

**March 12, 2020**

**14<sup>th</sup> Magrane ACVO Basic Science Course**

**Update in light of the COVID-19 pandemic**

We expect that many of you who have already registered for or are planning to register for the upcoming ACVO Basic Science Course have questions about possible effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Course. Although the Course is still over 3 months away, the effects of and global responses to the COVID 19 pandemic are changing very rapidly, and we share your concerns. Rest assured that we continue to closely monitor and comply with all University, State, and Federal guidelines and regulations and, while it is our hope that the global health risk and associated travel restrictions will be notably decreased by late June, we are aware that uncertainty regarding the Course is a key concern. With that in mind, we want to offer you the following reassurances, increased flexibility, and advice.

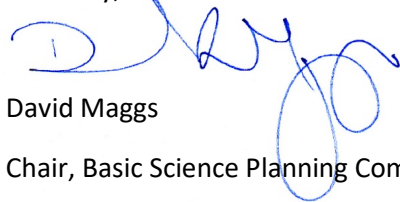
- At this time, we still plan to hold the Course as an onsite event from June 22 to July 9, 2020.
- However, we are also investigating the opportunities for remote/digital participation in the Course. We realize that most of you will only attend this Course once in your lifetime and that one of the most significant benefits over the years has been the often lifelong international friendships that develop during the Course. We will keep this uppermost in our mind as we investigate all options.
- To give those who have not yet registered increased flexibility, we have extended the registration deadline until April 20, 2020.
- And for those of you who have already registered, remember, you can cancel for a full refund of your registration fee through May 24, 2020 (less the \$250.00 processing fee). After midnight on May 24, 2020, no refunds for this Course will be provided.
- If you have booked Campus Housing, recall that it can be cancelled until April 20, 2020 (less the \$75.00 processing fee). If you made other housing arrangements, please be certain to review their specific cancellation policies.
- If you have not already purchased a plane ticket, we recommend that you refrain from doing so at this time.

We will maintain timely and transparent communications as this situation changes. We will update any advisories at the top of the [Course Webpage](#), and we will email major changes to all those who have registered. We will remain cognizant that you, too, may be bound by employer and governmental regulations in your countries and states. And, most importantly, we understand that some of you may feel uncomfortable traveling regardless of regulatory advice, and we will always respect that.

If you have any questions, please address these to the UC Davis Center for Continuing Professional Education at: [svmcontinuinged@ucdavis.edu](mailto:svmcontinuinged@ucdavis.edu).

I look forward to meeting you all in person at the Basic Science Course in Davis, California in late June.

Sincerely,



David Maggs

Chair, Basic Science Planning Committee