Dr. Woutrina A. Smith

Dr. Smith is an Associate Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology in the School of Veterinary Medicine at University of California, Davis. Originally from Alaska, she studied at Pomona College and then came to UC Davis for her DVM, MPVM, and PhD degrees. Her research program utilizes a One Health approach locally and globally to bring together professionals and stakeholders across disciplines spanning the natural and social sciences. Dr. Smith has active research projects in Africa and Asia, as well as in California, where multidisciplinary teams work together to solve complex health problems in innovative ways. Dr. Smith has received funding from diverse sources including the National Institutes of Health, the US Agency for International Development, the US Department of Defense, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support her research and training endeavors.

As a leader in the One Health Center of Expertise (COE) within the University of California Global Health Institute, Dr. Smith aims to connect students and faculty in new synergistic ways, among UC campuses and also between UC and international partner institutions to foster One Health collaborations in education and research. At UC Davis, Dr. Smith teaches in the professional DVM, graduate, and undergraduate programs, where she brings her field and laboratory research experiences into the classroom to help bring real world context to the learning objectives at hand. As Capacity Team lead for the global Predict Program based at UC Davis, Dr. Smith works with scientists and stakeholders in 30 countries to help build local capabilities to conduct health surveillance in animal and human populations at key interfaces where new diseases are the most likely to emerge.