FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Announces
Robert W. Kirk Award for Professional Excellence Recipient Michael Lappin

(Denver, Colo.) The American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) is proud to announce Dr. Michael Lappin, the Kenneth W. Smith Professor in Small Animal Clinical Veterinary Medicine at Colorado State University, as the recipient of the ACVIM Robert W. Kirk Award for Professional Excellence at the 2014 ACVIM Forum. This award is presented annually to an ACVIM Diplomate with an outstanding career in veterinary medicine including national and international recognition for contributions and service in activities such as clinical medical practice, instruction, research and/or public service.

Michael Lappin, DVM, PhD, DACVIM (Small Animal Internal Medicine) has spent the majority of his career focused on infectious disease. He has been a key player in the advancement of feline internal medicine and infectious diseases of dogs and cats. His laboratory provides a number of companion animal infectious disease tests through the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory that is one of the premier facilities in the country. Combining his passion for research with his love of animals, Lappin founded the Center for Companion Animal Studies which directs the Young Investigator Grant program which provides funds for companion animal research for faculty, resident and student projects. He has authored more than 238 peer-reviewed journal publications, more than 40 book chapters and more than 200 research abstracts; a remarkable achievement for a veterinarian.

Lappin has also served as a teacher and mentor to more than 50 research and clinical trainees and he was awarded the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award. He is the recipient of numerous other prestigious awards including the Winn Feline Foundation Excellence in Feline Research Award and the European Society of Feline Medicine International Award 2008 for Outstanding Contribution to Feline Medicine.

He has served on numerous working committees to establish infectious disease guidelines worldwide. These include the American Association of Feline Practitioners Bartonella, Zoonoses and Vaccine guidelines as well as the ACVIM Ehrlichiosis guidelines, and the AAHA Canine Task Force on Vaccination. He also serves on the Advisory Board of the European Society of Feline Medicine and numerous others.

Lappin’s enthusiasm and willingness to share knowledge make him a truly distinguished contributor to the field of veterinary medicine and to the ACVIM. As one of his supporters wrote, “There aren’t many people in academics as generous as Mike in lending a helping hand to everyone he meets. Mike has inspired many students and colleagues, adding to the wealth of knowledge he has directly, and indirectly, contributed to the veterinary profession.”

Lappin has made significant contributions to his specialty through his clinical research, academic expertise, teaching and impact on the veterinary field worldwide. The ACVIM is proud to present him with the 2014 ACVIM Robert W. Kirk Award for Professional Excellence. To view a video highlighting Dr. Lappin’s accomplishments, please go to www.acvim.org.
About the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM)
The American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of animals and people through education, training and certification of specialists in veterinary internal medicine, discovery and dissemination of new medical knowledge, and increasing public awareness of advances in veterinary medical care.

The ACVIM hosts the ACVIM Forum, an annual continuing education meeting where cutting-edge information, technology and research abstracts are showcased for the veterinary community. More than 3,000 veterinary specialists, veterinarians, technicians and students attend.

The ACVIM is the certifying organization for veterinary specialists in cardiology, large animal internal medicine, neurology, oncology and small animal internal medicine.

To find out more about ACVIM specialists, please visit www.ACVIM.org.