At SVECCS, our mission is to foster a vibrant community of veterinary students who are passionate about emergency and critical care medicine. Here's how we do it:

- Empowering Learning Through Education Grants (see page 03 for more info)
- Spotlighting SVECCS Chapters - Check out pages 04-07 for Vital Signs submissions, where you can explore the exciting work happening across the network.
- Scholarships and More! We're committed to providing scholarships and a range of opportunities to help veterinary students thrive.
- A Community of Like-Minded Professionals
- Dinner & Discussions with a VECCSpert - For details on our upcoming lectures see pages 08-09

SVECCS is comprised of 40 active chapters across the world!
Meet the NSVECCS Board

Armen Brus  
Chair  
Michigan State University

Becca Ruiz  
Executive Board  
Oregon State University

Frank Fialkiewicz  
Executive Board  
North Carolina State University

Ashley Levan  
Executive Board  
University of Arizona

Gloria Ge  
Executive Board  
Cornell University

Sophia Olivia  
Executive Board  
Michigan State University

A word from your NSVECCS Board

Our goal as the National Student Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care Society (NSVECCS) is to help unify all student chapters and create connections between them. The Vital Signs newsletter is a quarterly document sent out to all chapters to inspire and highlight the wonderful work of all the SVECCS chapters are doing each term. Major updates and opportunities for scholarships will also be included as they come up. Our hope is for Vital Signs to act as another avenue to keep students connected and up to date on current events in ECC. If your chapter would like to highlight your successes, research, or school’s chapter, please submit chapter content and photos on our website at sveccs/veccs.org
Scholarship and Grant Opportunities
Applications open through November 30th
To apply, visit veccs.org/sveccs

DEI Scholarship

Each College of Veterinary Medicine with an active SVECCS chapter will be offered a $1000 scholarship to be awarded to SVECCS student(s). High consideration given to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Education Grant

The Student Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care Society (SVECCS) is offering a $500 grant for wet lab funding to active student chapters to provide funding for wet labs or lectures supplementing their college’s curriculum. Our vision for this grant is for our veterinary student chapters to design either a lecture and/or wet lab for a topic to which students would not otherwise be exposed.

Did you know SVECCS members get 50% VECCS membership using code: NSVECCS2023

That's just $25/year for all of these amazing member benefits:

- Journal of Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care (JVECC)
- Priority and discounted IVECCS registration
- Monthly member mingles and webinars
- Mentorship program
- Affordable access to counseling services
- 40% off online RECOVER CPR courses
- FREE subscription to Headspace
- Free & discounted career services
- Join a Veterinary Support Group and MORE!
The University of Illinois Chapter of SVECCS has had an incredible 2022-2023 year! Our club was lucky enough to expand our reach within the university with the help of our amazing faculty and members; we were able to restart our ER volunteer shifts and created a brand-new ICU SVECCS biweekly rounds meeting with residents. Our journal club held 4 amazing events covering new research topics in emergency and critical care; one of these meetings conjured great discussions about the shift to open concept ERs and the impact this could have for clients, patients, and veterinarians!

Our board also planned some noteworthy lunch lectures this year highlighting the amazing work of emergency veterinarians; some of our topics included: acid-base emergencies, tough money talks with clients, and triage 101. These talks were so informative and imperative to our future as veterinarians! Coupled with our lunch lectures, our SVECCS chapter also hosted some fantastic wet labs! We had a triage wet lab that allowed students to practice the art of triage with the help and guidance of our residents. We also hosted a feeding tube wet lab - partnered with Royal Canin – that gave students the unique opportunity to practice placing nasogastric tubes and nasoenteric tubes! Our members were so excited to practice hands on learning for these procedures we could be seeing daily in our careers!

Our SVECCS chapter is incredibly proud of the year we have had here at the University of Illinois! We are excited to carry this momentum into the 2023-2024 school year, and we can’t wait to see what we plan next!
The SVECCS chapter here at Oregon State University had a great fall and winter term. Back in September during our incoming student orientation, our % 2026 showed a lot of interest at our SVECCS station; we had a significant amount of enthusiastic students sign up for our club and give us a great recommendations for topics they’re interested in learning more about!

Fall term of 2022 we had five guest speakers present various lunch talks ranging from feline urethral obstructions to large animal reproductive emergencies. We wrapped up the term with a small animal cadaver lab. Our criticalist, Dr. Ngwenyama, helped us practice various small animal emergency procedures: chest tube placements, thoracocentesis, tracheostomies, and nasal cannula placements. We even have extra opportunities to place urinary catheters in both male and female canines.

Winter term of 2023 was another busy one for our SVECCS club. We had another six speakers present and an equine laceration work up lab. Dr. Schoenhals, one of our fabulous equine veterinarians created a mock laceration work up over a joint based on a recent case. We practiced obtaining a history, selecting diagnostics that could be performed with just the materials on our large animal veterinary vehicle. We practiced radiographic positioning and reviewed radiographs. Afterwards we collaborated to create a plan for our mock patient. It was a great opportunity to start incorporating lecture material into such a realistic scenario.

This upcoming spring term we are working on continuing to have frequent lunch talks such as maintaining well being in the ER field, ocular emergencies, and how to manage surgical procedures. In addition we are hoping to have an ultrasound fast scanning wet lab with Dr. Ngwenyama, as well as a RECOVER CPR class hosted by our certified technicians.
SVECCS at NC State’s College of Veterinary Medicine has been busy doing their part to train future emergency and critical care veterinarians!

In March of 2022 we hosted an AFAST/TFAST lab led by Michael Kato DVM DACVECC and Kayla Perry DVM DACVECC along with ECC resident Sophie Amirsultan DVM. This lab was a huge success teaching both ER/ECC and GP focused students the basics and utility of ultrasound in veterinary medicine.

We partnered with United Veterinary Care and Feline Club to host Kate Bailey DVM DACVAA to speak on Feline Emergency Anesthesia Pearls.

Our NCSU SVECCS President, Frank Fialkiewicz (DVM Candidate class of 2024), organized a CPCR lecture and lab in October. This two-part event was kicked off by Alex Lynch BVSc (Hons) DACVECC MRCVS who discussed how to recognize CPA, Basic and Advanced Life Support, and outcomes associated with CPCR. The next day, Yu Ueda DVM PhD. DACVECC led the hands-on skills lab assisted by ECC residents Kaitlyn Rank DVM, Kat Davros DVM, Sophie Amirsultan DVM, and RVT VTS (ECC) Stefanie LaJuett. Students learned how to do effective chest compression, methods of venous and IO catheter access, and defibrillation. Students then split up into teams and simulated a resuscitation effort utilizing models, simulators, and cadavers.

We partnered with Blue Pearl to host Ben O'Kelley DVM DACVECC to speak on the topic of “Using Mindset to Sustain Your ER Career” and Rachel Moyle DVM DACVECC to discuss Cardiac Emergencies.

(see next page for more)
Our Wet Lab Coordinator, Erin Perry (DVM Candidate class of 2025), organized a ECC Procedures Wet Lab led by Bernie Hansen DVM MS DACVIM DACVECC and Alex Lynch BVSc (Hons) DACVECC MRCVS along with ECC residents Kaitlyn Rank DVM, Candice Wimbish DVM, and Ally Fitzgerald DVM. Students learned alongside these very experienced clinicians to place central jugular catheters, EZ-IOs, NG tubes, tracheostomy tubes, and chest tubes. This was an extremely popular lab and one we hope to host again soon.

Our Merchandise Rep, Cassidy Chapman (DVM Candidate class of 2024) designed some awesome NCSU SVECCS swag for the Fall of 2022 with new merch coming soon in the Spring of 2023.

This semester, we have partnered with the Feline Club at NC State to host “DKA: Diagnosing and Managing” lunch and learn. We also have another AFAST/TFAST Lab planned for February.

SVECCS at NC State has grown since the last school year and is filled with many new members who are eager to learn and aspire to be Emergency and Critical Care Veterinarians.
Dinner & Discussion with VECCSpert:
Jon Fletcher, DVM, DACVIM (SAIM)

Topic: What To Do After School - The Great Debate

Wednesday, November 15th | 6:00pm CT

Details on Attending:
• Must be an active SVECCS chapter
• Designed for chapter to join on Zoom together
• A GrubHub credit will be provided to the SVECCS president based on RSVP head count
• Must RSVP by Monday, November 13th

RSVP here or visit veccs.org/sveccs

For any questions, email natalie@veccs.org
Dinner & Discussion with VECCSpert:
Heidi Barnes Heller DVM, DACVIM (Neurology)

Topic: Traumatic Brain Injury

Tuesday, December 5th | 7:00pm CT

Details on Attending:

• Must be an active SVECCS chapter
• Designed for chapter to join on Zoom together
• A GrubHub credit will be provided to the SVECCS president based on RSVP head count
• Must RSVP by Monday, December 4th

RSVP here or visit veccs.org/sveccs

For any questions, email natalie@veccs.org
THANK YOU TO ALL
OUR IVECCS
VOLUNTEERS!

We hope you all will
join us in 2024 in St.
Louis, MO!