



MPVM Today

Educating Future Leaders in Veterinary Population Health

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Health professionals with a degree that allows you to practice as a medical or veterinary doctor in any country are encouraged to consider a Masters in Preventive Veterinary Medicine (MPVM) degree. GREs are not required, although English proficiency, academic and professional accomplishments, and past earned grades are assessed. Our classes are small, engaged in active learning, multi-cultural, and stimulating. In our 1-2 year program in applied epidemiology, students learn tools to evaluate health and productivity in populations. Students complete their own population-health research projects, which many ultimately publish! And then they join the illustrious ranks of alumni who have served as leaders in public health, military, government agencies, academic and many other fields.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH CURRENT MPVM STUDENTS?

This year we have 12 enrolled students from the U.S., Ethiopia, Mexico, Taiwan, and Italy! Student highlights from last year:

- Dr. Maris Brenn-White presenting her work on distemper in Nicaraguan hunting dogs
- Dr. Ketki Raje studying epidemiology of fever of unknown origin in horses
- Dr. Dane Whittaker studying *Klebsiella* in marine mammals
- Dr. Elle Glueckert wrapping up her study of a novel amovirus in skunks and mustelids

MPVM AT THE CDC



Drs. Janet Foley and Ashley Hill joined MPVM student **Dr. Anne Kimmerlein** (back row, 3rd from the left) and veterinary students from across North America for Veterinary Student Day at the CDC. The group learned about One Health needs and opportunities in multiple agencies. Kimmerlein is interested in the ways in which human actions and policy affect the spread of infectious disease between human and animal populations. Her goal after completing the MPVM program is to participate in the Epidemic Intelligence Service, a 2-year, on-the-job training and service fellowship with the CDC, whose participants respond to public health investigations worldwide.

MEET AN MPVM FACULTY MEMBER

Dr. Pramod Pandey, a Cooperative Extension Specialist and MPVM faculty member is working on hydrology, fluid and sediment transport, climate, and behaviors of bacteria at different environmental conditions.

“Basically, we all know that bacteria from farms, animals, and sewage systems can contaminate water. I study how that happens and eventually how we can protect against it. This kind of work really takes a team of veterinarians, engineers, specialists, and farm managers. An MPVM student with a veterinary degree and skills in epidemiology is the right person to look at farms and the rest of the environment as a whole study system. This kind of study involves microbiology, modeling, and environmental health. Looking at the big picture--I believe my work can help create healthier, more sustainable farms and environments.”

----Pramod Pandey



MPVM IN PRINT

Dr. Kyuyoung (“Q”) Lee, now a PhD student in Dr. Beatriz Martinez-Lopez’s lab, and his team just published “Unraveling the contact patterns and network structure of pig shipments in the United States and its association with porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV) outbreaks” in [ScienceDirect](#).

Dr. Dena Mangiamele just published her book, “Stray - A Shelter Veterinarian's Reflection on Triumph and Tragedy” available at [Amazon](#).

SPOTLIGHT ON MPVM ALUMNI

Dr. Megan Moriarty (MPVM ’13) credits her training with providing her a solid foundation in biostatistics and epidemiology. Her thesis was on the Catalina Island fox, an endangered species that has a very high prevalence of both ear mites and ear canal tumors. All MPVM students conduct a mentored research project. Moriarty designed a field trial assessing the impact of acaricide treatment on risk factors for ear tumor development in foxes.

“I gained firsthand experience with animal capture and sampling, diagnostic test development, data analysis, and publication in a peer-reviewed journal,” said Moriarty. “I hope this work will directly influenced wildlife management actions, and contributed to significant reduction in overall ear mite prevalence among Catalina foxes.”

Moriarty is now pursuing a Ph.D. in epidemiology at UC Davis focused on sea otter disease ecology, and understanding issues impeding population recovery.

Alumni profiles are available on the web site at: www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/mpvm/profiles. To submit an alumni update please e-mail Tami Ali at: tali@ucdavis.edu.



MPVM ALUMS MAKING GLOBAL IMPACTS IN FOOD SAFETY



In December 2016, the first International Symposium on Food Safety took place in Santiago, Chile, led by Drs. Aiko Adell (pictured on the left) and Fernando Mardones, both MPVM alums and now faculty at Andres Bello University, Santiago, Chile. Dr. Adell is working on water quality and pathogen pollution related to food safety. Dr. Mardones is working on spatial mapping of diseases important to aquaculture. As symposium leaders they very successfully brought together an international group of speakers from universities, government organizations, and industry to promote dialogue and collaboration. Both of these alums came to the UC Davis MPVM program to build their population health and epidemiology skills, and stayed on for PhDs in the Graduate Group for Epidemiology and the Integrative Pathobiology Graduate Group.

Returning to their home country of Chile, they both obtained faculty positions where they are now building independent research programs and international collaborations with faculty at UC Davis and elsewhere. Dr. Adell recently received a grant to apply her water quality and pathogen pollution research approach, piloted in California, to the Chilean context over the coming year. She is pursuing this work in collaboration with Dr. Woutrina Smith, Associate Professor and instructor in the MPVM program here at the school (pictured above on the right). Collaborations with MPVM alums further demonstrates the program's impacts around the world.

MPVM NIBBLES

In Dec 2016, MPVM Professor Janet Foley and team submitted their report to Cal Fish and Wildlife showing how the drought in California could cause extinction in the extremely vulnerable endangered Amargosa vole.

MPVM alumnus Dr. Eric Eisenman is on Taal in the Philippines, helping International Veterinary Outreach with their work on humane care for horses.

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