Thanks and Praise from Grateful Clients

“I really appreciate the vet visit to my home for my fish, and I think that this is a wonderful service you offer.”

– Janet Free

“Dr. Raynard and student Eric were patient and professional. And I want to particularly recognize the kindness and empathy extended by Christy Chessman. Without her support, care and outreach, this would have been a much different (even worse!) experience for me, and I know Sam appreciated her too. Sam is now splashing about happily in that big creek in the sky. We miss him. Thank you for counsel on Sam’s behalf.”

– Bob Singer, Union City, California

“Dr. Kim Helmbold did an outstanding job with a very unfortunate situation. We could not have hand-picked a better veterinarian and, in our opinion, she is a wonderful representation of your University. We truly believe that your facility is the “Mayo Clinic” of veterinary medicine.”

– Thomas Riley, Redding, California

Who’s That in the Hall?

Faculty
Dr. Geraldine Hunt, BVSc, M Vet Clin Stud, PhD, FACVS
Professor and Chief of Surgery, Soft Tissue Surgery Service
• Hometown – Sydney, Australia
• BVSc, University of Sydney
• Hobbies: skiing and swimming
• DYK...Dr. Hunt is a published poet?

Staff
Debbie Thompson
Administrative Assistant II – Director’s Office
• Hometown – Fairfield, California
• BA, Healds Business College
• Hobbies: needlepoint and shopping
• DYK...Debbie was born in England?

Student
Emily Fyfe
4th Year
• Hometown – Santa Cruz, California
• BS (Neurobiology, Physiology & Behavior), UC Davis
• Hobbies: cooking, hiking, hanging out with her dog Shamrock
• DYK...Emily recently castrated three grizzly bears during an internship at the Bronx Zoo?

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Large Animal Clinic
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www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vmth

Connect with us

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New VMTH Pharmacy Set to Open

The new hospital pharmacy is set to open in mid to late January. This project has been on the drawing board for nearly 10 years, and was actually funded as part of the Vet Med 3A project, most of which was completed nearly five years ago. Moving from its current location near large animal reception, the new pharmacy will occupy the recently renovated space near the east entrance of the first floor (previously occupied by Pathology Service). The dispensing functions of Central Service will move along with the pharmacy, leaving only the sterile processing function behind.

This new space will be more efficient for the pharmacy staff, providing them with a larger, more organized working area that will allow them to better meet the needs of students, staff, clinicians and clients. With its location adjacent to the building’s loading dock, deliveries will no longer have to be taken through the hospital’s main hallway on carts or pallets, and the increased storage capacity will allow for those deliveries to be stocked more quickly.

With custom shelving and furniture, the new pharmacy will present a much more functional and pleasant space for our staff and clients. A new client window and waiting room off the main hallway (separate from the window used by students, staff and faculty) will make for a more comfortable and professional experience for all.

Additionally, the space will provide better security for our medications and supplies. Only authorized individuals will have access to specific work areas via card-controlled entrances.

With the space shortages that exist throughout the hospital, there are several potential uses for the soon-to-be vacated space the pharmacy currently occupies. The pharmacy relocation provides us with a unique opportunity to consolidate the Equine Surgery pharmacy, leaving only the sterile processing function behind. Of the first floor (previously occupied by Pathology Service). The dispensing functions of Central Service will move along with the pharmacy, leaving only the sterile processing function behind.

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Central Laboratory Receiving Streamlines Laboratory Services

VMTH renovations over the past year have included creation of a new space for Central Laboratory Receiving (CLR). CLR will serve as the hub for submission and initial processing of all blood, urine and fecal samples to the clinical laboratories by Services throughout the hospital, as well as by outside clients. The new CLR serves as the front door for the laboratories and has made them more accessible, inviting and easier to find for students, clinicians, staff and other visitors. By having CLR staff available to provide advice on sample submissions, it is now easier to verify that said samples and required patient information is correct. This streamlined process creates a customer-service oriented environment that facilitates quality patient care. Additionally, by creating a “one-stop shopping” experience for laboratory submissions, the CLR concept has reduced distractions and interruptions for staff in the individual laboratories.

Danielle Carrade, PhD, was recently recruited as CLR supervisor, and will serve as the Research and Development Manager for the VMTH laboratories. Her responsibilities include overseeing the daily operations of CLR, managing and implementing the Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) compliance program for our clinical laboratories, and outreach marketing activities of our diagnostic services. Dr. Carrade will play an integral role in securing GLP status for our clinical laboratories, which will allow us to offer laboratory testing services to federally-funded researchers and other outside clients.

CLR is staffed by Karen Pacheco, Brenda Lieng and Cathy Treece. Dr. Sean Owens, Associate Director of Clinic Laboratory Services, oversees CLR and all the clinical laboratories.

VMTH Hosts Successful CE Symposium at San Francisco SPoC

The VMTH hosted its annual Fall Veterinary Symposium at the San Francisco SPoC on October 28. The continuing education (CE) course featured seminars for veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians (RVTs). The sessions were a near sell out, and those attending received six hours of CE credit.

VMTH veterinarians speaking at the symposium included Drs. Bill Culp, Lynelle Johnson, Michael Kent, Stan Marks, Matt Mellerma and Jodi Westropp. RVt speakers included Harold Davis, Craig Cornell, Jody Nugent-Deal and Charissa Parsons. The event was organized by Saundra Wais and Roxy Rose from the VMTH Continuing Education Office.

The course was designed to meet the unique needs of small animal clinicians and veterinary technicians. By participating in CE courses, attendees are able to stay up to date with the rapid changes in knowledge, methods and technology in veterinary medicine. Our specialists presented lectures on internal medicine, surgery, anesthesia, and emergency and critical care. By providing CE symposiums of this type, the VMTH reinforces its position as a leader in advancing veterinary medicine and patient care, while building relationships with practicing veterinarians that enhance our caseload for student teaching, resident training and acquisition of new knowledge.

From The Director’s Corner

Welcome to the December issue of VMTH View. As we wrap up another successful year at the hospital, we look to what the future holds for the VMTH. We will devote much of this issue and the next to our moves forward with the structural makeup of our hospital facilities.

Despite our old facilities, the clinical and teaching programs continue to grow and thrive. Recently, our alumni gathered on campus to remember their past and to celebrate that growth. The classes of ’82 (our first graduating class), ’92, ’72, ’97, ’92 and ’02 reminisced about their years at U.C. Davis. Those of the last 40 years, who studied and practiced in the VMTH, remarked at how little the building has changed, and were amazed that we are able to treat so many more patients in the same space.

While the VMTH remains a viable building, we outgrew it and its abilities years ago. When the VMTH opened in 1970, it was built to see about 3,500 patients per year. We are now at 10 times that number. There were only five residents at the VMTH 42 years ago, and the School of Veterinary Medicine had more than 60 fewer students per class.

No matter how much internal reshuffling we do (some of which you’ve read about in this issue), the need for a new hospital is inevitable. We do a great job of making do with what we have, and I commend all of you for that. Thankfully, our facilities planning committee has been working hard to improve our existing space and to also look beyond it to building new facilities. As you look around the SVM campus, the marvelous teaching facilities that surround us present quite the contrast to the 42-year-old VMTH. It is exciting to look forward to the day when we will be in a position to build a new hospital that matches the excellence of our clinical programs and the Health Sciences District.

We will look into those planning efforts in our January issue. While that process unfolds over the next few years, we will continue to need to find a balance between modifying our existing space and our long range plans for a new hospital. It will certainly be an interesting journey. I look forward to bringing you those initial ideas in the next issue and beginning that journey with you.

As a new year is about to dawn, we can look forward to a very bright and exciting future for the VMTH. I wish you all a Happy New Year!

Regards,
Dr. W. David Wilson, BVMS, MS
Director, William R. Pritchard VMTH
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Did You Know?

…that veterinarians are required to complete 18 hours of continuing education every year to maintain their license to practice?

…that the breed with the most “Best In Show” awards at the Westminster Kennel Club dog show is the wire fox terrier?

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…that the VMTH residency program provides advanced training in 30 veterinary specialties?
Thanks and Praise from Grateful Clients

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– Janet Free

“Dr. Raynard and student Eric were patient and professional. And I want to particularly recognize the kindness and empathy extended by Christy Chessman. Without her support, care and outreach, this would have been a much different (even worse!) experience for me, and I know Sam appreciated her too. Sam is now splashing about happily in that big creek in the sky. We miss him. Thank you for counsel on Sam’s behalf.”
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House Officer
Dr. Daniel Dugger, DVM
3rd Year Resident, Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care
• Hometown – Bloomfield, New Mexico
• DVM, Colorado State University
• Hobbies: rock climbing and fly fishing
• DYK: Dr. Dugger’s interest in teaching led him back to a career path in academia?

Connect with us

VMTH VIEW
December 2012