



Professional RLRI

South Central @ Mississippi State University

February 17, 2023



FRIDAY	
11:00am	Lunch and Introductions / Welcome by Dr. Rocky Lindsey
12:00-12:50 pm	Dr. Jack Smith <i>“Forecast Outlook and Harvest Report from the Frontlines”</i>
1:00-1:50pm	Dr. Rocky Lindsey <i>“Creating and Being a Part of a Healthy Team”</i>
1:50pm-2:10pm	Short Break/Fellowship
2:10-3:00pm	Bliss Steele <i>Titles of Towels</i>
3:00-3:50pm	Dr. Lauren Charles <i>Prayer, A Practical Mystery</i>
4:00pm	Debrief, Prayer, Adjourn to RLRI if attending

“Forecast Outlook and Harvest Report from the Front Lines” - **Dr. Jack Smith**

Associate Dean and Professor of the MSU CVM, Dr, Jack Smith, will give insights into the issues that students face as well as share some encouraging stories that will challenge and encourage you in your efforts to bear fruit.

“Creating and Being a Part of a Healthy Team ” - **Dr. Rocky Lindsey**

1 hour of CE! Your employees are three times more the face of your practice than you are. Hiring, managing, maintaining, and firing employees is not a course that is taught in vet school. How can it be done effectively and in a God-honoring way?

“Titles or Towels” - **Bliss Steele**

Bliss Steele is the chaplain for Nutramax Laboratories. Join him as he teaches us how to create great relationships, get great results, and have great human satisfaction through Servant Leadership.

“Prayer, a Practical Mystery” - **Dr. Lauren Charles**

Prayer is a vital part of a relationship with God. It can also be a vital part of a healthy veterinary practice. Dive in with us to discover some new prayer tools and share your own with others.



February 17-19, 2023

FRIDAY

5:00-6:30 pm	Registration
6:30 pm	Meal and Fellowship
7:30 pm	Introductions - Dr. Rocky Lindsey
8:30 pm	Praise & Worship
9:00 pm	Evening Challenge— Dr. John Huff - “A Transformed Veterinarian can Transform Lives.”

SATURDAY

8:00 am	Breakfast		
8:30 am	Devotional— Dr. Skip Jack —“Relationships that Transform”		
	Room A	Room B	Room C
9:30-10:20 am	Dr. Lauren Rogers “Who Are You?”	Dr. Tara Zentner “Being led by the Spirit of God, as He transforms our hearts and minds.”	Dr. Julie White “What Are We Waiting For? Tackling Mental Health Stigmas”
10:30-11:20 am	Dr. Bart Sutherland “What does the Bible Say About Worry?”	Dr. Tim Cummings “Going All In”	Dr. Sharon Grace “Cleopatra the Cat: What God Intends for Good”
11:30-12:20 pm	Dr. Jim Watson “Veterinary Medicine and My Identity in Christ”	Dr. Kelly Crowdis “Who does Short Term Missions Transform?”	Drs. Billy and Lee Myers “Transformania – It’s Gooeylicious”
12:30 pm	Lunch		
1:15pm	Worship, CVF Updates, and Group Picture		
2:30-3:20 pm	Dr. Leonard Jordan “Here I raise my Ebenezer: Remembering the faithfulness of God in all circumstances.”	Dr. Shirani Hickman “Being Patient While Waiting For God’s Plan.”	Dr. Tabitha and Chance Norris “Intentionally Living Your Faith in Practice”
3:30-4:00 pm	Fellowship Break		
4:00-4:50 pm	Kellie Pernula “Patience in Tribulation. What we can learn from the Lord during seasons of uncertainty/trials.”	Dr. “E” “Rejoicing in Hope”	Dr. Casey Mitchell “Bad Medicine is NOT what I need!”
5:00-6:00 pm	MSU Vet School Tour		
6:00 pm	Dinner		
7:30 pm	Praise and Worship		
8:00 pm	Evening Challenge— Dr. Rocky Lindsey - “ ‘But Even If He Doesn’t...’ Faith That Transforms”		

SUNDAY @ New Horizons Christian Fellowship

9:00 - 10:00 am	Sunday Morning Challenge— Bliss Steele
10:00-10:30 am	Fellowship
10:30 am	Praise and Worship and Sunday Morning Service





South Central RLRI 2023 Featured Speakers – Starkville, MS

Friday Evening

February 17

John Huff, DVM

John Huff, DVM is a 1992 graduate of the University Of Missouri School Of Veterinary Medicine. He owned and managed a companion animal veterinary practice in Jonesboro, Arkansas, for 28 years, and sold his practice to a hospital group in 2021. John and his wife Andrea have been married for 35 years and have 5 children and 2 grandchildren. Dr. Huff volunteers as a chaplain at the Craighead County Juvenile Detention Center, serves on the board of directors for Focus, Inc., a center for developmentally challenged adults and children, works as the Jonesboro City Veterinarian, and is active as a deacon and life group leader in his church. John and Andrea frequently travel to the East African county of Uganda conducting medical and veterinary clinics as a tool to establishing and supporting local churches in some of the most remote and economically challenged communities on earth.

Saturday

February 18

Devotion

Skip Jack, DVM

Dr. Skip has been Mississippi State CVF faculty advisor for 15 years or so. Having grown up in Maryland, received his DVM from Ohio State (long before "THE"), PhD and pathology residency at Purdue ADDL. His marriage with Linda has survived this and 2 grown children. Blessings include having served on the CVM Board of Advisors, travel on numerous short term student trips (Haiti, Nicaragua, St. Kitts, Mongolia, Brazil) & mission opportunities through Starkville FUMC to Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Mexico & Appalachia. International teaching has included Indonesia, Nigeria, Uganda, England & Scotland. Words of Wisdom: "Love what you do for people who love what you do."

Session I

Lauren Rogers, DVM

An Arkansas native, Dr. Lauren Rogers graduated with her DVM from Oklahoma State University in 2009. After a short stint in Texas, she made her way back home where she worked in small animal

private practice for six years. Then, in 2016, she took a leap of faith and joined the animal science faculty at the University of Arkansas – a career move she honestly never saw coming! Since 2016, Dr. Rogers has served as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the department and taught/co-taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses including: Animal Behavior, Comparative Veterinary Anatomy, Introduction to Animal Health, Companion Animal Nutrition, Respiratory Physiology and Renal Physiology... just to name a few! She also advises a large number of pre-veterinary students on campus, while also serving as the faculty advisor for the University of Arkansas Pre-Vet Club and its newly formed Christian Veterinary Fellowship group. She has participated in a handful of CVM Short-Term mission trips to Honduras over the years and is excited to continue sharing and promoting the mission and vision of CVM with her students as the opportunities arise. In her spare time, Dr. Rogers enjoys doing local veterinary relief work, traveling and antiques. However, her best time spent with her husband (Quin) and stepson (Parker) - taking care of their many animals (4 dogs, 1 cat, 6 chickens and a small herd of Irish Dexter cattle) at their home on Beaver Lake.

Tara Zentner, DVM

Dr. Tara Zentner is a child of God, a wife and mixed animal veterinarian. Born and raised in Pennsylvania, where she also practices veterinary medicine and surgery, and teaches Equine Anatomy and Physiology at DelVal. Passionate about mission work and sharing the love of Jesus through veterinary medicine. Been blessed with the opportunity to serve on multiple CVM short term mission trips. Since God called her to Nicaragua, St. Croix (keeps calling), St. Thomas, St. John, Alaska, India and Navajo Nation in Arizona (keeps calling). Thankful to be blessed with such an amazing husband Matthew and family. Dr. Z loves being with her husband, family, friends, dogs, cats, chickens and ponies. Enjoys her weekly Bible study group, dirt biking, jet skiing, hiking, rock climbing, camping and line dancing.

Julie White, DVM

Dr. Julie White is an East Tennessee native with a heart for large animals. After graduating from Lincoln Memorial University, she completed an equine internship (Lexington, KY) and residency in large animal internal medicine (Michigan State University). Dr. White returned to her southern roots in August 2022 as Assistant Professor of Large Animal Medicine at Mississippi State University. Dr. White participated in three CVM mission trips to Central Kentucky as a student and looks forward to returning as a veterinarian. She enjoys spending time with her dogs, Jake and Alex, attempting DIY projects around the house, and crafting.

Session II

Bart Sutherland, DVM

Graduated MSU-CVM - 1994. Worked in Savannah, Missouri in a predominantly large animal practice in 1995 & 1996. In 1996 I moved back to Oxford, MS and started -Oxford Equine and Large Animal Services. In 2001 I added a small animal clinic to the mix. From 2010-2018 I worked for the USDA's Horse Protection Program and Animal Care. From 2018 to current I have been consulting as a private practitioner on veterinary and legal issues. Selected in 2019 by the National Academies of Science to serve on a committee evaluating the USDA's method for determining soreness in horses.

Tim Cummings, DVM

Dr. Tim Cummings is a senior, technical services veterinarian for Zoetis U.S. Poultry. His employment history includes time spent with 1) turkey production at BUTA/Prestage Farms, 2) Pfizer Animal

Health and Zoetis as a technical services veterinarian, and 3) Mississippi State University as a clinical poultry professor. This background has afforded him practical experience in poultry medicine & production which also allowed him to develop a network among colleagues at the national and international level. On the personal side, Carla has been Tim's bride for over 30 years, and they have 2 adult children, Jennifer and Chris, and 1 grandchild. Tim still enjoys playing sports and the great outdoors.

DVM from Mississippi State University in 1984

MS from the University of Georgia in 1986

Diplomate of the ACPV (American College of Poultry Veterinarians)

Sharon Grace, DVM

Dr. Sharon Grace is a native Mississippian and faculty member at the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Since childhood, she has had an abiding affection for cats, an interest which helped shape her career path. She received a B.S. from the University of Missouri, a Master of Agriculture degree from Texas Tech, followed by the M.S. and D.V.M. degrees from Mississippi State University. She is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. In 1992, she established a small animal referral practice in Franklin, TN and returned to the faculty of Mississippi State in 1999. In 2004, Dr. Grace was recognized by MSU as the CVM Alumna of the Year. She received the Dean's Award for Service in 2009 and the Dean's Award for Teaching in 2004, 2015 and 2020. In 2022, she received the Superior Teaching Award from the Mississippi State University Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine. In 2009, she established the "Safe Haven for Pets" program at MSU and began a partnership with Care Lodge Domestic Violence Shelter in Meridian, MS to provide boarding and medical care for pets of families entering the shelter. A generous donation in 2020 allowed expansion of this program to include six domestic violence shelters in Mississippi. Since its inception, this program has been totally self-sustaining through donations and grants and has provided over 5,000 days of shelter and care to pets from homes experiencing domestic violence. She is active in Christian ministry and is a member of the Kairos International Prison Ministry program, serving incarcerated young men at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Pearl, MS. Her home church is Hinds Independent Methodist Church in Raymond, Mississippi.

Session III

Jim Watson, DVM

Kelly Crowdis, DVM

Kelly has been serving in Haiti since 2006 and considers Haiti home. She has a son, Ronald, whom she adopted after the earthquake in 2010. Kelly serves by facilitating the training of Haitian veterinary agents at AgHorizon Veterinary Clinic and Technical School founded in 2016 from the long-time work of training veterinary agents in the field. AgHorizon is raising the standard of veterinary care in Haiti in a Christian environment and creating agents of change in all of Haiti's 10 departments with its graduates. Her heart project is Give a Kid to a Kid where children from 4-6th grade are disciplined and taught goat husbandry during a year-long program. They are given a female goat which changes their economic opportunity and teaches life values of responsibility, self-confidence and creation care. Kelly also assists the Haitian Ministry of Agriculture and the CDC in Atlanta in the fight to

eradicate canine rabies in Haiti, where it is estimated that 2 people per week perish from a preventable disease.

Lee Myers, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, MEP

Dr. Lee Myers joined Christian Veterinary Mission as the Chief Executive Officer in January 2022. While on her second CVM short-term mission trip to Mongolia (1997), her teammate, Dr. Billy Myers, proposed and they were married shortly thereafter. The Myers have led CVM student short-term mission trips to the Navajo and Apache reservations for a decade and continue to serve as advocates for the University of Georgia CVM Fellowship. They joined CVM as Associates in 2015 and moved to Europe to inspire veterinary students to form Christian clubs in Romania, Moldova, and Bulgaria. They continue to mentor, encourage, and support Eastern Europe Christian student clubs and the newly formed Romanian Christian Veterinary Association. Dr. Lee graduated from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine and has served in a variety of leadership positions in the Georgia Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The Myers are active members of the First Baptist Church in Monroe, Georgia and enjoy living the country life on their farm.

Session IV

Leonard Jordan, DVM

Dr. Leonard Jordan was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee. He grew up in the church, giving his life to Jesus at 9 years of age. He attended Auburn University for his undergraduate studies, where he grew more in love with Jesus and the scriptures. He obtained his DVM from the University of Tennessee in 2018, where he graduated as his class valedictorian and, most importantly, where he met his lovely wife, Kendall. After working as a general practitioner for three years, he decided to pursue a radiology residency. Leonard currently works as a radiology resident at Mississippi State University.

Shirani Hickman, DVM

Dr. Shirani Hickman is a small animal veterinarian practicing in Natchez, Mississippi. She grew up in central Louisiana and graduated from LSU SVM in 2000. While she was in vet school, she restarted CVM's lunch Bible study, which is still active to this day. She is actively involved in First Baptist Church, Natchez, and leads the Moms in Prayer group at her daughters' school. Her husband Dave is a fisheries biologist who graduated from LSU in 1998. Their daughters, Patty Jo and Annie Grace, are in 10th and 6th grades.

Tabitha Norris, DVM and Chance Norris

Dr. Tabitha Norris was born and raised in North Arkansas. She completed her undergrad at Arkansas Tech University. She received her DVM from Oklahoma State University in 2003 and practiced in North Arkansas until 2014. She and her family then moved to her husband's home place of Monticello, Ar. Dr. Norris purchased both Monticello Animal Clinic and Warren Animal Clinic from Dr. Rocky Lindsey in June 2015 and is one of the full time doctors there. In 2021, Dr. Norris purchased Fordyce Animal Clinic. She has a special interest in internal medicine cases and abdominal ultrasound. Tabitha enjoys spending time with her husband Chance, son Caleb and daughter Tessa. As a family they enjoy riding horses and hunting. They are active members at Pauline Baptist Church.

Session V

Kellie Pernula

Kellie is a current third year veterinary student at Mississippi State University. She is from Florida but has called Colorado and now Tennessee home in the past several years. She served on MSU's Student CVF Group leadership board during the 2020-2021 school year. The Lord has placed in her a heart for missions since starting veterinary school and she's served on CVM Short-Term Mission Trips to Nicaragua (December 2019) and the Dominican Republic (December 2020). She is undecided on a career path within veterinary medicine but is excited to follow the Lord's calling wherever He may lead.

"E", DVM

CVM apprenticeship alumni, Mississippi State recent graduate, and Fieldworker candidate called to serve in Africa.

Casey Mitchell, DVM

Dr. Casey Mitchell is part of the body of Christ, a husband to his wife Cindy, and a daddy to his two girls Abigail and Adelyn. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine class of 2003. Dr. Mitchell and Cindy were born and raised in central Mississippi but now the family lives in El Dorado, AR where they operate El Dorado Animal Hospital, a mixed animal practice. The Mitchell family has been actively involved with CVM's short term mission opportunities to Haiti and Honduras. Dr. Mitchell loves spending time with family and friends especially if it involves redfishing, projects, and/or good food.

Evening Challenge

Rocky Lindsey, DVM

Dr. Rocky Lindsey (LSU '98) and his wife, Alicia, live in southeast Arkansas. They have two teenage sons, Isaac and Jonah. Dr. Lindsey owned and operated two busy small animal practices until 2015. Even though the practices weren't for sale, the Lord led the Lindsey's to sell their businesses, then led Dr. Lindsey to teach at a local university. Rocky has been the South Central Region Representative since 2020.

Sunday

February, 19

Bliss Steele

Bliss Steele lives in Lancaster SC with his wife Jessica and their 18 year old son and 5 dogs. Bliss has worked with teenagers and adults for more than 2 decades in both the church and corporate world. Bliss is currently the Corporate Chaplain for Nutramax Laboratories in Lancaster SC, serving their nearly 600 employees. During the past 7 years he has had the awesome opportunity to travel and speak to audiences teaching obedience through the unique use of Retrievers. Using these dogs as an illustration, Bliss combines biblical truths and practical application to show the power of obedience in the life of the believer. It is his desire that you will learn what it means to be in an obedient and submissive relationship with Jesus Christ.

