

Rebecca Bellone

Rebecca Bellone earned her PhD in equine genetics from the University of Kentucky in 2001. Since that time, she has led an equine genetics and genomics research program involving both undergraduate and graduate students. Her program focuses on investigating the genetics of phenotypes of interest and those of medical importance with discoveries of several causal mutations for pigmentation traits and ocular disorders, among others. She was on faculty at the University of Tampa, Florida (2002–2014), where she was a three-time recipient of the

College of Natural and Health Sciences Outstanding Scholar Award. In 2014, she joined the faculty in the Department of Population Health and Reproduction at the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis, and since November 2017, she has served as the director of the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL), a unit of the school with over 30 years of experience in DNA testing for parentage and diagnostic markers across species. Bellone has been attending ISAG conferences since 2000. She has been actively involved in ISAG comparison testing, as the VGL has served as the duty lab for several species. Bellone was also a member (2008–2016), co-chair (2012–2014), and chair (2014–2016) of the ISAG Horse Genetics and Genomics Committee, and she is currently in her second term of service as a member of the ISAG Equine Genetics and Thoroughbred Parentage Testing Committee.