

## ACVS FOUNDATION LEGENDS AWARD

Presented at the Mark W. Allam Lecture & Awards Ceremony  
8:00–9:30am, Thursday  
Augustus I & II

C. Wayne McIlwraith, BVSc, PhD, Diplomate ACVS, Diplomate ECVS, Diplomate ACVSMR, is the recipient of the 2019 ACVS Foundation Legends Award for his dedication and contributions to the field of veterinary surgery.

Dr. McIlwraith is a University Distinguished Professor, the founding Director of the Orthopaedic Research Center, and holds the Barbara Cox Anthony University Chair in Orthopaedic Research at Colorado State University. He is nationally and internationally known for his contributions and dedication to advancing techniques and values of arthroscopy and arthroscopic-related procedures.

Dr. McIlwraith developed equine arthroscopy early in his career when he realized there was an unmet need to improve the surgical care of joint disease in the horse. He was the first veterinarian to attend a human arthroscopic technique course during his PhD program, and he quickly began implementing and perfecting the procedure in the horse. Because of his contributions and the clear improvements in outcomes of his equine patients, Dr. McIlwraith's practice of this technique became noted and recognized throughout the veterinary profession. Since then, he has researched, perfected, and taught arthroscopy and continues to mentor others in this arena.

Dr. McIlwraith's global involvement in joint surgery and research extends from authoring textbooks describing basic and advanced surgical techniques (in 3rd editions), to authoring the only textbook on arthroscopic surgery in the horse (in 4th edition), and, at a more pathobiological level, to authoring his textbook on joint disease in the horse (in 2nd edition). He has been the author or co-author of eleven textbooks and has authored more than 87 textbook chapters. Further impact of his research and its translational application comes from 696 scientific presentations and 300 published abstracts.

Dr. McIlwraith's orthopedic research program has been the epitome of strong translational research. His laboratory at Colorado State University received over 190 funded research grants with combined budgets of more than \$18M. His work both as a surgeon and a researcher in the profession has been recognized by clients and associates who have responded by significant endowments and support. Most recently, Dr. McIlwraith garnered a \$30M gift to the university, which allowed the building of the C. Wayne McIlwraith Translational Medicine Institute. The Institute brings together DVMs, MDs, and PhDs, to collaborate, and develop techniques to augment musculoskeletal healing in horses, small animals, and people.

Dr. McIlwraith has been recognized by numerous awards, including induction into the University of Kentucky Equine Research Hall of Fame and receiving the ACVS Founders' Award for Career Achievement, the Markowitz Award from the Academy of Surgical Research for Outstanding Contributions to Medicine through the Arts, Science and Technology of Experimental Surgery, and the Marshall R. Urist, MD Award for Excellence in Tissue Regeneration Research by the Orthopaedic Research Society.

A colleague noted: "Dr. McIlwraith has had a monumental impact on horses, owners, residents, clinicians, and researchers, and he has helped innumerable lives, many of which he will never know."

*The ACVS Foundation Legends Award recognizes ACVS Diplomates who have developed a surgical or diagnostic procedure of significant value, proven by becoming the treatment or test of choice for a given condition.*

*The procedure or test has "withstood the test of time" and, although possibly modified over time, remains the treatment or diagnostic method of choice or the scientific basis for the current treatment of choice. The procedure or test is novel and involves advancements in veterinary surgical science and not reapplication of general medical science.*



**C. Wayne McIlwraith,  
BVSc, PhD,  
Diplomate ACVS,  
Diplomate ECVS,  
Diplomate ACVSMR**

### Past recipients of the ACVS Foundation Legends Award:

- 2018: Joseph J. Foerner, Jr., DVM, MS (posthumously), DACVS
- 2017: Bruce Hull, DVM, MS, DACVS
- 2016: Jon F. Dee, DVM, MS, DACVS
- 2015: Donald L. Piermattei, DVM, MS, DACVS
- 2014: Barrie D. Grant, DVM, MS, DACVS
- 2012: H. Phil Hobson, DVM, MS, DACVS
- 2011: Robert L. Leighton, VMD, DACVS
- 2010: Larry R. Bramlage, DVM, MS, DACVS
- 2009: George E. Eyster, VMD, MS, DACVS
- 2008: Marvin L. Olmstead, DVM, MS, DACVS
- 2007: Charles W. Raker, VMD, DACVS
- 2006: Martin P. DeAngelis, DVM, DACVS
- 2005: George P. Wilson, VMD, MSc, DACVS