Three alumni received the 2001 Alumni Achievement Award, the school’s highest honor: 

**James DeMartini** (’66, PhD ’72), professor of pathology at Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, was recognized for distinguished contributions to ruminant infectious disease research, the field of veterinary pathology and veterinary medical education.

**Edward Feldman** (’73), professor of small animal internal medicine at UC Davis, was recognized for outstanding accomplishments and commitment to research and teaching in the fields of canine and feline endocrinology and reproduction.

**Peter Quesenberry** (’78, MPVM ’91), veterinarian and administrator of World Concern, an international charitable organization, was recognized for his impact on the lives of humans and animals through teaching and training in epidemiology, agriculture and public health.

**Stephen Barthold** (’69), director of the Center for Comparative Medicine and the UC Davis Mouse Biology Program, was elected last October to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, one of the highest honors conferred upon medical and health professionals.

**Gregory Ferraro** (’71), director of the Center for Equine Health, was appointed by Governor Davis last June as one of three new members of the Veterinary Medical Board, which licenses veterinarians, certifies registered veterinary technicians, and regulates both.

VMTH clients **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Freid** and their dog, **Bandit**; and **Ms. Sheila Cruickshank** and her dog, **Punkster**, received the 2001 El Blanco Award recognizing their participation in the first experimental pancreatic cell transplantation performed in dogs, which contributed to scientific knowledge and created a new opportunity to help both animals and people with pancreatic dysfunction.

**Geoffrey Fosgate** won the prize for best student presentation in Epidemiology and Animal Health Economics at the 82nd meeting of the Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases last November. PhD students enrolled in the school’s epidemiology program have won the prize four times in the last five years.

**Laurel Gershwin**, professor in the department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, received the 2001 Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence for her work on bovine respiratory diseases, IgE-mediated diseases and animal models of allergic lung disease.

**Robert Hansen**, professor of physiological chemistry in the Department of Molecular Biosciences, received the 2001 Norden Distinguished Teacher Award. In June 2001, after serving for 18 years in the position, Dr. Hansen stepped down as associate dean for student programs.

**Joseph Harper**, president and general manager of the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, is the 2001 recipient of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine’s Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his hundreds of hours of volunteer leadership of the Center for Equine Health and other school units. Mr. Harper is a charter member and chair of the Center for Equine Health Advisory Board.

**Susan Hildebrand**, professor of anesthesiology in the Department of Surgical and Radiological Sciences and chief of the VMTH Anesthesia/Critical Patient Care Service 1999–2001, became associate dean for student programs last July.

**David Hird** (’68, MPVM ’73), director of the school’s Office of International Programs, was appointed director of the Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine Program for a three-year term beginning last July.

**James Jones**, professor in the Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology and an authority on respiratory and exercise physiology, received the 2001 Faculty Distinguished Teaching Award.

**Robert Leighton**, professor emeritus, was named honorary professor by the University of Buenos Aires, Republic of Argentina, last June.

**Donald Low**, professor emeritus, received the CVMA Distinguished Life Award last June. He serves as mentor and advisor to the entire profession, promoting continuing education of veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

**Mark Nunez** (’93) received the school’s 2002 Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association (SCVMA) and the direct benefits provided to UC Davis students and the veterinary profession throughout California. Dr. Nunez serves as president of SCVMA, the largest local veterinary organization in the United States.

**Bennie Osburn**, dean, and **John Pascoe**, executive associate dean, were appointed by the chancellor to serve a second five-year term last September.

The **Department of Population Health and Reproduction** was one of nine grant winners in the Philip Morris family of companies 2001 Shared Solutions Agricultural Contributions program for an online food safety education program focusing on dairy cattle. It features a Web-based continuing education course developed for dairy veterinarians and farm advisers in six western states who will pass along pertinent information to dairy producers. The goal is to provide higher quality dairy cattle for slaughter according to new Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point requirements for meat packers.
Jon Ramsey
(PhD ’95 Colorado State University) has joined the faculty as assistant professor in the Department of Molecular Biosciences. He comes to UC Davis from the University of Wisconsin; his research interests are energy metabolism as it relates to aging and obesity, and regulation of energy expenditure and energy requirements of animals.

Kevin Reilly (DVM/MPVM ’88) was appointed in September as Deputy Director of Prevention Services for the Department of Health Services to serve as principal policymaker and representative on public health issues. He oversees programs in several areas of public health including disease and injury control; AIDS; food, drug and radiation safety; drinking water and environmental management; clinical preventive medicine; and binational border health.

Jane Sykes
(BVSc ’93, PhD ’98, University of Melbourne; diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine) joined the faculty of the Department of Medicine and Epidemiology in January as assistant professor. Dr. Sykes is also a member of the VMTH Small Animal Medicine Service. Dr. Sykes served a residency in internal medicine and was an assistant clinical specialist in small animal internal medicine at the University of Minnesota. Her primary research interests are the pathogenesis, diagnosis and epidemiological aspects of infectious diseases of dogs and cats.

Fern Tablin, professor in the Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Cell Biology, and Dean Bennie Osburn were among nine UC Davis faculty members elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2001. AAAS, the world's largest scientific organization, publishes the journal Science and works to bridge gaps between scientists, policymakers and the public.

Tilahun Yilma (’70) was selected by the campus Academic Senate as the 2002 Faculty Research Lecturer at the University of California, Davis, in recognition of his work on vaccine development against the deadly rinderpest disease and his current work on an AIDS vaccine.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert M. Cello, professor emeritus, died May 20, 2001, of complications from leukemia at age 79. After serving as a lecturer at UC Davis and as a private practitioner, Dr. Cello joined the faculty in 1954. He and his colleagues planned the first modern full-service veterinary medical teaching hospital—one that would use the knowledge gained from ongoing university research to understand, diagnose and treat naturally occurring diseases. The Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, completed in 1971, provided a model for similar facilities and programs. Dr. Cello served as the hospital’s first director, founded the Ophthalmology Service, and was instrumental in developing the nation’s first and largest residency program in veterinary medicine. Dr. Cello’s research in veterinary ophthalmology—external and systemic diseases of the eyes in domestic animals and their relationship to human ophthalmology—won international recognition. For many years he held a concurrent appointment with the Proctor Foundation for Research in Ophthalmology at the UC San Francisco School of Medicine. Dr. Cello received a national Outstanding Educators of America award (1972), two campus Distinguished Teaching awards (1959, 1971), and a national award from the American Animal Hospital Association (1969). He was elected chair of the UC Davis Academic Senate in 1980. Dr. Cello also served the campus for five years as vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Dr. Cello’s family contributed $73,100 toward the renovation of clinic and office space for the Ophthalmology Service, which will be named the Robert M. Cello Veterinary Ophthalmology Suite.

Robert Larson (’53, MS immunology ’74), died June 23, 2001, at age 76. He practiced in El Cerrito, California, for many years and established Sonoma Creek Winery, which became one of the preeminent small wineries in California. Dr. Larson was known for his integrity, generosity and kindness. He died peacefully at home surrounded by his family.

Arthur Newell (’53) died in October 29, 2001 after a long battle with emphysema and congestive heart disease. He served as CVMA treasurer for many years, chair of the CVMA Insurance Committee, and executive director of the California State Veterinary Association.

Lawrence Proctor, Jr. (’54) died January 28, 2002. He was a distinguished CVMA life member and also, at various times during his life, was a disc jockey, actor, U.S. Air Force pilot, organist, published poet and cook.

Myron Schaffer, lecturer in the early days of the school, died November 23, 2001, at age 77. He established Redwood Veterinary Clinic in Santa Rosa, where Robert Cello was his partner until 1954. Dr. Schaffer’s grandson, Nathan Ballif, is completing a residency in small animal medicine at UC Davis and will take over the practice.

Russell White (’70) died in November 2001 at age 58. He had retired and lived in Idaho.

Stephen White (’62), retired small animal clinical practitioner from Chico, California, died June 24, 2001, at age 65, after a three-year battle with cancer. Dr. White founded Mangrove Veterinary Hospital in 1966, and practiced large and small animal medicine and small animal dentistry. He enjoyed his mules, swimming, bicycle riding, Yoga, learning, traveling and playing the American Indian flute. He will be remembered for his hearty sense of humor and enthusiasm for life.