Bio – Jeremy Block

Jeremy Block is an Associate Professor in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Wyoming where his laboratory studies ruminant reproduction. He received a BS in animal science from the University of Missouri and subsequently completed graduate studies at the University of Florida, including an MS in animal sciences and a PhD in the Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology Graduate Program. His graduate work focused on developing strategies to improve post-transfer survival of bovine embryos produced in-vitro with a primary interest in the role insulin-like growth factor-1 plays in regulating preimplantation embryo development and survival following embryo transfer. After completion of his doctorate in 2007, Block became an independent practitioner starting a business, Ovatech, which focused on providing assisted reproductive services, including in vitro fertilization to livestock producers. During this time, he also served as a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Florida collaborating on research efforts focused on identifying embryokines that could be used to improve in-vitro embryo development and post-transfer pregnancy establishment, as well as work directed toward understanding how uterine infection impacts oocyte developmental competence. In 2016, Block moved to Zoetis and served as a principal scientist in the livestock wellness and performance research group where he worked to identify novel therapeutic strategies for improving reproductive efficiency in livestock. In 2020, he accepted his current position at the University of Wyoming where his laboratory presently works on the development of culture conditions to promote efficient differentiation of bovine embryonic stem cells toward a germ cell lineage, identification of embryonic receptors that are functionally important for preimplantation embryo development and survival and understanding how microbes within the male reproductive system impact sperm function and male fertility. During his research career, Block has been part of more than 50 peer-reviewed publications which have been cited collectively more than 3,300 times. Block has been an active member of the IETS for more than 20 years. During this time, he has served as an abstract section chair for 10 years, been a member of the local organizing committee for conferences in Orlando and Denver, helped to organize or participate in two pre-conference symposia and an Innovation Conference, and is currently a member of the HASAC research subcommittee. My first IETS was in Omaha in 2001. In the intervening years, I have not only enjoyed actively participating in the society but have benefited greatly. The international diversity, camaraderie, and collaborative nature of the members of IETS have contributed to my development as both a practitioner and research scientist. At this time, I am eager to give back to the society and hopeful that my varied career in industry and academia can provide insights that help support the continued growth of IETS in the coming years.