The CCAH, one of the school’s 36 units, brings together faculty expertise, facilities, equipment, staff, students and funding to tackle the toughest problems in animal health. Center faculty conduct cutting-edge research investigations, as well as work in the veterinary hospital and teach in the classroom. Their discoveries lead to new diagnostic tests and treatment options for the school’s animal patients. In the clinic, faculty see patients with injuries, naturally occurring diseases and other health conditions. This information is then taught to DVM students, and shared with practicing veterinarians in the community. Over time, the clinical caseload data—hundreds of thousands of medical records—provides a valuable resource of searchable information for scientific studies.

Powered by donations to the CCAH, the faculty partner with colleagues across the school to search for common elements to unlock the door to new discoveries, and improved animal health.

Major discoveries by the CCAH team impacting clinical practice include:

- Identifying the gene mutation for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in cats
- Advancing cancer treatments using a linear accelerator and stereotactic radiosurgery
- Developing a reconstructive procedure to regrow jawbone in dogs following bone injury or tumor removal
- Creating a surgical technique for corneal disease in dogs
- Linking low taurine levels to cardiomyopathy in cats
- Developing stem cell therapy clinical trials for feline chronic gingivostomatitis, knee diseases in dogs, and inflammatory bowel disease in dogs
- Identifying the genetic cause of cleft palate in Nova Scotia duck tolling retrievers
- Designing nutritional treatment strategies for obese dogs and cats

“The CCAH is a vital component of the school. These collaborative teams not only investigate and identify solutions to some of the world’s most complex health challenges for animals and people, but they translate their findings to provide excellent animal patient care.”

– Michael D. Lairmore, Dean