

Class of 1952 Marks 50 Years with a Gift to the School

The school has begun a tradition—welcoming alumni to celebrate their 50-year anniversary reunion as the school's newest graduate veterinarians commence their professional careers.

The class of 1952, the first graduates of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, marked their 50th anniversary last June with a variety of activities including a gala dinner at the Buehler Alumni Center, and presented the school with a reunion gift of \$46,850 to support graduate fellowships.

As part of the celebration, the classmates participated in the school's 50th commencement ceremony, where they received a standing ovation.



John Shirley (right) presents the reunion gift check to Dean Bennie Osburn.



Classmates in the school's first graduating class (1952), celebrate their 50th anniversary reunion on campus.



John Shirley and Herbert Piper of the class of 1952 ceremonially represent all 42 members of their class, 28 of whom are still living, with a bouquet of roses during the 2002 commencement ceremony.

class of '52

Estate Gift Benefits the Center for Equine Health

Lorna Talbot, an accomplished rider and lifelong horse enthusiast, was also a loyal friend and supporter of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. Ms. Talbot passed away in February 2002, after an extended illness.

Recognizing that equine research is the key to improved equine health and performance, Ms. Talbot generously supported a wide variety of equine studies through the Center for Equine Health. She enjoyed touring the school's equine facilities and took an active interest in its research and clinical programs.

Ms. Talbot also provided two very generous gifts to the school and the Center for Equine Health through her estate plans, one through her revocable living trust and another via a charitable remainder unitrust. The combined value of the contributions exceeds \$2 million, allowing the school to establish two funds in her memory—the Lorna Talbot Fund for Equine Biomedical Research and the Lorna Talbot Fund for Equine Clinical Programs—that will help to assure the continued excellence of school's equine-focused services, instruction and research.

For more information about charitable remainder trusts—life income gifts that allow you to make a substantial capital gift to the School of Veterinary Medicine while retaining income for your lifetime—contact the Office of Development, (530) 752-7024.

Alumni Serve as VMIF Campaign Co-chairs

Drs. Michael Floyd ('61), Niels Pedersen ('67) and 10 other dedicated alumni and friends of the school have launched a \$2.5 million campaign to raise funds for the Veterinary Medicine Instructional Facility (VMIF), scheduled for completion in 2004.

During the next 18 months, committee members will ask professional colleagues and other members of the veterinary community to help expand and upgrade the school's first new classroom building in many years.



State and university funds will cover the \$24.5 million building costs, but private funds are needed to provide offices for student clubs and the Pet Loss Support Hotline, a student lounge with a refreshment area and patio, and a conference room.

Gifts will also support design improvements to make the building a multipurpose facility, increase its display and exhibit capabilities, and adapt public spaces as a welcoming center of veterinary education on the UC Davis campus. The VMIF will then be suitable for class reunions, emeritus faculty activities, annual lecture series and continuing professional education programs.

"The VMIF will be the new 'instructional heart' of the school," says Dr. Pedersen. "This is where our students will spend the majority of their educational lives, so we are designing it such that it will not only be a great learning environment, but will also be adaptable."

Significant gifts will be recognized within the halls of the VMIF, and gifts of \$10,000 or more will grant donors the option of naming a classroom or teaching space.

Helping the school to fund completion of the VMIF is an excellent way to "give something back" to the school and the veterinary profession.