



**Kate Natrass Atema**  
Senior Manager,  
Strategic Grant Initiatives  
PetSmart Charities, Inc.

Kate Natrass Atema has spent her career focused on the development of innovative strategies for engaging communities in animal welfare and conservation. As Senior Manager of Strategic Grants at PetSmart Charities, she oversees the development of grant programs that keep vulnerable families and pets together, in spite of the

institutional, cultural, economic and social barriers that often prevent people and pets from thriving together. She has published numerous articles on topics ranging from Animal Law to roaming dogs and community wellbeing, and is passionate about the importance of animal welfare to healthy communities. Prior to joining PetSmart Charities, she served as Director of the International Fund for Animal Welfare's Community Engagement Program and as Chairperson of the International Companion Animal Management Coalition (ICAM). She is a Senior Faculty Fellow at Tufts University's Center for Animals and Public Policy and contributing lecturer at the University of Edinburgh's International Animal Welfare Ethics and Law program. Kate has lived and worked all over the world, but currently socially distances from Phoenix, Arizona.



**Uri Donnett, DVM, MS, DABVP**  
**(Shelter Medicine Practice)**

Maddie's Clinical Instructor of  
Shelter Medicine  
University of Wisconsin Shelter  
Medicine Program

Dr. Uri Donnett graduated from Iowa State University in 2014 with his DVM and Masters of Science in Veterinary Preventive Medicine. He completed an internship and residency in Shelter Medicine at Mississippi State University.

He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners in Shelter Medicine Practice and has served on the board of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians since 2018. He is currently the Maddie's Clinical Instructor in Shelter Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Shelter Medicine program where he works at the Dane County Humane Society instructing fourth year rotating veterinary students and shelter medicine interns. During COVID his work has transitioned from full in-person instruction, to a fully online two-week rotation, and now to a split online/in-person rotation. He and veterinary interns also currently provide telemedicine services to the Milwaukee Pets for Life Community.



**Lucy Fuller, DVM**

Senior Director of Veterinary Care  
Charleston Animal Society

Dr. Fuller joined the Charleston Animal Society team in 2008, immediately following graduation from veterinary school at the University of Georgia. After finding her footing in shelter medicine (with lots of help from others!), she decided to make it the focus of her career. Dr. Fuller began enticing veterinary students to come for externships within her first year of practice

and has been proud to see the program grow to accommodate 15-20 students per year. Charleston Animal Society maintains an AAHA-accredited facility and offers training via Maddie's Apprenticeships to shelter workers from across the country. Dr. Fuller is also proud to serve on the Board of Directors of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians and the South Carolina State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.



**Wilhelmina Johanna Ruth  
van der Leij, Drs, DVM**

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
Shelter Medicine Program,  
Department of Clinical Sciences  
of Companion Animals,  
Utrecht University

The welfare of animals has always been a prominent part of my professional life. Since 2007, when I received my degree as a veterinarian, the medical aspects of rescuing abandoned and stray companion

animals merged with my experiences in the animal shelter world. This combination offered me the opportunity to enter the new and exciting work field of Shelter Medicine, in which veterinary medicine is dedicated to the care of companion animals in shelters and related group housing facilities, to keep them healthy, protect their welfare and facilitate their rehoming.



**Emily McCobb, DVM, MS DACVAA**  
Clinical Associate Professor of  
Anesthesiology, Director of Shelter  
Medicine Program  
Cummings School of Veterinary  
Medicine at Tufts University

Dr. Emily McCobb is Director of the Tufts Shelter Medicine Program and the Luke and Lily Lerner Spay Neuter Clinic at Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University. Dr. McCobb works to support community programs at the

Cummings School and assisted in opening the Tufts at Tech Community Veterinary Clinic. Dr. McCobb mentors veterinary and graduate students for clinical work and for animal welfare related research projects. Her published works cover the topics of shelter animal welfare and community medicine as well as clinical anesthesia and pain management. Dr. McCobb received her DVM from Tufts University in 2000 and completed her internship at Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in 2001. She obtained a Masters of Animals and Public Policy also from Tufts in 2002 and completed a residency and board certification in Anesthesiology and Pain Management in 2006. She joined the faculty at Tufts in 2009.



**Amy Mills**  
CEO  
Emancipet

Amy has spent her career developing sustainable, innovative strategies to solve tough social problems. In 2006, Amy became CEO of Emancipet, a non-profit on a mission to make veterinary care affordable and accessible for all pet owners. Emancipet is now building a national affordable veterinary care system and currently operates seven low-cost pet health clinics in five cities. As CEO, Amy leads the organization's strategic growth, social change, philanthropy and earned revenue initiatives. She earned her Bachelor's degree from St. Edward's University and is a 2011 graduate of Leadership Austin's Essential Class. She won the Austin Under 40 Award in the non-profit category in 2017 and was also named Social Entrepreneur of the Year by Mission Capital in 2017. She is a sought-after keynote speaker and presenter at national and international conferences, speaking on social change strategy, leadership, and the future of animal welfare



**Jeanette O'Quin, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, DABVP (Shelter Medicine)**  
Assistant Professor-Clinical,  
Veterinary Preventive Medicine  
The Ohio State University

Dr. Jeanette O'Quin earned DVM and MPH degrees from the Ohio State University. Following more than a decade of practice in Animal Shelters and five years as a public health veterinarian with the Ohio Department of Health, she joined the faculty at the OSU Department

of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. During her time at Ohio State, she developed a shelter medicine and surgery rotation which all senior students complete at a local shelter, and led an Outreach program which takes senior students on house calls to provide wellness care for elderly and homebound individuals in need. Internationally she is involved in efforts to reduce rabies in humans through the control of canine rabies and the humane management of dog populations. Dr. O'Quin is a recent recipient of the AVMA Animal Welfare Award.



**Jennifer Scarlett, DVM**  
President  
San Francisco SPCA

As President of the San Francisco SPCA, Dr. Jennifer Scarlett has been responsible for a number of visionary programs including a veterinary outreach program to underserved neighborhoods; a highly successful "Sister Shelter" partnership with the Stockton Animal Shelter and the Central Valley shelter coalition; a nationally-recognized behavior program; and "Fospice", a shelter program that uses foster homes to care for the most medically-challenged shelter animals and Shelter Policy and Legal Services, the first program in the county offering free legal services to shelters. Under her leadership, the lifesaving capacity of the SF SPCA has increased and is on track to positively impact the lives of 5 million animals over the next decade. Dr. Scarlett has 20 years of experience as a veterinarian in both non-profit and for-profit veterinary medicine. Prior to becoming the president of the SF SPCA, Scarlett was a lead veterinarian for Rural Area Veterinary Services for 13 years. She attended undergraduate studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, received a DVM from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and completed a large animal residency at the University of Tennessee. Scarlett is the 2010 Low Fellowship Recipient at University of California, Davis and was awarded the 2011 Meritorious Achievement Award for contributions to the veterinary field by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. She lives in San Francisco with Louie, Nubs and Olive.



**Terry Spencer, DVM, MEd**  
Program Director, Online Graduate Program in Shelter Medicine,  
Assistant Professor  
University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Spencer teaches and advises graduate students in the University of Florida's Online Graduate Program in Shelter Medicine. She is responsible for the curriculum of both the Graduate Certificate in Shelter Medicine and

the MS Concentration in Shelter Medicine at the University of Florida. Her duties include supervising capstone project research and presentations, coordinating faculty who are developing new courses, and developing and teaching online courses such as: Communicating Research about Shelter Medicine, Teaching Clinical Skills in Animal Shelters, Introduction to Veterinary Disaster Response, and The Role of the Animal Shelter in Protecting Community and Public Health. She brings a unique background in both science education and veterinary medicine to the program. During her first career, she worked as a science educator for K-Junior College students, curriculum developer for the American Chemical Society, and authored science, technology and health textbooks on a major National Science Foundation grant at the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study. During her second career as a veterinarian, she has worked as a small animal veterinarian, owned a veterinary practice, and worked as a contract and a full-time shelter veterinarian for both open and limited-admissions animal shelters in California, Florida, Nevada, and Tennessee. She has been an Assistant Professor with the UF College of Veterinary Medicine since 2010.



**Jenny Stavisky, MRCVS, BVM&S, PhD, PGCHE, FHEA**  
Assistant Professor in Shelter Medicine  
School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, University of Nottingham

Jenny qualified as a vet from the University of Edinburgh in 2002. After starting out in mixed practice in the Peak District, she moved to the University of Liverpool to take a PhD in epidemiology and virology. She is currently Assistant Professor in

Shelter Medicine at Nottingham, which involves students within and about shelters, charity and primary care practice, as well as applied clinical research. She is a founder member of the Association of Charity Vets and co-editor of the BSAVA Manual of Shelter Medicine. In 2012, she founded Vets in the Community, a student-led service providing free veterinary care for homeless and vulnerably housed people.



**Lori M. Teller, DVM,  
DABVP (canine/feline), CVJ**  
Clinical Associate Professor,  
Telehealth

College of Veterinary Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences,  
Texas A&M University

Dr. Lori Teller is a graduate of Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (TAMU CVM), and she is a board-certified diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners

in Canine and Feline Practice. She has worked at Meyerland Animal Clinic for many years, starting at the age of 12, and continuing after graduation from veterinary school. In 2018, Dr. Teller joined the faculty at TAMU CVM as the Clinical Associate Professor of Telehealth. She is very passionate about her teaching role, as well as telemedicine and its growth in the veterinary field. Recently, she and her colleagues were awarded a grant from the USDA to explore the role of telemedicine in veterinary education and a grant from Texas A&M's School of Innovation to pilot a program to improve access to veterinary care for low income pet owners.

Dr. Teller has been very involved in the veterinary profession and is a Past-President of the Harris County and Texas Veterinary Medical Associations and was a recipient of the TVMA's Recent Graduate of the Year Award, as well as the President's Award in 2007, 2009 and 2016. In September 2019, she was honored with the Visionary Award by the Southwest Veterinary Symposium. Dr. Teller has served on several committees and task forces for the American Veterinary Medical Association, including the Animal Welfare Committee and the State Advocacy Committee, and has also served in the AVMA's House of Delegates. She currently serves as Chair of the AVMA Board of Directors. In addition, she is a Trustee for the TVMA's VPAC and helps to raise awareness and funds for political causes important to veterinary medicine. In addition, Dr. Teller is a member of TVMA's Political Influence Coalition.

Dr. Teller has served as the Chair of the Board of Certification for the American Society of Veterinary Journalists and was a founding Board member of the Women's Veterinary Leadership Development Initiative. She was named one of 14 Veterinarians to Watch by Veterinary Practice News, and she has a monthly radio spot on Houston's NPR radio station where she highlights the importance of veterinary care for dogs and cats and answers the questions of callers. She serves as an educator and mentor to many veterinary students, recent graduates, and young leaders, helping them navigate the complicated world of veterinary medicine and life beyond the boundaries of work.

Outside of the veterinary world, Dr. Teller was a founder of and a Board Trustee for The Gateway Academy, a high school for students with learning differences and special needs in Houston, and she was recognized as an "Everyday Hero" by 740 KTRH for her volunteer work in the prevention of child abuse. She married her high school sweetheart, Dr. Craig Teller, and they have one son and several pets. In her spare time, Dr. Teller loves to hang out with her friends and family, exercise, read, and travel extensively to places where she can explore new things by day and enjoy great wine and food by night. She's also a sucker for chocolate chip cookies, corny jokes, and puppy breath.



**May Truong-Merritt, MS**  
Instructional Designer & Online  
Academic Coordinator  
One Health Academic Innovation  
Unit, University of Pennsylvania  
School of Veterinary Medicine

May Truong-Merritt is the Instructional Designer and Online Academic Coordinator for the One Health Academic Innovation Unit at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Her expertise is in multimedia content creation, online learning

design and instructional technology implementation. She has a passion for universal design, instructional pedagogy and developing valuable online learning experiences.

As the Instructional Designer, May has led the course design and development of Penn Vet's first Online Graduate Certificate in Animal Welfare & Behavior and Online Master of Science in Animal Welfare & Behavior programs. She directs the Penn Vet community in best practices for digital design and online education and collaborates extensively with faculty and staff to conceptualize and create brand new online courses as well as restructure and redesign existing traditional courses for the online environment.

May received her BA in Digital Arts & Multimedia Design and an MS in Instructional Technology Management from La Salle University. Prior to arriving at Penn Vet, she was the Visual Design Coordinator for La Salle University and Instructional Designer at DeSales University and Thomas Jefferson University. May continues to build new academic programs, workshops and resources for Penn Vet and is committed to helping the Penn Vet community learn and leverage both new and existing tools and resources to create engaging and scalable online education.



**Brittany Watson, MS, VMD, PhD, DACVPM**  
Clinical Associate Professor, Shelter  
Medicine & Community Engagement  
and Director, Shelter Medicine  
Program  
University of Pennsylvania School of  
Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Brittany Watson is the Director of Shelter Medicine and Community Engagement at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. She currently manages

medical, surgical, and educational training of veterinary students through electives and primary care, shelter medicine rotations and courses, and community outreach initiatives. Course techniques involve integrating community needs, best teaching practices, and organizational leadership strategies. She also involves veterinary students in authentic learning experiences including medical shelter exams, at-home visits with community partners, continuing education to shelters, one-health approaches to problem solving, outreach to local school classrooms, and shelter population management.

Dr. Watson is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventative Medicine. She was previously the Veterinary Director of Continuing Education Initiatives at Charleston Animal Society (CAS). During her time at CAS, she worked as part of a team that was able to save all healthy, manageable, and treatable animals. She collaborated with the education department to develop the veterinary camp curriculum, Shadowing at the Shelter program, and VSI: Veterinary Science Initiative. She received her MS in Education at Duquesne University and her PhD in Educational Leadership at the University of South Carolina. Her dissertation focused on evidence-based humane education programs and proving changes in knowledge, attitudes, and behavior from the VSI Program.



**Kerry Williams, BAVetMB MRCVS**

Clinical Assistant Professor  
in Small Animal Practice  
School of Veterinary Medicine and  
Science, University of Nottingham

Kerry qualified as a vet from the University of Cambridge in 1999. After starting out in mixed practice in Lincolnshire, she went into small animal practice, working in a city centre practice in the Midlands, with a widely varying client demographic. She has also done several volunteering trips to

Mongolia, working with a veterinary charity involved with training young vets, and students. She is currently Assistant Professor in Small Animal Practice, at Nottingham, which involves teaching students on final year placements, primarily in charity practice.