

2021 William Magrane Basic Science Course

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the William Magrane Basic Science Course (BSC) was held online for the first time ever during the summer of 2020. Thanks to eager participation of the attendees and a Herculean effort from the faculty, those attending had a truly rich educational experience. We had 97 attendees from 27 different countries and every continent except Antarctica, and 91% of survey respondents found the course quality outstanding (50%) or excellent (41%); and 93% were very likely to recommend the course to a colleague. The Board of Regents is grateful to the UC Davis Continuing Education Office staff as well as the BSC Planning Committee for their efforts.

It is now time to look to the immediate future of this course. It was our hope to offer an in-person course in 2021. Sadly, as the Covid-19 pandemic picks up steam again in the Northern hemisphere, and with the unpredictability of travel restrictions for summer of next year, the ACVO Board of Regents and BSC Planning Committee have decided that it is impossible to project for an in-person course in 2021 as originally hoped. However, because many future attendees had already planned around the course being offered in one format or another in 2021, we will honor that commitment and can now release tentative details for the 2021 course.

We learned a great deal from the 2020 online course and, while most attendees found the overall duration sufficient (i.e., 8 weeks’ access to the material), the BSC Planning Committee believe that it would be preferred to offer these 8 weeks in a slightly different format in 2021. (As a reminder, in 2020 we provided 3 weeks of synchronous sessions followed by an additional 5 weeks of asynchronous access to all recorded material.) In response to 2020 attendee feedback, we plan to provide 2 weeks of early asynchronous access to all recorded lectures, followed by 3 weeks of daily synchronous discussions and image recognition sessions (“slide rounds”), and then to finish with 3 weeks of ongoing asynchronous access to all recorded lectures and discussions. The 3 weeks with synchronous sessions will be hosted during the previously advertised period: May 31-June 18, 2021. This same information is presented graphically below; however please note that the dates and format are not final. Please check back regularly at www.acvo.org for updated information.

Unlimited online access to lectures
(May 14 - May 30, 2021)

Daily live online discussions & slide rounds
(May 31 - Jun 18, 2021)

Unlimited online access to all lectures & discussions
(Jun 19 - Jul 12, 2021)

Tentative schedule for BSC 2021. **(SUBJECT TO CHANGE.)**