

Third Annual Animal Welfare Symposium

The third annual HSVMA Animal Welfare Symposium was hosted by the Western University College of Veterinary Medicine on Sunday, October 29th. The student chapter officers and their faculty advisors did an amazing job organizing and preparing for an inspiring day of presentations. Six talks were given by experts in their field, ranging from Access to Care to Farm Animal Welfare. In addition, the campus hosted a [RAVS](#) suture lab on Saturday evening for anyone interested in learning or brushing up on suture skills. This year's symposium was sponsored by [Wallis Annenberg PetSpace](#), which allowed us to increase the number of student travel stipends we could offer. We would like to thank our sponsor, our speakers, and the students and faculty at Western for their help in making this year's symposium a success. For more information, please visit the [write up](#) on our website. If we didn't see you in Pomona, you can view the lectures [here!](#) Check out future newsletters for more information on student travel stipends and location of the next symposium!



Dr. Barry Kipperman leading a discussion at the 2017 AWS
Photo credit: HSVMA

Midwestern Veterinary Student Shares His Journey into Veterinary Forensics

Gregory Gstrein, a class of 2018 veterinary student at Midwestern University, was part of the third group of students to rotate through the Forensic Investigations elective in the school's new Diagnostic Pathology Center. Cases are brought to the vet school by local law enforcement and the local humane society for necropsy and evidence collection in the hopes that the abuser will be found and prosecuted. Veterinary students are given the opportunity to be directly involved with cases and present their findings to law enforcement. Many students such as Gregory find this program rewarding and thought provoking as they see a side of veterinary medicine that is relatively new and growing rapidly. Gregory has graciously provided his insight into this incredible program. Read his essay on our [webpage](#) and contact Heather at hschrader@hsvma.org if you would be interested in sharing an animal welfare related experience.



Gregory Gstrein and his classmates at Midwestern
Photo credit: Gregory Gstrein

Animal Welfare Legislation Spotlight

Several new ballot measures are being worked on this winter as we gear up for the November 2018 elections. HSVMA is an official sponsor of a farm animal welfare measure in California and we, along with a coalition of other organizations, are hoping to gather 600,000 signatures to get this on the ballot in 2018. This new measure would let voters decide if California should expand the farm animal protection laws that were passed in 2008 (Proposition 2) and in 2010 (AB 1437). New language would increase protection for egg-laying chickens, pigs in gestation crates, and veal calves. The HSVMA is also endorsing a ballot measure in Arizona that would end trophy hunting of mountain lions and bobcats in that state. And in Ohio, HSVMA is endorsing a measure to implement stricter regulations of puppy mills. If you would like to help with any of these campaigns, please contact HSVMA at advocacy@hsvma.org and we can connect you with someone in your state working on these important measures.



Pig in adequate sized housing.
Photo credit: HSUS

Recommended Reading and Viewing

An exciting new book by [Paul Shapiro](#), former Vice President of Policy Engagement at HSUS, was released January 2, 2018, by [Simon and Schuster's Gallery Books](#). [Clean Meat](#) addresses the welfare and environmental concerns surrounding modern farming and how agricultural sustainability can be achieved through this new technology of creating meat without the animals. Order your copy of [Clean Meat](#) today! If movies are more your thing, a new documentary/biography about Jane Goodall is now playing in select theaters. [JANE](#) features never-before-seen footage from the archives of National Geographic that show Jane in her early years working with the chimpanzees in Gombe Stream National Park. Her groundbreaking conservation work and relationship with photographer, Hugo van Lawick, are highlighted in this beautiful look at a woman who brought us closer to a world we had never before seen. Find a showing in your area [here](#)!

