

Veterinarian Profile



PATRICIA GEARHART, Ph.D., DVM
Diplomate, American College of Veterinary
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Dr. Gearhart, Ph.D., DVM is a Michigan native, born in the Detroit area. She received her Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Public Health from Michigan State University in 1986 and her Ph.D. in Molecular Cell Biology and Biochemistry at Washington University in St. Louis, MO in 1993. She returned to Michigan State University to attend veterinary school. As a veterinary student she was awarded the Moxley Award for Excellence in Equine Medicine, the Phi Zeta Award for Academic Excellence, the Jean M. Davis Foundation Scholarship, the Veterinary Faculty Award and the Clark Memorial Scholarship Award for Academics and Leadership. She also participated in the Cornell Leadership Program for Veterinary Students as a Dorothy Russell Havemeyer Foundation Fellow. After completing her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in 1998, she worked in private general practice as a mixed equine and small animal practitioner at Ulmanis Veterinary Clinic in Metamora, Michigan. She developed an interest in ophthalmology and returned to Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine for a formal residency in Comparative Ophthalmology. During her residency, she conducted research exploring a possible pharmacological treatment for a type of inherited blindness in dogs. She presented an offshoot of this work, "A Novel Method of Vision Testing in Canine Models of Inherited Retinal Disease" at the 2004 American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology Meeting in Washington, DC and was awarded the Merck Award for the Best Clinical Paper at the ACVO Residents' Forum. Dr. Gearhart has been board certified with the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology (ACVO) since 2005. She currently is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at MSU College of Veterinary Medicine and on the days she is not seeing cases here at OVRS, she is continuing her research at MSU.