

Prague International Symposium

SATURDAY 19th Sep 2026:

7:30-8:45	Registration
8:45 - 9:00 AM	Welcome Welcome and Opening Remarks Pebbles Turbeville, CEO, HHRF John M. Kundtz, President, HHRF Board of Directors Věra Lantelme-Faisan, President, HETI Lukáš Kalous, Full Professor and Vice-Dean for Quality Assurance, FAFNR, CZU
9:00 - 9:45 AM	Keynote Address Sanna Mattila-Rautiainen - The Quality of Movement as Therapeutic Language: Observing and Documenting Patient Change in Equine-Facilitated Rehabilitation of Chronic Low Back Pain
9:45 - 10:00	Para Vaulting Demonstration on the Barrel Athletes from TJ Orion Praha
10:00 - 10:30	Tea and Coffee Break
10:30 - 12:00 AM	EAS Lightning Round 10:30 - 11:00 AM Beth Macauley - Research Evidence for Speech Therapy Incorporating Horses 11:00 - 11:30 AM Štěpán Zítek - The Influence of Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy on the Psychological State of Patients with Addiction 11:30 - 12:00 AM Jo Anne Miller Reading, Riding, and Arithmetic: Applying Equine-Assisted Learning: A Program for At-Risk Youth
12:00 AM - 13:00 PM	EAS Expert Panel Panelists Selcuk Akpinar Audrey Darby Alexandra Stergiou Jitka Bartosova Sanna Mattila-Rautiainen Hentrika Jormfeld
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Lunch Break
2:00 - 3:30 PM	Equine Wellbeing Lightning Round 2:00 - 2:30 PM Helen Sharp - Therapeutic Ecology: Towards a One Health Perspective on How Horses, Nature and Place Shape Therapeutic Change 2:30 - 3:00 PM Sara Jean Reega - Equipment Use on Therapeutic Riding Horses' Heads: Exploring Trends in the United States 3:00 - 3:30 PM Kristýna Machová - Hair cortisol concentration as an indicator of long-term welfare in equine-assisted therapy horses: a cross-country comparison between the Czech Republic and Slovakia
3:30 - 4:30 PM	Equine Wellbeing Panel Panelists Reeta Seery Arnau Goma Font Anita Shkedi Mike C.Tomlinson Tim Jobe Ann Hemingway
4:30 - 5:00 PM	Tea and Coffee Break
5:00 - 6:00 PM	Hot Topics Panel Panelists Bettina Shultz Alexandra Stergiou Vera Lantelme-Faisan Arnau Goma Font Sara Jean Reega Mike Tomlinson Sanna Mattila-Rautiainen

Prague International Symposium

SUNDAY 20 Sep 2026

8:30 - 8:40 AM

- Welcome Back and Day Two Opening

8:40 - 10:10 AM

Horse and Human Interaction Lightning Round

8:40 - 9:10 AM

Jitka Bartošová -Horse-Human Bond: Quantum of Cooperation - or
The Horse Who Loved Me?

9:10 - 9:40 AM

- Emily Kieson - Beyond Stress Signals: Recognizing Affiliative
Behaviors as Indicators of Relational Health in EAS

9:40 - 10:10 AM

- Sara Jean Reega - Horsemanship-focused equine-assisted learning
for veterans: a preliminary thematic analysis

10:10 - 10:30

Tea and Coffee break

10:30 - 11:30 AM

Horse and Human Interaction Panel

Panelists:

Pebbles Turbeville
Ann Hemingway
Bettina Shultz
Tamara Merritt
Beth Lanning
Marketa Pišová

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

- Conference Wrap-Up and Closing Session

Speaker:

Tamara Merritt - Looking Back to Move Forward: The Next Chapter
of Equine-Assisted Services

12:30 PM

Conference Adjournment

Speaker:

Pebbles Turbeville