

50th Anniversary Campaign Update

The UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine commemorated its 50th anniversary last August. During the celebration, Dean Bennie Osburn announced that \$22 million had been raised toward a \$50 million funding campaign goal to support endowed chairs, scholarships and fellowships, research and new facilities including a cancer therapy facility at the Center for Companion Animal Health (CAAH).

When the American Veterinary Medical Association completed a seven years' accreditation review last November, the school met or exceeded 10 of 11 criteria for full accreditation—but the accreditation committee considered the school's current educational facilities such as laboratories, classrooms and parts of the teaching hospital to be inadequate or out-of-date. They gave the school a two-year probationary period in which to remedy the problem.

The necessary improvements, alterations and replacements of school facilities are to be funded by a combination of state bonds, campus monies

and private support, which must include \$17 million from the school's 50th Anniversary Campaign.

A Heartening Response

Concerned friends and animal lovers, alumni and faculty members have rallied to help. Contributions toward improving facilities to ensure full accreditation range from \$2, from seven-year-old Isabel Montenegro's piggy bank, to a \$10.7 million pledge

Concerned friends and animal lovers, alumni and faculty members have rallied to help.

from the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation of Oakland, California.

By May 1999, 50th Anniversary Campaign gifts totaled more than \$35 million, and the \$6.5 million campaign for the new CCAH building fund was

The school still needs nearly \$15 million in order to reach the 50th Anniversary Campaign goal.

completed ahead of schedule through private funding.

Current Goals

But the school still needs approximately \$15 million in order to reach the 50th Anniversary Campaign goal, and will continue to seek contributions to endow research fellowships and scholarships, and to support faculty and equipment.

For more information on how you can help support the School of Veterinary Medicine, contact the school's Office of Development, (530) 752-7024, or visit the Web site, (www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/gifts).

Generous Gifts Support Education, Research and Facilities

Valley Foundation Gift Will Improve Facilities

A \$10.7 million gift from the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation—the largest single gift in UC Davis history—represents a major boost in efforts to improve aging facilities at the nation's top-ranked veterinary school.

"The very generous gift from the Valley family foundation could not have been more timely," says UC Davis Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef. "It endorses the unsurpassed quality and vitality of our veterinary medicine programs, while addressing the inadequacy of the facilities in which those programs currently operate."

The Valley family foundation's gift will support construction and renovation of

instructional, research and office space, including alterations to the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital and the expansion of the Center for Companion Animal Health, as well as new classroom space for a growing body of veterinary students.

Philanthropist and Aspiring Veterinarian Tours School

When José Montenegro read a *California Agriculture* article by Dean Bennie Osburn on the future of veterinary education and the need for facilities funding at UC Davis, he knew that his 7-year-old daughter, Isabel, would understand. So he read the piece to her aloud. The aspiring veterinarian immediately sent a letter to the dean



Isabel Montenegro with her kitten, Pepita.

that began, "Dear Mr. Bennie," and ended with, "Please accept my contribution of \$2 Dollars."

"Mr. Bennie" was so impressed that he thanked her personally and invited the young philanthropist to visit the school. Isabel's favorite part of her special tour was meeting "Pepsi" and other blood donor cats at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.