



## Race Track Industry Program

### 39th ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON RACING & GAMING

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012

#### WEDNESDAY WELCOME

##### **SPEAKERS:**

**Doug Reed**, Director, University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program

**Dr. Charles Sterling**, Department Head, Veterinary Science and Microbiology, Interim Head, Department of Animal Sciences

**Mr. Doug Reed:** — and glad to see a number of you early risers. Day two is always a little harder than day one. People

[Laughter]

Slowly get here. The room will slowly fill up. We kinda know the routine by now. I dodged the bar last night. My wife was down there in my absence, but I'm glad to see so many here this morning. Before we start, let's certainly thank our sponsors again. We really do, and I mean that every time we get up here and say this. It's — this program, your registration, the sponsorship, the exhibitors really make our Race Track Industry Program go. I mean, we'd have to rethink our model if it wasn't for that. Our panel is sponsored by International Sound Corporation. The refreshment break following this is Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino. The breakfast you had this morning was sponsored by InCompass, and last night's reception was GROUPE CARRUS - The Parimutuel Company sponsored our reception last night, probably the reason a number of you others aren't in here.

I have a — I'd like to make a brief introduction to an important person at the university, just with a couple brief comments before we start our session. Dr. Charles Sterling, better known as Chuck, is a professor and department head of the veterinary science and microbiology, as well as head of the animal science department where we reside. In addition, he is a professor of College of Public Health in epidemiology and biostats department. He's quite a busy man on campus and I'll let him explain that to you. He is a graduate of Syracuse University. He received his PhD from Wayne State University. I'm gonna leave it up to Chuck to explain why he's now the head of two departments, so please welcome Chuck Sterling.

[Applause]

**Mr. Charles Sterling:** Thank you very much, Doug, for that introduction. Well, welcome. I was gonna say how many of you have just come to Tucson for the first time, but it's my understanding you've been meeting here at La Paloma for about the last seven or eight

years. I've lived in Tucson, myself, 30 years after leaving Wayne State Medical School where I was a professor in a department of immunobiology for nine years. One thing I can say about Tucson is I never get tired of looking at those mountains right behind us. I am fortunate in that I live literally a stone throw from here, and I like to hike up in the Catalinas, so it's really a pleasure to be here with you all this morning.

The first thing I want to do is acknowledge the Race Track Industry Program at the U of A under the stewardship of Doug Reed and also want to acknowledge Steve and Wendy and all the associates of that program. There's no question and no doubt that they have one of the preeminent programs — well, the preeminent program in the Race Track Industry Program in the United States. Also I wanna thank all of you and I wanna thank the sponsors. As Doug has elaborated on, he'd have to be thinking of a very different paradigm for that program were it not for the sponsors.

I also want to assure all of you, even though I know that our dean, Dean Burgess, came and talked to you yesterday and I know he talked about how this program is going to move into a whole new school, the school being the School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences. One of the things I want to assure all of you is that it is not going to in any way, shape, or form diminish the importance of this program. If anything, this program is gonna become even more important. The reason for that is because the dean envisions and I envision, also, because he's asked me to sort of shepherd that program a little bit in the early phases of its development, his — we have this vision of, especially the business model of this program serving as a business model for exposure of our students in this new school to business oriented courses.

As Doug said, I'm right at the moment the interim head of animal science, but also I've been the permanent head and am the permanent head of veterinary science and microbiology on campus. These two departments have come together. We've unanimously agreed that it's in our best interest to form this school, and we're looking at ways to revise the curriculum that will meet the needs and serve the purposes of all the students and included in that is a notion that students need more of an exposure to business oriented courses. It's very obvious that everyone coming into our program is not gonna get into veterinary school, is not gonna get into medical school, and I say medical school because they come to our microbiology program as largely pre-med students.

We feel that, look you need this kind of exposure because, like myself, it was exposure to courses as an undergraduate student that really made a difference in what career path I chose. I'm very, very impressed. I have to admit, I'm a neophyte when it comes to understanding this program, but I'm a quick learner and so is our dean. We both acknowledge and realize the importance of this program and its continuance, and we're gonna do everything within our power to make sure that happens. With that, I'm gonna turn the program back over to Doug to introduce the speaker. I wish you all a very successful meeting and thank you.

**[Applause]**