A team of Percheron draft horses pulled an antique plow during a May 7 groundbreaking ceremony for the Veterinary Medicine Instructional Facility (VMIF), one of a series of new facilities that are either finished or under construction.

The VMIF will be the instructional “heart” of a modernized and centralized veterinary medical campus at UC Davis.

New classrooms are critical to restoration of full accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association and to accommodate growth in class size.

The two-story, 34,810-square-foot VMIF will be the instructional “heart” of a modernized and centralized veterinary medical campus at UC Davis. Located just north of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, the VMIF is expected to be complete in 2006. It is one of five buildings in the first phase of the school’s $354 million long-range facilities plan, which includes the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Facility.

Completed in 2002; the Center for Companion Animal Health, completed in 2004 (see story, page 4); the Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory; and “Vet Med 3A,” a teaching and research facility now under construction.

Continued on page 12
FOOD SAFETY AND SECURITY

THE WIFSS MISSION

The Western Institute for Food Safety and Security, drawing upon the expertise of scientists in academia, government and industry, coordinates research and education to protect food safety. It was established in 2002 as a partnership between UC Davis and California’s Department of Food and Agriculture and Department of Health Services. Its mission is to develop the capability to identify food-borne hazards more rapidly and accurately, and to develop effective methods to prevent natural and intentional food contamination that might lead to food-borne illnesses and outbreaks.

THE THREAT

More than three dozen biological and chemical agents are considered to be potential threats to agriculture. The biological agents include bacteria and viruses that cause diseases such as anthrax, brucellosis, botulism, foot and mouth disease, and salmonellosis. Some chemical agents such as pesticides, flammable liquids and corrosive industrial acids could cause extensive illness in humans or food animals, while others could have a devastating economic impact by affecting agricultural crops.

A federally funded training program at the Western Institute for Food Safety and Security (WIFSS) will focus on potential threats to fresh agricultural crops. The biological agents considered to be potential threats to agriculture and could have an economic impact on the state include anthrax, brucellosis, botulism, foot and mouth disease, and salmonellosis. Some chemical agents such as pesticides, flammable liquids and corrosive industrial acids could cause extensive illness in humans or food animals, while others could have a devastating economic impact by affecting agricultural crops.

The training grant expands existing programs currently offered through WIFSS as well as UC Cooperative Extension, University Extension and other campus academic programs, and is expected to impact more than one million front-line personnel.

The Western Institute for Food Safety and Security (WIFSS) received a two-year, $4.7 million dollar grant August 23.

The grant will support the development and delivery of training programs aimed at helping personnel involved in the food system to prevent, recognize and deal with potential terrorist acts directed at the nation’s food supply.

UC Davis expects the training to be a national model for bringing together food system employees, health officials, law enforcement personnel, and government officials to prepare for a prompt and effective response to agroterrorist activity.

UC Davis received the largest such grant awarded nationwide to 14 out of 217 applicants, said Suzanne Mencer, director of the Office of Domestic Preparedness for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, who presented the grant.

“This award is a very important step toward preventing terrorist attacks on the food systems in California,” says WIFSS director and principal investigator, Jerry Gillespie.

“Because California leads the nation in dairy, fruits, vegetables and other specialty-crop production for this nation, and because of the state’s dominance in international food trade, it is extremely important that we do all we can to ensure the safety of our food systems,” he says.

“One of the most effective strategies for achieving this goal is to have food industry employees informed and actively participating in protection strategies."

Dr. Gillespie says the training grant enables the university and its partners to train people in the food industry to anticipate, prevent and respond to harmful acts directed at food systems—from the farm to the consumer.

The training grant expands existing programs currently offered through WIFSS as well as UC Cooperative Extension, University Extension and other campus academic programs, and is expected to impact more than one million front-line personnel.

Collaborating with the institute on the new training grant are 14 partners representing agriculture, public health, law enforcement, and emergency services and management.

During the first year of the grant, the focus of the training program will be to inventory existing programs, identify industry-specific terrorist hazards and threats, communicate risks to industry leaders, and identify and coordinate personnel considered to be in the best position for identifying or responding to possible terrorist actions.

During the later part of the program, regional and national workshops and conferences will be held, communications systems will be improved, and the nation’s level of preparedness in the area of agricultural bioterrorism defense will be assessed.
UC Davis Is Partner in Homeland Security Research Center

A new National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense was established April 27 with an $18 million grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security.

The goal of the center is to enhance national security against the threat of foreign animal diseases and zoonotic diseases—ailments that affect both animals and humans.

The partnering institutions will bring to the center the expertise needed in the biological sciences, medicine and veterinary medicine, high-performance computing and economics.

The center is hosted by Texas A&M University, in collaboration with UC Davis, the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and the University of Southern California. The majority of the grant is directed to Texas A&M and UC Davis over three years.

Center researchers will develop new methods to detect, diagnose and immunize against foreign animal diseases and zoonotic diseases. They also will develop databases and models that will help assess disease threats to U.S. animal agriculture.

Research will focus on four diseases—foot and mouth disease; avian influenza; Rift Valley fever, a mosquito-borne virus common in Africa; and brucellosis, a bacterial disease that infects animals and humans.

Collectively, these diseases affect livestock, poultry, wildlife and humans and are considered to be “clear and present threats” to animal health and the stability of the nation’s food supply and economy. These four were chosen because they are models for both viral and bacterial diseases.

“This is a unique opportunity for a consortium of academic veterinary medicine researchers to collaborate with the Department of Homeland Security, the national laboratories and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to prepare for new or re-emerging infectious diseases of animals that may have major impacts on the economy or human health,” says Bennie Osburn, dean of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

“The partnering institutions will bring to the center the expertise needed in the biological sciences, medicine and veterinary medicine, high-performance computing and economics,” he says.

During its first year, the center will involve about 12 UC Davis faculty members. Their research and educational programs will focus on diagnostic approaches to identifying disease invasions, diseases such as avian influenza, economics modeling and risk management modeling.

Alumni of School of Veterinary Medicine degree programs who shared their expertise at the International Veterinary Conference in Kuwait last September include (left to right) Linda Logan (PhD ’87), USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services—Rift Valley fever, foot and mouth disease, rinderpest; Mo Salman (MPVM ’80; PhD ’83), Colorado State University—national animal health; Bennie Osburn (PhD ’63), UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine—scientific exchange, veterinary college accreditation; Elizabeth Sabin (DVM ’92), AVMA Education and Research Division—veterinary college accreditation; and Leon S. “Sam” Barringer (DVM ’92), Pfizer Technical Services and U.S. Army Veterinary Corps—regulation of dairy product safety.

In an effort to help fellow veterinarians restore veterinary services and education in Afghanistan and Iraq, Dean Bennie Osburn and other U.S. veterinary educators met with colleagues from Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan at the first International Veterinary Medical Seminar last September.

The seminar, held in Kuwait, was sponsored by the Humanitarian Operations Center of Kuwait, the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps, U.S. Army Civilian Affairs Veterinary Corps Officers and USDA International Services, as well as a number of veterinary service, pet food and pharmaceutical companies.

Dr. Osburn, president of the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) described the hardships in Afghanistan and Iraq. “The veterinary colleges have been decimated. There is no veterinary service for disease control. Foot and mouth disease is rampant. Our goal is to respond to this great need to improve the care of animals, protect human health and begin to rebuild the veterinary infrastructure in Afghanistan and Iraq.”

The 54 participants developed proposals for short-term scientific exchange and long-term planning to address deficiencies, says Dr. Osburn. On behalf of the AAVMC, Dr. Osburn will co-author a detailed needs assessment in 2005.

“We will identify facilities needs, equipment, teaching materials and training needs for these countries,” Dr. Osburn says. “We will assist our colleagues as they form educational standards and professional associations. We will develop memoranda of understanding, work plans and specific funding proposals to U.S. aid agencies and related organizations to foster MS and PhD training in the United States and collaborations with scientific research programs in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan.”

Dr. Osburn has invited AAVMC member schools to join in the project and contribute to long-term goals.
Center for Companion Animal Health Opens with Ribbon-Biting Ceremony

When the Duffield family dog, a yellow Labrador retriever named Jessie, bit into a “ribbon” of linked frankfurters to officially open the doors of the Center for Companion Animal Health (CCAH), it wasn’t obvious that this special guest was in remission from cancer.

Jessie was diagnosed with lymphoma in 2000 and underwent treatment at UC Davis. Yet her recovery represents more than a successful course of therapy. Jessie represents the powerful bond that leads animal lovers to seek out the most sophisticated veterinary care available for their pets and support advanced investigations in animal health at the CCAH.

Officials opened the $16 million building July 14 when guests and their pets enjoyed tours of the newest facility of the School of Veterinary Medicine and learned of an advance in feline genetics.

Dean Bennie Osburn told about 200 guests, “It is a major point of pride,” that the Center for Companion Animal Health, constructed entirely with charitable donations, is the largest privately funded facility on the UC Davis campus.

The new center unites existing facilities and expands services. The expansion triples the capacity for oncology patient services, supporting up to 3,600 patients per year with chemotherapy, radiation procedures, immunotherapy and other innovative therapies.

The glass-fronted, two-story structure contains 36,000 square feet of clinical and research space that houses the cancer units, linear accelerator, physical therapy facility and a comfortable reception area for specialty services in ophthalmology, behavior, neurology, cardiology, companion avian/exotic medicine and dermatology. Outside, the Yocha-De-He Memorial Garden honors the ancient bond between dogs and humans, and memorializes beloved companion animals.

Upstairs, laboratories support the investigation of naturally occurring cancers and genetic diseases in small animals. They also play an important role in the school’s mission to teach veterinary students, train specialty residents and mentor graduate researchers.

Several faculty programs are based at the center, including cancer, genetics, infectious disease, nutrition, shelter medicine and behavior.

While veterinarians began seeing patients at the center in May, officials used the July event to celebrate and thank friends of the school.

After the ribbon biting, Gordon Thelen, a pioneer in veterinary oncology, and CCAH Director Niels Pedersen conducted a more traditional ribbon cutting, complete with a pair of four-foot long scissors. Inside, the business of saving lives continued as clients met with clinicians, and animals received therapy.
Shelter Medicine Program Aims for Healthier, Adoptable Companion Animals

Homelessness kills more animals than cancer or any other disease, and kills them in the prime of life,” says Kate Hurley, director of the Shelter Medicine Program at the school’s Center for Companion Animal Health (CCAH).

“Shelter Medicine at UC Davis is the first program in the world to tackle this major killer of animals, to really take it on from a veterinary perspective,” says Dr. Hurley. The program aims to

“Homelessness kills more animals than cancer or any other disease, and kills them in the prime of life.”

improve the understanding, prevention and management of infectious diseases and behavioral care in shelter populations to improve well-being and adoptability.

The Shelter Medicine Program was established in 2000 with initial support from Maddie’s Fund, a nonprofit animal welfare organization, and the CCAH.

“Other veterinary schools have incorporated aspects of shelter medicine into their programs in recent years,” says Dr. Hurley, “but the UC Davis program remains unique in its comprehensive scope and commitment to national outreach.”

The goals of the program are twofold: to improve the quality of life of animals in shelters through advances in preventive medicine and management of disease, and to advance shelter medicine as a veterinary specialty through research, education and service in animal shelters.

“Our mission,” says Dr. Hurley, “is to develop and distribute the information veterinarians and shelter professionals need to provide the best care possible for homeless animals.”

The Shelter Medicine Program takes a three-pronged approach:

■ Fundamental research to investigate infectious diseases and behavioral problems in shelters to determine how to either prevent or manage them.

■ Education—such as residencies, externships, academic and continuing education courses, presentations and online scientific resources—to meet an urgent need in the sheltering and veterinary professions for accurate information about shelter animal health.

■ Consultation and diagnostic services specifically geared toward shelter populations—services that are not readily available elsewhere—are offered by the Shelter Medicine Program at the lowest possible cost to shelters.

“We aim to provide shelters with evidence-based guidance on managing common shelter infections such as upper respiratory infection and diarrhea,” says Dr. Hurley. “We also assist shelters in dealing with disease outbreaks and cruelty cases, along with providing education and outreach programs. Consultations and protocol development are offered for topics such as facility design, husbandry issues such as cleaning and housing, and vaccination.”

“Really simple information can have a profound effect on a shelter’s ability to take good care of its animals” says Dr. Hurley. “Shelter staff members don’t need a lot of high-tech equipment—using an effective cleaning agent or making a small change in vaccination strategy can impact thousands of animals.”

“Our goal is to create a model program of medical care for shelter animals.”

“Our goal is to create a model program of medical care for shelter animals—one that can provide hands-on training for veterinary students and a place for residents to become experienced shelter veterinarians. On-site service—by veterinarians who can provide information about policies, protocols and successful strategies—benefits the animals, shelter organizations (public and private), students and residents—not only locally, but nationally.”
New Faculty Members

James Angelastro
Assistant professor, Molecular Biosciences
Education
PhD (chemistry/biochemistry), UC Santa Barbara, 1991
BS chemistry, California Polytechnic State University, 1981
Experience
Assistant professor of clinical pathology, Columbia University, NY, 2003–04
Associate research scientist, Columbia University, 1998–2003
Staff associate researcher, Columbia University, 1995–97
Postdoctoral fellow, Columbia University, 1991–95
Specialty
Molecular pharmacology/toxicology

Cecilia Giulivi
Associate professor, Molecular Biosciences
Education
PhD, Institute for Toxicology, USC, 1989
MS, School of Pharmacy & Biochemistry, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1985
Experience
Postdoctoral fellow, Institute for Toxicology, USC, 1989–93
Specialty
Biochemistry, metabolic regulation

Amy Kapatkin
Associate professor, Surgical & Radiological Sciences, VMTH Small Animal Surgery Service
Education
DVM, Gregorio Araneta University Foundation, Philippines, 1981
BS, Animal Science, Purdue University, 1978
Experience
Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Anesthesiology
Lecturer in anesthesiology, UC Davis, 2002–04
Residency (anesthesiology & critical care), UC Davis, 2002
Small animal anesthesiologist, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Liege, 1992–99
Specialty
Small animal anesthesiology

Bruno Pypendop
Assistant professor, Surgical & Radiological Sciences, VMTH Small Animal Anesthesia Service
Education
DrVetSci, University of Liege, Belgium, 1999
DVM, University of Liege, Belgium, 1992
Experience
Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Anesthesiology
Lecturer in anesthesiology, UC Davis, 2002–04
Residency (anesthesiology & critical care), UC Davis, 2002
Small animal anesthesiologist, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Liege, 1992–99
Specialty
Small animal anesthesiology

Robert Poppenga
Professor of clinical diagnostic toxicology, Molecular Biosciences, California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory System
Education
PhD, University of Illinois, 1987
DVM, University of Illinois, 1978
Experience
Diplomate, American Board of Veterinary Toxicology (ABVT), 1988
Residency (combined with PhD program), 1985
Professor of toxicology, Pennsylvania Animal Disease Laboratory System, New Bolton Center, 1997–2004
Veterinary consultant, Poison Control Center, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
Adjunct veterinary toxicologist, Cornell University
Assistant professor of toxicology, University of Pennsylvania, 1993–97
Assistant professor, Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Michigan State University, 1987–91
Specialty
Livestock, wildlife and environmental toxicology

Michael Kent
Assistant professor, Surgical & Radiological Sciences, VMTH Oncology Service
Education
DVM, UC Davis, 1997
Experience
Diplomate American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM), 2001
Lecturer (medical oncology), UC Davis, 2001–04
Residency (oncology), UC Davis, 2001
Associate veterinarian, Gwynedd Veterinary Hospital, 1998–99
Internship (small animal medicine & surgery), University of Pennsylvania, 1998
Specialty
Small animal oncology
GRADUATE EDUCATION

HILL'S PET NUTRITION IN C. SPO N S O R S N U T R I T I O N EDUCATION PROGRAMS

A grant from Hill's Pet Nutrition Inc. announced last May will fund a series of academic positions. The grant, $510,000 over six years, will fund a lecturer in clinical nutrition, a resident who will prepare for certification by the American College of Veterinary Nutrition (ACVN), and three graduate students—veterinarians who will prepare simultaneously for board certification by the ACVN and a PhD degree in clinical nutrition.

Andrea Fascetti, VMD, PhD, assistant professor of clinical nutrition and principal investigator on the Hill's grant says, "We want to educate veterinarians to think clinically about nutrition. Scientifically based approaches to feeding particular diets for various diseases are important in contrast to anecdotal information and unsupported dogma. Hill's has been supporting educational grants to provide veterinarians the opportunity to get additional training in nutrition for many years." Dr. Fascetti, who is board certified by both the ACVN and the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, is chief of the Nutrition Support Service at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH).

* The grant will support three Hill's Fellows to encourage practicing veterinarians to come back to graduate school. The fellowships will allow those who wish to become veterinary researchers to prepare for board certification by the ACVN and earn a PhD simultaneously.

* The Hill's Resident in Clinical Nutrition, while completing the two-year residency in clinical nutrition offered at the VMTH, will work with nutrition cases while completing the training required for board certification by the ACVN.

* The Hill's Lectureship in Clinical Nutrition will combine teaching of academic course work with hands-on instruction to veterinary students in the Nutrition Support Service at the VMTH. The lecturer will see appointments for an array of patient issues, including nutritional care for animals affected with various health problems, and healthy animal nutrition.

The Nutrition Support Service provides consulting services for VMTH patients and all referring veterinarians from California and across the United States. Consultations include recommendations for commercial or home-cooked diets for pets with previously diagnosed diseases or obesity, and faculty members conduct laboratory analyses to assist veterinarians with diagnoses related to amino acid and mineral deficiencies in pet diets. The Nutrition Support Service also offers online consultations for veterinarians.
HOMELAND SECURITY

FIRST CROSS-COMMODITY DISASTER MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST BEGINS RESEARCH AND OUTREACH

A new position has been created in Veterinary Medicine Extension to provide outreach and research related to homeland security.

Dale Moore, associate professor at the Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center in Tulare, is the first specialist in livestock and poultry disaster management. Dr. Moore, a veterinary epidemiologist who holds DVM, MPVM and PhD degrees, will be associated with the National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense, located in the School of Veterinary Medicine (see story, page 3). The center is funded by Homeland Security to decrease the nation’s vulnerability to bio- or agroterrorism, in collaboration with other national centers.

Livestock and poultry will be the focus of disaster preparedness themes—prevention, detection (surveillance), response and recovery—for both outreach and research. For the next three years Dr. Moore and her collaborators will develop and deliver educational tools to help identify risky behavior in large and small animal operations to decrease California’s vulnerability to impacts from foreign animal and zoonotic diseases. She also will do extensive evaluations on six of 14 educational projects under the national center grant.

“Good biosecurity measures for everyday disease prevention will also prepare animal owners for rare, yet devastating, animal disease outbreaks,” says Dr. Moore. “Our objective is to get information out immediately to producers and veterinarians while we begin to train professional, graduate, and MPVM (Master of Preventive Medicine) students for employment in Department of Homeland Security positions.”

GENETIC DISEASES

LAB OFFERS TWO NEW TESTS

Polycystic Kidney Disease

Polycystic kidney disease (PKD) is a well documented abnormality in domestic cats. A test for PKD in Persians, Exotics, Himalayans and Persian first-generation out-crosses is now available through the school’s Veterinary Genetics Laboratory.

Glycogen Branching Enzyme Deficiency

The Veterinary Genetics Laboratory has obtained a license from the University of Minnesota, where glycogen branching enzyme deficiency (GBED) was first identified, and has developed a diagnostic test that is now available to horse owners and associations. GBED is a fatal disease that occurs in some newborn foals of Quarter Horse bloodlines. Affected foals lack the enzyme necessary to store glycogen in its branched form. Because the animal cannot store sugar molecules, the heart muscle, brain and skeletal muscles are unable to function.

For more information about these DNA tests, visit the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory Web site (www.vgl.ucdavis.edu).

Clinicians Examine Giant Pandas

Autumn Davidson (DVM, UC Davis, 1985), (lower left), clinical professor of medicine, and Tom Baker, principal ultrasonographer at the VMTH (lower right), visited the Chengdu (China) Research Base for Giant Panda Breeding June 14-28 to evaluate the health of the endangered giant panda. They were members of a Chinese-American collaborative research team organized by veterinarians and scientists from the Smithsonian National Zoological Park, including Drs. Lucy Spelman (DVM, UC Davis, 1990), (second from left), Kati Loeffler (center) and JoGayle Howard (with panda). Mr. Baker performed abdominal ultrasonographic evaluations, while Dr. Davidson was invited to conduct the first known gastrointestinal endoscopic examinations on giant pandas (photos, right).

Belgian Cat Receives Kidney Transplant

The renal transplantation team is all smiles as “Spikey,” a 3-year-old cat (on left) from Belgium, recovers from a successful kidney transplant in November. The first European cat to undergo the procedure pioneered at the school, Spikey is one of more than 300 cats and dogs to have successfully undergone kidney transplants at UC Davis since 1987. “Homer,” the donor cat (center), has been adopted by a California family.

Details about the clinical renal transplant program are online: www.vmth.ucdavis.edu/vmth/clientinfo/info/sasurg/felrenaltransplant.html (or /k9rentrans.html).
CLASS OF ’83 CELEBRATES 20-YEAR REUNION WEEKEND

Forty-two classmates, spouses, children, and guests attended the Class of ‘83 Reunion August 8–10, 2003, in conjunction with the school’s first Alumni Day. We kicked off our 20-year reunion with a Friday raft trip down the South Fork of the American River, including enough classmates and family members to fill several rafts. In the evening, we had a get-together at Community Park with light refreshments.

On Saturday and Sunday, a well attended Continuing Professional Education program of 10 lectures was given by members of the class of 1983 in 170 Schalm Hall, where we all spent much time as UC Davis students. On Saturday afternoon a tour of the VMTH and new Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Facility and lecture hall was led by Professor Emeritus Robert Leighton, and classmates toured the Mondavi Center. On Saturday evening at Putah Creek Lodge, we held an evening get-together, barbecue dinner, and slide show to reminisce about our veterinary school years. It was a wonderful time of visiting, remembering, and catching up. — Greta Heidner, ’83

ALUMNI DAY BRINGS TOGETHER CLASSMATES

The class of 2008 had the chance to meet alumni leaders in the veterinary profession as the classes of 1964 (40-year), 1974 (30-year) and 1984 (20-year) reunited during the second annual Alumni Day and Gala last June.

The combined celebrations bring alumni from each decade to campus to enjoy a reception and gala dinner, attend an array of continuing education courses, and be introduced to the incoming class of veterinary students.

ALUMNI RECEIVE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Alumni Achievement Award, the School of Veterinary Medicine’s highest honor, was presented during the 2004 commencement ceremony to Robert H. (Bob) BonDurant, professor and chair, Department of Population Health and Reproduction, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, for academic excellence, faculty leadership, community outreach and student mentorship; Bernard F. Feldman, who served as professor of veterinary clinical pathology, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, for outstanding contributions to academic veterinary medicine and scholarly contributions to clinical pathology; and Connor Jameson, veterinarian and senior partner of Valley Veterinarians in Tulare, California, and cofounder and president of Valley Agricultural Software in Tulare, California, for lifelong service to the veterinary profession and contributions to dairy health.

Dr. BonDurant (DVM, 1974; residency, 1977) is known for inspired service to California animal agriculture and the veterinary profession. He is considered one of the world’s leading experts on venereal diseases of livestock, and has carried out fundamental research on the pathogenesis of trichomoniasis (which causes infertility) and reproductive physiology. He was instrumental in establishing the food animal embryo transfer program at UC Davis.

Dr. Feldman (PhD, comparative pathology, 1978), an outstanding practitioner and academician, and a pioneer in the development of specialized veterinary medicine, died in an auto accident in February 2004. He served as professor of veterinary clinical pathology at UC Davis 1978–1990, director of the school’s Comparative Hemostasis Laboratory, and chief of the Clinical Pathology Service, and focused on clinical pathology and hemostasis research when the field was in its infancy. At Virginia Polytechnic, he served as chief of service, Veterinary Clinical Diagnostic Laboratories; director of the Clinical Pathology Laboratory; director of the Comparative Hemostasis Laboratory; and mentor for numerous residents and graduate students.

Dr. Jameson (DVM, 1968) joined Valley Veterinarians in 1972, and began working in 1980 to develop DairyComp 305, now used worldwide by dairymen, nutritionists, researchers and veterinarians to monitor and analyze data related to animal health and production. He continues to be an ambassador and role model for veterinary medicine as mentor for young individuals interested in the dairy industry and veterinary medicine.
Kudos

Lynn Bishop (DVM, UC Davis, 1972) won Best of Show for her oil painting Team Plus One at The National Oil and Acrylic Painters’ Society “BEST of America 2004” show in Osage Beach, Missouri, last November.

Dave Carrion, Food Animal Medicine, and Betty Thompson, Clinical Pathology, received the 2004 Rachel Smith Award from the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital for dedication and service to students, faculty, clients and patients.

Gary Carlson, professor emeritus, received the 2004 Robert W. Kirk Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine.

Walt Cook (DVM, UC Davis, 1994), wildlife veterinarian for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, was named assistant state veterinarian in October. When hundreds of elk became paralyzed and died in south-central Wyoming last spring, he led the investigation to determine that lichen poisoning was the probable cause.

John Edman, professor, who served as the director of the Center for Vector-Borne Diseases from its inception until 2004, was named Distinguished Alumnus of the Entomology Department at Kansas State University.

Julie Fischer, hemodialysis coordinator for the University of California Veterinary Medical Center in San Diego, received the First Decade Achievement Award from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine from which she earned her DVM in 1996.

Lisle George, professor, received the 2004 Carl J. Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award, which recognizes outstanding instructors who, through their ability, dedication, character and leadership, contribute significantly to veterinary medical education and advancement of the profession.

Craig Greene, professor of small animal medicine and surgery at the University of Georgia, received the 2005 Mark L. Morris, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award from Hill's Pet Nutrition.

Kate Hurley (DVM, 1999; MPVM, 2003, UC Davis) director of the Shelter Medicine Program at the Center for Companion Animal Health, received the Alex Lewyt Veterinary Medical Center Award of Achievement from the North Shore Animal League America in November 2004 for dedication to the humane treatment of homeless animals, efforts to determine the best methods and procedures for improving the lives of all dogs and cats, and unselfish commitment to education.

Peter Ihrke, professor, was elected Ad-Hoc Member of the Executive Board of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties under the auspices of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Jerry Kaneko (DVM, UC Davis, 1956), professor emeritus, received the City of Davis Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jon Klingborg (DVM, UC Davis, 1992), is serving as 2004–05 president of the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA).

Richard LeCouteur, professor, received the 2004 Bourgelat Award from the British Small Animal Veterinary Association for his pioneering work in the field of neurology.

Rance LeFebvre, professor, received the 2004 School of Veterinary Medicine Faculty Teaching Award. In addition to teaching DVM and graduate students, Dr. LeFebvre was recognized for his contributions to undergraduate students and the California State Summer School in Mathematics and Science (COSMOS) program for grades 9–12.

Melanie Marsden (DVM, UC Davis, 1994) received the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association Up-and-Coming Veterinarian Service Award in September 2004. The award honors significant contributions to veterinary medicine. Dr. Marsden works with small animals and exotics at Pikes Peak Veterinary Clinic in Colorado Springs, and serves on a Colorado Division of Wildlife review panel for animal containment requirements.

Linda Munson, associate professor, is serving as president of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists.

Frederick Murphy, dean emeritus and distinguished professor of new and emerging infectious diseases, received the Richard Moreland Taylor Award from the American Committee on Arthropod-Borne Viruses in November 2004 for his long and meritorious service to the field of arbovirology. Dr. Murphy was also named the University of Texas’ 2004 James H. Steele Lecturer.

Bennie Osburn was the 2004 recipient of the K. F. Meyer-James H. Steele Gold Head Cane Award, given by the American Veterinary Epidemiology Society and sponsored by Hartz Mountain Corporation, for his outstanding contributions to animal and human health, through his expertise as researcher, educator and administrator.

Peter Pascoe, received the President’s Service Award from the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists in August 2003, and was elected to the founding Board of Directors for the International Veterinary Academy for Pain Management in November 2003.

Charles Plopper, professor of pulmonary cellular and developmental biology, received the 2004 Pfizer
Animal Health Award for Research Excellence.

Jim Reynolds, (DVM 1982, MPVM 1984, UC Davis) chief of Dairy Production Medicine Clinical Veterinary Services at the school’s Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center in Tulare, was named the 2004 Dairy Quality Assurance Veterinarian of the Year by the American Association of Bovine Practitioners. The award recognizes veterinarians who work with cattle producers to implement quality management practices. Dr. Reynolds, a nationally recognized expert in animal welfare, received the honor for his leadership on animal welfare issues within the dairy industry.

Quinton Rogers, professor, was elected fellow of the American Society of Nutritional Sciences.

Dick Schumacher, who served for thirteen years as executive director of the California Veterinary Medical Association, received the School of Veterinary Medicine Distinguished Service Award last June in recognition of his leadership and distinguished service to the veterinary profession and to the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

John Shirley (DVM, UC Davis, 1952), representing the Armed Forces of the United States, received France’s Legion of Honor, given to foreign veterans who helped to liberate France from Nazi occupation during WWII. It was pinned to his chest by French President Jacques Chirac at a ceremony August 15, 2004—exactly 60 years after the 19-year-old Dr. Shirley was part of an invasion force that attacked from the Mediterranean 10 weeks after the D-Day landings at Normandy.

Bradford Smith, director of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, became president-elect of the large animal specialty of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine.

Elizabeth Arnold Stone (DVM, UC Davis, 1976) will serve as dean of the Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, beginning June 1, 2005.

R. Steven Tharratt (MPVM, UC Davis, 2001), professor of medicine and anesthesiology, was recognized with the UC Davis Distinguished Alumnus Award last June for medical achievement and contributions to society.

Cristina Torres, a veterinarian who earned her PhD in nutrition in 2003, received the 2004 Max Kleiber Research Prize in Metabolism & Nutrition for her contribution to solving the nutritional component of the problem of taurine deficiency-induced dilated cardiomyopathy in dogs.

Frank Verstraete, professor, received the 2003 American Veterinary Dental College Service Award.

J.D. Wheat, professor emeritus and member of the school’s founding faculty, was elected to the International Equine Veterinarians Hall of Fame.

Tilahun Yilma (DVM, UC Davis, 1970), professor of virology and director of the International Laboratory of Molecular Biology for Tropical Disease Agents, was elected Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

Three UC Davis alumni were elected last July to American Veterinary Medical Association offices: Professor Kent Lloyd (DVM, UC Davis, 1983), was elected to the AVMA Council on Research, a six-year term to play a major role in supporting and directing veterinary research activities. Dave Dawson (DVM, UC Davis, 2000) was elected to the Veterinary Practitioner Council, and Bernadine Cruz (DVM, UC Davis, 1982) was elected to the Public Relations Council.

In Memoriam

Michael Guinan, lecturer in anatomy and physiology, died in Davis July 5, 2004, from melanoma. He was 46.

Dr. Guinan earned an MS degree in physiology in 1985, teaching credential in 1986 and PhD in physiology in 1997 from UC Davis. He carried out an active research program in cellular aspects of learning and memory, taught veterinary neuroscience and comparative anatomy classes in the school, and authored several interactive software programs including “The Virtual Heart” and “Comparative Anatomy.” In 2000, he received the Award for Excellence in Teaching from the UC Davis Academic Federation.

Donald Low, professor emeritus, died peacefully in Davis November 7, 2004, following a long illness with Lewy body disease, a degenerative neurological disorder. He was 79.

As director of the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital 1974–80, Dr. Low was instrumental in fostering veterinary specialties and residency training, which evolved into the world’s largest veterinary residency program. In honor of his lifelong passion for continuing education, the Donald G. Low/CVMA Practitioner Fellowship was established in 1997. Known by many as the “father of veterinary urology,” Dr. Low served on the U. Minnesota and Colorado State U. faculties, and at UC Davis, served as the school’s associate dean for instruction and for public programs. Dr. Low was a founding diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM), and initiated the Society of Veterinary Nephrology and Urology.

His many honors include 1971 American Animal Hospital Association Veterinarian of the Year, Norden Distinguished Teaching Award and Distinguished Service Award from the U. Minn. College of Veterinary Medicine, CVMA Lifetime Achievement Award, Kansas State U. Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Kirk Distinguished Service Award from the ACVIM.
Name a Room in the School's First New Classroom Building in 35 Years—Now Under Construction!

Naming opportunities are available for areas in the VMIF that still need support:

First Floor
- Facility Director and IT Suite—$15,000
- Student Lockers and Showers—$25,000
- Outside Patio Area—$75,000

Second Floor
- Hospital Practices Room—$15,000
- Student Study Suite, North—$15,000
- Quiet Individual Study Area—$15,000

There are a variety of ways to support the VMIF Campaign, including multi-year pledges and gifts of appreciated stock or real estate.

For more information, contact the school’s Office of Development, (530) 752-7024, or Assistant Dean Kelly Nimtz (kjnimtz@ucdavis.edu).

Instructional Facility
Continued from page 1

The Veterinary Medicine Instructional Facility (VMIF) is the school’s first new, permanent classroom building in 35 years.

UC Davis is providing $24.5 million for the basic VMIF, and a volunteer committee of California veterinarians is working to raise the additional $2.5 million in private support needed to add important upgrades to the facility including offices for student clubs and the Pet Loss Support Hotline, student home rooms, and an alumni conference/continuing education center.

Many alumni and friends have taken the opportunity to give something back to their profession and leave a legacy for future veterinary students.

So far, generous donors have contributed more than $2.4 million, and naming opportunities are still available for gifts of $15,000 or more to the VMIF Campaign.
Planning for the Future: The Heritage Society for Animals

The Heritage Society for Animals recognizes individuals who have chosen to express their commitment to animals and to the school through their estate plans.

Estate planning options include bequests made through wills; revocable living trusts; and life income agreements such as charitable remainder trusts, pooled income funds, and gift annuities.

Each year, dozens of individuals who share a concern for the health of animals join the Heritage Society. Members enjoy an annual luncheon with faculty presentations and invitations to special school events throughout the year.

Sometimes estate gifts come from people who have never visited the school or been clients of its many clinical services at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, but they dearly love animals and know of the school’s accomplishments.

Estate preparation does not need to begin late in life—foresight and generosity today can make a significant impact on the well-being of animals in the future.

Dr. Joyce Weidman of Honolulu, Hawaii, a young alumna (class of 1997), has made plans through her living trust to contribute half of her estate for DVM scholarships and half for research in the Center for Companion Animal Health.

"Estate planning need not begin when we are senior citizens—it should be part of a lifelong plan."

—Dr. Joyce Weidman

Dr. Weidman says, “I want to give something back to my alma mater and to the profession that I dearly love. Helping veterinary students in the future provides me with great pleasure, and by providing research support I’m also helping animals that have played such a tremendous role in my life. Estate planning need not begin when we are senior citizens, it should be part of a lifelong plan.”

Creative Support for Veterinary Medicine

A Birthday Tribute

James and Judy Caron of Modesto, California celebrated Judy’s most recent birthday in a novel way—Ms. Caron delighted her friends by asking them to make a contribution to the Center for Companion Animal Health in lieu of birthday presents. In recognition of the generosity of the Carons and their friends, a bench will be placed in the memorial garden of the new CCAH and will be named in honor of the Carons’ beagles.

A Celebration for Patient Care

David and Joann Zakarin of San Diego, California, celebrated the Fourth of July with a special gathering of family and friends (both two- and four-legged). They held a winetasting in their home to benefit the Companion Animal Hemodialysis Unit of the University of California Veterinary Medical Center—San Diego.

Funds raised at their reception helped to increase the Boo Bear Fund, established after the Zakarins’ dog, Boo Bear, needed hemodialysis. The fund supports the betterment of patient care and further development of the Companion Animal Hemodialysis Unit.

In special situations, the Zakarins make it possible for some of these funds to be used for part or all of a patient’s care when an owner’s financial constraints preclude survival of a pet who could otherwise be helped.

An Alumni Reunion Gift

Classmates of the school’s class of 1959, who held their 45th class reunion hosted by Ken and Gaby Levine in 2004, contributed $5,000 to the Peter C. Kennedy Endowed Fellowship in Veterinary Anatomic Pathology.

50th Reunion Tradition Continues

A tradition began with the class of 1952—the first to complete DVM degrees at UC Davis. Alumni of the School of Veterinary Medicine are invited to celebrate their 50th anniversaries with special commemorative reunions.

The tradition continued when members of the class of 1954 held their 50th reunion celebration on campus last June. Dr. Robert Brewer of Reston, Virginia, worked to organize not only the festivities, but also a class gift for the school.

Classmates contributed more than $50,000 to the Veterinary Medicine Instructional Facility. A classroom will be named for the class of ‘54, whose generous support is helping to complete the important facility.

The class of 1954 attended a special 50th reunion celebration in their honor.

The class of ’54 and their families tour the surgical instruction area in the new Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Facility during their 50th reunion.
Honor Roll of Donors to the Veterinary Medicine Instructional Facility
— through December 31, 2004

Unless otherwise noted, the DVM class year indicates UC Davis.

Lead Sponsors

First Floor Rooms
Floyd, Michael '61
— Central Commons and Main Entry
VCA Antech, Inc.
— Auditorium 1 and 2
Class of 1953
— Conference Room
Class of 1954
— Medium Classroom 1
Lander Veterinary Clinic
— Seminar Conference Room 1
Ford, Helen
— Seminar Conference Room 2
in Memory of Dr. Brooks Ford '74
Herthel, Douglas '71 & Susan
— North Entry
Brewer, Robert L. ’54 & Dorothy R.
— East Entry
Linett, Robert '74
— South Entry
in Honor of Dr. Marci Linett '06
Anonymous Donor
— West Entry
Kerr, Jay ’77
— Catering Room
in Memory of Dr. Doug Vance ’55

Second Floor Rooms
Anonymous Donor
— Medium Classroom 3
California Veterinary Medical Association
— Student Commons 1
Buon-Cristiani, Ralph ’55
— Student Commons 3
La Pittus, Morton S. ’61 & Susan M.
— Clinical Practices/Pathology
Ingram, Irvin ’72; Ingram, Kristina;
Klingborg, Donald J. ’72; Klingborg, Jon ’92
— Seminar Conference Room 4
Mack, Thomas, OSU ’61
— Seminar Conference Room 3
Thornton S. Jr. & Katrina D. Glide
Foundation
— Pet Loss Support Hotline
Klingborg, Donald J. ’72; Klingborg, Jon ’92;
Ingram, Irvin ’72 & Ingram, Kristina
— Student Organizations Office
Boles, Charles ’71
— Radiology Instruction Suite 2
Leonard X. Bosack and Bette M. Kruger
Foundation
— Biomodels and Robotics Instruction
Sacramento Valley Veterinary Medical
Association Charitable Foundation
— Hospital Practices Office 1
Parry, Susan ’85
— Conversation Area, South
Hambey, Donald ’63
— Conversation Area, North
Novartis Animal Health US, Inc.
— Study Suite, South

Group Sponsors

Class of 1953
— Conference Room
Bayer, Edmond
Bittle, James & Ruth
Blackard, Eleanor Jean
in Memory of John S. Blackard
Brazil, Lionel
Chapman, John & Wilma
Chin, Lola
in Memory of Wing O. Chin
Clute, Henry & Fern
Condon, Thomas & Mary
Corff, Marvin & Betty
Cornelius, Bette
in Memory of Charles E. Cornelius
Cuthbertson, Arlynn & Carol
Darrow, Lee
Dean, Evelyn
Eisenhower, Arthur & Lila
Erwin, Kenneth
Holliday, Terrell
Jackson, Robert
Katain, Reuven & Miriam
Kortum, William
Larson, Helen
in Memory of Robert Larson
Petit, Ghery & Patricia
Pflock, Jack
Pier, Allan
Pimental, Wilfred & Marie
Price, Lyle
Rood, Ann
in Memory of Sterling Rood

Schultz, Lora Lundberg & family
in Memory of Benjamin Lundberg
Silver, Merton & Rita M.
Spere, Charlotte
in Memory of Willis Vansell
Steere, James & DeAnn
Stenson, Erik & Kerri
Tangney, Elizabeth
in Memory of Robert Tangney
Troxell, George
Tucker, Jack
Van Pelt, Daniel

Class of 1954
— Medium Classroom 1, 1st Floor
Baker, Robert & Ann
Brewer, Robert L. & Dorothy R.
Burt, Merril
Clinkenbeard, Charles & Dorothy
Dow, Neal & Anna
Hartjen, Louis
Herron, William & Marion
Leck, Arthur & Evelyn
Martin, William
McGlamery, Conrad & Joan
Mengle, Elyse
in Memory of Holmes Mengle
Ousley, Ann Story
in Memory of Eugene Story
Patterson, Frank
Plocher, Philip & Gwen
Rifkind, Leo
Robinson, Robert & Margaret
Stoufer, Robert
Thomas, James
Tobias, Lydia
in Memory of Eugene Tobias
Wilken, Frank
Young, Dean

Class of 1987
Carpenter, Lori
Catania, Joseph L.
Day, John & Laurie
Dowd, Elisa
Gray-Grant, Betsy S.
Iburg, Linda
Kubicka, Terry P.
Leong, Charlotte L.
Lowry, Jennifer
Iburg, Linda
Kubicka, Terry P.
Leong, Charlotte L.
Lowry, Jennifer
Mitchell, Diane
Murphy, Susan
Phelps, William

Honor Roll of Donors to the Veterinary Medicine Instructional Facility
Colleagues, alumni and friends of the school are invited to “take a seat” in the final stage of the campaign to expand the VMIF and upgrade its instructional resources. Handsome plaques will permanently recognize donors who contribute a tax-deductible gift of $1,000. Their name and brief message will be inscribed on a desk in one of the VCA Antech Auditoriums. For a contribution of $1,500, their name will be inscribed on a desk in the popular “back row.”

All gifts in support of the school and its students will be remembered and appreciated for years to come.
Continuing Professional Education 2005 Calendar

DVM Programs— UC Davis
March 30–April 3— Comprehensive CO₂ Laser Surgery Course
April 9–10— Avian & Exotic Medicine Symposium
April 9–10— Practical Ultrasonography— Beginning/ Review Course
April 17— Behavior Symposium
April 24— Holistic Veterinary Medicine Symposium
April 30–May 1— Canine Medicine Symposium
June 11–12— Practical Ultrasonography: Intermediate Course
July 23–24— Second Annual Veterinary Neurology Symposium
September 18— Eighteenth Annual Fall Symposium on Recent Advances in Clinical Veterinary Medicine
September 17–18— Alumni Gala for the classes of 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985 and 1995 will be held in conjunction with the Fall Symposium
October 15–16— Practical Ultrasonography: Advanced Course

DVM Programs— UC Irvine
July 9–10— Practical Ultrasonography: Beginning/ Review Course
August 27–28— Practical Ultrasonography: Intermediate Course

Signature Series
November 2–9— Twenty-first Annual George H. Muller Veterinary Dermatology Seminar in Hawaii, The Big Island, Hawaii
November 29–December 6— Seventh Annual Veterinary Endocrinology & Internal Medicine Seminar, Maui, Hawaii

Bi-Annual Adventure Series— South Africa, 2006
July 29— August 12, 2006— South Africa

Veterinary Assistant/ RVT Spring Programs— UC Davis
March 6— Surgical Assistance
March 20— Dental Radiograph Techniques for Dogs & Cats
April 24— Diagnostic Radiology Simplified
May 7— Basic Elements of a Periodontal Treatment for the Dog & Cat
June 25— Diagnostic Parasitology

Space is limited in some courses! For program information, check the Center for Continuing Professional Education Web site (www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ce), contact the center’s toll-free number: (866) 426-5693, or contact CPE coordinator Saundra Wais at (530) 752-3905, by Fax: (530) 752-7563, or via e-mail: sjwais@ucdavis.edu.

Veterinary Medicine News is published by the University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine; Bennie I. Osburn, DVM, PhD, Dean; Donald J. Klingborg, DVM, Associate Dean for Public Programs; Susan Donahue, Editor; Lynn Narlesky and UC Davis News Service, Contributing Writers; Marianne Post, Design Consultant. The University of California does not discriminate in any of its policies, procedures or practices. The university is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.