These words of Babe Ruth are among my favorite quotes. Although one could question whether the wisdom in the Babe's comments is intentional or unintentional, application to us as members of the Society is very easy. We must be advocates for the field in which we work including being vocal on contemporary issues. That role will never be "over". The following paragraphs include a few examples:

The topic of “semen evaluation” by laymen has expanded beyond the state of Idaho and has been reported in at least one other state. Just to remind you of the situation, interest groups pursued a change in the practice act seeking to legitimize technician assessment of bulls via microscopic examination of bull semen in lieu of a complete breeding soundness examination (BSE) by a veterinarian. The situation is further compounded in that some regional veterinarians are performing an abbreviated examination that may not include a 100X magnification of the sperm morphology, scrotal measurement, or internal accessory sex organ examination. The Society and the College have responded with letters to the appropriate entities supporting the importance of a complete BSE. 

On another front, some Colleges of Veterinary Medicine have experienced support for Theriogenology in the curriculum slowly eroding. Faculty members from other disciplines are now “covering the material”. The potential exists for competencies in animal reproduction to become diluted to such an extent that new graduates may be at a minimum, reluctant to manage reproductive cases.

The percentage of students interested in equine or food animal medicine has dropped to alarming levels. Practices that provide large animal Theriogenology as a service may have difficulty hiring associates in the future.

These are examples of topics in which you have the opportunity to make a difference. The Society has and will support our profession as the opportunity presents, but there is no stronger force to address local issues than local stakeholders. My sense is that we are truly in a period of change. Recognizing the opportunities and acting while the plans for change are being formulated will result in a higher likelihood that you can influence the issue. Waiting until the change is a reality and a part of the “history” has broader implications and much more difficult to reverse.

I consider it one of the greatest honors of my career to have the opportunity to serve as President of this organization. The issues mentioned above and all issues that relate to the operations of the SFT are not resolved. But as I anticipate passing Nandi to a new caretaker, I know that our board, our Executive Director, our Vice-President, Walter Zent, and President elect, Dwight Wolf are prepared to prioritize and actively tackle key areas of concern for the Society ensuring the well-being of our organization and the discipline embodied in Theriogenology.

Evidence of that are in the excellent program that Dwight and his committee have prepared for the fall conference in Lexington. For the first time we have an outside activity option planned e.g. horse farm tour. Obviously, your leaders have the creativity to appeal for your participation. I applaud their efforts and call on you to attend this meeting, to get involved with your local veterinary college, and in general to seek opportunities to promote the Society and the field of Theriogenology.

And by the way, “it aint over”. See you in Lexington.

Fred
Come run with your colleagues in the bluegrass of Lexington, Kentucky

From the conference chairman...

Be sure and mark your calendar now for the 2004 SFT Annual Conference in Lexington! The unofficial theme for this year’s conference is “Theriogenology for Fun and Profit” and the program committee has organized an outstanding group of speakers covering topics important to whatever animal species you may most enjoy. There is an excellent mix in the General Session as well as in-depth coverage in the Equine, Small Animal and Food Animal Sessions. The research abstracts promise to convey exciting new ideas in animal reproduction. We are very pleased with a new session for veterinary student competitive case presentations. There will be a fun-filled family night at the Red Mile to renew old acquaintances as well as meet new friends and colleagues. A host of family activities and tours of Kentucky Horse Country are available that should whet your appetite for continuing education in an historic part of our country. Your officers, board of directors and program committee look forward to seeing you in Lexington at this wonderful opportunity to help build your practice through modern theriogenology.

SFT Announces Board of Directors Candidates

The Nominating Committee of the Society for Theriogenology is pleased to announce the following candidates for Board of Directors. The individuals below are running to serve a three-year term as a director on the SFT Board of Directors. Pursuant to the SFT Bylaws, the general election will be held during the Annual Business Meeting at the next Annual Conference (August 4-7, 2004 in Lexington, Kentucky).

Dr. Tamara Dobbie: Nandi Veterinary Associates, New Freedom, PA
Dr. Richard Hopper: Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
Dr. Scott Pretzer: Abilene Animal Hospital, Abilene, KS

Completing their terms on the Board this August are Drs. Peter Chenoweth, Cathy Garley, and Patrick Hearn. The Society would like to thank these individuals for their dedication and service as directors.

Dr. Tamara Dobbie graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1995. She spent 3 years in a mixed animal practice in northern Ontario and then went to New Bolton Center to complete a clinical residency in Large Animal Reproduction. After completing her residency, she remained at NBC for an additional 2 years as a lecturer in reproduction. In 2002, she joined Em Tran/Cyagra in Elizabethtown, PA as a resident veterinarian. Em Tran is a bovine ET company that also clones cattle commercially. In 2003, she left Em Tran to return to private practice. She is currently in equine practice with Dr. John Hurtgen in New Freedom, PA. The practice is predominantly reproductive although during the off season she does a bit of everything. Dr. Dobbie enjoys private practice and really appreciates being able to use her reproductive training on a daily basis.

Dr. Richard Hopper received his DVM from Auburn in 1978. He was in private practice in Oneonta, Alabama from 1978-1993. He joined the faculty at Mississippi State University, College of Veterinary Medicine in 1993 and became a Diplomate of ACT in 1995. Dr. Hopper is currently a Professor in the Dept of Pathobiology-Population Medicine & serves as Director of the Morgan Freeman Equine Reproduction Center. He has been a member of the Society for Theriogenology since 1980 and is the current President of the Mississippi VMA. He and his wife, Donna, have three children.

Dr. Scott Pretzer grew up in Nebraska and worked with the family swine operation until college. He attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for his undergraduate work and graduated from Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1998. Upon graduation, he joined Abilene Animal Hospital, a 6 DVM mixed animal practice. Currently the companion animal and greyhound areas of the practice are heavily focused on theriogenology since they offer semen cryopreservation, trans-cervical insemination, and breeding timing as well as other consults. Dr. Pretzer and his colleague, Dr. Roberta Lillich, recently lectured to the KSU junior class in the canine theriogenology course. He has also instructed a swine gestation ultrasound wet lab for the past several semesters for an undergraduate Swine Science class at KSU. In addition to trans-cervical insemination in the canine, he is working on deep intrauterine insemination in swine since one third of his practice focuses on swine production medicine. He is currently pursuing the alternate route for SFT/ACT board certification.
You are invited to participate in the Annual Conference of the Society for Theriogenology (SFT) and SFT - American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) Symposia, August 4 – 7 in Lexington, Kentucky.

The Conference will be held at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Lexington. SFT & ACT will offer two Symposia this year: Equine Neonatology Wet Lab and Small Animal Neonatology Symposium. The Conference will feature abstract presentations and three tracks: Equine, Small Animal and Food Animal. Make plans to join your colleagues and to learn the latest in animal reproduction!

REGISTRATION
Conference registration fees include attendance to all SFT sessions, proceedings and refreshment breaks. You may use the enclosed form to register for the SFT Annual Conference and the two different Symposia being offered by SFT & ACT. Non-members who register for the conference at the non-member fee are automatically granted a complimentary membership in SFT thru December, 2004. Registration forms can be mailed or faxed to SFT Headquarters or you can complete registration online at www.therio.org. Registering early will result in significant savings so be sure to submit your registration by July 7, 2004.

The SFT Office will no longer accept registrations after Wednesday, July 21, 2004. After this date, please bring your completed forms & payment to the registration desk and register on-site.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT
CE Certificates will be available in your registration packets. The available hours are as follows:

- SFT Annual Conference: 21.25 CE hours
- Equine Neonatology Wet Lab: 8 CE hours
- Small Animal Neonatology Symposium: 7 CE hours

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS
Conference Proceedings will contain material provided by the speakers at the SFT Conference. This year we will offer Proceedings notes as a bound book or a CD-ROM format. These will be available on-site upon registration. Please be sure to indicate your format preference on your registration form. Please note on-site registrants will receive a CD-Rom format.

CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS
If you register and find you just can't make it, SFT will refund your registration fees minus $50.00, if requested by July 3, 2004. No refunds will be granted after July 3.

"THERIOGENOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD" LUNCHEON
All conference attendees are invited to the Theriogenologist of the Year Award Luncheon that will be held Friday, August 6, 2004. A ticket is required to attend this event. Please see registration form.

HOTEL INFORMATION
The Hyatt Regency Lexington will be the venue for all on site events. This hotel is in beautiful downtown Lexington. Please book early to insure room preference and rates. They are offering to attendees the special rate of $114 single/double or $129 triple/quad. To receive this special rate call 800-233-1234 or you may go to www.therio.org and use the Hyatt Regency Lexington link to make your reservations, please give the following block code: Society for Theriogenology Guestroom Block. These special rates are available until July 5, 2004.

PAYMENT OF REGISTRATION FEES
Registration fees may be paid by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or American Express) or by check drawn from a U.S. Bank in U.S. dollars. Checks should be made payable to SFT. Charges to credit cards will be made immediately upon receipt.

CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION
Registration will be confirmed only after submission of the registration form and registration fee. Confirmations will be e-mailed within two weeks following receipt of registration and payment. Registration received less than two weeks prior to the meeting will not be confirmed.

SPECIAL SERVICES
If you require special services, please submit a written description of your requirements along with your completed registration form.
Name ________________________________________________________________

Name as you would like it to appear on name tag: _______________________________________

Business /Clinic Name: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Street Address: _______________________________ P.O. Box: __________________ City: ______________ State: _________

Zip/Postal Code: ______________________   Country: _________________________ Phone: (____)_______________________
Fax: (_____)____________________________  Email : ________________________________________________

__________________________  (Required for confirmation purposes.)

Please mark here if this is new contact information which needs to be updated in the SFT database.

Conference attendees may be posted on the SFT website. If you do NOT want your name listed mark here.

I. SFT/ACT Symposia  (Saturday, August 7, 2004)

Equine Neonatology Wetlab  (Limited to the first 48 Registrants / General Conference Registration also required.)

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Small Animal Neonatology Symposium

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Discounted Rate for Conference Registrant

|                      | $90             | $160        |
|                      | $160             | $300        |

II. SFT/ACT Annual Conference (Wed. - Fri.)

By July 7  After July 7

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**Includes a SFT membership for the remainder of 2004 for veterinarians, please check here only if you wish to decline the membership offer (declining membership does not reduce your registration fee.)

III. Please specify which track you would like to participate in:
(You may change your selection at any time if you wish.)

- Equine Track
- Food Animal Track
- Small Animal Track

IV. “Theriogenologist of the Year Award” Luncheon  $15.00 per.
(Ticket is required to attend- open to all conference attendees.)

V. “Family Night” – Friday, August 6th  (description pg. 8)
(Ticket is required to attend- open to all conference attendees.)

- Adult: $25.00
- Children ages 4-12: $12.00
- Children ages 1-3: No Charge

VI. Kids Fun Connection

- Wednesday - 5:00-10:00pm $45.00 per child
- Thursday - 5:00-10:00pm $40.50 per child

- $40.50 for additional children from same family
- $40.50 for additional children from same family

(If Children are under 2 years old please call for rates and availability.)

VII. Lexington Tours  (description pg. 8)

- Thursday, August 5th – 3-4:00pm $29.00 per person
- Saturday, August 7th – 8:00am $43.00 per person
- Saturday, August 7th – 1:00pm $32.00 per person

Total Amount Due $________

Proceedings Format

Please indicate below, the format in which you would like to receive your proceedings. (If you do not mark a preference, you will automatically receive a CD-ROM).

- □ Bound Book
- □ CD-ROM

Payment Information

You may register via fax (334/270-3399) or SFT website (www.therio.org) if you are paying by Visa, Mastercard or American Express. Otherwise, please mail your payment and completed Registration form to: SFT Headquarters, P.O. Box 3007 – Montgomery, Alabama 36109.

Fees are due and payable to SFT only in U. S. Funds drawn on U. S. Banks. Please indicate your method of payment:

- □ Check
- □ Visa
- □ Mastercard
- □ American Express

Card Number

Expiration Date

Cardholder’s Name

Cardholder’s Signature

(All tour reservations are handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Tour capacity is limited and SFT reserves the right to cancel a tour due to lack of registrations. In that event, your money will be refunded in full. Tours will operate in rain or shine.)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DE_____  A_____  C_____  APP CODE_____

If you have questions, please contact SFT Headquarters at 334/395-4666. Or email us at Tammy@franzmgt.com
SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 4, 2004
8:00-9:00am Bartlett Address
9:00-9:15am Break
9:15-10:30am General Session
10:30-12:00pm General Session
12:00-1:30pm Lunch on Own
1:30-3:30pm Separate Track Programs
3:30-3:45pm Break
3:45-5:15pm Species Abstracts
5:30-7:30pm Exhibits Open/Happy Hour/Cash Bar/Snacks
7:30-9:30pm Happy Hour Abstract Presentations

Thursday, August 5, 2004
7:00-8:00am Continental Breakfast – Exhibit Hall
8:00-10:00am Separate Track Programs
10:00-10:30am Break
10:30-12:00pm Veterinary Student Case Presentations
12:00-1:30pm Lunch on Own
1:30-3:30pm Separate Track Programs
3:30-4:00pm Break
4:00-5:30pm ACT Annual Business Meeting
5:30pm – Dinner / Free Time — On Own

Friday, August 6, 2004
7:00-8:00am Continental Breakfast – Exhibit Hall
8:00-10:00am Competitive Abstracts
10:00-10:30am Break
10:30-11:30am General Session

COURSE DESCRIPTION — WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2004

GENERAL SESSION
8:00am-9:00am Bartlett Address - Maarten Drost, DVM, DACT
9:15am-10:30am What Happens to All Those Sperm?: The Interaction of the Male and Female in Success of Breeding - Dick Saucke, Ph.D.

By a brief review of the literature, this paper will attempt to provide insights to current concepts of sperm transport in the female tract relative to numbers and quality of spermatozoa inseminated. Although few sperm gain access to the ovm, when considered relative the numbers introduced by the male or the inseminator, these sperm have undergone selection by virtue of barriers in the female tract and their own merits in ability to cross these barriers. A complete understanding of these selection mechanisms are still to be achieved, but answers to experimental questions related to the selection processes continue to provide insights to the interaction of the male and female in the success or failure of the mating.

10:30am-12:00pm Theriogenology for Fun and Profit - R.S. Youngquist, DVM, DACT

The topic of this session will be “theriogenology for fun and profit” and nagging issues of female infertility will be addressed. Problems such as postpartum anestrus, estrus synchronization, and common causes will be discussed and the recent literature will be reviewed in an effort to provide suggestions for at least partial solutions.

EQUINE TRACK
1:30pm-3:00pm Recent Advancements in Equine Obstetrics - Grant Frazer, BVSc, MS, DACT

There’s nothing new in Equine Obstetrics you might say. Nothing could be further from the truth! This paper will review the recent scientific literature (1995-Present). Items to be discussed include complications of late gestation (esp. Uterine Torsion), the dystocia management decision tree (assisted vaginal delivery vs. fetotomy vs. c/section), anesthesia, Uterine Torsion, the dystocia management decision tree (assisted vaginal delivery vs. fetotomy vs. c/section), anesthesia, uterine lacerations, retained fetal membranes & mummies. In addition, recent data on fertility following dystocia will be discussed.

3:00pm-3:30pm Systemic Effects of Peritoneal Instillation of a Polyethylene Polymer Based Obstetrical Lubricant in Horses-Grant Frazer, BVSc, MS, DACT

Large volumes of liquid obstetrical lubricant not only protect the delicate tissues of the mare’s reproductive tract, but also distend the uterus and provide extra space for obstetrical manipulations. A study was performed to determine what effect - if any - a commonly used obstetrical lubricant (polyethylene polymer) had within the peritoneal cavity. This obviously could be an issue if there was a uterine laceration, or if a cesarean section became necessary.

3:45pm-5:15pm Species Abstracts

FOOD ANIMAL TRACK
1:30pm-3:30pm Small Ruminant Theriogenology for Practitioners - Mary Smith, DVM

This lecture will provide the practitioner with the know-how and resources to provide reproductive services for sheep and goat owning clients. Topics to be covered include breeding soundness examination, vasectomy, castration, synchronization programs, treatment for mismating, ultrasound diagnosis of pregnancy, abortion, infection and prevention, dystocia resolution, care of the neonate, and records analysis.

3:45pm-5:15pm Species Abstracts

SFT ANNUAL CONFERENCE SFT/ACT
SFT ANNUAL CONFERENCE SFT/ACT

COURSE DESCRIPTION — THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2004

EQUINE TRACK
8:00am-9:00am - Surgical Conditions of Late Pregnancy in the Mare - Elizabeth M. Santschi, DVM
The conditions that require surgery in the late term more prompt concern because they are commonly acute colic or orthopedic injury, and because of possible adverse effects on the pregnancy. Both the primary condition and its treatment can impact outcomes, and appropriate and timely care of the mare is an essential component. Several conditions will be discussed, focusing on early diagnosis and treatment.

9:00am-10:00am - Endocrine Diagnostics in the Broodmare: What You Need to Know - Robert Douglas, PhD
This lecture will focus primarily on an assessment of clinical, adrenal and placental function. Test protocols routinely used by BET Labs will be discussed as well as their applications to monitor ovarian, adrenal and placental activity. Comparisons between “terminal” and “inference” broodmares will be made in regard to function of these three distinct endocrine machines. Can endocrine testing make you a better clinician?

1:30pm-2:15pm - Medical Issues for the Neonatal Foal: Prematurity/Sepsis - Fairfield Bain, DVM
The presentation will provide an overview of the clinical issues of prematurity and sepsis in the neonatal foal; mechanisms and current clinical management of the different problems as presented to the equine practitioner.

2:15pm-3:00pm - Neurological Problems in the Neonate - Bonnie Bar, VMD, DACVIM
The most common neurological problem in the neonate is hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (also termed neonatal maladjustment syndrome). It is a noninflammatory CNS disorder most likely caused by hypoxia, insult in utero or during birth. Other neurological problems in neonates would include those due to metabolic derangements, infection, trauma or developmental problems.

3:00pm-3:45pm - Rotavirus Diarrhea: Diagnosis, Epidemiology and Treatment - Bill Bernard, DVM
This will be a discussion regarding Rotavirus, diarrhea, diagnosis, epidemiology, and treatment.

FOOD ANIMAL TRACK
8:00am-9:00am - Economic Considerations in Beef Bull Management - Tom Kazan, DVM, DACVIM
This seminar will discuss the following questions: How many bulls should you own? Does it make economic sense to use yearling bulls? What is the benefit to cost of a breeding soundness evaluation?

9:00am-10:00am - Economic Comparisons of Natural Breeding vs. Artificial Insemination of Beef Cows - Tom Kazan, DVM, DACVIM
This seminar discusses the primary determinants of reproductive efficiency and other management factors that are important in realizing a successful AI program. An economic model will be presented that determines the feasibility of AI based upon knowledge of the expected number of cycling females, specific freight and fixed cost information and revenue expectations.

10:30am-11:30am - investigating and managing risk - Don Plumb, DVM
Use of drugs in pregnant animals is usually recommended to be avoided. When a pregnant bitch requires drug therapy how can the clinician assess risk? This will be a discussion regarding Rotavirus, diarrhea, diagnosis, epidemiology, and treatment. A discussion of management of pertinent disorders will be included.

1:30pm-2:30pm - Physiological, Production and Economic Impacts of Inadequate Pre-Partum Nutrition of Beef Cows - Steve Wikse, DVM, DACVIM
This seminar will showcase BVD virus and neospora caninum infections to introduce a model that determines the economic impact of reproductive diseases in beef cattle. The step by step approach that must be used by practitioners to identify, and modify the risk factors responsible for abortions in a beef herd will be described using an actual herd investigation as a teaching laboratory. The multifunctional consultation of livestock herd problems and the case: control method will be emphasized.

1:30pm-2:30pm - Disorders of the Periparturient Period - Autumn Davidson, DVM, MS
The periparturient period can be associated with high morbidity and even mortality for the dam and neonates. The periparturient period is defined here as the immediate prepartum period (1-2 weeks before parturition) and the 30-45 day post partum period before weaning. The diagnosis of periparturient problems first requires their recognition and differentiation from normal situations; effective treatment depends on both timely diagnosis and intervention. Normal periparturient behavior and physiology will be discussed. Abnormalities of the periparturient period to be covered include behavioral problems, uterine disorders, metabolic conditions and mammary disease. Diagnostic and therapeutic options will be reviewed.

2:30pm-3:30pm - Drugs in the Pregnant Bitch - Assessing and Managing Risk - Don Plumb, DVM
Use of drugs in pregnant animals is usually recommended to be avoided. When a pregnant bitch requires drug therapy the clinician assess and manage the risks of treatment to reduce the chances of untoward effects on both the bitch and her offspring.

GENERAL SESSION
10:30am-11:30am - Uterine Functionality, Endometrial Programming and Reproductive Performance - Frank F. Bartol, BS, MS, PhD
Uterine functionality is central to reproductive success. Mechanisms regulating uterine tissue patterning during pre- and perinatal life define a developmental program that must be optimized to ensure reproductive health. Here, the biology of uterine patterning and endometrial programming will be reviewed, and consequences of aberrantly induced developmental disruption, as can occur with tissue exposure to environmental endocrine disruptors, will be discussed.

EQUINE TRACK
1:45pm-2:30pm - Respiratory Distress in the Neonatal Foal - J Douglas Byars, DVM
This program discusses respiratory failure in the equine neonate.

2:30pm-3:15pm - Immediate Care of the Compromised Foal - Nathan Slovis, DVM, DACVIM
This lecture is formatted to guide the clinician through various diagnostic modalities and therapeutic options available for the compromised foal. This lecture will also cover topics ranging from hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy, dehydration, cardiovascular compromise, urinary and hepatic disorders.

3:45pm-4:30pm - Ultrasonography of the Neonatal Foal - Johanna Reimer, VMD, DACVIM
The sonoanatomic diagnosis of umbilical, gastrointestinal, urinary and musculoskeletal (rib fractures, gastroc muscle origin disruption, and synovial structures) disorders will be reviewed. A discussion of management of pertinent disorders will be included.

4:30pm-5:05pm - Common Surgical Procedures in Foals: Diagnosis and Treatment - Dwayne Rodgerson, DVM, MS
Foals present a unique variety of surgical conditions for an equine surgeon. Both soft tissue and orthopedic conditions are commonly presented. Common emergency soft tissue conditions in foals include a variety of gastrentestinal lesions, tears involving the urinary bladder/urachus, and umbilical remnant infections/disorders. Emergency orthopedic conditions include lameness, septic joints and osteomyelitis, fractures and variety of limb contractures.

5:05pm-5:45pm - Limb Deformities of the Foal - Scott Pierce, DVM
Discussion will include the most common limb deformities of the foal and the manner in which they are managed. Topics included will be corrective trimming or shoeing, medical treatment, routine management and surgical options.

FOOD ANIMAL TRACK
1:45pm-3:15pm - Production and Economic Outcome of the Texas Beef Partnership in Extension Program (Beef PEP) in Study Herds - Steve Wikse, DVM
The overall approach and outcome of 3 years of consultation by veterinarian county extension agent teams to 6 beef cow - calf operations will be discussed. High production herds will be contrasted with low production herds. The 25 ranch management practices that their project concentrated on will be described.

3:45pm-4:45pm - Economic Impact of Reproductive Diseases in Beef Cattle - Tom Kazan, DVM, DACVIM
This seminar will discuss the ins and outs, tips and costs of starting and running a theriogenology interest in your small animal clinic.

4:45pm-5:45pm - Practitioner’s Approach to Investigation of Abortions in Beef Cattle - Steve Wikse, DVM
The step by step approach that must be used by practitioners to identify, and modify the risk factors responsible for abortions in a beef herd will be described using an actual herd investigation as a teaching laboratory. The multifunctional consultation of livestock herd problems and the case: control method will be emphasized.

SMALL ANIMAL TRACK BEGINNER
1:45pm-2:15pm - “It’s All in the Timing”: Fresh Chilled vs. Frozen Artificial Insemination in the Bitch - Jane Barber, DVM, MS, DACT
This lecture, targeted for the general practitioners, will present guidelines for optimizing pregnancy rates with artificial insemination breeding in the bitch. Following a brief review of physiology and embryology of ovulation, guidelines for determining optimal timing of inseminations will be presented. Basic techniques for both fresh-chilled and frozen artificial insemination will be reviewed. The lecture will conclude with a compilation of “Tips for Success.”

SMALL ANIMAL TRACK
8:00am-9:00am - Artificial Insemination with Frozen Semen in Dogs; Procedures and International Semen Exchange - Wench Farstad, DVM, PhD, DECAR
Freezing of spermatozoa is dependent on a series of steps aimed at reducing damage to the cell and securing adequate longevity in vitro and in vivo. To succeed with AI it is important to perform the insemination at the correct time, use semen of good quality and deposit the same intratimately. For international semen exchange, procedures should be standardized.

9:00am-10:00am - Adding Reproduction to Your Practice - the Good, the Bad and the Ugly - Steve Escobar, DVM
This lecture will cover the ins and outs, tips and costs of starting and running a theriogenology interest in your small animal clinic.

1:30pm-2:30pm - Disorders of the Periparturient Period - Autumn Davidson, DVM, MS
The periparturient period can be associated with high morbidity and even mortality for the dam and neonates. The periparturient period is defined here as the immediate prepartum period (1-2 weeks before parturition) and the 30-45 day post partum period before weaning. The diagnosis of periparturient problems first requires their recognition and differentiation from normal situations; effective treatment depends on both timely diagnosis and intervention. Normal periparturient behavior and physiology will be discussed. Abnormalities of the periparturient period to be covered include behavioral problems, uterine disorders, metabolic conditions and mammary disease. Diagnostic and therapeutic options will be reviewed.

2:30pm-3:30pm - Drugs in the Pregnant Bitch - Assessing and Managing Risk - Don Plumb, DVM
Use of drugs in pregnant animals is usually recommended to be avoided. When a pregnant bitch requires drug therapy the clinician assess and manage the risks of treatment to reduce the chances of untoward effects on both the bitch and her offspring.

COURSE DESCRIPTION — FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 2004

3:45pm-4:45pm - Economic Impact of Reproductive Diseases in Beef Cattle - Tom Kazan, DVM, DACVIM
This seminar will showcase BVD virus and neospora caninum infections to introduce a model that determines the economic impact of reproductive diseases in beef cattle. The step by step approach that must be used by practitioners to identify, and modify the risk factors responsible for abortions in a beef herd will be described using an actual herd investigation as a teaching laboratory. The multifunctional consultation of livestock herd problems and the case: control method will be emphasized.
Equipment, methods and technique of transcervical insemination with video demonstration of technique

**SMALL ANIMAL TRACK ADVANCED**

1:45pm-2:15pm - Current State of In vitro Techniques in Canine Reproduction - Wonche Furstad, DVM, PhD, DECAR

Due to the particular physiology of the canine female, progress in artificial breeding techniques has lagged behind that of other domestic animals including the felines. Only in the last few years have these techniques been successfully applied in basic research to study oocyte maturation, in vitro fertilization, embryo cryopreservation and embryo transfer in canids.

2:15pm-2:45pm - Diagnosis and Management of Premature Labor in the Bitch and Queen - Autumn Davidson, DVM, MS

**NEONATAL PUPPIES AND KITTENS**

3:45pm-4:15pm - Transcervical Insemination - William Schultz, DVM

Late term gestational loss attributed to preterm or premature labor is a controversial topic in small animal reproduction. Hypocalcemia and inappropriate uterine activity accompanied by cervical changes have both been implicated in the pathophysiology of preterm birth in veterinary medicine, but the syndrome is not well understood. The human literature is abundant on the topic. An overview of the syndrome in the human field will be given, and the veterinary corollary described. Methods of diagnosis and treatment will be reviewed, and the controversies of etiology and appropriate therapy addressed.

2:45pm-3:15pm - Exportation of Canine Semen - Dana Broussard, DVM

This program discusses the exportation of canine semen.

**SMALL ANIMAL SYMPOSIUM**

8:00AM-8:45AM - Examination of the Small Animal Pediatric Patient / Feeding Orphan, Weanling and Adolescent Puppies and Kittens - Margaret V. Root Kustritz, DVM, PhD, DACT

Normal and abnormal physical examination findings of puppies and kittens will be discussed. Physiologic differences between pediatric and adult patients and subsequent alterations in hematologic and biochemical parameters will be described. Session will also cover the feeding of orphan, weanling and adolescent puppies and kittens.

8:45am-9:30am - Drugs in Neonates: Principles & Guesses - Don Plumb, PhD

Therapy in neonatal animals present difficult challenges as we rightly assume that they are not just smaller versions of their parents. Since little hard data exist for the majority of drugs that could be used in neonates, the clinician must apply those principles known about differences in neonatal physiology and pharmacology to treat effectively.

10:00am-10:45am - Common Disorders of the Small Animal Neonate - Margaret V. Root Kustritz, DVM, PhD, DACT

This session will focus on septicaemia, neonatal isoeleuthylosis and other disorders of neonatal puppies and kittens.

10:45am-11:30am - Demonstration of Intraosseous Needle Placement in Puppies and Kittens - Margaret V. Root Kustritz, DVM, PhD, DACT

Intraosseous needle placement in the femur and humerus of puppies and kittens will be demonstrated. Participants will have an opportunity to practice the technique.

11:30am-12:00pm - Small Animal Neonatal Necropsy Techniques with Discussion of Lesions of Diagnostic Significance - Don Schlote, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVP, DACVIM, DACT

A simple standardized procedure for routine gross necropsy examination of the newborn or aborted pup or kitten will be demonstrated. The appropriate sample collection for submission of tissues and fluids for ancillary testing will be discussed and specific lesions of diagnostic significance will be reviewed.

1:30pm-2:15pm - Critical Care of the Neonate - Justine Lee, DVM, DACVECC

Critical care of the neonate discusses the differences between neonatal and adult critical care, and briefly discusses fending puppy/kitten syndrome. The goals of critical care, including the correction of hypothermia, hypoglycemia, hypovolemia, and hypoxemia will be discussed. Neonatal nutrition, environment, physiologic parameters, interpretation of diagnostic tests, treatment principles, fluid and antibiotic therapy, post-surgical supportive care, and monitoring will be reviewed.

2:15pm-3:00pm - Early Neurological Stimulation of Puppies - Carmen L. Bottaglio, PhD

Researchers have studied this phenomena and have looked for new ways to stimulate individuals in order to improve their natural abilities. Some of the methods discovered have produced life long lasting effects. Today, many of the differences between individuals can now be explained by the use of early stimulation methods.

4:00pm-4:45pm - Testing for Genetic Disorders - Jerold S. Bell, DVM

There are genetic tests of the phenotype (what you see), and the genotype. Tests of the genotype can allow early intervention before clinical disease, to prevent morbidity or mortality. The availability of carrier tests for defective recessive genes allows more individuals to be used for breeding. Genetic tests should not be used to limit genetic diversity in closed gene pools.

4:45pm-5:30pm - Genetics Counseling, Pedigree Analysis, and the Prevention of Genetic Disease - Jerold S. Bell, DVM

Reproductive specialists are in a unique position to provide genetic counseling to breeders. By understanding breeding practices, pedigrees, and modes of transmission, we can take an active role in managing genetic disease. Even without a documented mode of inheritance or carrier tests, specific breeding strategies can allow the propagation of breed lines, while still diminishing the frequency of genetic disease.

**EQUINE WET LABS**

Neonatal Ultrasoundography - Joanna Reimer, VMD, DACVIM, Lisa Neuwirth, DVM, MS

The sonographic diagnosis of umbilical, gastrointestinal, urinary, and musculoskeletal (ri fractures, gastroc muscle origin disruption, and synovial structures) disorders will be reviewed. A discussion of management of pertinent disorders will be included.

Equine Placental Examination and Gross Pathology of the Equine Fetus or Neonate: Methods and Interpretations - Don Schlafer, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVP, DACVIM, DACT

The major gross features of the equine placentas will be reviewed and participants will learn how to conduct a simple standardized examination and sampling procedure. Examples of various disease conditions with gross placental lesions will be demonstrated using fresh or fixed specimens. A routine necropsy examination of a fetus or newborn foal will be demonstrated and appropriate sampling procedures will be reviewed.

Clinical Pathology for Pediatric Medicine - Techniques and Interpretation - Carol Clark, DVM

Neonatal Reanimation Techniques and Emergencies - Nathan Slovis, DVM, DACVIM, Katherine MacGillivray, BS, VMD

**MAKE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2004**

Lexington, KY - August 4-7, 2004

Charleston, SC - August 10-13, 2005

St. Paul, MN - August 16-19, 2006

**SPRING 2004 NEWSLETTER**
Optional Lexington Tours
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THE BLUEGRASS HAS TO OFFER.

Thursday, August 5
3:40 P.M. We will depart the Hyatt in a charter coach with a Lexington Connection tour guide and drive to a private thoroughbred horse farm to see their stallion complex, which will include the breeding shed, the paddocks, the barns and seeing some of the stallions. Depart for Thoroughbred Park - 13 bronze statues, located in an outdoor park in downtown Lexington. Throughout the park many plaques are placed along the walk depicting the people instrumental in Thoroughbred History. The entire park is a tribute to Lexington's Thoroughbred Heritage. This will include a ride through Keeneland and one of the historic districts. Return at 5:30pm – Cost: $29.00 per person, gratuities included

Saturday, August 7
8:00 A.M. Depart the Hyatt in a charter coach with a Lexington Connection tour guide for Keeneland Race Course. Enjoy a hearty breakfast at the track kitchen, a favorite place for horsemen to gather to discuss the day’s events. Watch the early morning workouts at trackside as the guide explains the daily routine in training thoroughbreds to exercising on a water treadmill, the oxygen chamber and other devices. Drive to a private thoroughbred horse farm. Visit the stallion complex, which includes the breeding shed, the barns, the paddocks and see their stallions. 12:30 P.M. Arrive at Hyatt — Cost: $43.00 per person includes breakfast and gratuities

Family Night – Friday, August 6
6:30 P.M. Transportation provided to and from the Red Mile Track. Enjoy a special blend of Bluegrass entertainment – Harness races at the track, a bluegrass band, and a buffet sure to please your appetite. This will be a time to renew old friendships with your colleagues and make some new friends. Bring the whole family! The Red Mile is Lexington's oldest existing racetrack, dating to 1875, as well as one of the nation's most respected harness tracks. Cost: $25 per adult; $12 per 4-12 year old child; children 1-3, no charge; includes transportation, entertainment, food, and admission to track.

Kid’s Fun Connection:
Are you interested in the kids having something fun to do when you go out? Kid’s Fun Connection will provide age appropriate games and fun for children, ages 2-12. Pre-registration is required. Sign up for either or both of the times provided. The kids will stay in the hotel and dinner and snacks are provided. Call for rates and availability if the child is under 2 years old.

Wednesday, Aug 4, 5-10pm – Thursday, Aug 5, 5-10pm – Rates (per 5 hour session):
First child - $45; additional children from same family $40.50
Space is limited and is filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Note: All tour reservations are handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Tour capacity is limited and SFT reserves the right to cancel a tour due to lack of registrations. In that event, your money will be refunded in full. Tours will operate rain or shine.
Greetings to you all! This is a relatively quiet time of year for the AVMA House of Delegates (HOD) and there is little to add since my February 2004 report (following the gathering of the Informational Session of the HOD, Chicago, January 2004). In lieu of HOD activities, if you can muster 15 minutes for civic activism, perhaps you will find one of the following issues worth your time & attention:

Brief, selected key issue updates before the 108th Congressional Legislative Agenda:

**MUMS Animal Health Act (S. 741 / H.R. 2079):** On March 8, 2004 S. 741 was successfully voted out of the Senate by Unanimous Consent and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. For information on how you can participate and encourage your Members of Congress to support this legislation, please contact Dr. David Scarfe or Dr. Elizabeth Curry-Galvin, AVMA Scientific Activities Division, 800-248-2862 OR Dr. John Melcher 202-546-4084 OR Dr. Gerald Rushin 800-321-1473, extension 3207, grushin@avma.org.

**Funding of United States Animal Identification Program (USAIP):**

The AVMA is pursuing Federal legislation to provide funding for the USAIP. The goal of this legislation is to protect American agriculture and to develop & implement an animal identification system capable of tracking individual and groups of animals. An optimal system to control or eradicate an emerging disease necessitates the retrieval and tracking of information within a 48-hour period, followed by the implementation of appropriate intervention strategies. Successful development of this program will require adequate Federal funding. To learn how you can lend your voice to this cause, please call the AVMA Scientific Activities Division and ask for either Dr. Lyle Vogel or Dr. Rosemary LoGiudice, 800-248-2862 OR Dr. John Melcher or Dr. Rushin, as noted above.

**National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN):**

Federal funding ($107 Million) is being sought to fund the early warning surveillance system to coordinate federal & state facilities, public health agencies and state veterinary diagnostic laboratories. The two-year pilot (smaller scale) NAHLN will expire in May 2004. The pilot program developed a surveillance program for eight diseases considered to represent the most serious bioterrorist threats. If additional funding is forthcoming the program will be expanded into a true national surveillance mechanism to include bioterrorism, new emergent diseases, and zoonotic/foreign diseases. Contact persons include Drs. Vogel, Melcher and Rushin (contact information above).

**Federal funding for the National Veterinary Medical Services Act (NVMSA), P.L. 108-161:** Although the law was passed in December 2003, there is currently no funding for NVMSA in the USDA budget. The NVMSA gives general direction to the Secretary of Agriculture to set-up a loan repayment program for veterinary educational debt in exchange for provision of veterinary services in areas of shortage and/or in emergency situations as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. Left to be determined are: the specifics of whom would qualify to participate, which areas would be designated as having “shortages” of DVM/VMDs, or how much the DVM/VMD would receive in loan repayment. USDA has requested that the AVMA convene a panel of knowledgeable DVM/VMDs to provide an outline for structuring the program.

Funding to carry out the purposes of the loan repayment program will need to be included in the congressional appropriations process. The AVMA is requesting $60 million to fund the NVMSA for 400 veterinarians for a 3-year period. Participants in the program will likely have to sign 3-year contracts for service at $25,000 per year with an additional $10,000 per year if the volunteer is available to serve in an agricultural emergency. The AVMA is working with Congress to secure funding for fiscal year 2005 and a possible line item to fund NVMSA beginning in fiscal year 2006. For information on how to contact your member of Congress to support this effort, please contact Dr. Ray Stock at 800-321-1473, extension 3204, rstock@avma.org.

**Special pay for military veterinarians:** Special pays are offered to attract and retain military physicians, dentists and veterinarians. There are fewer special pays available for veterinarians – two to be exact, compared with four for dentists and five for physicians. The basic monthly special pay available to military veterinarians has remained unchanged at $100 for the past fifty years. Military dentists and physicians can receive up to $36,000 in annual lump sum for simply renewing two to four year contracts. The maximum that board certified military veterinarians can receive in special pays is $7,200 per year. The AVMA is working with select members of Congress and the Dept. of Defense. No legislation has been written to-date. For assistance in contacting your Congressperson, please call Dr. Ray Stock (number above).

**Targeted for Defeat:**

*The Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (H.R. 857):*

Because the current legislation is written to exclude particular accepted methods of euthanasia for emergency & non-emergency euthanasia, the AVMA and AAEP are NOT supporting this bill. This bill also fails to address critical issues related to animal welfare, costs related to providing funding for humane care of unwanted horses (subsidence care for 55,000 horses per year is estimated at $100 million per year), and the potential for environmental problems from local carcass disposal (ground water contamination, soil contamination from euthanasia chemicals, etc.).

The next sessions of the HOD will convene in Philadelphia, PA, July 22-24, 2004 immediately prior to the AVMA Annual Convention. If you are interested in the activities of the HOD, I would encourage you to attend. There is always plenty of seating behind the assembly to watch your legislative body at work. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me or Dr. Chet Rawson (alternate Delegate).

Regards, Carla L. Carleton, Delegate, Society for Theriogenology
Attention all SFT Student Members

Why not participate in the SFT Annual Conference by presenting a student theriogenology case presentation?

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION
Society For Theriogenology Student Case Presentation Competition
SFT Annual Meeting • Lexington, Kentucky • August 5, 2004

All applicants must be student members of The Society For Theriogenology. This includes student members graduating in the spring of 2004.

An Abstract of the Student Case Report must be received by May 31, 2004. Please include the following with your submission:
1. Name, home address and school address
2. Telephone number
3. Email address
4. Name, title, address and phone number of the faculty member working with you.
5. Abstract of your case (300 words or less).
   a) Title
   b) The importance of the case to Theriogenology
   c) A discussion of the diagnostic approach and treatment options considered.
   d) Results/discussion
   e) References

We will not need any photos, graphs, or diagrams at this time. Prior to the conference you will be required to submit a copy of your Power Point Presentation to the SFT home office. You will also be required to bring a copy with you to the conference.

Abstracts must be submitted by June 7, 2004. Please submit them in either Word or Word Perfect format to my e-mail address: jayacims@tecinfo.com. The abstract should be in normal style, Arial font, 10-font size, single spacing, and 1” margins.

Five presentations will be selected. You will know by June 15th whether your presentation has been selected. Further instructions will follow notification.

Please be aware that this is a competition. The contestants will be judged on both the quality of their investigation and the quality of the presentation. Therefore you must attend the meeting in Lexington, Kentucky to be eligible for the awards. The SFT will award five cash prizes:

First place $450
Second place $375
Third place $300
Fourth place $225
Fifth place $150

More than one student may be involved with the presentation of a case, however only one prize will be awarded per presentation.

A panel of academicians and private practitioners will review manuscripts. All applicants will be notified by June 15, 2004.

Completed abstracts and questions can be sent to:
James H. Alexander, DVM
1810 Glencrest
Yazoo City, Ms. 39194
Mobile – 601-946-1296
Home - 662-746-8307
Jayacims@tecinfo.com

CALL FOR ARTICLES/STORIES FROM STUDENTS
LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have news from your SFT Student Chapter, or College of Veterinary Medicine, that you would like to share with SFT members, please send it to charles@franzmgt.com. Please make sure to put “SFT Newsletter Article” in subject line of your message.

SFT Newsletter Correction
In the Winter 2004 Newsletter, Volume 27, No.1, page 11, “Control of the Ferret Estrous Cycle”, the dosage of GnRH to reduce ovulation should have been listed as 20 micrograms rather than milligrams. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion.
Student Membership and Chapters

From the Student Liaison Committee
Drs. J. Alexander, P. Chenoweth (Chair), M. Root Kustritz, A. Tibary

This past year the student liaison committee has attempted to improve student membership, and to assist with the formation and operation of student chapters. It is gratifying to note that some progress has been made in each of these areas. The current listings of faculty liaisons, and paid student members, is as below. The good news is that at least 2 new chapters are in formation. The bad news is that 14 of the Colleges listed do not have any student members, while 12 have less than 5 members.

The pivotal role of faculty liaisons in motivating students, and mentoring chapters, is recognized. Although mentorship and guidance of a viable and active student chapter involves time and effort, the rewards are many. These include lighting the Theriogenology flame of interest in students, and, in turn, receiving some of the reflected warmth. In addition, a thriving student chapter at each Veterinary College is considered essential for the maintenance, if not growth, of the discipline of Theriogenology at each institution.

For those contemplating either forming, or reinvigorating, a student chapter, excellent role models include those at:
http://www.vet.ohio-state.edu/docs/therioclub/index.html
http://www.vetmed.auburn.edu/therio/
http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/clubs-therio/

Society for Theriogenology

Student Membership April 2004

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<th>COLLEGE</th>
<th>FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES</th>
<th>NUMBER STUDENT MEMBERS (PAID)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Auburn (AL)</td>
<td>Dr. Dwight Wolfe</td>
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<td>Atlantic (PEI)</td>
<td>Dr. Carol McClure</td>
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<td>U.C. Davis (CA)</td>
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<td>Colorado St. (CO)</td>
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<td>Cornell (NY)</td>
<td>Dr. Dietrich Volkmann</td>
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<td>Florida (FL)</td>
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<td>Kansas St. (KS)</td>
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<td>Louisiana St. (LA)</td>
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<td>Michigan St. (MI)</td>
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<td>Minnesota (MN)</td>
<td>Dr. Peggy Root Kustritz</td>
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<td>Mississippi St. (MS)</td>
<td>Dr. David Christiansen</td>
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<td>Missouri (MO)</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Youngquist</td>
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<td>Montreal (QB)</td>
<td>Dr. Rejean LeFebvre</td>
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<td>No Carolina St. (NC)</td>
<td>Drs. Peter Farin and Carlos Pinto</td>
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<td>Ohio St. (OH)</td>
<td>Dr. Walter Threlfall</td>
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<td>Oklahoma St. (OK)</td>
<td>Dr. Lionel Dawson</td>
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<td>Ontario (ON)</td>
<td>Dr. Tracey Chenier</td>
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<td>Oregon St. (OR)</td>
<td>Dr. Chuck Estill</td>
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<td>Pennsylvania (PA)</td>
<td>Dr. Patricia Sertich</td>
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<td>Purdue (IN)</td>
<td>Dr. Larry Horstman</td>
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<td>Tennessee (TN)</td>
<td>Dr. Fred Hopkins</td>
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<td>Texas A&amp;M (TX)</td>
<td>Dr. Steven P. Brinsko</td>
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<td>Tufts (MA)</td>
<td>Dr. Howard Levine</td>
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<td>Tuskegee (AL)</td>
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<td>Dr. Beverly Purswell</td>
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<td>Washington St. (WA)</td>
<td>Dr. Ahmed Tibary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Coll Sask CA(SK)</td>
<td>Dr. Clair Card</td>
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<td>Wisconsin (WI)</td>
<td>Dr. Harry Momont</td>
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<td>Western Univ (CA)</td>
<td>Dr. Shirley Johnston</td>
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<td>Ross Univ</td>
<td>Dr. Richard Torbeck</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Georges</td>
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