Michelle Harcha, DVM, MA
Dr. Michelle Harcha received a BS in Agriculture in 1981 and DVM in 1985 from The Ohio State University. She completed a Master of Arts in Business Management from Antioch University McGregor in 2001. Dr. Harcha practiced for 10 years in Cincinnati, Ohio, in an emergency clinic and several small animal hospitals, before joining Hill’s in 1995. She has held a variety of positions, including Veterinary Territory Manager, Consulting Veterinarian, and is currently a Veterinary Affairs Manager. Dr. Harcha provides continuing educational seminars for Hill’s Pet Nutrition for veterinary hospitals, veterinary schools, and veterinary technician schools in the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, West Virginia and Kentucky. In addition to her US duties, she travels each year to Thailand, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, or Hong Kong to launch new products. She resides in Cincinnati, Ohio, with her cat, “Snow White” and her black lab, “Mattie” and is currently President of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Society.

Jody Lulich, DVM, PhD
Jody Lulich is a professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota. He received his DVM from Tuskegee University and his PhD from the University of Minnesota. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and specializes in diseases of the urinary system. He has published many research articles and book chapters on urinary disease in dogs and cats. He invented voiding urohydropropulsion, a nonsurgical method of rapidly and safely removing bladder stones. Dr. Lulich works closely with the Minnesota Urolith Center, a lab that analyzes urinary stones and provides consultation to veterinary hospitals around the world.

Steve Thompson, DVM, dipl. ABVP
Dr. Steve Thompson is a diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, certified in Canine and Feline Practice. He received his DVM degree from The Ohio State University in 1990 and practiced in a 4 doctor full service AAHA companion animal hospital just outside Washington DC for 2 1/2 years immediately following graduation. From 1993–1997, he was a faculty member in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. He was director of the Outpatients/General Practice section within the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and was instrumental in the development of the Evening Wellness Clinic, the OSU Companion Animal Behavior Clinic and the OSU Puppy Preschool program. In August, 1997, he became director of the Pet Wellness Clinic initiative at Purdue and heads the Community Practice elective block for 4th year student rotations. He is affiliated with Purdue’s Center for the Human—Animal Bond. In addition to his clinical duties, he has lectured in core and elective courses on preventive medicine, behavior, pediatrics, reproduction, pet loss, veterinary economics, practice management and companion animal medicine for both traditional and non traditional “exotic” pets. In addition to publication with the Feline Interstitial Cystitis research group at OSU, he has authored a chapter on Pharmacotherapy for Phobias and Panic Disorders in pets. He regularly promotes the profession to youngsters in school groups and through various media, including local newscasts, newspaper, magazines and radio talk shows. His primary interest is in companion animal wellness, including pediatrics and awareness of behavior development, as it relates to establishing and maintaining the human-animal bond.

Thursday, January 27, 2005
Sheraton Hotel, Indianapolis
Take advantage of this continuing education opportunity prior to the beginning of the IVMA Annual Meeting. Can’t make the weekend meeting? Then here is another way to obtain six hours of quality continuing education on a Thursday afternoon/evening. You are coming to the annual meeting? Then add six hours of continuing education to your list and save $25 off the registration fee. Either way, be sure to participate in this session! Thanks goes to Hill’s Pet Nutrition for their generous sponsorship of this event. The registration fee for this event is $100 and includes six hours of continuing education, breaks, and dinner. If you are a three-day registrant for the IVMA annual meeting, the cost is $75 to register for this meeting.

This program will feature interactive lectures on Urology issues.

1:30–2:00 p.m. Registration begins outside of Suites 8/9/10 of the Sheraton Hotel

2:00–3:00 p.m. DR. MICHELLE HARCHA
What are the available resources to you, the practitioner?
What is the most common question asked of our Hill’s Veterinary Consultation Service?
This first session will focus on the available resources to help the private practitioner diagnose and treat urolithiasis with confidence, from the Minnesota Urolith Center to the Hill’s Veterinary Consultation Service. We will also discuss diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of struvite urolithiasis which is the most common urolithiasis question asked of our Hill’s Veterinary Consultation Service.

A case example will follow the discussion to highlight the key learning areas of struvite management and the differences that exist between our canine and feline patients. (1.0 hours)

3:00–3:30 p.m. DR. JODY LULICH
Calcium Oxalate Uroliths
Calcium oxalate uroliths is a frustrating disease to manage. This seminar will focus on the biologic behavior and treatment. Topics discussed include: breeds at risk, the likelihood of recurrence, what foods are permissible, how to manage small stones nonsurgically, and techniques for fragmentation. (.5 hour)

3:30–3:45 p.m. BREAK

3:45–5:15 p.m. DR. JODY LULICH
Feline Calcium Oxalate Uroliths: Questions, Answers, Questions
Over the past two decades, analysis of feline uroliths has revealed important changes in the prevalence of types of stones. While struvite was the most common in the 1980s, the last decade has witnessed a dramatic rise in the occurrence of calcium oxalate uroliths. The increased prevalence of calcium oxalate uroliths has created new challenges for veterinarians. Calcium oxalate nephroureteroliths, which were rarely recognized in the past, are detected with increasing frequency in cats with renal failure. This seminar will discuss why, how, and what to do for them. Excuse the pun, but you are truly between a “rock and a hard place”. It takes great clinical skill to make the right decisions. (1.5 hours)

5:15–6:15 p.m. DINNER—Clearwater Ballroom

6:15–7:15 p.m. DR. JODY LULICH
Managing Urate Uroliths
This case-based seminar will focus on the diagnosis and management of urate uroliths in dogs. Although a common disease in Dalmations, it is also common in dogs with liver disease. We will also discuss the significance of this stone type in cats. (1.0 hours)

7:15–9:15 p.m. DR. STEVE THOMPSON
Taking the FUS out of inappropriate urinations
This topic begins with the importance of history taking to differentiate litter box issues, marking, anxiety based and cognitive disorders from polyuria, pollakiuria and incontinence. Diagnostic techniques and treatment options will include behavior products and medication in case presentations that will involve input from the panel and practitioners in attendance. (2 hours)