



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

Race Track Industry Program

845 N. Park Avenue, Suite 370
Tucson, Arizona 85721
(520) 621-5660, fax (520) 621-8239

For Immediate Release

April 11, 2018

Dr. Dionne Benson Visit Combines Science and Law



Tucson, AZ — Dr. Dionne Benson visited the Race Track Industry Program for the second consecutive year. She served as guest lecturer for the Joe Hirsch Speaker Forum, and Advanced Animal Racing Law and Enforcement.

Dr. Benson holds both a law degree and a veterinary degree. The former from William Mitchell College of Law, and the latter from the University of Minnesota. Before joining the Race Medication and Testing Consortium as their executive director in 2012, she practiced law in Minnesota, and worked as an official for the Minnesota State Veterinarian's office.

Dr. Benson's presentation for the students in the Joe Hirsch Speaker Forum detailed

the effect of bisphosphonates on equine bone development. She explained that the use of bisphosphonates on a juvenile horse could possibly inhibit bone growth and development as the horse matures. She also talked with students about other emerging threats for racing integrity, such as sustained release pain medication.

In the Advanced Animal Racing Laws and Enforcement course, Dr. Benson's lecture covered a large amount of medication issues in horse racing, with a splash of racing trivia for the students. She talked about the adoption of the National Uniform Medication Program (NUMP) and the components of the program. In the latter part of the lecture, Dr. Benson spoke about risks involved with compounded medications, and showed students some examples of the compounds that are routinely used in racing.

Contact: Betty Prewitt, bprewitt@ag.arizona.edu

Race Track Industry Program — The University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program offers a Bachelor's degree with an emphasis on the pari-mutuel racing industry and hosts the annual Global Symposium on Racing held every December in Tucson, Arizona.

University of Arizona — Established in 1885, the University of Arizona, the state's super land-grant university with two medical schools, produces graduates who are real-world ready through its 100% Engagement initiative. Recognized as a global leader, the UA is also a leader in research, bringing more than \$606 million in research investment each year, and ranking 21st among all public universities. The UA is advancing the frontiers of interdisciplinary scholarship and entrepreneurial partnerships and is a member of the Association of American Universities, the 62 leading public and private research universities. It benefits the state with an estimated economic impact of \$8.3 billion annually.