

Annual ACVD Ethics and Professional Policy Committee Report 2023-2024
Report prepared by Danielle James

Committee Members:

Sonja Zabel, Co- chair since 2020, member since 2019
Danielle James, Co- chair since 2020, member since 2019
Darin Dell, member since 2018
Elizabeth Falk, member since 2020
Valerie Fadok, member since 2020

Current Member Status:

The committee will be looking to add 1-2 new members who will be interested in taking over a chair or co-chair position.

Resolved/Finished Tasks:

The Ethics and Professional Policy Committee had a busy year in 2023. We had numerous requests by ACVD members to investigate General Veterinary practices as well as Specialty Hospitals. These practices were without a boarded dermatologist on staff, and the ACVD members were concerned that these hospitals were misrepresenting their veterinarians as experts in Veterinary Dermatology.

The purpose of the Ethics Committee is and will remain, to handle concerns regarding ACVD members and ACVD residents. The Committee does not address concerns regarding the general public and non- dermatology boarded colleagues.

We have made recommendations to the Board of Directors (BoD), regarding General Veterinarians who have misleading information on their websites. Currently, it is the recommendation of the Ethics and Professional Policy Committee that ACVD members handle any grievances or concerns that do not involve an ACVD Diplomate or Resident through their local or state VMA or their State Veterinary Board, if a direct communication with the colleague in question does not help with changing their “advertisement” practices.

Ongoing Tasks:

Finalize the update to our Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), a process that will be completed in the Summer of 2024.

WCVD10 in Boston:

The committee plans to meet in person in Boston to finalize the SOP and any other pending committee business.