Creating a Lasting Legacy

For nearly 30 years, the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) has enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship with the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB), which is legislatively mandated to preserve and enhance the integrity of horse racing in the state. By partnering with the CHRB on multiple initiatives, the SVM works to ensure a safe and secure future for racing in California.

By providing research funds from industry and individuals, and building on other resources throughout the SVM, UC Davis’ Center for Equine Health (CEH) plays an important role in fulfilling the CHRB’s mandate. Some of the brightest minds in equine medicine make up the UC Davis faculty and are world-renowned in their areas of expertise. They collaborate to achieve the optimum in equine health.

The health of the racing industry depends on the health of the horse on the track.

Setting the Standard in Equine Care

- **Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage (EIPH)** – The SVM played a major role in initial investigations of EIPH in the 1980s and 1990s. Studies funded by the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation and the CEH are investigating new approaches to managing EIPH in racehorses.

- **Positron Emission Tomography (PET)** – The SVM is the first veterinary facility in the world to utilize PET scanning on horses, which helps detect active changes in tissue before a horse is sidelined by injury and is advancing musculoskeletal research.

- **Decline in Catastrophic Breakdowns** – Research focused on improving screening and safety of equine athletes has contributed to a 30 percent decline in catastrophic breakdowns on California racetracks in the past eight years.

- **Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis (EPM)** – Research identified the organisms that cause EPM and led to the development of a preventative treatment program to dramatically reduce infection of weanlings.

- **Complete EPM Screening** – Laboratories offer the only commercial platform that tests for both *Sarcocystis neurona* and *Neospora hughesi* antibodies.

- **World Leaders in Equine Infectious Disease** – Specialists developed advanced diagnostic testing and biosecurity protocols for numerous infectious diseases relevant to the racing industry such as equine herpesvirus 1 and influenza.

- **On-Track Emergency Veterinarians** – For two decades, board-certified clinicians have served as on-track emergency veterinarians at the Breeders’ Cup and other racing events throughout California.

“UC Davis has played a vital role in our industry and has enlightened us in many important ways directed at making our game safer and our horses healthier.”

– Craig Fravel, president and chief executive officer, Breeders’ Cup