

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 7, 2016

Contact: Danna Miller
+1.352.244.3719 | DMiller@NAVC.com

The NAVC Selects Merial's Jessica Iden as the 2016 Neill P. Overman Award Winner

The Neill P. Overman Award recognizes exceptional veterinary industry professionals

ORLANDO, FL — *April 7, 2016* – The NAVC recognizes Jessica Iden, Manager, Conferences and Conventions at Merial, A Sanofi Company, as the 2016 Neill P. Overman award recipient for her outstanding personal integrity, professionalism and focus.

The Neill P. Overman Award was established in 2009 to recognize an industry professional who exemplifies fairness, ethical behavior, salesmanship, and knowledge of the profession and who has worked to ensure their company furthers the profession by promoting continuing education for all members of the veterinary healthcare team.

Iden's personal integrity and passion shines through as she works with many vendors, agencies, sales and marketing personnel and customers, evident through the positive feedback from those who interact with her. Iden not only focuses on producing excellent results and an incredible customer experience, but she does so while treating everyone she comes in contact with respectfully.

Iden provides a voice of experience and enthusiasm when promoting the value of her company's efforts at the NAVC Conference and she's seen first-hand how the numerous compelling technical programs when combined with very creative promotion can drive attendees to learn more about her products and services. She is an advocate for new ideas to truly enhance the customer experience at the NAVC Conference and benefit practicing veterinarians, hospital managers and technicians.

Previous Neill P. Overman Award winners include Amy Gregory, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.; Sherry Kratz, Purina; Dean Cost, Bayer HealthCare; Teri Hodges, Novartis; Nancy (DeBacker) Park, CTSM, Hill's; Lesa Boileau, Merial, Ltd.; and Susan Bartlett, Fort Dodge Animal Health.

Neill P. Overman, who passed away in 2015, served on the NAVC Board of Directors from 1983 until his retirement in 2005. He was known for launching Veterinary Learning Systems in the late 1970s, producing two highly respected journals (*Compendium*, first published in 1979, followed by *Veterinary Technician*), as well as other continuing education materials that helped veterinary professionals stay up to date on the latest findings in medicine. In his honor, the NAVC established the Neill P. Overman Award in 2009 to recognize exceptional industry professionals each year at the NAVC Conference.

As the first and largest major veterinary conference of the year, the NAVC Conference in Orlando, FL., brings in more than 17,300 attendees and delivers the largest selection of advanced learning opportunities, including 1,200 hours of Continuing Education sessions, Hands-on Laboratories, Meet the Professor Luncheons, Masterclasses, Behind the Scenes Tours and comprehensive breakfast and evening sessions. The NAVC Conference 2016 brought the profession's most renowned speakers and educators and world-class entertainment, including Sheryl Crow, Inspirational Speaker Bert Jacobs from Life is Good®, Inc. and Comedian Brian Regan.

The NAVC's 33rd annual Conference, January 16-20, 2016, took place for the final year at its current location, the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, Orlando World Center Marriott and Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel and Convention Center. Next year's event will be held February 4-8 at the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC) in Orlando, FL.

ABOUT THE NAVC

Founded in 1982 and headquartered in Gainesville, FL, the North American Veterinary Community (NAVC) is a non-profit organization providing world-class professional development to the global veterinary healthcare community. Its largest initiative, the annual NAVC Conference, hosts more than 17,000 attendees each year. Other offerings include [VetFolio](#), an online CE platform for all veterinary professionals, in partnership with the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA); the [NAVC Institute](#); the [Veterinary Innovation Council](#) and its official journals, [Today's Veterinary Practice](#) and [Today's Veterinary Technician](#).

The NAVC's recently launched Industry Services Division is one of the only not-for-profit Association Management Companies (AMC) in existence that provides services exclusively for the veterinary profession. It is backed by decades of experience in the veterinary field as well as conference and event planning, management and execution.

Visit NAVC.com for more details.

###