

ACVS FOUNDERS' AWARD FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

Dean W. Richardson, DVM

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons

In selecting Dean W. Richardson, DVM, Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons, for the *ACVS Founders' Award for Career Achievement*, the ACVS membership recognizes a world renowned leader in the equine surgery field, whose contributions over the last 30+ years have greatly impacted the art and science of veterinary surgery.



Dean W. Richardson, DVM, DACVS

Dr. Richardson's contributions as a surgeon to developing cutting-edge equine orthopedic techniques is extensive. He has developed and reported on many uses of locking compression plates in horses, which has significantly improved orthopedic outcomes of fracture repair; developed several approaches to perfecting sesamoid fracture repair; perfected techniques to decrease infection associated with implants; and further improved imaging techniques to both diagnose, manage, and improve fracture repair, such as CT guided approaches. From the introduction of arthroscopy, to the development of new orthopedic implants and techniques, Dr. Richardson has continued to relentlessly push the field of equine surgery into the future.

Dr. Richardson graduated from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1979, before beginning his tenure at University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, New Bolton Center, as a large animal rotating intern. Upon completion of his large animal surgery residency in 1982, he stayed on as a lecturer before officially joining the faculty as an assistant professor in 1985. He was named the Charles W. Raker Associate Professor of Equine Surgery in 1994 and promoted to full professor in 1999 and chief of large animal surgery in 2001. He continues to teach in the equine fracture repair courses and is one of few equine surgeons asked to lead the masters' courses.

Dr. Richardson's national and international reputation reflects his transformational role in equine orthopedic surgery. He has worked on some of the world's most foremost horses and continues to train and inspire the next generation of veterinary surgeons. He is perhaps best known as the leader of the New Bolton Center veterinary team that treated the 2007 Kentucky Derby winner and Triple Crown hopeful Barbaro, after the horse shattered his right hindlimb at the Preakness Stakes.

Dr. Richardson has received many prestigious awards for his work, including the 1997 Pfizer Award for Excellence in Research and the Special Eclipse Award from the National Thoroughbred Racing Association as part of "Team Barbaro" (2007). In an expression of gratitude for his extraordinary performance in the Barbaro case, the ACVS presented Dr. Richardson a special letter of commendation at the ACVS Diplomates' Annual Business Meeting (October 2007).

Dr. Richardson's honors have included numerous teaching awards, and of those, he says, he is most proud. He has held many leadership positions, including serving on the Grayson-Jockey Club Scientific Advisory Board, the United States Equestrian Federation Scientific Advisory Board, and the AO North America Board of Directors.

Dr. Richardson is a talented surgeon, mentor, researcher, educator, and a role model for students, interns, residents, and clinicians around the world. As a researcher, he has maintained a successful, well-funded orthopedic laboratory with many grants and contracts since 1999 that has allowed dozens of surgery residents

to carry out their research projects. Together with Dr. Thomas Schaer, he was a key figure in the vision and development of the New Bolton Center, known internationally for its expertise in equine orthopedic disease, diagnosis, and surgery. He has authored more than 130 peer-reviewed publications, nine reviews and editorials, 40+ book chapters, 50 scientific abstracts and proceedings, and several online AO modules on fracture repair.

In addition to being a teacher to thousands of students through his career, he has mentored and trained more than 60 large animal surgery residents and more than 120 large animal interns, and has been an advisor to approximately 38 interns or residents, many becoming leaders in their field. For over 30 years, Dr. Richardson has immersed himself in the ACVS community. He was a member of the *Veterinary Surgery* Editorial Review Board and a speaker at the ACVS Veterinary Symposium/Surgery Summit for 30+ consecutive years, serving as seminar chair for multiple years. He was recognized by the ACVS Foundation as an Honored Mentor in 2014 through contributions given by previous residents who are now carrying on his legacy of training and dedication to improving the surgical care of the horse.

As noted by a friend and colleague: “He is in my opinion the “surgeon’s surgeon” and the “teacher’s teacher” and the ACVS is lucky to have such a great role model for our College and profession ... I would not be the surgeon that I am today without his mentorship and support.”

Past recipients of the ACVS Founders' Award for Career Achievement:

- 2005 - Wade O. Brinker, DVM, MS
- 2006 - C. Wayne McIlwraith, BVSc, PhD
- 2007 - Fred P. Sattler, DVM
- 2008 - William Lumb, DVM, PhD, DSc
- 2009 - Donald L. Piermattei, DVM, PhD
- 2011 - Steven P. Arnoczky, DVM
- 2012 - Stephen J. Withrow, DVM
- 2013 - A. Simon Turner, BVSc, MS
- 2014 - Susan M. Stover, DVM, PhD
- 2015 - Alan J. Nixon, BVSc
- 2016 - Michael M. Pavletic, DVM
- 2017 - Jörg A. Auer, DMV, MS
- 2018 - Larry R. Bramlage, DVM, MS
- 2019 - James L. Tomlinson, DVM, MVSc

The ACVS Founders' Award for Career Achievement was established to recognize the service of ACVS Diplomates who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of surgery by making significant contributions to the development of surgical techniques and methodology, and disseminating knowledge to colleagues, residents, and students.