William S. Stokes, DVM, DACLAM, DACAW, BCES, Fellow ATS

Dr. William S. Stokes is a former Assistant U.S. Surgeon General and Rear Admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service, where he also served as the 8th Chief Veterinary Officer. During his career as a veterinary medical officer at the National Institutes of Health, he served as the Attending Veterinarian and Animal Program Director for two NIH Institutes: the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, MD, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in Research Triangle Park, NC. From 1992-2012 at the NIEHS, he conducted translational environmental health research to better understand how environmental chemicals and contaminants cause or contribute to disease and injury. His research focused on animal and cellular models and molecular mechanisms of endocrine disruption, carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity, allergic contact dermatitis, ocular toxicity, and acute and subchronic toxicity. During this time he served as Director of the U.S. National Toxicology Program's Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM) and Executive Director for the U.S. Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM). Under his guidance, the NTP Center and Interagency Committee contributed to the national and international regulatory acceptance of over 60 improved safety assessment methods to help prevent disease and injuries and to protect public health, animal health, and the environment. At NIEHS he also served as Chief of the Comparative Medicine Branch. Prior to joining the USPHS, Dr. Stokes served seven years in the Army Veterinary Corps with assignments at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases and the Department of Clinical Investigation at Tripler Army Medical Center

Dr. Stokes is currently an adjunct Professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University and an independent consultant. Dr. Stokes served on the AVMA's One Health Initiative Task Force from 2007-08 and contributed to the establishment of the national One Health Commission. For the past three years, he has participated as a member of the Steering Committee of the North Carolina One Health Collaborative.

RADM Stokes received his B.S. with a major in biomedical engineering from the University of Louisville and his D.V.M. from the Ohio State University. He is a board certified Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine and the American College of Animal Welfare. He is also a Board Certified Environmental Scientist, Fellow of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences, and served two terms as a Council member of the Institute of Laboratory Animal Research at the National Academy of Sciences. He has received numerous awards, including the HHS Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service, the Surgeon General's Exemplary Service Medal, the NIH Director's Award, and the K.F. Meyer-James H. Steele Gold Headed Cane Award from the American Veterinary Epidemiological Society.