Greetings!

2009 was a banner year for equine ophthalmology.

First, the meetings: specialists with an equine interest gathered at the IEOC in Lexington, the ACVO in Chicago and the ECVO/ESVO in Copenhagen to hear cutting edge information in the field, reach new consensus and focus on research priorities. Recent developments were brought to general equine practitioners in the form of the sold out FOCUS on Equine Ophthalmology meeting hosted by the AAEP in Raleigh in October, and the Equine Ophthalmology CPD Weekend at the Animal Health Trust recently held in England. Advanced surgical seminars were presented in Germany in January 2009 and again in January 2010. Major veterinary meetings like the North American Veterinary Conference and the annual AAEP meeting staged comprehensive presentations on equine eye problems that were well attended.

Second, the literature: A review of the ACVO abstract list from the past two years shows that 32/241 or 13% of the abstracts from 2008 and 2009 related to equine eye disease, and a similar percentage of equine abstracts were presented at the ECVO meetings. The journal Veterinary Ophthalmology published multiple articles on equine eye disease including review articles on equine immune mediated keratopathy and the use of amnion in corneal surgery. New data on corneal pharmacology and cell culture techniques were published along with several interesting case series. Exciting new imaging techniques like confocal microscopy and infrared photography were described. The general equine literature showed an increase in reporting on equine problems as well: the AAEP journal Equine Veterinary Education featured articles on ERU and novel enucleation instrumentation as well as numerous articles on infectious keratitis. The Equine Veterinary Journal is finalizing a special supplement dedicated to equine ophthalmology.

Advancement of the science of equine ophthalmology is the mission of the IEOC. The time is ripe to capitalize on the great progress that was made in 2009. Here are some of the opportunities that members have to continue this momentum in 2010:

1. Attend the 2nd IEOC Symposium in Vienna, Austria, June 4-5, 2010. Registration is now open and more information on the meeting is in this newsletter on page 6. The meeting promises to be an exciting international gathering that combines cutting edge abstracts with small group discussions. The deadline for abstract submission is March 15.

(continued on page 3)
2. Visit the IEOC website www.equineophtho.com. Post case reports and queries, and participate in discussions of cases and treatment protocols.

3. Submit a paper for consideration for presentation at the annual AAEP meeting in Baltimore, MD, December 4-8, 2010. Dr. Dennis Brooks will be giving the keynote Milne Lecture on December 5. Guidelines for presentation format can be found at: www.aaep.org/call_4_papers.htm. Deadline is March 15, 2010.

4. Submit an abstract for the ACVO meeting. Call for papers is expected in July 2010. See www.acvo.org

The IEOC is a new organization with a core group of enthusiastic members. Real progress on the mission of the IEOC demands strategic planning and a long term vision focused on collaboration and communication. Member networking that begins through the website and participation in scientific meetings should evolve to develop true collaborative, multicenter research projects with subsequent publication of results.

The second annual IEOC meeting in Vienna should be a great springboard for the next stage of this work. Hope to see you there!

IEOC Website Forum

If you have not already done so, please take the time to register on the IEOC website to gain access to the interactive forum. This is similar to a list-serve, except photos can be posted and there will be a searchable archive of responses.

To register for the forum - click on the link “login” that is above the IEOC logo on: www.equineophtho.com.

On the “Login page” click on “No account yet? Register”. Fill out the information on the registration page and click on “register”.

You will then get an email (within a few hours or days) that tells you that you have access to the forum. Please check the forum frequently for new cases, messages, and posted images.

Calendar

Second Annual IEOC Symposium
Vienna, Austria
June 4-5, 2010
Contact office@equineophtho.com or visit www.equineophtho.com

IEOC Mini-Symposium
San Diego, CA
ACVO Conference
October 8, 2010

56th Annual AAEP Convention
Baltimore, MD
December 4-8, 2010
www.aaep.org

Third Annual IEOC Symposium
USA (location to be determined)
April, 2011

“Advancement of the science of equine ophthalmology is the mission of the IEOC”
Call for Papers

Call for papers for the 56th annual AAEP convention, December 4-8, Baltimore Maryland: Papers must be submitted online by March 15, 2010 at 3:00 PM, Eastern Time. The web address for abstract submission is www.aaep.org/call_4_papers.htm. Three different formats will be considered: Scientific papers (case series or results of experimental or observational studies), “How To” papers (presentations of a technique or procedure), and Review papers (updates on a new subject). Oral presentations for scientific and “How to” papers are limited to 20 minutes. Complete guidelines for manuscripts, including instructions for authors who intend to publish their material in a refereed journal, can be accessed at the submission webpage. Submissions will be reviewed by the AAEP Educational Programs Committee for quality and relevance. The review criteria are outlined in the Abstract Grading Criteria in the instructions. Acceptance notices will be sent out later this spring. Authors of accepted manuscripts will receive complimentary registration for the meeting and a stipend towards their travel expenses.

Members’ Recent Publications


Entertaining Anecdotes from Members

Several years ago, “Roxy”, an elderly pony, was referred for evaluation of unilateral exophthalmos. The subsequent workup suggested an orbital mass. I recommended referral to Cornell for exenteration as I was concerned (a) that the mass might extend beyond the orbit and (b) that our clinic was not equipped to handle all potential intraoperative complications.

The family declined referral for budget reasons. I was hesitant, but agreed to operate as the pony had no other real option. The procedure was performed on a padded mat with injectable (triple drip) anesthesia. Dissection of the mass was limited to the orbit. The tumor, however, was later read out as a neuroendocrine tumor (now termed extra-adrenal paraganglioma). As has been described in the literature, these masses have unusual blood supply and intraoperative hemorrhage was (to put it mildly) “expulsive”. A few curse words were passed as we tried to manage the profuse bleeding. To my great relief, it was finally stemmed. The pony recovered uneventfully.

A few years later, the owners called because they had read an ad for a clinic client seminar on equine eye problems. “Would you like us to bring Roxy to your seminar?” they asked. “We thought that people might want to see what a one eyed horse looks like!” This sounded like a fine idea, so I said yes. I was glad to hear that Roxy was still alive.

Roxy and her “family” arrived on the appointed night. I told them to put the pony in a stall. I did not pay much attention as I was busy registering the seminar attendees. I gave my lecture, and then everyone went back into the barn to look at the One Eyed Pony.

What came next I will never forget. Roxy was in the stall, contentedly munching hay. Her 12 year old rider was with her. Outside the stall was a canvas director’s chair that had “ROXY” embroidered across the back. Roxy’s young mistress had made a small shrine: she had covered the chair and the surrounding aisle with trophies, ribbons and photos of Roxy in action. A hand lettered sign on the stall door said “SEE WHAT A PONY WITH ONE EYE CAN DO??”

They say “fools rush in where angels fear to tread”. On the day of Roxy’s surgery, I sure felt like a fool. However, seeing how it all turned out a few years later made me glad to have gone out on a limb. When we treat our patients we can get so focused on the disease process that we forget the bigger picture. Roxy and her family were a great reminder of “the rest of the story”; how much it means to a young child when you restore a beloved pony to health.
An Unusual Case

by Dr. Ann Dwyer

Signalment and History: Middle aged Quarter Horse mare with a long history of blepharospasm and tearing OD. Referring DVM described a small chronic shallow region of epithelial ulceration. A variety of topical medications including antifungals had been prescribed as hyphae were found on an initial cytology exam. Treatment had continued for over 3 months but no improvement or change had occurred. The mare needed 500 mg of flunixin meglumine PO BID to stay comfortable.

Examination: The only finding of note was a 2 mm shallow region of epithelial ulceration in the ventronasal region of the cornea in the 5:00 region, 4mm axial to the limbus. This was debrided, creating a dime sized shallow epithelial defect.

Cytology: A single intact mite was apparent on the cytology slide. Close inspection showed a structure resembling a fungal hyphae draped over the left front appendage of the ectoparasite.

Treatment: The mare was continued on oral flunixin for one week. One tube of ivermectin paste was administered orally, followed by a second tube two weeks later. Topical ocular treatment included atropine BID and triple antibiotic ointment TID for one week. A solution of very dilute ivermectin (0.5 ml of IVOMEC solution mixed in a 15 ml bottle of artificial tears) was applied to the cornea BID for three days. Further antifungal therapy was declined.

Outcome: Mare became comfortable within 48 hours of starting therapy. Her epithelial defect healed within one week. She has remained asymptomatic.

Other information: Photographs of the mite were reviewed by a parasitologist at Cornell. The mite was identified as a forage mite. These ectoparasites are often found on birds. This mare lived on a farm where birds are frequently seen sitting on the backs of horses turned out to pasture.

Endnote; this odd presentation had a happy ending. However, most people viewing these photos immediately begin to experience an odd itching sensation on their own corneas....
We invite you to participate in the 2nd annual International Equine Ophthalmology Consortium (IEOC) Symposium. The Symposium will be held at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna Austria, 4 and 5 June, 2010. Dr. Barbara Nell and her staff will be our host.

In contrast to the first IEOC meeting, this symposium will consist of mostly submitted scientific abstracts, with an introductory lecture prior to abstract sessions and in-depth discussions to follow the abstracts. Since the major goal of the IEOC is to foster clinical and research collaboration, this symposium format is designed to allow much attendee interaction and discussion. Therefore, please get your scientific abstracts submitted!

The meeting will begin at a welcome reception at the University on the evening of Thursday, 3 June 2009. On Friday, 4 June we have an in-depth corneal disease lecture by Dr. Dennis Brooks, followed by abstracts and a round table discussion on corneal disease. The round table discussions were a highly successful part of the first IEOC symposium. In the afternoon, we will start with a state of the art lecture on adnexal diseases, followed by abstracts and a round-table discussion. On Saturday, 5 June, we will begin with a state of the art lecture on ERU and glaucoma by Dr. Brian Gilger, followed by abstracts, and round table discussions on these subjects. We will conclude the symposium Saturday afternoon with abstracts on lens, retinal disease, and/or miscellaneous abstracts. A final round table discussion will conclude the symposium.

Dr. Nell has planned an excellent social program for IEOC attendees and guests. Registration includes all breaks and lunches both days, a hosted welcome reception with food and drinks, a gathering in an historic palais, a walking tour through the city centre with a look behind the facade of historical Vienna and a dinner in Vienna’s oldest restaurant, the “Griechenbeisl.” A tour of the breeding stud Piber farm is also being organized as an optional pre-congress tour. Most all of your dining and entertainment expenses for the meeting are included in the registration fee. Please see page two of this brochure for further explanation of these events. Guests are invited to attend all of these events, registration may be limited.

Visit the Piber Stud Farm - home to the world famous Lipizzan horses.

Dine at Griechenbeisl, one of the oldest restaurants in Vienna. This restaurant has hosted many famous artists, scholars and politicians.

Veterinary University of Vienna

Registration is now open.

Call for papers is now open.
Call for papers closes 15 March, 2010.

To become a member of the IEOC, please visit www.equineophtho.com

www.equineophtho.com | +1-208-466-2519 | office@equineophtho.com
The goal of this symposium is to share, with a small group of dedicated clinicians and scientists, current clinical and basic research on equine ophthalmology. In addition, small group discussions are planned to facilitate the development of multi-centered collaborative research.

TENTATIVE AGENDA
(Current as of February 1st, 2010.)
Attendees will be notified of any changes.

Thursday, 3 June:
7:30 Departure to Piber Stud Farm tour from Hotel Donauzentrum (Optional – not included in registration)
17:00 Return to Hotel Donauzentrum
19:00 Welcome reception

Friday, 4 June:
8:30-10:30 Scientific Programme
10:30-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30 Scientific Programme
12:30-13:30 Lunch - hosted
13:30-14:45 Scientific Programme
14:45-15:15 Break
15:15-16:30 Scientific Programme
18:30 Gathering in Palais Esterhazy
19:15 “Unknown Vienna” Walking Tour
20:30 Dinner at Griechenbeisl

Saturday, 5 June:
9:00-10:30 Scientific Programme
10:30-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30 Scientific Programme
12:30-13:30 Lunch - hosted
13:30-14:30 Scientific Programme
14:30-15:00 Break
15:00-16:00 Scientific Programme
16:30 Trip to winery, depart from University (Optional - not included in registration)
23:00-24:00 Return to Hotel Donauzentrum

Hotel Information
Please contact hotels for reservations.
A limited number of rooms have been secured at a discount at this hotel.
Mention the IEOC and Veterinary University to receive a lower rate.

Hotel Donauzentrum: Closest to the University. Within walking distance, about a 15 minute walk.

Additional recommended hotels.
Conference rates have not been secured at these hotels.

Hotel Lassalle, Arcotel Kaiserwasser and NH Danube City: Located approximately halfway between the University and the city centre. Expect travel time of approximately 15-20 minutes via underground and bus.

Hotel Astoria and Hotel Europa: These hotels are located in the city centre. Expect travel time of approximately 20-30 minutes via underground and bus.

Hotel Rathauspark: Located farthest away from the University. Expect travel time of approximately 45 minutes via underground.
SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM

Quick and simple registration available online!
www.mtgs-etc.com/2010_IEOC.htm

Name: __________________________________________________________________________________
Practice or Institution________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address____________________________________________________________________________
City____________________ State_______________  Zip_____________ Country______________________
Phone _____________________ Fax_____________________ Email________________________________

Full registration includes:
Educational sessions, breaks and lunches for both days of the meeting.
Thursday, Welcome reception - food and drinks with industry
Friday, “Unknown Vienna” tour and Dinner - meals and drinks included
Pre-registration concludes 3 May, 2010.

Meeting Registration  (No partial registration or special pricing for students/interns/residents.)
IEOC Members: $475.00 USD      $_________
Non-Members:    $525.00 USD      $_________

To become a member of the IEOC, please visit www.equineophtho.com

Optional Attendee Tickets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piber Excursion</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>$_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Limited to 50 people. Includes tour, transportation and lunch.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday Welcome Reception</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
<td>$_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday Tour and Dinner</td>
<td>$140.00</td>
<td>$_________</td>
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Optional: Trip to Winery with wine degustation $80.00 USD (register and pay at registration desk, Thursday, 3rd June)
(Limited to 50 people. Includes tour, transportation, food and drinks.)

Total Due: $_________ USD

* A copy of the Spanish Riding School brochure has been attached for your information only. Some attendees may want to schedule a visit after the conference on Sunday.

Payment Information

If sending check make payable to Meetings Etc., mail to Meetings Etc, c/o IEOC PO Box 1311, Meridian, ID 83680
Select Method of Payment
_____ Check (on US bank)  _____ Money Order (US Funds)   OR  _____ Credit Card

Credit Card Information
“charge will show as “Meetings Etc.” on your statement
Fax: +1-208-466-7693

Type of Card  ______VISA  ______MC ______Discover

Card Number ________________________________________ Exp Date _______ VIN __________

Total amount due $__________ USD

Name on Card ___________________________________________________________________
Signature _______________________________________________________________________

Card Billing Address ______________________________________________________________
IEOC Abstract Submission Form for Abstracts
Deadline for submission is 15 March, 2010

You may submit this form before registering for the IEOC Symposium. However, if your abstract is approved, you must be registered for the meeting in order to present. The number of abstracts for presentation is limited. A poster session will not take place at this meeting.

Presenting Author, First Name ___________________________ Last Name ____________________________
Department_______________________________________________________________________________
Institution_________________________________________________________________________________
Street Address_____________________________________________________________________________
City/State/Province/Country___________________________________________________________________
Postal Code +4/International Postal Code________________________________________________________
Office Phone_______________________________________ Office Fax_______________________________
Email Required!!! __________________________________________________________________________

Audio/Visual Requirements
All presentations will need to be in PowerPoint in a PC friendly format.

Submission Checklist
1. Completed submission form, including your email address. Please print clearly. Fax or mail to Meetings Etc, (you may email an interactive pdf) must be received by 15 March, 2010.
2. Email abstract as an attachment to office@equineophtho.com.
3. Email subject line should read: IEOC Abstract—(presenting author’s name).
4. Abstract should meet printed text space requirements (see ‘submission guidelines’ for instructions).
5. Abstract should be formatted according to IEOC’s Abstract Guidelines where it applies. All abstracts will be submitted as papers, no poster presentations.

** A LIMITED NUMBER OF ABSTRACTS TIME SLOTS ARE AVAILABLE. **

Email text should include author’s name, address, phone, fax, email, # of abstracts being submitted and the titles of each attached abstract. Emails not containing this data may be refused. Please pay careful attention to the enclosed submission guidelines to ensure your submission will not be rejected due to a technicality! Mailed hard copies of abstracts are not accepted.

You will be notified by email of acceptance or denial by 15 April, 2010. Please be sure your email client accepts in-bound email from office@equineophtho.com.

Fax submission forms and email abstracts by 15 March to:
fx: +1-208-466-7693
office@equineophtho.com
Required for Abstract Submission!

INTERNATIONAL EQUINE OPHTHALMOLOGY CONSORTIUM, INC
COPYRIGHT LICENSE/ABSTRACT USE PERMISSION AGREEMENT

________________________________________________________(Author(s)) is/are the creator of the Abstract entitled____________________________________________________________________________.

The Author represents that: he/she is the sole author of the Abstract; he/she owns all rights in the Abstract; the Abstract is free of liens or encumbrances; the Abstract does not violate any laws or infringe any copyright laws or violate any rights of others; he/she have the full power to execute and enter into this license agreement and, in exchange for full and proper consideration, he/she hereby grant to International Equine Ophthalmology Consortium, Inc. (IEOC), the nonexclusive right to use, publish, republish, reprint and distribute the Abstract in whole or in part, in any form or medium, and without limitation.

The Author agrees to indemnify and hold IEOC, its employees, agents, directors, officers, attorneys, representatives, successors, and assigns, harmless with respect to any claims or action arising out of, or related to a potential breach of the representations and warranties contained in this agreement.

This agreement may not be amended except in a written document signed by both parties. If a court finds any provision of this agreement invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this agreement shall be interpreted so as best to affect the intent of the parties. This agreement shall be governed by, and interpreted in accordance with, the laws of the State of Idaho and the United States of America. This agreement expresses the complete understanding of the parties with respect to the subject matter and supercedes all prior representations and understandings.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties, on behalf of themselves, represent below that they have read and understand the terms of the Agreement, and that they are duly authorized to enter into this Agreement by, and on behalf of, themselves or their respective organization, as appropriate.

________________________________________________________

Date     Presenting and/or Primary Author (Printed Name and Signature)

Address :

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

(Fax form to +1-208-466-7693 or email pdf to office@equineophtho.com)
1. **COPYRIGHT TRANSFER:** The required signature of the first (presenting) author on the back of the abstracts submission form, who is acting as the agent for all co-authors, agrees to the transfer of the copyright to the International Equine Ophthalmology Consortium (IEOC). If the abstract is part of the work involving official duties of an officer or employee of the U.S. Government, it is considered public domain. If said abstract is later deemed copyrightable, all copyright ownership of the abstract will be conveyed to the IEOC.

2. **ABSTRACT FORMAT:** Abstracts must be printed on one side of a single sheet paper with 1-inch margins at the top and sides, 3-inch margin at the bottom. Note that this corresponds to a printed text area of no greater than 6.5 x 7 inches. If a paper size different than 8.5 x 11 inches is used, the printed text area must not exceed 6.5 x 7 inches (16.5 x 17.7 cm). Abstracts not meeting these space requirements for printed text will not be considered further. **Text must be 12-point standard Arial font.** Construct the body of the abstract as follows:

- **TITLE** in upper case.
- (Enclose in parentheses each author’s first initials, middle initial, with no periods after the initials, full last name, each author separated by commas, beginning with the first, presenting author). Underline the name of the primary (or presenting) author.
- Institutional affiliations separated by semicolons.
- A blank line.
- Abstract of research beginning with **Purpose, and including Methods, Results, and Conclusions** (titles boldfaced and underlined). Title to be followed by a period.
- Following Conclusions, list funding sources and grant number(s) if applicable.
- Following funding sources, it is required that the abstract cite one of the four following designations with regards to any conflicts of interest by any of the authors: P (financial interest in product, process of equipment or interest in potentially competing product), I (investor in company, process or product), E (employee of involved company), C (compensation or support received within the past three years of product presented) or None (no financial interest or conflict).
- When a drug is referenced include the specific company name and address.

3. **ABSTRACT EXAMPLE:**

**AFFECTS OF TOPICAL ATROPINE ON PUPIL SECLUSION FOLLOWING EXPERIMENTAL LENS EXTRACTION (JP Smith, DJ Jones, BW Yates)**

**Purpose.** Concisely indicate the objective of the study, including the specific question the study was intended to address.

**Methods.** The methods should include a description of the study design, all methods used, a description of the subject population, and the statistical methods used. **Results.** The results should contain an objective presentation of the data. **Conclusions.** An interpretation of the meaning and significance of the results. Supported by NIH grants EY 42743. None.

4. **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:** Completed abstract and submission forms must be received by 15 March, 2010 via email submission. Late abstracts may not be accepted. The following items must be received as listed by the 15th.

- Fax or email a completed abstract submission form including signed copyright transfer form and email addresses of presenting author.
- Email text MUST include abstract author’s name, address, phone, fax, email, # of abstracts being submitted and the titles of each attached abstract. Abstracts must be attachments not in-text. Emails not containing this data may be refused.

5. **ABSTRACT ACCEPTANCE/SCHEDULING:** The presenting author will be notified of acceptance of the abstract by email by approximately 15 April, 2010.

6. **ORAL PRESENTATION GUIDELINES:** Paper presentations are scheduled for a TOTAL of 15 minutes including any time you wish to include questions from the audience. When preparing PowerPoint presentation, use simple, large type for text and graphs (all presentations must be in PowerPoint). Avoid the use of blue-green, and magenta-violet, which may appear gray to your color-blind colleagues. Type in yellow, orange and red can also be difficult to see on a white background. Keep a consistent background color for all your slides. **Speakers should prepare their presentations using PowerPoint ONLY in a PC friendly format!** No other visual format will be available.

7. **POSTERS PRESENTATION GUIDELINES:** Poster presentation will not be accepted for this meeting.
Performances
Tickets can be booked online (www.srs.at) or directly at the Visitor Centre Box Office, Michaelerplatz 1, 1010 Vienna, by mail, fax or E-Mail. Bookings by mail, fax and E-Mail must include the following: name, address, phone number, number of tickets required, price category and the date of the performance.

Tickets cannot be refunded except on the cancellation or substantial alteration of the performance.

When booking by mail, fax or E-Mail and if the requested price category is no longer available, the Spanish Riding School reserves the right to book mandatory tickets in the next lower price category on behalf of the purchaser.

Tickets for wheelchair spaces are limited and must be booked in writing.

Children under 3 years are not admitted. Children from 3 to 6 years are admitted free of charge but must be held in an adult’s lap (“Lap Child”). Children from 6 to 12 years are admitted at a reduced rate.

Payment and ticket collection
Tickets booked online and paid by credit card can be collected at the Visitor Centre up to 45 minutes before the start of the performance. Tickets booked by mail, fax or E-Mail can be collected and paid for in cash, by cash or credit card (Mastercard, Visa, Diners Club, American Express, JCB) at the Visitor Centre during opening hours, however, at the latest 1 hour before the start of the performance.

Please present your order confirmation when collecting tickets.

Morning exercise
Tickets cannot be booked in advance for the Morning Exercise. Tickets are available at the Visitor Centre and at Josefplatz from 9.00 to 12.00 hrs.

Guided tours
We recommend bookings Guided Tour either via E-Mail (info@srs.at) or by phone (+43 1 533 90 31).

All prices are quoted in EUR, per person and include taxes. Subject to change without notice. The use of cameras and recording equipment is strictly forbidden. Subjects allergic reactions. Access to the Winter Riding School and the stables is made at one’s own risk.