12:00 to 12:15 PM
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Jim Tedford, CAWA, President & CEO
The Association for Animal Welfare Advancement
Christa Chadwick, CAWA, Vice-President, Shelter Services
ASPCA

12:15 to 1:00 PM
GEOGRAPHIC & SOCIO-ECONOMIC PREDICTORS FOR INTAKES & OUTCOMES OF DOMESTIC CATS THROUGH ANIMAL SHELTERS
Tyler Flockhart, Research Scientist
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
Increasing numbers of cats are moving through animal shelters each year. Information collected on these cats, including intake, adoption, and TNR data, can have important implications for outdoor cat management and overall animal welfare. Understanding the geographic and socio-economic reasons behind this data can be an important tool to guide and inform cat programming. This presentation will discuss how the DC Cat Count uses data to optimize the delivery of shelter services to improve cat welfare.

Attendees will:
• Learn the different geographic and socio-economic reasons for cat intakes and outcomes
• Understand how any shelter that collects data can benefit from this process
• Discover how the DC Cat Count online toolkit can assist in collecting and analyzing data

1:30 to 2:15 PM
MEASURING & MINIMIZING SOUND IN SHELTERS TO IMPROVE CAT WELFARE
Bailey Eagan, PhD Student
University of British Columbia Animal Welfare Program
Much like dogs and other small mammals, cats are significantly more sensitive to sounds than humans and have one of the broadest known hearing ranges among mammals. While human hearing can damage at 70dB, sound in shelters, kennels, veterinary hospitals, and grooming salons regularly exceed 100dB! This presentation will discuss how sound in an animal shelter affects cat behavior and welfare, as well as the most common sources, volumes, and patterns.

Attendees will:
• Discover how animal care facilities can easily and accurately measure sound using smartphone applications
• Learn simple and accessible sound-proofing methods using real-world examples of sound mitigation in an animal shelter environment
2:45 to 3:30 PM

VETERINARY & PHARMACY STUDENTS’ EXPECTATIONS BEFORE & EXPERIENCES AFTER PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ACCESS TO CARE VETERINARY CLINIC

Liddy Alvarez, DVM, DABVP, Clinical Assistant Professor-Primary Care, Curriculum Director
Ruthanne Chun, Clinical Professor
Kelly Schultz, DVM, Medical Director and Clinical Instructor

University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine, WisCARES

WisCARES is a low-cost, veterinary medical teaching clinic, where students from multiple disciplines collaborate in a community setting. The presentation will explore major themes that emerged from students before and after working at the clinic.

Attendees will:
- Review evidence that suggests this community-based veterinary medical setting provides students with a unique learning opportunity to learn about diversity and cultural humility
- Discuss the importance of teaching veterinary students about access to care medicine, with a specific focus on diversity, bias, and cultural humility
- Understand students’ improved confidence in managing and leading cases with specific positive outcomes in communicating with clients, including leading financial conversations

4:00 to 4:45 PM

ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES & COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY: “ARE WE TAKING FROM THE POOR & GIVING TO THE RICH?”

Lexis Ly, MSc Student
University of British Columbia Animal Welfare Program

The human-companion animal bond can improve the well-being of both people and pets. Unfortunately, access to continued pet companionship may not be equal in all groups of people. Animal shelters are becoming increasingly interested in their role in not only supporting communities, but also understanding how animal shelters may be perpetuating barriers to pet ownership. This presentation will discuss recent research that analyzes the relationship between human social determinants and animal shelter services in British Columbia, Canada.

Attendees will:
- Gain insight into the demography of clients served through intake and adoption services to inform the development of community-based initiatives in animal shelters