

KATE BOATRIGHT, VMD

Veterinarian. Author. Speaker. Mentor.



I want to see young veterinarians leaving school with the confidence to chase their passions and the tools to succeed. My student lectures focus on preparing you to meet challenges you will face in practice but may not be taught routinely during veterinary school. With over 10 years of clinical experience in small animal GP and ER and 5 years of speaking and writing, I focus on presenting practical solutions to address common struggles faced by veterinary teams with a focus on mentorship, spectrum of care, and wellness.

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LECTURES FOR STUDENTS:

MOST POPULAR LECTURES

- Roadmap to Mentorship (VBMA BCP Category 4)
- Can I Have It All? Parenting in Vet Med (VBMA BCP Category 4)
- There's More Than One Way to Treat a Cat: A Practical Approach to the Spectrum of Care (VBMA BCP Category 3)

ADDITIONAL LECTURE TOPICS

- VBMA BCP CATEGORY 3:
 - Communication Skills to Make Clients Love You
 - Difficult Conversations: End of Life Decisions
 - Navigating the Muddy Waters of Pharmacy
- VBMA BCP CATEGORY 4
 - Wellness Toolbox: Essential Skills for Success
 - How to Create a Career You'll Love



All topics can be offered virtually or in-person!

Don't see a lecture topic that fits your school's needs? Let me know what you're looking for!

Contact [Hello@WriteTheBoat.com](mailto>Hello@WriteTheBoat.com) to discuss scheduling.

Speaker Fees:

An honorarium of \$250 per hour of lecture is respectfully requested for all events but is negotiable to fit the needs of your club. For in person events, reimbursement of travel expenses (coach airfare/mileage and overnight accommodations) is required.

Roadmap to Mentorship (VBMA BCP Category 4)

Mentorship is essential to the success of new graduates, but not all mentorships are created equally. In this interactive lecture, we will discuss what questions to ask during your interview to assess the mentorship offered. We will explore how to develop a mentorship agreement with your first job and how to move from mentee to mentor over time.



Can I Have It All? Parenting in Vet Med (VBMA BCP Category 4)

Is it possible to have a family and be a successful, happy veterinarian? This presentation will explore the answer to this question using data from the literature on parenting in veterinary medicine and personal experiences of veterinary mothers. We will discuss considerations on family planning, challenges faced during pregnancy, and how to successfully create work-life integration as a working veterinary parent. We will also explore the question of what makes work places "family friendly" and what individuals can do as managers and practice owners to create this type of positive workplace culture.

There's More Than One Way to Treat a Cat: A Practical Approach to the Spectrum of Care (VBMA BCP Category 3)

This is an interactive, case-based presentation on one of the biggest challenges veterinarians face in practice. In school, students learn the gold standard of diagnosis and treatment. The clients and patients we see on clinical rotations at our teaching hospitals tend to be those who have the means to pursue advanced diagnostics and treatments. After graduation, away from the ivory tower, veterinarians are often faced with balancing tighter financial limitations of clients with the best interest of the pet. There are often flexible ways to get the information we want and need for a patient while still working within a client's means.



Communication Skills to Make Clients Love You (VBMA BCP CATEGORY 3)



Excellent communication skills are crucial to develop client bonds and improve client compliance. During this lecture, we will review basic communication tools and then discuss their application in various situations in the clinic, including talking to upset clients, managing critical emergencies, discussing complications, and more.

Difficult Conversations: End of Life Decisions (VBMA BCP CATEGORY 3)

One of the most difficult conversations to have with clients involves end of life decision making. These conversations must balance the patient's needs with the emotional and financial needs of the client and can take a large emotional toll on the veterinary team. We will discuss management of cases where clients refuse euthanasia in a critically ill patient and others where clients request euthanasia for a patient that could be treated. How do we, as veterinarians, handle these conversations, advocate for our patients, serve the human-animal bond, and preserve our own wellbeing?



Navigating the Muddy Waters of Pharmacy: Improving Communication and Reducing Errors When Working with Community Pharmacies (VBMA BCP CATEGORY 3)



This session will discuss causes of tension between veterinarians and retail pharmacists, review common types of errors, provide suggestions for prevention, and discuss new challenges related to online pharmacies. Techniques for building a successful working relationship with local pharmacists and improving client education will be the focus of this lecture. **(Notes on this lecture: This lecture was developed with Lauren Forsythe, PharmD, DICVP, who may be available for some joint speaking engagements. Additionally, some schools have presented this as a joint presentation with their university's pharmacy program)**

Wellness Toolbox: Essential Skills for Success (VBMA BCP CATEGORY 4)

How do you thrive in your veterinary career for 5, 10, 50 years? You learn to make self-care a priority. In this lecture, we will review the state of mental health in the veterinary profession and discuss my own journey through burnout. Then we will discuss skills that you can cultivate to keep yourself at the top of your game: boundaries and resiliency! [Note: This lecture can be extended to 1.5 hours and include a discussion on networking.]



How to Create a Career You'll Love (VBMA BCP CATEGORY 4)

One of the best things about a career in veterinary medicine is the huge variety of career paths that you can pursue. During this lecture, I will trace my own career path and discuss tips for launching a successful career. Participants will learn networking tips, discuss the age-old question of whether an internship or mentorship is best for them, and review tips for choosing a first job following graduation.



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