



SVECCS

STUDENT VETERINARY EMERGENCY
& CRITICAL CARE SOCIETY

VITAL SIGNS

THE OFFICIAL SVECCS NEWSLETTER

Meet **Your** NSVECCS Board!



Ashley Levan
Chairperson



Veronica Welke-Olmos
Executive Board



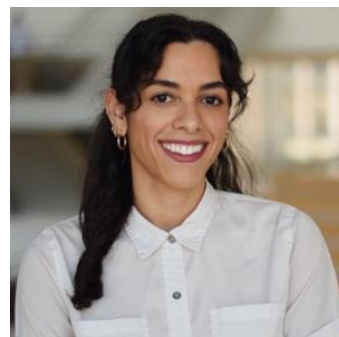
Katherine Woolf
Executive Board



**Sarah Handshy
Mitchel**
Executive Board



Gloria Ge
Executive Board



Sophia Oliva
Executive Board

FOR MORE INFO ON YOUR BOARD CLICK HERE

Want to Attend IVECCS 2024 for FREE?!

CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

Students who volunteer at least 2 half-days will receive **FREE registration**. Gain cutting-edge knowledge from ECC Experts while assisting them in lectures, workshops and/or labs.

Also for student volunteers who are members of an SVECCS chapter, your participation will benefit your chapter! Stipends will be awarded to SVECCS chapters whose members volunteer at IVECCS, with \$1000 going to the school whose students volunteer the most hours.

- 1-2 Student volunteers = \$300
- 3+ Student volunteers = \$500
- SVECCS Chapter with the most volunteer hours = \$1000

**VOLUNTEER
HERE!**

VIEW PROGRAM HERE

Need \$\$\$ For Traveling to IVECCS?

VECCS is excited to partner with MedVet to provide travel stipends for veterinary & veterinary technician students to attend the upcoming IVECCS! MedVet will be providing:

- (4) \$500 travel stipends for veterinary students driving to IVECCS
- (4) \$1,000 travel stipends for veterinary students flying to IVECCS
- (4) \$500 travel stipends for veterinary technician students driving/flying to IVECCS

Students will be required to volunteer at least two half-days at IVECCS and attend the Student-Intern-Resident reception where travel stipends will be awarded.

APPLY HERE

Sponsored By:

Can you Diagnosis This?!



We're excited to invite you to the BluePearl Campus Connect Case Quiz! You'll have the chance to dive into thrilling veterinary cases presented by BluePearl EmERge doctors, all in a fun and interactive quiz format.

Test your diagnostic skills, collaborate with fellow veterinary professionals, and compete for exciting rewards. The SVECCS chapter with the highest number of correct answers will win a special prize!

Put Your Diagnostic Skills to the Test!

Presented By:

 **BluePearl.**
Campus Connect.

Did you know SVECCS members get FREE VECCS membership?!

- Journal of Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care (JVECC)
- Priority and discounted IVECCS registration
- Monthly member mingles and webinars
- Mentorship program
- 40% off online RECOVER CPR courses
- FREE subscription to Headspace
- Free & discounted career services

GET YOUR FREE MEMBERSHIP HERE

Graduating students are still eligible for free membership 6 months post-graduation. Please reach out to natalie@veccs.org if you have any questions.



SVECCS

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Chapter Spotlight



Midwestern University

SVECCS Chapter Launched a CVM-wide RECOVER Rescuer Certification Event

The president (Kaley Boone) and vice president (Marissa Baird) took 8 months to plan, coordinate, and execute a *college-wide event to get students Rescuer level certification in RECOVER BLS & ALS with their fellow board members.

Read More about it [Here!](#)



Check out their social media link with videos of the whole event they would love to share! View them [here!](#)



College of Veterinary Medicine

University of Missouri



Throughout the academic year of 2023-2024, the University of Missouri SCVECCS chapter orchestrated a series of events for our members. Dr. F.A. (Tony) Mann, a criticalist and surgeon, serves as our dedicated faculty advisor, and led these initiatives. In our bi-weekly rounds, Dr. Mann mentored groups of five students as they analyzed and discussed active cases within the ICU. Additionally, he facilitated several wet labs, covering procedures such as urinary catheter placement in male cats, feline intubation techniques, basic suturing on cadavers, and placement of esophagostomy tubes. These wet labs allowed our members to gain knowledge and

hone practical skills for veterinary medicine. Other faculty, residents and interns from our teaching hospital generously volunteered their time to assist students in these labs.

As a club we arranged for various speakers to share their expertise including collaborating with dental club to learn about emergency

stabilization techniques for jaw fractures. In addition, we participated in numerous VECCSPert lectures, with Dr. Steven Epstein's discussion on antibiotic use in the ER and ICU prevailing as a favorite among our members. Furthermore, Dr. Amy Molitoris gave a presentation on point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) techniques that led to a wet lab for students to practice. Looking ahead, we are committed to organizing further ultrasound labs, making sure our students continue to gain hands-on experience with POCUS. Lastly, our club secretary created some emergency-themed merchandise which led to a hugely successful fundraiser.



The University of Illinois

Chapter of SVECCS has had an overall, incredible 2023-2024 year!

Our club was lucky enough to expand our reach within the university with the help of our amazing faculty and members. We hosted 3 journal club meetings on topics such as canine anaphylaxis, leptospirosis induced acute renal failure and neurological emergencies. We also had a great turnout for our colleges Open House this year and were able to teach kids about some common household toxicities and how to perform CPR! Unfortunately, due to circumstances with our point person at the U of I, the ER volunteer program did not get set up this year. We are hopeful to bring it back again for the next school year!



Our board also planned some noteworthy lunch lectures this year highlighting the amazing work of emergency veterinarians; some of our topics included: common equine emergencies, small animal toxicities, splenectomies, small ruminant emergencies, and how to have difficult conversations about euthanasia. These talks were so informative and imperative to our future as veterinarians! Coupled with our lunch lectures, our SVECCS chapter also hosted a fantastic wet lab! We put on a

splenectomy wet lab sponsored by Veterinarians at the Emergency Veterinary Care Centers (EVCC)! Students were able to perform their own splenectomies on cadaver dogs! 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 2024-2025 school year, and we can't wait to see what we plan next!



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

The University of Calgary's

SVECCS club has had a very busy year this year.

Our highlights include running our annual Ultrasound Guided Vascular Access Competition (or more commonly known as the Chicken Phantom Olympics), and our annual CPR Competition. Every year we have incredible sponsors from our community who support our club. This year, we created a standardized sponsorship package that included bronze, silver, gold and platinum sponsorship tiers with different opportunities for our sponsors including networking with students, branded T-shirts, social media shout outs, and opportunities to serve as judges for our competitions. We reached out to emergency clinics and veterinary companies in Alberta, and were lucky to receive just over \$10,000 CAD in sponsorship for our events! In addition to their financial support, partnering with these clinics provided great opportunities for students to learn more about the field by speaking to emergency vets, and allowed students to form connections with alumni and clinics that will serve them well in their future.

We held our Chicken Phantom Olympics event in January. This event is run in conjunction with our ECC faculty team to allow students to learn and compete in obtaining vascular access using ultrasound. The models are very simple to make- we fill long balloons up with water (to serve as the vein), and put them in the center of a raw chicken breast. After faculty demonstration and practice time, we dive straight into our competition where students are organized into heats and race to obtain vascular access. Thanks to the funding we received from our partners, we were able to offer some great prizes to the winners, including a \$150 gift card to Figs, \$100 Visa gift card, and SVECCS branded Yeti mugs. This event was a huge success and got the student body excited for our next event, the CPR competition!



Every year, our CPR competition is a hugely popular event amongst students, alumni, and sponsoring partners. Considering UCVM has a small student body of around 50-60 students in each year of study, this is a huge undertaking for our club and as such we begin planning for it in September. We run it with eight teams of six students, and the registration and wait list for student participants consistently fills up within minutes of it being posted! Additionally, we have many alumni who come as judges every year, and many sponsors who either come to judge or to

network with the student body. This event usually involves 80-100 people, including participants, spectators, judges, sponsors, and organizers. At this event, our amazing ECC faculty creates a CPR scenario using a Jerry dog simulator and a very skilled actor (one of our faculty members)! This scenario tests various skills from the student participants including professional and communication skills with the client, teamwork, and BLS and ALS CPR skills. It is also wildly entertaining, with this year's scenario revolving around a drug sniffing dog that ingested opioids and went into CPA while his owner was at a hockey game! This event is also a great chance for students from different years to work together and learn from each other, as each team includes first years, second years and third years. This competition has incredible prizes, with all members of the first place team winning a copy of Carol Mathews' ECC Textbook! Other prizes include cardiology stethoscopes, other textbooks, and gift cards. We also have prizes for the team with the best costume and the best name. This event is a valuable learning experience, not to mention a huge amount of fun every year. This year was no exception!

In addition to these events, we also kicked off the year by co-hosting a guest lecture with UCVM's Veterinary Business and Networking Club (VBNC). We welcomed two guest lectures, one with an equine focus and the other with a small animal focus, to speak to students about leadership and practice ownership in emergency medicine. The high turnout encouraged us to host more guest lectures throughout the year, including a recent feline toxicology case study with the UCVM Student Chapter of the American Association of Feline Practitioners (SCAAFP), in addition to VECCS Dinner and Discussion events. We have also run shadow shifts at ECC hospitals every week and held various fundraisers including a pin

sale and raffle tickets.



Overall, it has been an incredible year thanks to the amazing team we have had, consisting of Alex Burk, Megan Wirachowsky, Veronica Welke-Olmos, Gabrielle Jensen, Morgan McLean, Deanna Minken and Safira Teja. Everyone contributed so much time and energy to our events this year, and we feel lucky to have had such a wonderful group of executives. We are also so grateful to our ECC faculty team, consisting of Dr. Søren Boysen, Dr. Julie Menard, and Dr. Serge Chalhoub for playing such an integral role in our events. Finally, we feel incredibly lucky to have such a supportive community of emergency clinics, alumni, and sponsors - we could not have run these events without them.

We wish our third-year executives, Alex and Safira, all the best as they enter into their clinical year and thank them for all their work, leadership, and mentorship throughout their time with the club. Our profession is lucky to soon be gaining such knowledgeable, empathetic, and dedicated young individuals!

We can't wait to see what next year has in store for us!
Until next time,
UCVM SVECCS Executive Team



Colorado State University

Chapter of SVECCS has had a busy year since returning to all in-person learning and events.

Our officers organized numerous hands-on interactive events and dinner lectures, which included collaborations with other organizations. Get ready to experience the adrenaline rush of emergency veterinary medicine with the Colorado State University Student Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society (SVECCS)! Our club is on a mission to make learning about emergencies as thrilling as the cases themselves.

The Colorado State University SVECCS chapter hosted an exhilarating lineup of dinner lectures that explored many different aspects of emergency medicine! Students delved into the intricacies of managing respiratory emergencies with expert guidance from ECC resident Dr. Charlie Talbot. Valuable insights into managing feline septic shock were gained from Dr. Amanda Cavanagh DACVECC, a renowned authority in the field. ECC resident Dr. Mark Ryan delved into understanding the diagnosis and management of anaphylaxis in veterinary emergency patients. This is not a comprehensive list of dinner lectures, but those were some highlights! SVECCS also hosted informative CPR lunch lectures led by ECC residents, providing vital insights into life-saving techniques. This chapter is all about supplementing our lecture curriculum with hands-on skill lab opportunities! This year, the club held an ultrasound

skills lab! Attending students delved deep into emergency ultrasound techniques including abdominal and thoracic POCUS and ECHO during an interactive wet lab led by residents Dr. Evan Ross and Dr. Jenna Cardillo. This wet lab gave students a unique opportunity to refine hands-on skills in point-of-care ultrasound outside of the classroom setting. Additionally, fundraisers held at Maxline Brewery supported the SVECCS club while providing good company and great brews!

The SVECCS officer team is thrilled to continue providing continuing education opportunities to our veterinary student colleagues! We eagerly anticipate planning more events in the future and extend our gratitude to the CSU College of Veterinary Medicine for its support, as well as to the veterinary students themselves for their participation, which makes these events possible. Additionally, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our veterinarian lecturers whose expertise and dedication enrich our learning experiences and inspire us to excel in emergency veterinary medicine!



[Visit our Website](#)

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