ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

TWO RECEIVE THE SCHOOL’S HIGHEST HONOR

A private small animal veterinary practitioner and a national leader in food safety research were chosen by the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine to receive the 2002 Alumni Achievement Award, presented by the dean June 14 during the School of Veterinary Medicine commencement ceremony.

Hugh Norris was recognized for his many professional, community and civic contributions and his dedicated service to organized veterinary medicine.

Jerry Gillespie was recognized for his scientific contributions to equine pulmonary physiology and preharvest food safety, and his leadership in developing national food safety policy.

Dr. Norris earned his DVM degree from UC Davis in 1957. The following year he established the first veterinary medical Boy Scout Explorer post in the world at the San Diego Zoo. He has been a frequent speaker on veterinary medicine at service clubs, organizations and school assemblies, a speaker on disaster preparedness at professional conferences, and has served as a career counselor in veterinary medicine at San Diego high schools. Dr. Norris has chaired both the Disaster Preparedness and Long-Range Planning Committees for the San Diego County Veterinary Medical Association, and has served as District I governor for the California Veterinary Medical Association Board of Governors. A resident of La Mesa, California, Dr. Norris works closely with his local veterinary community, the County of San Diego and the American Red Cross as an avid proponent of disaster preparedness.

Dr. Gillespie (DVM, Oklahoma State University, 1961) earned a PhD degree in comparative pathology from UC Davis in 1965. Between 1966 and 1985, he served as associate professor of clinical sciences, professor of physiological sciences and associate dean of student services at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, and as professor of human physiology at the UC Davis School of Medicine. Dr. Gillespie was a charter diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists. From 1985 until 1994, he was head of the Department of Clinical Sciences and of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine, and until 2000, was director of the college’s Food Animal Health and Management Center. Before returning to Davis to become director of the newly established Western Institute for Food Safety and Security, Dr. Gillespie was executive director of the Joint Institute for Food Safety Research in the United States Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services. Dr. Gillespie has actively promoted veterinary science and research—his research interests include anesthesiology, equine performance-related diseases and the ecology of foodborne organisms.