

## South Dakota State University ADRDL Hosts North Central Conference of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

Veterinary diagnostic laboratory personnel converged on Brookings, South Dakota, from June 1-3, 2011, for the annual meeting of the North Central Conference of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. Sixty-five attendees from institutions across the north central United States, including Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa State, Kansas State, Missouri, North Dakota State, and Wisconsin, as well as from the National Veterinary Services Laboratory, Newport Laboratories, and Pfizer Animal Health, were in attendance.

Participants listened to scientific sessions that encompassed pathology, molecular diagnostics, and microbiology. In all, 26 different presentations were given on a wide range of subjects:

- Pathology and General Diagnostics sessions included presentations on hardware disease in cattle, educating youth for future laboratory careers, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* (MG) and pox infections in wild house finches, ipomeanol toxicity in a feedlot, bat white nose syndrome, splenic B-cell lymphoma in a horse, Aleutian Disease Virus and respiratory disease in dairy calves.
- Molecular Diagnostics sessions included talks regarding Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Virus (PRRSV) diagnostics, Salmonella, Brachyspira, shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli*, BVD virus, and *Brucella canis*.
- Friday's Microbiology session featured presentations on lab quality systems, *Thieleria equi* treatment with imidocarb, interactions between PRRSV and PCV2, herd monitoring for PRRSV in swine, aquaculture diagnostics, APP serology, susceptibility patterns in swine *E. coli* isolates, and wild elk serologic surveys

Kevin O'Neill and Michelle Hemann, both from Iowa State University, tied for the honor of best graduate student presentation at the meeting. O'Neill's presentation was entitled, "Observations from Serological Monitoring of PRRSV "Negative" Herds: Getting to the Final Answer", while Hemann's topic was "Comparison of Serological Assays for *Actinobacillus Pleuropneumoniae* (APP)(Serotypes 1-9) on Serum From Pigs Experimentally Infected With APP or Vaccinated With APP Bacterins". Both students received a \$100 award from the conference.

In addition to the scientific sessions, participants were treated to a wine and cheese opening reception held at the South Dakota Agricultural Heritage Museum, an evening picnic at Oakwood Lakes State Park, and tours of the SDSU Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory.