



2018 MVTA Conference Speaker Bios

Ed Carlson, CVT, VTS (Nutrition)

Ed Carlson is the Technician Learning and Development Manager for Ethos Veterinary Health, East Region and VetBloom. He obtained a VTS (Nutrition) in 2014 and lectures frequently at local, regional, and national veterinary conferences on a variety of nutrition topics. He is the Vice President of the Massachusetts Veterinary Technician Association, Treasurer of the New Hampshire Veterinary Technician Association and the Academy of Veterinary Nutrition Technicians. Ed serves on multiple NAVTA committees including the Veterinary Nurse Initiative workgroup. He is also a member of the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators.

Meghan Dakin, CVT, VTS (ECC)

Meghan studied pre-veterinary medicine at the University of New Hampshire and has worked in the veterinary medical field for the past 14 years. She has been a CVT in New Hampshire since 2008 and completed the challenging process of becoming a Veterinary Technician Specialist in Emergency and Critical Care in 2017. Her professional interests include cardiopulmonary resuscitation, invasive monitoring techniques, and blood gas analysis. She also enjoys the challenge of emergent and critical care anesthesia cases. Meghan lives on the seacoast of New Hampshire and enjoys spending time at the beach, gardening, and camping with her family.

Monique Feyrecilde, BA, LVT, VTS (Behavior)

Monique Feyrecilde ("Fairchild") is a veterinary technician specialist in Behavior and works full time in small animal private practice outside Seattle, Washington and owns a consulting business called Teaching Animals. She is a past president and current Exam Committee chair of the Academy of Veterinary Behavior Technicians. With over 20 years of clinical experience and a special interest in professional education, she brings a suite of innovative techniques and solutions which are practical to apply in everyday situations. Monique is also the co-author of the book Cooperative Veterinary Care and has authored content for all three levels of the Fear Free Certification Course.

Brett Gaby, DVM

Dr. Brett Gaby graduated from Cornell University in 1992 with a BS in Food Science and Engineering, and a minor in Animal Nutrition. He spent 2 years in research immunology at Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine, and 2 years in Dublin, Ireland studying veterinary science, followed by graduating in Veterinary Medicine in 1999 from Mississippi State University. Dr. Gaby started Essex Equine in 2003, which is an ambulatory sport horse medicine practice in the greater Boston area.

Christopher Hannafin, DVM



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Dr. Hannafin is a professor in the Veterinary Technology program at the New England Institute of Technology, providing training in livestock medicine, animal disease and veterinary practice management. Dr. Hannafin also is the owner of a mobile farm call practice, New Shoreham Veterinary Services, in Wakefield, Rhode Island. Through his experience as a state veterinarian and livestock practitioner, he has developed a series of lectures and labs designed to educate veterinarians, technicians, students and staff in the current topics and techniques needed to practice livestock medicine on local farms.

Samantha Kowalski, CVT, VTS (IM, ECC)

Samantha started her career in emergency medicine in 2005 after years working in feline specialty. Currently she is an overnight ICU technician in the Veterinary Emergency & Specialty Hospital in South Deerfield MA. She received her VTS in Emergency and Critical Care in 2011 and in 2016 acquired her second VTS in Small Animal Internal Medicine. Samantha enjoys traveling, volunteering on animal projects and utilizing her technician skills outside the hospital. This has given her the chance to work with and care for large exotic cats and elephants. It has also given her the opportunity to handle raptors for falconry in Ireland and participates in the annual medical screening of dog sled teams for the Iditarod Race in Alaska.

Jaime Maher, CVT, VTS (ECC, Anesthesia)

Jaime has been working as a certified veterinary technician for over 17 years. She is an active member of the Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia and Analgesia and the Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians, through which she is recognized globally as a veterinary technician specialist in both anesthesia and emergency/critical care. Jaime currently works as a surgery and anesthesia technician at the Massachusetts Veterinary Referral Hospital in Woburn, MA and as a first aid and CPR instructor for Pet Emergency Education.

Patty Pate, CVT, VTS (ECC), CFE

Patty Pate, CVT, VTS (ECC), CFE has nearly 20 years' experience in the veterinary field with the last 16 years focused on emergency and critical care working at Massachusetts Veterinary Referral Hospital, Bulger Veterinary Hospital and Port City Veterinary Referral Hospital. In her current role of Technician Clinical Educator for Ethos Veterinary Health (East Region) Patty provides educational opportunities to 400 veterinary technicians, was instrumental in the development of the Ethos AVA Program and is a primary instructor for the program. Patty is the Secretary of the NHVTA and lectures frequently on emergency, critical care, and compassion fatigue.

Jessica M. Weber CVT, VTS (Neurology)

Jessica received a BS in Zoology from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA in 2000. She began her career as a veterinary assistant shortly afterward. In 2005 she began working at the



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VCA Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle in the emergency department. In 2006 she obtained LVT certification and started in the Neurology department. In 2011 Jessica obtained her VTS in Neurology. In 2012 she made the leap across country and started at Ocean State Veterinary Specialists in East Greenwich, RI. She then became a CVT in RI in 2013. As a neurology technician she performs MRI examinations and works with a Neurologist on seizure management and rehabilitation treatment plans. Jessica is a board member of the Rhode Island Veterinary Technician Association and is The Director at Large of Neurology in the Academy of Internal Medicine Technicians. She lives with a wild and crazy pointer mix named Colby Jack, who has a penchant for eating socks and occasionally takes a seizure as well as a cranky old orange shorthair cat named Loki.