Dr. Clode is a native of Spokane, Washington, and completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. She obtained her veterinary degree from Washington State University in 2003, following which she completed a one-year small animal medical and surgical internship at Colorado State University. Her residency training in comparative veterinary ophthalmology was completed at North Carolina State University in 2007; she achieved Diplomate status in the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) that same year. Dr. Clode served on the NCSU faculty from 2007 to 2014, and played a vital role in developing and running the first university ophthalmology service specifically dedicated to Equine Ophthalmology within the US. She has authored multiple research publications and book chapters, and has lectured extensively in the US and abroad, on both equine and small animal ophthalmology topics.