

Anna Denicol is associate professor UC Davis in California and a reproductive and developmental biologist. After receiving a DVM from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, Denicol earned a MPVM degree from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine under the supervision of Ricardo Chebel where she studied the effects of progesterone and the follicular wave on fertility of dairy cows. Denicol then obtained a PhD from the University of Florida under the mentorship of Peter Hansen, studying the roles of WNT signaling on cell fate decisions and competence of bovine embryos to establish a pregnancy. She has been in the faculty at UC Davis since 2016, and during this time, she has mentored three PhD students, six MS students, and two postdoctoral scholars to completion. Using the cow as the model species, Denicol's laboratory at UC Davis focuses on the biology of female gametes including the specification of primordial germ cells in the pre-implantation embryo, oogenesis, and the establishment of the ovarian reserve during fetal life, and folliculogenesis during reproductive life. One of the goals of this research is to develop methods to enable in vitro gametogenesis, for which the laboratory has been employing embryonic stem cells as a source for the differentiation of gametes. Between publications resulting from her graduate degrees and her independent research, Denicol has published 34 peer-reviewed articles, which collectively have been cited over 1,250 times.

Statement from Denicol: "IETS is my scientific family. My first annual meeting was in 2011; in this society, I grew as a scientist, learned groundbreaking science, and developed long-lasting partnerships and friendships. I am incredibly grateful for the welcoming attitude of IETS members and for the hard work that so many colleagues have put, over these five decades of IETS, into making it a thriving, relevant, and inspiring scientific society. I would be honored to have the opportunity to contribute to IETS in an official capacity and to continue expanding the reach of the scientific knowledge generated by our members for generations to come."