup>2</sup>, Hien T.T Ngo<sup>4</sup>, Andrew W. Taylor-Robinson<sup>4,5</sup>, Nguyen Anh Khoi<sup>5</sup>, Thanh H.(Helen) Nguyen<sup>1,3,4,6</sup>, Csaba Varga<sup>1,3</sup>

> **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

1. Department of Pathobiology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 2. Laboratory Department, Vinmec International Hospital; 3. Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 4. VinUni-Illinois Smart Health Center – VinUniversity; 5. College of Health Sciences - VinUniversity; 6. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## **Core resistomes are shared across diverse One Health sources**

**Nhung Do**<sup>1,2</sup> / Yuqing Mao<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Hien T.T Ngo<sup>2</sup>, Andrew W. Taylor-Robinson<sup>2,4</sup>, Thanh H.(Helen) Nguyen<sup>1,2,3</sup>

> **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

1. Department of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 2. VinUni-Illinois Smart Health Center – VinUniversity; 3. Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 4. College of Health Sciences - VinUniversity

## **Antibiotic Residue Environmental Mobility on Dairy Farms: Connecting stream and manure residue signatures with preferential flow pathways**

**Christine Georgakakos** / Anthony Provas<sup>1</sup>, Josh Snarski<sup>1</sup>, James Knighton<sup>1</sup>

> **SUNY ESF**

1. University of Connecticut

## **FARM2VET a virtual veterinary platform for swine producers in Vietnam**

**Helen Nguyen** / Csaba Varga<sup>3</sup>, Hien T.T. Ngo<sup>2</sup>, Van-Phan Le<sup>4</sup>, Andrew W. Taylor-Robinson<sup>2</sup>, Khac Do-Doan<sup>2</sup>, Van-Thanh Dinh<sup>2</sup>, Thai-Uyen Nguyen<sup>2</sup>, Trung-Thanh Hoang<sup>2</sup>, Viet-Hung Pham<sup>2</sup>, Man-Linh Tran<sup>2</sup>, Thanh-Quang Trieu<sup>5</sup>, Hoai-Thuong Nguyen<sup>4</sup>, Chau-Giang Thi Tran<sup>4</sup>, Phuong-Anh Nguyen<sup>4</sup>, Bao-Anh Ngo-Ngoc<sup>4</sup>, Trung-Kien Dang<sup>2,3</sup>, Tuan-Anh Nguyen Mai<sup>1,2</sup>, Quynh-Nhung Do<sup>1,2</sup>, Pranee Liamputtong<sup>2</sup>, Doanh Nguyen-Ngoc<sup>2</sup>, KokSeng Wong<sup>2</sup>, Dang-Khoa Doan<sup>2</sup>

> **University of Illinois**

1. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 2. VinUni-Illinois Smart Health Center, VinUniversity; 3. Department of Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; 4. Department of Microbiology and Infectious Disease, College of Veterinary Medicine, Vietnam National University of Agriculture; 5. Academy of Social Science

## **Expanding the availability of epidemiological cut-off values (ECVs) to build a common language for evaluating antimicrobial resistance data across One Health sectors**

**Raissa Raineri** / Amanda Kreuder<sup>1,2</sup>

> **Iowa State University**

1. Iowa State University 2. NIAMRRE

## **Genomic Characterization of Antibiotic Resistance in Wastewater-Derived Bacterial isolates: Implications for One Health Surveillance**

**Fazal Sattar** / Xiao Hu<sup>2</sup>, Anugrah Saxena<sup>2</sup>, Kathy Mou<sup>2</sup>, Huigang Shen<sup>2</sup>, Hazrat Ali<sup>1</sup>, Muhammad Afzal Ghauri<sup>1</sup>, Yasra Sarwar<sup>1</sup>, Aamir Ali<sup>1</sup>, and Ganwu Li<sup>2</sup>

> **Iowa State University**

1. National Institute for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering College, Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (NIBGE-C, PIEAS); 2. Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine



# POSTERS

## **Novel Phage Cocktail Against Multidrug-Resistant Salmonella**

[Nada Abdelkader](#) / Yosra A. Helmy<sup>1</sup>

> [University of Kentucky](#)

1. Department of Veterinary Science, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, University of Kentucky

## **micRomicon: A Toolkit for Microbial Genomics in R**

[William Ackerman](#) / Houman Niknam, Katherine R. Kazmer, Kyunghee Han, Jida Huang, Lisa M. Stabryla

> [University of Illinois, Chicago](#)

## **Identifying Genetic Indicators for Antimicrobial Resistance Risk Assessment and Prediction**

[Charles Adegbole](#) / Rebecca Smith

> [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#)

## **Antibiotic-resistant Vibrio cholerae Dermal Exposures Among Limited-Contact Water Recreationists on the Anacostia River**

[Taiwo Alawode](#) / Henry Sage<sup>2</sup>; Ibiyinka Amokeodo<sup>1</sup>; Asangwing Formukong<sup>1</sup>; Amy R. Sapkota<sup>1</sup>

> [University of Maryland College Park](#)

1. Department of Global, Environmental, and Occupational Health, University of Maryland School of Public Health; 2. Department of Marine-Estuarine Environmental Sciences, University of Maryland College Park, Maryland

## **Antimicrobial efficacy and environmental stability of antimicrobial peptides against poultry-associated enteric pathogens**

[Khawla Alharbi](#) / Britta Rued

> [Iowa State University](#)

## **Novel inhibitors target dual pathways in vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus faecalis**

[Gillian Barth](#) / Mark Lipton<sup>2</sup>, Mohamed N. Seleem<sup>3,4</sup>, Cynthia V. Stauffacher<sup>1</sup>

> [Purdue University](#)

1. Purdue Department of Biological Science; 2. Purdue Department of Chemistry; 3. Department of Comparative Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University; 4. Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, VA-MD College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Tech

## **Monitoring Spatial and Seasonal Trends of Antibiotics and Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria in the Shell Creek Watershed**

[Moriah Brown](#) / Dr. Shannon Bartelt-Hunt<sup>1</sup>, Damalka Balasuriya<sup>2</sup>, Shoab Ahmed<sup>3</sup>

> [University of Nebraska - Lincoln](#)

1. Hunt University of Nebraska-Lincoln; 2. University at Buffalo; 3. Iowa State University

## **A Non-antibiotic Solution Supplanting the Largest Deployment of Antibiotics in Veterinary Medicine**

[Steve Carlson](#) / Kristi Anderson<sup>1</sup>, Tim Day<sup>2</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. AeroGenics LLC; 2. Iowa State University

Continued on Next Page >>>

## Identification of a novel telithromycin resistance mechanism in *Campylobacter*

Shu-Wen Chen / Qijing Zhang

> [Iowa State University](#)

## Agricultural Fungicides as a Driver of Antimicrobial Resistant Fungal Keratitis in Iowa

Kathryn Dalton

> [University of Iowa College of Public Health](#)

## Tryglysin disrupts metal homeostasis in oral streptococci

Sristi Dey / Sophie A. Krivograd<sup>1</sup>, Brett C. Covington<sup>2</sup>, John Ambrose<sup>2</sup>, Mohammad Seyedsayamdost<sup>2</sup>, Britta E. Rued<sup>1</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine, Iowa State University; 2. Department of Chemistry, Princeton University

## Targeted Multiplex qPCR Reveals Farm-Level Drivers of Antimicrobial Resistance Gene Carriage in Dairy Cattle

Erika Ganda / Erika Ganda<sup>1,2</sup>, Elizabeth Ransom<sup>3</sup>, Jose Ferronato<sup>4</sup>, Stephanie Bierly<sup>1</sup>

> [The Pennsylvania State University](#)

1. Department of Animal Science, Pennsylvania State University; 2. One Health Microbiome Center, Pennsylvania State University; 3. School of International Affairs and the Rock Ethics Institute, Pennsylvania State University; 4. Department of Large Animal Clinical Science

## Genomic Epidemiology and Farm-Level Transmission of Multidrug-Resistant ESBL-E. coli in Dairy Cattle

Benti Gelalcha / Ruwaa Mohammed<sup>1</sup>, Aga Gelgie<sup>2</sup>, Oudessa Kerro Dego<sup>2</sup>

> [The University of Tennessee](#)

1. The University of Tennessee, Department of Genome Science and Technology; 2. The University of Tennessee, Department of Animal Science

## Human-Centered Digital Innovation as a Scalable Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance

Theo Harvey

> [SynsorMed](#)

## Proteomic Characterization of Antimicrobials from *Escherichia coli* Nissle 1917 Against *Campylobacter jejuni*

Yosra Helmy<sup>1,2</sup> / Ahmed Habib<sup>1</sup>, Ilhem Messaoudi<sup>2</sup>

> [University of Kentucky](#)

1. Department of Veterinary Science, University of Kentucky; 2. Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky

## Local and global comparison of Mobile Genetic Elements reveal gene carriage associated with incompatibility groups

Isaiah Goertz / Edward Andrews<sup>1,2</sup>, Dr. James Lowe<sup>2,3</sup>, Rebecca Smith<sup>4</sup>, Rachel Whitaker<sup>1,2</sup>

> [University at Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#)

1. Dept. of Microbiology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 2. Carl R. Woese Institute of Genomic Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 3. College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois; 4. School of Integrative Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## Population Genomics and AMR Dynamics of *Salmonella enterica* in Kentucky: A Longitudinal Study (2017–2025)

Ajran Kabir / Logan Burns<sup>1</sup>, Beth Johnson<sup>1</sup>, Vaneet Arora<sup>1</sup>, Yosra A. Helmy<sup>2</sup>

> [University of Kentucky](#)

1. Kentucky Department for Public Health; 2. Department of Veterinary Science, University of Kentucky

## Electrospun Polyacrylonitrile Nanofibers Delay Early Antifungal Resistance Activation in *Candida albicans*

Nooshin KianvashRad / Dennis LaJeunesse, Lifeng Zhang

> [University of North Carolina at Greensboro](#)

## Connected Data, Safer Outcomes: The Role of Interoperability in Combating Antimicrobial Resistance

[Amanda Kreuder](#) / Emmanuel Okello<sup>1</sup>, Will Sander<sup>2</sup>, Sarah Al-Mazroa Smith<sup>3</sup>, Andy J. King<sup>4</sup>, Kajal Madeka<sup>3</sup>, Paul Plummer<sup>5</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. University of California-Davis; 2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 3. Iowa State University; 4. University of Utah; 5. College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tennessee

## The layered defense strategy: Lactea-Lf is a safe and effective first defense against bacterial biothreat agents as a potential medical countermeasure

[Travis Krause](#)

> [Agrilogics Animal Health](#)

## Investigating the mechanism of action of the streptococcal RaS-RiPP Tryglysin A

[Sophie Krivograd](#) / Sophie A. Krivograd<sup>2</sup>, Sristi Dey<sup>2</sup>, Brett C. Covington<sup>1</sup>, John Ambrose<sup>1</sup>, Mohammad Seyedsayamdost<sup>1</sup>, Britta E. Rued<sup>2</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. Department of Chemistry, Princeton University; 2. Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine, Iowa State University

## Microbial Bodyguards: Next-Generation Probiotics to control Salmonella Infections

[Bibek Lamichhane](#) / Martin-Gatton<sup>2</sup>, Yosra A. Helmy<sup>1,2</sup>

> [University of Kentucky](#)

1. Department of Veterinary Science, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture; 2. Food, and Environment, University of Kentucky

## Evaluating Antimicrobial Resistance in Commensal Escherichia coli Isolated from Fecal and Uterine Samples of Swine in Northern Provinces of Vietnam, 2023-2024

[Nguyen Tuan Anh Mai](#) / Van Phan Le, Thanh H. Nguyen, Csaba Varga

> [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#)

## Shape-Dependent Antimicrobial Activity of Silver Nanomaterials Against Diverse Bacterial Strains

[Avery Martin](#) / Kate Kazmer, Houman Niknam, Jida Huang, Kyunghye Han, William Ackerman, Lisa Stabryla

> [University of Illinois Chicago](#)

## Quantifying Animal Antimicrobial Use: Metrics, Methodologies, and Surveillance Considerations

[Michele Moncrief](#)<sup>1</sup> / Locke Karriker<sup>2</sup>, Christopher Rademacher<sup>2</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. Swine Medicine Education Center, Iowa State University; 2. Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine, Iowa State University

## Silver Nanoparticles as Aminoglycoside Adjuvants: Mechanistic Insights and In Vivo Efficacy Against Multidrug-Resistant Pathogens

[Sanil Nadar](#) / Jovan S Ghulldu, Garrett L Ellward, Indu Tripathi, Xin Wang, Alexander V Kornienko, Mariola J Ferraro, Kotaro Fujii, Daniel M Czyz

> [University of Florida](#)

## Integrating AMR Bioinformatics Databases into AP Biology Curriculum Significantly Enhances Genomic Data Literacy and Higher-Order Analytical Skills

[Sanil Nadar](#) / Daniel M Czyz

> [University of Florida](#)

## Connected Data, Safer Outcomes: The Role of Interoperability in Combating Antimicrobial Resistance

[Anita Nayak](#)

> [ClinDcast](#)

## **In-silico Phage Prediction: Optimizing Lytic Phage Discovery for ESKAPE Pathogens by Benchmarking Strain-Level Models**

**Helen Nguyen** / Hien T.T Ngo<sup>1</sup>, Duy-Minh Nguyen<sup>1</sup>, Yuqing Mao<sup>2,3</sup>, Andrew W. Taylor-Robinson<sup>2,4</sup>, Thanh H.(Helen) Nguyen<sup>1,2,3</sup>

> **University of Illinois**

1. VinUni-Illinois Smart Health Center, VinUniversity; 2. Department of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; 3 Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 4College of Health Sciences, VinUniversity

## **Application of minimum selective concentration of antibiotics for AMR risk management in wastewater**

**Kimia Noroozi** / Liezel M. Abaya<sup>2</sup>, Judith R. Cristobal<sup>2</sup>, Diana S. Aga<sup>2</sup>, Adina Howe<sup>1</sup>, Laura R. Jarboe<sup>1</sup>

> **Iowa State University**

1. Iowa State University; 2. University at Buffalo, SUNY

## **Knowledge, Attitudes, and Antimicrobial Stewardship Practices Among Small Ruminant Farmers and Veterinarians in Virginia: Implications for One Health Surveillance and Policy**

**Ivan Odur** / Ivan Odur<sup>1</sup>, Eunice Ndegwa<sup>2</sup>, Patrick Pithua<sup>3</sup>, Sierra Guynn<sup>4</sup>, Tiffany Drape<sup>5</sup>, Kim Chyer<sup>2</sup>, Dahlia O'Brien<sup>6</sup>, Amy Pruden<sup>7</sup>

> **Virginia Tech**

1. Department of Genetics, Bioinformatics, and Computational Biology, Virginia Tech; 2. Agricultural Research Station, Virginia State University; 3. Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine; 4. Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Tech and University of Maryland; 5. Department of Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education, Virginia Tech; 6. Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia State University; 7. Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Virginia Tech

## **Risk Factors for Antimicrobial Resistance in Urinary Escherichia coli from Dogs in the United States (2018–2024)**

**Rasaq Ojasanya** / Scott Weese<sup>2,3</sup>, Kurtis Sobkowich<sup>1</sup>, Anne Deckert<sup>1</sup>, Donald Szlosek<sup>4</sup>, Andy Plum<sup>4</sup>, Theresa Bernardo<sup>1</sup>, Zvonimir Poljak<sup>1</sup>

> **University of Guelph**

1. Department of Population Medicine, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph; 2. Department of Pathobiology, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph; 3. Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph; 4. IDEXX Laboratories Inc.

## **Integration of a multi-pronged, standardized methodology to identify key diseases and prioritize antimicrobial alternatives in dairy cattle**

**Emmanuel Okello** / Juliana Ruzante<sup>2</sup>, Henry Wamala<sup>1</sup>, Ted Lillys<sup>2</sup>, Sharif Aly<sup>1</sup>, Richard Van Vleck Pereira<sup>1</sup>, Kris Johansen<sup>3</sup>, Paul Plummer<sup>4</sup>, Locke Karriker<sup>5</sup>, Terry Lehenbauer<sup>1</sup>

> **University of California, Davis**

1. UC Davis Weill School of Veterinary Medicine; 2. RTI International; 3. NIAMRRE; 4. UT College of Veterinary Medicine; 5. Iowa State University, College of Veterinary Medicine

## **Examining streptococcal persistence and antimicrobial resistance in a veterinary teaching hospital**

**Marina Oliveira** / Cory D. Pair, Ella Dombrowski, Britta E. Rued

> **Iowa State University**

## **Next-Generation Probiotics to Combat Clostridium difficile Infection: A One Health Approach**

**Madhav Paudel** / Yosra A. Helmy<sup>1</sup>

> **University of Kentucky**

1. Department of Veterinary Science, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, University of Kentucky

## **Connected Data, Safer Outcomes: The Role of Interoperability in Combating Antimicrobial Resistance**

**Madhav Paudel** / Yosra A. Helmy<sup>1</sup>

> **University of Kentucky**

## **Impact of Melanin on Antifungal Susceptibility in Melanized Fungi and Melanin-Deficient Mutants**

**Dikshya Regmi** / Steven Harris

> **Iowa State University**

## Multidrug-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Across One Health Reservoirs: Integrated Phenotypic and Genomic Characterization

Rosbelly Rios / Ajran Kabir<sup>1</sup>, Mohamed Saleh<sup>1</sup>, and Yosra A. Helmy<sup>1</sup>

> [University of Kentucky](#)

1. Department of Veterinary Science, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, University of Kentucky

## Prevalence of antimicrobial and multidrug resistance among respiratory isolates from dogs and cats in East Tennessee, 2021–2025

Job Kipkemoi Ronoh / Khademul Islam, Michael Mahero and Dennis Makau

> [University of Tennessee, Knoxville](#)

## Antidepressant desvenlafaxine identified in wastewater promotes transformation and antibiotic resistance risk in *Acinetobacter baylyi* via metabolic adaptations

Najmuj Sakib<sup>1,2</sup> / Liezel Mari M. Abaya<sup>3</sup>, Diana S. Aga<sup>3</sup>, Adina Howe<sup>1,2</sup>, Laura Jarboe<sup>2,4</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Iowa State University; 2. Interdepartmental Microbiology Graduate Program; 3. Department of Chemistry, University at Buffalo; 4. Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Iowa State University

## Prevalence and Antimicrobial Resistance of *Escherichia coli* in Retail Meats of Turkey, Chicken, Beef, and Pork in the United States, 2013–2021

Mohammad Nasim Sohail / Csaba Varga<sup>1,2</sup>

> [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#)

1. Department of Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; 2. Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

## Antimicrobial resistance of *Pasteurellaceae* sp. isolated from the respiratory tract of goats

Adam Steffensmeier / Orhan Sahin<sup>2</sup>, Paarthiphan Elankumaran<sup>2</sup>, Higan Shen<sup>2</sup>, Ganwu Li<sup>3</sup>, Kathy Mou<sup>2</sup>, Amanda Kreuder<sup>1</sup>

> [Iowa State University](#)

1. Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University; 2. Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University; 3. Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University

## Screening of Kinase Mutants to Investigate Cell Wall Integrity Signaling in Response to Micafungin Exposure in the Model Organism *Aspergillus nidulans*

Lucas Thompson / Steven Harris

> [Iowa State University](#)

## Early evidence for selection of spectinomycin-resistant Enterobacterales in piglets following SpectoGard exposure

Saralexia Torres / Sanjana Jose<sup>2</sup>, Kaitlyn M. Sommer<sup>3</sup>, Ryan Dilger<sup>3</sup>, Rachel Whitaker<sup>2,4</sup>

> [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#)

1. Illinois Informatics Institute, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; 2. Carl R. Woese Institute of Genomic Biology, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; 3. Department of Animal Sciences, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; 4. Department of Microbiology, University of Illinois

## Antibiotic Management Trade-offs When a Veterinary Agent Seeks to Satisfy Multiple Goals

Ruoyu Wang / David A. Hennessy, Hongli Feng

> [Iowa State University](#)

## Hidden in the Air: Thermotolerant Environmental Yeast and Fungi in Iowa

Rebecca Wharton / Steven Harris

> [Iowa State University](#)

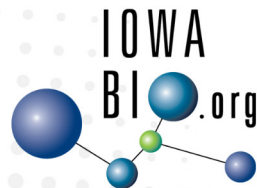
## Parallel Evolution of Resistance to Silver Nanocubes in *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

Kongyang Zhu / Kate Kazmer, Houman Niknam, Jida Huang, Kyunghye Han, William Ackerman, Lisa Stabryla

> [University of Illinois Chicago](#)



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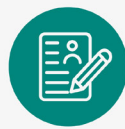


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# SPEAKER BIOS

Note: Some bios may be abridged for space. See full speaker information at [niamrre.org/2026-niamrre-conference](https://niamrre.org/2026-niamrre-conference)

## ★ KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



PHD, MBA, MS

**DR. ELLIOT DENNIS** *Associate Professor*

► [University of Nebraska–Lincoln](#)

Dr. Elliott Dennis is an Associate Professor of Livestock and Meat Economics at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. He helps producers, veterinarians, industry leaders, and policy makers make high-value decisions by turning complex animal health and market data into clear, actionable insights. His cross-disciplinary work on issues like antimicrobial resistance, disease risk, and producer decision making connects cutting-edge research with what happens on operations, in boardrooms, and in policy debates.

Before earning his Ph.D., Dr. Dennis gained experience working with entrepreneurs and venture capitalists, focusing on the intersection of business innovation and agricultural systems. He holds an M.S. in Applied Economics from Utah State University, an MBA in Agribusiness from the Royal Agricultural University in the United Kingdom, and PhD in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State University. Dr. Dennis lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, with his wife and four children.



RPH

**SUSAN WINCKLER** *Chief Executive Officer*

► [Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration](#)

Susan Winckler, RPh, Esq., is CEO of the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration. The Foundation is the non-profit organization created by Congress to advance the mission of the FDA. Prior to accepting the Foundation post in May of 2020, Ms. Winckler served as President of Leavitt Partners Solutions. As President and Chief Risk Management Officer for the Leavitt Partners family of businesses, Ms. Winckler advised corporate executives on policy and business matters. As CEO of the Food & Drug Law Institute, she provided attorneys, regulators, industry leaders, and consumers with a neutral forum to address domestic and global issues.

As FDA Chief of Staff from 2007-2009, Ms. Winckler managed the Commissioner's office; served as his/her senior staff adviser; analyzed policies; and represented FDA before myriad government and external stakeholders. She simultaneously led FDA's Offices of Legislation, External Relations, Public Affairs, and Executive Secretariat.

As APhA Vice President Policy/Communications and Staff Counsel, she served as the association's lead spokesperson and senior liaison to Congress, the executive branch, state associations, and allied groups. Ms. Winckler earned a BS from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy and her JD magna cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center. She is an APhA Fellow, an elected member and Chair of the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) Board of Trustees (2015-2020, 2020-2025), a member of the Purgio Scientific, LLC board, and a member of the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy National Advisory Council.



## SESSION SPEAKERS



**PHD**  
**DR. LAURA ALT** *Microbiologist*  
➤ **USDA APHIS**

Dr. Laura Alt is a Microbiologist with the Bacteriology section of the USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa. She graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Environmental Science and a focus on antimicrobial resistance in agroecosystems. After completing a post-doc with the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) Program Office she moved into her current role partnering with the NAHLN to manage NVSL's ongoing AMR Monitoring Program.



**PHD**  
**DR. IVAN ALVARADO** *Associate Director, Strategic Development & Innovation*  
➤ **Merck Animal Health**

Dr. Alvarado has practiced poultry medicine for over 25 years, starting as a commercial layer and broiler breeder veterinarian in Colombia. After finishing his Master and Doctoral studies at the University of Georgia, Dr. Alvarado has been actively involved in technical services support for broiler and commercial layer companies in the United States and Overseas. Dr. Alvarado has been an active member of AVMA, AAAP and ACPV. Dr. Alvarado joined Merck Animal Health in 2012 and is part of the strategic development and Innovation team at Merck Animal Health.



**BS**  
**AMANDA BURGESS** *VP of Regulatory Affairs*  
➤ **Genvax Technologies, Inc.**

Amanda Burgess is a veterinary industry regulatory affairs professional with 10 years of experience working alongside the USDA CVB. She is the acting VP of Regulatory Affairs at Genvax Technologies, a startup company making waves in the veterinary vaccine space and bringing the forefront of human vaccine technology to the animals sector. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Association of Veterinary Biologics Companies (AVBC), is a member of and participates in many working groups of the Animal Health Institute (AHI), and serves on the Advisory Board of NIAMRRE. With a strong background in veterinary science and biotechnology, she enjoys navigating the current regulations that exist for veterinary vaccines and biologics and actively participating in the melding of new regulations, especially for new and novel products.



**MPH**  
**AMANDA CARNES** *Deputy Director for Communications*  
➤ **CDC**

Amanda Carnes is a Health Communication Specialist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a position held since 2020. Previously, Amanda served as a Health Scientist, ORISE Research Participant, and Work Study Student at the same agency from 2010 to 2011. Amanda also gained experience as a Special Events Intern at the Arthritis Foundation and as an ASPH/CDC Intern with the Association of Schools of Public Health in 2009.



**PHD**  
**DR. PETER K. DORHOUT** *Vice President of Research*  
► Iowa State University

Dr. Peter K. Dorhout joined Iowa State University as Vice President for Research in January 2021, having previously served as VPR and professor of chemistry at Kansas State University. Dr. Dorhout is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Chemical Society, where he also served as president. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin.



**DVM, PHD**  
**DR. ERIKA GANDA** *Associate Professor of Food Animal Microbiomes*  
► The Pennsylvania State University

Dr. Erika Ganda, originally from Brazil, is an Assistant professor of Food Animal Microbiomes at the Department of Animal Science. Her research is focused on the application of innovative technologies to investigate animal health and food safety and the development of practices and approaches that can be applied to the agricultural industry. Dr. Ganda is a member of Penn State's Microbiome Center, Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics, and the Bioinformatics and Genomics graduate field. Dr. Ganda served as the president of the multistate research project on Antimicrobial Resistance (NC1206), is a member of the Pennsylvania Consortium for Antimicrobial Stewardship and the American Society for Microbiology.



**DVM, PHD**  
**DR. DAN GROOMS** *Vice President of Research*  
► Iowa State University

Dr. Dan Grooms DVM, PhD, became the Dr. Stephen G. Juelsgaard Dean of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University on October 1, 2018. At Iowa State he oversees the College of Veterinary Medicine, its five academic departments, the Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center including the Hixson-Lied Small Animal Hospital and the Large Animal Hospital, and the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. An expert in bovine infectious diseases, he has been an active researcher in his academic career, receiving multiple grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, higher education institutions and private companies. Dr. Grooms holds board certification from the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists with a specialty in veterinary virology. He is a former president of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners and has served on the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's Committee on Animal Health.



**PHD**  
**DR. MELANIE LEWIS IVEY** *Associate Professor*  
► The Ohio State University

Dr. Lewis Ivey is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in the Department of Plant Pathology at The Ohio State University. Her research and extension program develops innovative approaches to manage plant diseases in specialty food crops while strengthening food safety. Through a focus on antimicrobial stewardship, her work advances a One Health perspective by examining how agricultural disease management practices influence plant, environmental, and human health



PHD

**DR. PATRICK A. JOHNSON** *Professor / Associate Chair  
of Materials Science & Engineering*

➤ [Iowa State University](#)

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Dr. Patrick Johnson recently joined the Materials Science and Engineering Department at Iowa State University after 17 years in the Chemical and Biomedical Engineering Department at the University of Wyoming. He currently serves as Associate Chair for Graduate Education and Research. Patrick has a research program that focuses on new materials and interfacial phenomena. Research topics include advanced carbon materials, surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) biosensors, energy storage, and machine learning approaches. Patrick received his BS in Chemical Engineering from Lehigh University in 1992 and his Master's in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Virginia in 1994. He then worked on projects for environmental remediation in Belarus followed by work on sensors for detection of biological and chemical weapons. He then received his PhD in Chemical Engineering from Columbia University in 2005. In 2004 he was awarded an NIH Fellowship in Tissue Engineering and Biomedical Sciences at Rutgers University.



PHD, DACVIM, DVM

**DR. AMANDA KREUDER**

➤ [NIAMRRE](#) *Associate Director for Research Strategy & Programs*

➤ [Iowa State University](#) *Associate Professor*

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Dr. Amanda Kreuder, DVM, PhD, DACVIM(LAIM) is the Associate Director for Research Strategy and Programs at NIAMRRE as well as an Associate Professor in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine at Iowa State University. Her combination of clinical veterinary expertise in food animal internal medicine with a benchtop research focus on zoonotic infectious diseases has allowed her to engage in multiple efforts related to antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial stewardship from a One Health perspective. In addition, Dr. Kreuder currently serves as a voting member of the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute Veterinary Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (CLSI VAST) committee which is the volunteer organization that sets clinical breakpoints for veterinary medicine.



DVM, MS, MBA

**DR. MIKE LORMORE** *Head of US Cattle & Pork Technical Services*

➤ [Zoetis](#)

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Mike Lormore is a native of northern NY and a third-generation graduate of Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell. Mike has also completed graduate studies at Penn State, The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and the Wharton School of Business. Mike has extensive experience in the US dairy industry as a veterinarian, nutritionist, economist, business manager and consultant.

Mike currently serves as the Head of US Cattle & Pork Technical Services within the Zoetis Livestock Business and is a member of the Livestock Leadership Team. The broader livestock technical services organization is comprised of 60 veterinarians, nutritionists, and geneticists, and is responsible for supporting the Zoetis portfolio from a technical and business applications standpoint with the sales staff, veterinary practitioners, allied industry professionals and producers. They also interface with marketing, public, corporate and government affairs, regulatory affairs, research and development, commercial development, and a variety of other internal and external stakeholders.

Bringing new technologies and innovative thinking to agricultural markets has been a cornerstone of Mike's career, as he has worked on recombinant bovine somatotropin, genetically modified corn, sugar beets, and alfalfa, sexed semen, and genomics, as well as being active in discussions on sustainability and policy development around antimicrobial stewardship and judicious use.



DVM, MPH, JD

**DR. ANDREW T. MACCABE** *Global Vice President, Veterinary Education*

➤ Mars Veterinary Health

Dr. Andrew T. Maccabe is the Global Vice President for Healthcare Education at Mars Veterinary Health. He received his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees from The Ohio State University in 1981 and 1985, respectively, and began his professional career working in a mixed animal practice with primary emphasis on dairy herd health. Dr. Maccabe was commissioned as a public health officer in the U.S. Air Force in 1988, where he managed preventive medicine activities and directed programs in occupational health, communicable disease control, and health promotion. He completed his Master of Public Health degree at Harvard University in 1995 and his Juris Doctor degree at the University of Arizona in 2002. He served as a liaison at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), coordinating policies and programs between the CDC and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.



MBA, BA

**SOPHIA MAGILL** *Senior Advisor to the President*

➤ Iowa State University

Sophia Magill is the senior advisor to the president, Wendy Wintersteen, and director of federal relations at Iowa State University. In this role, she leads the implementation of the university's strategic initiatives. Magill currently serves on the board of the ISU Alumni Association and recently concluded a term on the board of Youth and Shelter Services in Ames. She is a volunteer coach for the Ames Soccer Club and previously served as the volunteer music director for a church children's choir.



DVM, MPH, DACVPM

**DR. ALEXANDRA M. MEDLEY** *Associate Director for AMR  
Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, & Environmental Diseases*

➤ CDC

Dr. Alexandra M. Medley is a veterinarian and public health professional at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where she works within the Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases (DFWED) as the Associate Director for Antimicrobial Resistance. Her work focuses on prevention, and control of antimicrobial-resistant enteric bacteria and fungi and advancing One Health approaches that connect human, animal, and environmental health. She holds a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and a Master of Public Health from The Ohio State University, as well as a Bachelor of Music from Oberlin Conservatory, bringing this multidisciplinary perspective to complex public health challenges.



DVM, DACVECC

**DR. BEN O'KELLEY** *Director of Medical Stewardships*

➤ BluePearl

Dr. Ben O'Kelley is a board-certified small animal emergency and critical care specialist who leads antimicrobial stewardship for Mars Veterinary Health's more than 3,000 hospitals globally. Dr. O'Kelley obtained a BS in Biology from UNC-Chapel Hill and a DVM degree from NC State University prior to completing a rotating internship at Tufts University and a small animal emergency and critical care residency from Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston, MA.



PHD, DACVIM (LIAM), DVM, DESCHRM

**DR. PAUL PLUMMER**

- NIAMRRE *Executive Director*
- University of Tennessee CVM *Dean*

---

Dr. Paul Plummer is the Executive Director of NIAMRRE, the Dean of the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine and the Chair of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combatting Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria. His veterinary specialty is large animal medicine with a particular interest in infectious disease and he holds a PhD in Veterinary Microbiology. His research interest primarily focuses on antimicrobial resistance and infectious disease at the animal, human, and environmental interface.



MA, MS

**TINA REZVANI** *Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, & Environmental Diseases*

- CDC

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Ms. Rezvani currently serves as a Health Communications Specialist in CDC’s Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases. In this role, she leads communications initiatives to highlight the division’s work on antimicrobial resistance. Prior to joining CDC, she spent 10 years working in public health communications and non-profit/NGO program management at The Task Force for Global Health and The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Rezvani also has previous experience in marketing in the for-profit sector. She holds two master’s degrees—in cultural anthropology and marketing—from Georgia State University and a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and human biology (with a minor in comparative literature) from Emory University. She lives in Roswell, Georgia with her husband, three-year-old son, and cat.



PHD

**DR. ALISON ROBERTSON** *Professor & Extension Field Crops Pathologist*

- Iowa State University

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Dr. Alison Robertson, Ph.D. is a professor and extension field crops pathologist in Department of Plant Pathology, Microbiology and Entomology at Iowa State University. Dr. Robertson has statewide responsibility for management of diseases of field crops. In that role she coordinates and provide leadership for corn and soybean disease diagnosis and management information, and education programs for corn and soybean farmers and agribusiness professionals throughout Iowa. Through her Extension activities, she strives to increase the plant pathology expertise of her clientele to facilitate more effective disease management. She routinely works with farmers to make decisions around the need to use antifungals to control disease loss and assure food security.



PHD

**DR. MIKE ROOF** *Chief Technology Officer Vaccines, Diagnostics, & Immuno*

- Iowa State University

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Mike has over 25 years of experience in the Animal Health and vaccine Industry and currently serves at the Chief Technology Officer for the State of Iowa Bioscience initiative. This position is focused on technology transfer and commercialization in the Vaccine and Immunotherapeutic area. During his tenure with Boehringer Ingelheim he served as Global Head of Vaccine R&D with leadership positions in locally (Ames/Iowa), He has also participated in the USDA approval of Production Platform and Prescription Platform vaccines. He has a strong partnership with the Iowa State University Research Park, Iowa State University, University of Iowa, National Animal Disease Center, Ames Economic Development Commission, Iowa Economic Development Authority and local business partners which support commercialization efforts and job creation.



**PHD**  
**DR. LINDA SHENK** *Professor*  
➤ [Iowa State University](#)

Linda Shenk (Professor of English, Iowa State University) conducts community-engaged, transdisciplinary research related to sustainable agriculture and resilience. She applies her background as a Shakespeare professor to conducting collaborative storytelling amongst researchers and farmer/landowners to co-create knowledge and action. Shenk co-leads multiple transdisciplinary research projects, including as a lead investigator for the Central Midwest COLEARN project (part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Adaptation Partnerships program), the Iowa Nutrient Research Center, and the Iowa Water Center. She has published in journals as diverse as the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, WIREs Climate Change; Climate & Sustainability, Environmental Humanities, and Community Development. She is the recipient of a 2025 Iowa State University Regents Award and a Lange Award for Faculty Excellence from ISU's College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.



**PHD, MS**  
**DR. DAWN M. SIEVERT** *Senior Science Advisor/Lead AMR  
Coordination & Strategy Centers*  
➤ [National Center for Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Diseases at CDC](#)

Dr. Sievert is the Senior Science Advisor and Science Team Lead of the Antimicrobial Resistance Coordination and Strategy Unit in the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She leads strategic direction, coordination, and investments of CDC's cross-cutting scientific antimicrobial resistance (AR) activities and her work ensures that AR projects and collaborations across the agency are appropriate and consistent with CDC scientific vision and priorities. As part of this role, Dr. Sievert provides the scientific leadership for CDC's domestic AR Laboratory Network and Global AR Laboratory & Response Network.



**PHD**  
**DR. ABBY SIMMONS** *Senior Manager for Science & Regulatory Affairs*  
➤ [CropLife America](#)

Abby Simmons is the Senior Manager for Science and Regulatory Affairs at CropLife America, where she leads research initiatives and regulatory engagement to support science and risk-based regulatory approaches for agricultural solutions. Prior to joining CropLife America in 2026, she was Senior Regulatory Manager at CropLife International from 2020-2025, addressing global regulatory issues for both crop protection and plant biotechnology. Earlier in her career, Abby was an AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow at the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service. She received her PhD in biology in 2018 in the lab of Dr. Dominique Bergmann at Stanford University and her bachelor's degree in biological sciences from Carnegie Mellon University. Abby lives in Arlington, Virginia with her two cats, dog, and husband.



**PH.D., DR.H.C., FIMMM, FRSC, FSPE, FPMSE**  
**DR. RICHARD J. SPONTAK** *Distinguished Professor*  
➤ [North Carolina State University](#)

Dr. Richard J. Spontak, a Distinguished Professor at NC State, received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemical engineering from Penn State and UC Berkeley, respectively. He pursued post-doctoral research at Cambridge University and later joined P&G before accepting a faculty position at NC State. He has published over 300 peer-reviewed journal papers and delivered nearly 450 invited lectures around the world. His research focuses on nanostructured polymers and multifunctional soft materials.

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