

One Medicine, One University: The Illinois Center for One Medicine

Presenter: John A. Herrmann, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Co-Presenter: Yvette Johnson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Session: Oral

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The University of Illinois has three main campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield and two satellite campuses for the College of Medicine in Rockford and Peoria. The campuses, some urban and some rural, are spread throughout the state of Illinois and are home to an impressive collection of programs and faculty. Our presentation will describe the origin of the Illinois Center for One Medicine, an intra-university collaborative center focused on the interface of human, animal, ecosystem and public health. Faculty and staff from the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine, Public Health, Medicine, Law, Environmental Sciences and Agriculture as well as programs in labor and governmental relations all contribute time and talents to the Center. The Center is dedicated to drawing upon the collective strengths of the University of Illinois system to address the need to educate a new cadre of public health professionals who are expert in emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases as well as natural and intentional threats to community health, food, air and water. Objectives of the presentation are to show how distant campuses within the same university system can work together in teaching, research and public engagement while working to fulfill society's need for an expanded and competent public health workforce.

Biographies:

John A. Herrmann, DVM, MPH, DACT graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1974 and the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, College of Veterinary Medicine in 1978. For twenty-five years he was engaged in the private practice of his clinical specialty of theriogenology. Dr. Herrmann earned an MPH degree in health policy and administration from the University of Illinois-Chicago School of Public Health and continues to consult with local health departments in Illinois in the area of community assessment. From 2003-2004, Dr. Herrmann served as a Congressional Science Fellow in the Washington, DC offices of Senator Richard Durbin and wrote numerous pieces of public health legislation, including the Public Health Workforce Expansion Act, which he wrote in collaboration with the American Public Health Association. In 2004, Dr. Herrmann was hired by the University of Illinois to direct the DVM/MPH dual degree program and to teach theriogenology and public health to professional veterinary medical students. Since 2003, Dr. Herrmann has also held an adjunct professor appointment in the MPH program at the University of Illinois, College of Medicine in Rockford.

Yvette J. Johnson, DVM, MS, PhD earned BS degrees in Animal and Veterinary Science in 1987, a DVM in 1989 and an MS in Large Animal Clinical Science in 1993 all from the University of Illinois- Urbana-Champaign, Colleges of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine. She earned a PhD in Epidemiology in 1998 from Michigan State University. From 1998-2004, Dr. Johnson worked as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Maryland campus of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. She also held adjunct appointments at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and the University of Maryland, College of Medicine in Baltimore and served as a consultant to Abbott Laboratories Inc. In 2004, Dr. Johnson returned to the University of Illinois- Urbana-Champaign, College of Veterinary Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Epidemiology. Her primary research interests include food and feed safety and water quality. She is the course coordinator for Food Safety and Public Health and participates in the Introduction to Epidemiology course for students in the professional veterinary curriculum.
