



**UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine**

# *2020 Fall Faculty Reception*

*Thursday, October 22nd, 2020*  
*Virtual Platform*  
*5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.*



**UC DAVIS**  
**VETERINARY MEDICINE**

*Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

*Welcome Remarks*

*Tribute to Dean Emeritus William R. Pritchard*

*New Faculty*

*Leadership Service Acknowledgements*

*2020 Distinguished Service Award*

*2020 Zoetis Distinguished Veterinary Teacher Award*

*2020 Faculty Distinguished Teaching Award*

*2020 Zoetis Awards for Veterinary Research Excellence*

*2020 Clinical Faculty Excellence Award*

*Closing Remarks*

## *Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

### *Tribute to Dean Emeritus William R. Pritchard*



**Dr. William R. Pritchard**, professor and dean emeritus of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, passed away on October 18. Pritchard served 20 years as dean for the school, from 1962-82, and remained involved with the school and a Davis resident for the rest of his life.

Pritchard received his DVM from Kansas State University in 1946, doctorate from the University of Minnesota in 1953, and doctor of jurisprudence (first in his class) from the University of Indiana in 1957. His experience in tropical veterinary medicine, international agriculture development and law led him to serve as an international consultant on several U.S. agriculture research and development programs and for the Rockefeller Foundation. He was a member of President Lyndon Johnson's Science Advisory Committee Panel on the World Food Supply, chairman of the Scientific and Cultural Exchange Mission to the U.S.S.R. in 1967, and served on President Richard Nixon's Science Advisory Committee Panel on Biological and Medical Science. He also served two terms as president of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges.

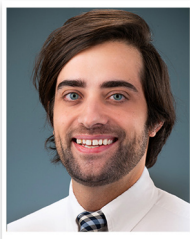
Pritchard began as dean of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine in 1962 by preparing for major expansions in facilities and the professional curriculum to meet the evolving needs of society. He and other faculty leaders completed a comprehensive self-study document that gave rise to major curricular and policy changes in the 1970s. Pritchard testified before the U.S. House of Representatives in 1966 regarding the future of veterinary education. As a result, his vision and leadership are largely credited with helping to gain federal funding for veterinary schools and teaching hospitals in the U.S., and with making UC Davis a model for U.S. and Canadian veterinary schools.

Pritchard received the K-State Centennial Award for Distinguished Service in 1963, an Outstanding Achievement Award from the University of Minnesota in 1976, and was elected to membership in the National Academy of Practice in Veterinary Medicine in 1986. He was named a Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Fellow in 1987. In 1991, he was awarded the UC Davis Academic Senate Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award.

Pritchard's founding work with the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine led to national prominence and set the school on an exciting path, an impact which is still felt today and will persist well into the future. With the renaming of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital in his honor in 2007, recognizing his career achievements in veterinary education and service, Pritchard's name became synonymous with the world-class veterinary program that he helped create.

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### **SAMI AL-NADAF**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Oncology  
Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences

#### **EDUCATION**

DVM, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, 2014  
BS, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, 2008

#### **RECENT EXPERIENCE**

Associate Veterinarian, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital,  
University of California, Davis, 2019-2020

#### **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Medical oncology



#### **MARISA AMES**

Associate Professor of Cardiology  
Department of Medicine & Epidemiology

#### **EDUCATION**

DVM, The Ohio State University, Columbus, 2007  
BA, University of California, Berkeley, 2001

#### **RECENT EXPERIENCE**

Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Sciences, Colorado  
State University, Fort Collins, 2019-2020

#### **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Managing cardiac diseases in small animals and the areas of  
renin-angiotensin-aldosterone-system (RAAS) activation and  
heartworm disease

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### SIMON ANTHONY

Associate Professor of Microbiology

Department of Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology

#### EDUCATION

D Phil, University of Oxford, United Kingdom, 2007

BSc, University of Wales, Bangor, 2001

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, 2015-2020

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Zoonotic and emerging infectious diseases and specifically on the discovery, ecology, and evolution of viruses



#### ANIBAL ARMIÉN MEDIANERO

Professor of Clinical Diagnostic Pathology

California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory System; and

Department of Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology

#### EDUCATION

PhD, Justus-Liebig University, Germany, 2000

MS, Federal Fluminense University, Brazil, 1992

DVM, Federal Rural University of Pernambuco, Brazil, 1988

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Professor of Veterinary Pathology, Department of Population Medicine, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, 2016-2020

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Ultrastructural morphology and in plant toxicopathology and neuropathology

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### JAVIER ASIN ROS

Assistant Professor of Clinical Diagnostic Pathology  
California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory System; and  
Department of Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology

#### EDUCATION

PhD, University of Zaragoza, Spain, 2019  
DVM, University of Zaragoza, Spain, 2014

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

PhD Candidate, University of Zaragoza, Spain, 2014-2019

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Infectious diseases of ruminants, with particular interest in the pathogenesis of bacterial and viral diseases



#### BRIAN BIRD

Associate Adjunct Professor of Emerging and Zoonotic Disease  
One Health Institute

#### EDUCATION

DVM, University of California, Davis, 2009  
PhD, University of California, Davis, 2008  
MS, John Hopkins University, Baltimore, 2000  
BA, John Hopkins University, Baltimore, 1998

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Academic Program Officer, One Health Institute, University of California, Davis, 2016-2020

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Field investigations for highly pathogenic viruses

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### DOUGLAS DOS SANTOS E CASTRO

Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology  
Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences

#### EDUCATION

DSc, Federal Fluminense University, Brazil, 2019

MSc, Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2008

MV, Castelo Branco University, Brazil, 2005

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Regional anesthesia, analgesia, balanced anesthesia, and cardiovascular effects of neuraxial anesthesia



#### BIANCA DA COSTA MARTINS

Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology  
Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences

#### EDUCATION

PhD, Sao Paulo State University, Brazil, 2008

MS, Sao Paulo State University, Brazil, 2005

DVM, Sao Paulo State University, Brazil, 2002

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, University of Illinois, Urbana, 2015-20120

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Corneal surface health and reconstruction, including corneal transplant, and anti-proteolytic, anti-angiogenic and anti-fibrotic aspects of corneal healing

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### POUYA DINI

Assistant Professor of Equine Theriogenology  
Department of Population Health & Reproduction

#### EDUCATION

PhD, Ghent University, Belgium, 2020  
PhD, Azad University, Iran, 2013  
DVM, Karaj Azad University, Iran, 2009

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Visiting Scholar, Gluck Equine Research Center, University of Kentucky, Lexington, 2015-2020

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Genomics of reproduction that is largely focused on the use of genomics, gene expressions, and biochemistry for clinical outcomes in equine reproduction



#### KATHERINE FARRELL

Assistant Professor of Clinical Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care  
Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences

#### EDUCATION

DVM, University of California, Davis, 2013  
BS, Stanford University, Stanford, 2007

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Staff Veterinarian, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, University of California, Davis, 2018-2020

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Transfusion and pulmonary medicine



## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### EILEEN HENDERSON

Assistant Professor of Clinical Diagnostic Pathology  
California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory System;  
Department of Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology

#### EDUCATION

DVM, Michigan State University, East Lansing, 2017  
MS, Hawaii Pacific University, Kaneohe, 2013  
BA, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, 2010

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Resident, Michigan State University, East Lansing, 2017-2020

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Aquatic medicine and pathology



#### KRISTIN JANKOWSKI

Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor in Community  
Practice  
Department of Medicine & Epidemiology

#### EDUCATION

VMD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 1994  
BS, University of Richmond, Virginia, 1990

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Associate Veterinarian, Wilmington Animal Hospital, Delaware,  
2014-2019

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Small animal rehabilitation, One Health practice, and small  
animal primary care

## *Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

### *New Faculty*



#### **BRIAN LEONARD**

Assistant Professor of Comparative Ophthalmology

Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences

#### **EDUCATION**

DVM, University of California, Davis, 2012

PhD, University of California, Davis, 2012

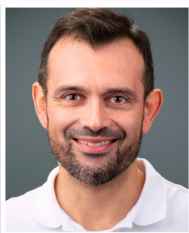
BA, Kenyon College, Gambier, 2001

#### **RECENT EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Professional Researcher, Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences, University of California, Davis, 2017-2019

#### **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Corneal innate immunity and wound healing and minimizing post-operative fibrosis



#### **FABIO SOARES DE LIMA**

Assistant Professor of Livestock Health

Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences

#### **EDUCATION**

PhD, University of Florida, Gainesville, 2013

MS, University of Florida, Gainesville, 2009

DVM, Sao Paulo State University, Brazil, 2004

#### **RECENT EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Professor, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2014-2020

#### **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Livestock health and bovine reproductive disease

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### **EHREN MCLARTY**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Diagnostic Imaging  
Department of Surgical & Radiological Sciences

#### **EDUCATION**

DVM, University of California, Davis, 2015  
BS, Andrews University, Michigan, 2011

#### **RECENT EXPERIENCE**

Resident, University of California, Davis, 2016-2020

#### **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Clinical diagnostic imaging



#### **ERIK OLSTAD**

Health Sciences Assistant Professor in Communications,  
Professional Skills & Community Practice  
Department of Medicine & Epidemiology

#### **EDUCATION**

DVM, University of California, Davis, 2013  
BS, University of California, Merced, 2008

#### **RECENT EXPERIENCE**

Associate Veterinarian, VCA Loomis Basin, Loomis, 2015-2020

#### **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Small animal primary care

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### New Faculty



#### KATHERINE OLSTAD

Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor

Department of Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology

#### EDUCATION

DVM, University of California, Davis, 2013

BS, University of California, Davis, 2009

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Senior Veterinarian, California National Primate Research Center, Davis, 2017-2019

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Primate pathology



#### KRYSTLE REAGAN

Assistant Professor of Small Animal Internal Medicine

Department of Medicine & Epidemiology

#### EDUCATION

DVM, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, 2014

PhD, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, 2010

BS, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, 2004

#### RECENT EXPERIENCE

Infectious Disease Fellow, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, University of California, Davis, 2018-2020

#### SPECIAL INTERESTS

Bacterial and fungal infectious diseases of small animals, and in the development and applications of artificial intelligence/machine learning algorithms to diagnosing small animal infectious diseases and endocrine disorders

## *Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

### *New Faculty*



#### **WILSON RUMBEIHA**

Professor of Veterinary Toxicology

Department of Molecular Biosciences

#### **EDUCATION**

PhD, Ontario Veterinary College, Ontario, 1991

BVM, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, 1982

#### **RECENT EXPERIENCE**

Professor, Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production  
Animal Medicine, Iowa State University, Ames, 2011-2019

#### **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Toxicity and treatment options for mitigating effects of hydrogen  
sulfide exposure

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### Leadership Welcome



**Chris Brandt**  
Chief Information Officer  
Information Technology



**Michelle Giuffrida**  
Director  
Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials



**Patricia Pesavento**  
Chair  
Department of Pathology,  
Microbiology & Immunology



**Josh Stern**  
Faculty Assistant  
Office of Professional Education



**Michael Ziccardi**  
Executive Director  
One Health Institute



**Mary Christopher**  
Vice Chair  
Department of Pathology,  
Microbiology & Immunology



**Dyana Greene**  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Departments of Population Health  
& Reproduction and Pathology,  
Microbiology & Immunology



**Dan Ransom**  
IT Director  
Information Technology



**Jennifer Wilcox**  
Associate Director  
Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials

### Leadership Thank You



**Randy Anderson**  
Chief Information Officer  
Information Technology



**Jenna Burton**  
Director  
Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### Special Recognition



#### **Valerie Fenstermaker, Executive Director CVMA**

Val Fenstermaker, serving as Executive Director, has been a critical leader of the California Veterinary Medical Association for the past 16 years. As Executive Director of the largest veterinary medical association in the US, she has helped shape the CVMA, fostered growth in membership and its programs for veterinarians, and strengthened CVMA's critical role in advocacy for the profession and in the process enhanced the welfare of the animals we care for. Consultative and thoughtful, and with

a resolute work ethic, she has approached her responsibilities with unwavering passion, weathered the challenges professionally, and always with the steadfast objective of achieving what is best for veterinary medicine and our patients. Her work has been recognized with many accolades including the Gentle Doctor Award, the American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives "Executive of the Year" Award, and three CVMA President's Awards - all testament to her dedication to organized veterinary medicine.

As a School, we are highly appreciative of her stewardship of CVMA, her inclusivity, engagement and guidance on legislative issues, and her strong support for the education of our students. This begins in their first year and continues through graduation and beyond. Val has been a staunch ally of student representation on CVMA committees and the annual Leg Day, as well as the many CVMA sponsored events throughout the year. She helped expand the recognition of student achievement through CVMA scholarships, understanding the importance of reducing student debt. Val is one of the most recognized ambassadors for CVMA and the profession, and is a regular participant in our School functions, including the faculty receptions. She is one of the most highly respected veterinary association executives in the nation, and is often sought out by her peers for her knowledge, advice, and skills.

With her transition to retirement, we express our sincere gratitude for Val's presence, support, counsel and friendship. We will miss her many valuable contributions, but wish her well in her new life journey.

## *Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

### *2020 Distinguished Service Award*

We recognize the **California Poultry Federation (CPF)** and **Pacific Egg & Poultry Association (PEPA)** with UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine 2020 Distinguished Service Awards in recognition of their sustained support of the School's poultry programs in furthering our mission.

CPF and PEPA were instrumental in developing and facilitating ground-breaking Quality Assurance programs to safeguard poultry and egg products in California. For over 20 years, both have provided programmatic oversight, bringing industry, government and academia, together for research, workshops, and seminars for industry members.



**Bill Mattos**  
California Poultry  
Federation



**Debbie Murdock**  
Pacific Egg  
& Poultry Association

Organizations are only as good as their executive leadership and the industry board members they represent. **Bill Mattos (CPF)** and **Debbie Murdock (PEPA)** are both outstanding professionals. Debbie and Bill communicate quickly with their members, organize a response, and get things done - testament to their leadership and to their organizations. Their executive position longevity reflects the confidence of their industry leaders. Both organizations provide regular opportunities for our faculty to give updates to their Boards and members on key issues impacting their stakeholders. They are strong supporters of education, attracting younger generations to poultry and poultry associated disciplines, with stipends for young students and scholars.

CDF and PEPA have been strong partners with our School providing substantial support for the past nine years for a faculty position in poultry, ensuring that the School had continued expertise in poultry medicine and research complementing our California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory System (CAHFS) avian diagnosticians and poultry Specialist in Cooperative Extension. Debbie and Bill have been key supporters of CAHFS; and specifically strong advocates for the new Tulare and Turlock branch laboratories. They were instrumental in building local coalitions for support and facilitated meetings with Central Valley political and industry leaders. Likewise, both organizations have been instrumental in providing support during negotiations that directly enhanced CAHFS' budget. They have been influential in the Coryza Task Force - an industry, university, state government partnership, with the common goal of understanding this re-emerging disease challenge through innovative research to develop solutions for the poultry industry.



## *Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

### *2020 Zoetis Distinguished Veterinary Teacher Award*



**Dr. Kevin Woolard** is recognized for excellence in teaching pathology in the classroom and clinic.

An Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, Woolard received his DVM (2003) and PhD (2011) from North Carolina State University. He completed an anatomic pathology residency at NCSU, and then research fellowships at the National Cancer Institute Neuro-Oncology Branch and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Woolard became ACVP board certified in 2012 and joined our faculty in February 2013.

Recipient of the 2020 Student AVMA Teaching Excellence Award, Woolard serves as faculty adviser for the Veterinary Pathology Student Club, is a co-block leader for Foundations (VET 410) and Cardiorespiratory (VET 408), and teaches in several other blocks in the DVM curriculum. His enthusiasm for teaching 4th year DVM students on the anatomic pathology rotation is widely recognized and his topic rounds, especially those focused on poultry and swine diseases in preparation for the NAVLE, are highly regarded. He is also regarded as an exceptional mentor and teacher in the Integrative Pathobiology graduate group.

Woolard receives exceptional teaching evaluations with clear appreciation of his organization, ability to distill complex concepts, accessibility and his passion, enthusiasm, and sense of humor, which many students note engages them fully in his sessions. As a faculty colleague noted: 'Honestly you could throw a dart at any of his student feedback, for years running, and you will find that he always receives the highest possible evaluations, with gratitude for his time and clarity.'

A student noted: 'Dr. Woolard is not only an incredible lecturer, but he also makes students feel intelligent, capable, and heard. He is highly approachable and is able to break down difficult concepts with ease and humor.'

His contributions to resident teaching are equally superb, exemplified in this comment: 'He consistently and unfailingly sets aside extra hours to answer questions, review cases, and provide any and all support. The best part about meeting with him is that you are guaranteed to laugh almost the entire time –his ability to put us at ease and make us feel free to challenge, question, or debate is a remarkable gift.'

## *Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

### *2020 Faculty Distinguished Teaching Award*



**Dr. Woutrina Smith** is recognized for excellence in teaching population health and epidemiology in professional and graduate programs; for graduate advising/mentorship, for innovation in undergraduate curricula in global One Health, and for training faculty peers in online teaching methodology.

A Professor in the Department of Medicine and Epidemiology and the One Health Institute, Smith received her DVM (2001), MPVM (2001), and PhD (2004) from UC Davis. Joining our faculty in 2007 in the Adjunct Professor series, she was appointed as an Associate Professor in 2013. Smith serves as Co-Director of the Planetary Health Center of Expertise in the UC Global Health Institute (UCGHI).

Smith is a veterinary epidemiologist, internationally recognized for her expertise in infectious disease epidemiology, especially transmission of zoonotic water-borne and food-borne diseases between human and animal environments in developing countries.

Training the next generation of leaders and health professionals is one of Smith's indelible passions. Through her UCGHI role, she coordinated development of a library of interactive case studies using multi-media technologies to bring case-based learning to life. She leads a Summer Experience Program matching students with state agencies or UC Cooperative Extension staff, and co-leads the Rx One Health Summer Institute in Tanzania. This immersion approach to experiential learning is transformative for students who are provided a safe intellectual space to push their boundaries and discover new paradigms.

In an even broader teaching role, as PI of the USAID One Health Workforce –Next Generation grant, Smith leads a global consortium bringing together faculty and students from 15 African and Southeast Asian countries to develop innovative training and research methods to address global health security risks related to zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance, and to build capacity for regional One Health university networks in Africa and Southeast Asia.

Smith was pivotal to our school's adoption of all on-line teaching formats in Spring 2020. She provided three instructional sessions for faculty colleagues on how to use the Zoom platform for instruction. Her own course, VET414, led with two of her colleagues, received very high praise from the students and was offered by student representatives to our Curriculum Committee as the example of how to do distance learning well.

## Fall Faculty Reception - 2020

### 2020 Zoetis Award for Veterinary Research Excellence



**Professor Jeff Stott** receives the 2020 Zoetis Excellence in Research Award for his exceptional research on epizootic bovine (foothill) abortion (EBA) in cattle.

Dr. Stott received a BS (1975) and MS (1977) in Microbiology from Colorado State University and a PhD (Microbiology) from UC Davis in 1982. After postdoctoral training he joined the faculty in 1984 as Assistant Research Virologist in the Department of Pathology, and was appointed Assistant Professor in 1985. He is currently a University Distinguished Professor in Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology.

A devastating bacterial disease, Foothill abortion was a catalyst for establishing the School of Veterinary Medicine in 1948. Foothill abortion has plagued beef cattle, frustrated cattlemen, and eluded scientists for more than six decades. EBA results in the annual loss of up to 90,000 beef calves at a cost exceeding \$6 million. With methodical vigilance and scientific rigor, Dr. Stott identified, characterized, and named a unique tickborne bacterium, *Pajaroellobacter abortibovis*, satisfying Koch's postulates, and with considerable tenacity developed an efficacious vaccine. Even more remarkable in this endeavor, Dr. Stott personally oversaw vaccine development, because pharmaceutical companies could not realize economic thresholds for commercially viable production, and he orchestrated the vaccination of > 50,000 head of cattle in the western US. In September, the USDA Center for Veterinary Biologics granted a conditional license to Hygeia Biological Laboratories for commercial vaccine production.

Although this award recognizes his work on EBA, earlier in his career Dr. Stott contributed substantially to understanding of bluetongue virus infection, before changing his focus to studies of immune cell function in cattle and horses, including investigation of bovine leukemia virus, African horse sickness, bovine mastitis, and equine reactive airway disease. In 1993, he started investigating the immunology of infectious disease in marine mammals, and established an internationally recognized Marine Mammal Immunology Laboratory, which continues to provide immunodiagnostic reagents nationally, and indeed globally.

Dr. Stott has a career long history teaching an upper division undergraduate general education course in immunology (PMI 126) and associated laboratory course (PMI 126L). Course enrollment continues to grow and he is revered as a mentor to this cohort of pre-health professions students. He also teaches graduate level immunology and contributed to immunology content development in the DVM curriculum, teaching in two blocks. Dr. Stott is a Master Advisor for the Integrative Pathobiology Graduate Group and was recently recognized by Graduate Studies as an inaugural recipient of the Graduate Advising and Mentoring Award. Some of the graduate academics mentored in his laboratory hold faculty positions, including in our School, as well as national leadership positions.

As one of his trainees commented - *"... even after many years of conducting research he still gets excited about results and is contagious in his passion for doing real-world, translational research that delivered solutions to everyday farmers and ranchers."*

## *Fall Faculty Reception - 2020*

### *2020 VMTH Faculty Clinical Excellence Award*



**Dr. Steven Epstein** is one of our most dedicated clinicians in the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH), and his contributions benefit clinicians from most, if not all, disciplines within the Small Animal Clinic. Examples of his dedication and leadership include his administrative effort as Infectious Disease Control Committee Chair and Director of Transfusion Medicine.

Epstein has been a member of the VMTH Disaster Committee, which met daily to every-other-day during the pandemic and fire disasters. He also took charge in

responding to the opioid shortage crisis last year and of ongoing PPE and drug supply challenges in the VMTH this year. He constantly brainstorms ways to improve efficiency and solve problems, and proactively brings constructive ideas to the VMTH leadership. Epstein has developed innovative and effective clinical teaching tools for distance learning, has excellently handled clinician shortages in his service combined with an exploding caseload, especially since March.

Over the last few years, Epstein has provided tireless effort in the hospital's response to Northern California wildfires. Despite the aforementioned staffing shortage in his own service, Epstein took primary responsibility for the organizational and communication needs related to this disaster response, and was directly involved in the care of many burned small animal patients.

Epstein has an amazingly broad knowledge of VMTH operations. When a clinician does not know the procedure for getting something done, it is likely that Epstein can provide the answer. His clinical acumen is well respected within the hospital, and his work ethic is unparalleled. In the area of house officer training, Epstein is considered an excellent instructor by the Small Animal Emergency Critical Care interns and residents, and he has established a didactic program for the interns. Epstein is always willing to volunteer to help train residents in other disciplines. He has established a national reputation for excellence in SA ECC, and a growing recognition for his efforts in antimicrobial stewardship.

~Mission~

*Advance the Health of Animals,  
People and the Environment*

~Vision~

*Leading Veterinary Medicine,  
Advancing Societal Needs*