In selecting James N. Moore, DVM, PhD, for the 2017 ACVS Merit Award, the ACVS membership acknowledges that his dedication to advancing veterinary medicine and surgery deserves recognition by all that have benefited from his work.

After a residency in surgery and a PhD at the University of Missouri, Dr. Moore joined the surgery faculty at the University of Georgia where he performed clinical surgery, taught surgery to students and residents, and developed research programs for horses with gastrointestinal disease, endotoxic shock, and laminitis. Although recognized for his extensive research on equine colic and shock, he has become equally recognized for the development of instructional aids for diagnosis of colic and other equine and small animal diseases. His concept and final production for the Glass Horse created an internationally recognized learning tool for veterinarians, students, and horse owners. Dr. Moore’s creation of animated graphics for education has expanded into education of undergraduates and high school students. His interest in using animation to enhance education continues with production of iBooks, which include anatomy and diseases for horses and small animals on mobile phones, iPads, and computers.

Dr. Moore continues to teach surgery at the University of Georgia to both veterinary and graduate students. His recent work includes publications for mobile education and communications. Dr. Moore is the principle or co-investigator on 112 grants. All of Dr. Moore’s work has been associated with improving animal health and inspired by the care required by horses with colic.

Dr. Moore is a co-editor of 6 books including a recent edition of the Equine Acute Abdomen (in press). He has authored or co-authored 28 book chapters, 225 journal articles, 89 abstracts, and 26 proceedings. He has presented 24 international and 117 national invited lectures.

Dr. Moore has received many awards including: American Association of Equine Practitioners Distinguished Educator Award, 2007; Alumni Achievement Award, University of California-Davis, 2006; Equine Speaker of the Year, North American Veterinary Conference, 2003; Frank J. Milne Memorial Lecture, American Association of Equine Practitioners, 2001; World Equine Veterinary Association Research Award, 1999; McCoy Lecturer, Washington State University Centennial Celebration, 1999; David Tyler Award for Innovation in Teaching, 1998; Coughlin Visiting Professor, University of Tennessee, 1994; Creative Research Award, University of Georgia, 1988; Commencement Speaker, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, 1982; Award for Biomedical Student Research Symposium presentation, 1979.

Colleagues noted: “Dr. James Moore has selflessly dedicated his life and professional career to the education of veterinary students, residents, and horse owners, never expecting anything in return or seeking recognition for his accomplishments.”

Past recipients of the ACVS Merit Award:

2003: Steven F. Swaim, DVM, MS
2005: Geoffrey Sumner-Smith, MSc, DVSc, FRCVS
2006: Barclay Slocum, DVM, MS (posthumously)
2010: Gretchen L. Flo, DVM, MS
2012: Thomas M. Turner, DVM
2013: Aldo Vezzoni, Med. Vet
2016: Padraic M. Dixon, MVB, PhD, MRCVS, Dip EVDC (EQ)

The ACVS Merit Award was established to acknowledge contributions to the progress of veterinary surgery made by an individual from outside the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. The award is given to an individual who has a career dominated by major and ongoing contributions to the art and science of veterinary surgery.