

AKC National Detection Dog Conference Schedule

Tuesday, August 4th

4:30-6:30 pm Registration - *EMPIRE BALLROOM FOYER*

5:45-6:30 pm Welcome Reception - *EMPIRE BALLROOM FOYER*

6:30 pm *Welcome from AKC – EMPIRE BALLROOM*

- Christopher Sweetwood
AKC Detection Dog Task Force Co-Chair

6:30-8:00 pm Dinner – *EMPIRE BALLROOM*

Detecting the Best Detection Dog: How Wearable Sensors and AI Can Enhance Your Breeding, Selection, and Training

- Dave Roberts, Ph.D., Professor of Computer Science, Department of Computer Science, North Carolina State University
- Alper Bozkurt, Ph.D., McPherson Family Distinguished Professor in Engineering Entrepreneurship, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, North Carolina State University
- Galen Hatfield, Ph.D., Executive in Residence, North Carolina State University

Wednesday, August 5th *IMPERIAL BALLROOM 3*

- 7:30-10:00 am Registration (*for those who did not attend Tuesday evening events*)
- 8:30-8:45 am *Welcome & An Introduction to the American Kennel Club*
- Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary & Vice President, Government Relations, AKC Detection Dog Task Force
- 8:45-9:30 am *Unleashing Secrets About Early Life*
- Dr. Carmen Battaglia, AKC Board
AKC Detection Dog Task Force Co-Chair
- 9:30-10:15 am *Breeding Program Successes*
- Jonathan Gardner, Senior Trainer, K2 K9 Solutions, LLC
 - Lindsey Dixon, K2 K9 Solutions, LLC
- 10:15-10:30 am Break
- 10:30-11:15 am *Domestic Breeding Initiative and Behavioral Phenotype Evaluations*
- Megan Toms, DVM, MPH, Project Manager, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
 - David Deglau, MS, Program Manager, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
- 11:15-12:00 pm *A Small Business Model for Producing and Supplying US-Bred Detection Dogs to Government Agencies*
- Kate Barber, Owner- Katalyst Kennels, Founding Member of the TSA Domestic Breeding Initiative
 - Brandon Peters, Canine Training Instructor, Canine Training Center, Transportation Security Administration
 - Zechariah Miller, Canine Training Instructor, Canine Procurement Team Member, Transportation Security Administration
- 12:00-1:15 pm Lunch – *EMPIRE BALLROOM*
- 1:15-2:00 pm *Joint Health in Detection Dogs: Prevention, Early Detection and Evidence-Based Intervention*
- Sarah Love, DVM DACVIM (internal medicine) DACVSMR (canine) CCRT CVSMT, Sport Dog Specialty Medicine
- 2:00-2:45 pm *New Approaches to Canine Heat Injury Prevention and Methods to Increase Tolerance to Work in Hot Environments*
- Janice Baker, DVM, MS, DACVPM, Veterinary Tactical Group

Wednesday, August 5th (continued) IMPERIAL BALLROOM 3

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2:45-3:30 pm | <i>Breed Specific Detection Training</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bart Rogers, Chief Canine Instructor
Auburn University Canine Performance Sciences |
| 3:30-3:45 pm | Break |
| 3:45-4:30 pm | <i>Built to Work Anywhere: Environmental Confidence in the Young Detection Dog</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jamie Popper, MBA, CPDT-KA
Popper Pets |
| 4:30-5:15 pm | <i>A Day in the Life of a US Capitol Police Handler</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meghan O’Leary, US Capitol Police (K9 Hank, PPP Graduate)• Jamah Hawes, US Capitol Police (K9 Colt, PPP Graduate)• Lennox Hoyte Jr, US Capitol Police (K9 Baker, PPP Graduate) |
| 5:15-7:00 pm | <i>Live Working Dog K9 Evaluations and Industry Leaders
“Meet & Greet” Event</i> <p>All attendees are invited to watch as multiple industry leaders evaluate “green” working dogs, followed by a casual “Meet & Greet” of working dog industry procurement specialists and other industry professionals. This is an opportunity to learn some of the important aspects K9 evaluators use when testing dogs. Additionally, take advantage of the opportunity to develop contacts and increase understanding of industry needs. One-on-one and small group discussions about skills and characteristics for successful selection, as well as individual opportunities and processes for testing and purchasing of dogs are expected during this informal social gathering.</p> |

Refreshments will be provided.

Thursday, August 6th *IMPERIAL BALLROOM 3*

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8:00-8:45 am | <i>Advocacy and the Contemporary Legislative Environment for Working K9s</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary & Vice President, Government Relations, AKC Detection Dog Task Force |
| 8:45-9:30 am | <i>Understanding Odor Chemistry for the Detection Dog</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Katherine Castro, Florida International University |
| 9:30-10:15 am | <i>From DNA to Decisions: Leveraging Genetic Testing in Dog Selection</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heather Huson, Associate Professor, Animal Genetics, Canine Science, Cornell University |
| 10:15-10:30 am | Break |
| 10:30-11:15 am | <i>Pedigree Data and Detection Dog Basics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stacey West, Program Manager, Patriotic Puppy Program Executive Field Rep, Retrievers |
| 11:15-12:00 pm | <i>Optimizing Detection Dog Outcomes: Research Advancements and Field Applications</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lucia Lazarowski, PhD
Auburn University Canine Performance Sciences |
| 12:00-12:45 pm | <i>Anti-Poaching Canines in Africa</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jay Crafter, Director of Law Enforcement, Working Dogs for Conservation |
| 12:45-1:00 pm | <i>Wrap-Up & Thank You</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Carmen Battaglia, AKC Board, AKC Detection Dog Task Force Co-Chair |