



Strategic Plan: Progress Actions April - June 2020

The School of Veterinary Medicine Strategic Plan was developed to evolve and refine the direction of the school to meet its stated mission, vision and goals. The plan supports the university's Strategic Plan, To Boldly Go, and the Principles of Community, which articulate the values and principles by which the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine conducts its mission. The school's plan can be found at <https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/strategic-plan>.

This report summarizes the progress actions across the school from April through June 2020.

GOAL 1: EDUCATE WORLD LEADERS



Class of 2020 Virtual Commencement and Diploma Drive-Through

During the midst of a global pandemic, the UC Davis veterinary medicine community held a virtual 69th Commencement Ceremony on May 22nd to honor 147 DVM graduates while observing physical distancing guidelines. The event, hosted by Admissions, include a pre-ceremony celebration presented on Facebook Live as well as a "diploma/graduation pack" drive-through celebration.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/congratulations-class-2020>

Strategy 1.1. Promote Faculty and Staff Engagement in Career Development Programs and Best Practices for Educators

Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology: Dr. Patricia Pesavento participated on a team comprising faculty from UC Davis, Tennessee and the University of Alabama to run a full 5-day “Descriptive Course” June 1-5 for 80 national and international diagnosticians-in-training. The faculty team was assembled by the Davis-Thompson Foundation, a non-profit organization whose mission is to further the international advancement of education in veterinary and comparative pathology.

Strategy 1.2. Promote Dynamic, Up-to-Date Curriculum and Training Programs to Foster Educational Goals and Career Opportunities

Professional Education:

- Worked with 30 VMTH services to revamp clinical training to initially take place in an all virtual environment.
- Requested and reviewed 30 clinical instruction plans that function in a hybrid manner, involving students in the clinic workplace while allowing for some physical distance to be maintained, and supplementing the on-site experiences with virtual instructional sessions.
- Developed plans for adaptation of the Year 1-3 veterinary curriculum to provide for safe access to the required hands-on competencies, and transition large amounts of the knowledge-based teaching and learning to distance-learning platforms.

Career, Leadership and Wellness Center (CLaW):

- Completed Mock Interview Lab and Salary Negotiation Lab in Doctoring VET400.
- Offered resume critiques for all first-year students in Doctoring VET400.
- Completed The Healer’s Art Session 1 in person; small groups continued to meet via Zoom.
- Attended Simplicity Virtual Symposium (VetMedJobs platform).

Western Institute for Food Safety and Security (WIFSS):



Photo credit: W. Smith

On May 14 and May 28, WIFSS held online training courses on the foundations of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), co-management, FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, and details on how to develop an effective on-farm food safety plan. Led by instructors including David Goldenberg of WIFSS and Michele Jay-Russell of WIFSS/WCFS, the one-day courses featured topics such as postharvest handling and sanitation, soil amendments, and worker health, hygiene, and training. It is intended to help growers of all backgrounds meet FSMA Produce Safety Rule Requirements. Students came from various parts of California, as well as other states, representing a wide variety of small and large growers ranging from Avocados to Walnuts. A third remote delivery is scheduled for July 16, 2020.

VMRC:

- Recast the former New Horizons in Research Events as a biannual lunch time talk featuring a clinical and basic scientist's perspective on a relevant scientific topic. The 2020 winter/spring talk on February 27, "Science Sandwich: Basic and Clinical Research "Meat" in the Middle," focused on bridging the gap in bone regeneration and was led by Drs. Boaz Arzi and Damian Genetos. Approximately 45 faculty and students participated.
- Organized and hosted the inaugural SVM Research Expo held on May 5, which was transitioned to a virtual event focused on resources for COVID-19 research available to SVM researchers. Approximately 210 faculty, staff and students participated.
<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/research-expo-goes-virtual>

Strategy 1.3. Establish and Maintain Programs and Strategies that Promote a Diversified Professional Community

Outreach:

- Rethought most summer pathway programs to go live in July.

Counseling/Wellbeing:

- Counselors transitioned to/offered virtual mental health appointments. Hosted 2 workshops centered around knowing and understanding your pets health

Career, Leadership and Wellness Center (CLaW):

- Scholarships process completed and awarded

Strategy 1.4. Implement Multiple Strategies to Reduce Educational Debt for Professional Degree and Graduate Students

Career, Leadership and Wellness Center (CLaW):

Held exit counseling sessions on loan repayment requirements for 4th year students via Zoom, and completed Debt Management sessions in Doctoring VET400.

GOAL 2: LEAD IN INNOVATION AND HIGH IMPACT TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH TO ADVANCE THE HEALTH OF ANIMALS, PEOPLE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology:

Dr. Patricia Pesavento's graduate student Charles Alex received the Peter Kennedy Fellowship to combine viral discovery and basic virology (Pesavento lab) and evolutionary phylogeny (Dr. Andrew Lang, St. Johns Newfoundland). PMI received a CRAFT award for a study using an explant model to study cellular targeting and the pathogenesis of SARS-CoV-2.

RESEARCH AWARD TOTALS

406 actions for 133 faculty (broken down below). Of these actions, 110 were new awards; the remainder were non-competing renewals, no-cost extensions and amendments.

	Actions	Faculty	New Awards
October	98	41	29
November	66	30	15
December	242	62	66
TOTALS	406	133	110

There were two awards over \$1M:

Maurice Pitesky	Extension/ Public Programs	USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA)	Real-time Waterfowl Mapping Web App: A Critical & Novel Tool for Avian Influenza Surveillance to Improve Food Security in Commercial Poultry	\$1M
Alda De Andrade E Pires	Extension/ Public Programs	California Department of Food and Agriculture	Evaluating the food safety impacts of cover-crop grazing in fresh produce systems to improve cover crop adoption, crop-livestock integration, and soil health	\$1,999,970

CIID:

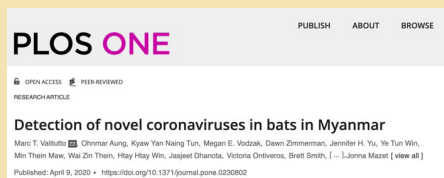
- Nicole Baumgarth received a 2-year award from NIAID for regulation of antibody production by B-1 cells and a 2-year award from Global Lyme Alliance, Inc. for protective humoral immunity to *B. burgdorferi* infection.
- Smita Iyer received a six-month award from NIAID to investigate the role of female genital mucosa-associated CD4T cells in vaccine-induced HIV susceptibility and as COVID supplement.
- Smita Iyer received a five-month award from George Mason University to evaluate convalescent plasma therapy for COVID-19 in a rhesus model.

GOAL 2: LEAD IN INNOVATION

First of its kind training grant funded in U.S.:

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (T32 GM136559) approved funding for the first DVM/PhD Medical Scientist Training Program in the country. Dr. Xinbin Chen will direct the training program.

One Health Institute/USAID PREDICT Project Paper Deemed High Impact Research Paper



A paper on the detection of novel coronaviruses in bats in Myanmar scored in the top 5% of all research outputs according to Altmetrics. Published in PLoS one, a study from the One Health Institute-led USAID PREDICT Project identified three novel alphacoronaviruses, three novel betacoronaviruses, and one known alphacoronavirus—previously identified in other southeast Asian countries—for the first time in bats in Myanmar. Ongoing land use change remains a prominent driver of zoonotic disease emergence in Myanmar, bringing humans into ever closer contact with wildlife, and justifying continued surveillance and vigilance at broad scales. [Detection of novel coronaviruses in bats in Myanmar](#)

Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials:

VetCellTherapeutics USA™ announced on July 9 that it will begin a multi-centered, country-wide clinical trial for 200 cats to evaluate the safety, effectiveness and potency of DentaHeal™, its investigational cell therapy product, for controlling the clinical signs related to feline chronic gingivostomatitis. This novel therapy was developed at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, where Dr. Boaz Arzi led a successful clinical trial of a mesenchymal stem cell treatment. That pilot study provided the foundation for a patent, which VetCell Therapeutics USA acquired in order to pursue FDA approval for its DentaHeal cell therapy.

Strategy 2.1. Promote Innovative Multi-Disciplinary Collaborations to Address Societal Needs

Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials:

Initiated enrollment in a clinical trial in primary brain tumors (particularly gliomas), which are extremely aggressive tumors that carry a poor long-term prognosis. The trial is looking at whether a novel viral gene therapy (called AAV9-IFNB) alters the immune system within a brain tumor in dogs, and whether the therapy may be safe and effective in shrinking the size of the tumor. The study, led by Dr. Pete Dickinson, is being conducted in collaboration with UCSF. UCSF is providing the novel viral gene therapy, and UC Davis is recruiting the patients and conducting the clinical study.

Western Institute for Food Safety and Security (WIFSS):

Raw Milk May Do More Harm Than Good

Not Properly Stored, It's a Source of Antibiotic-Resistant Microbes

<https://www.ucdavis.edu/news/raw-milk-may-do-more-harm-good/>

Raw or unpasteurized cows' milk from U.S. retail stores can hold a huge amount of antimicrobial-resistant genes if left at room temperature, according to a new study from a UC Davis research team that included co-author Michele Jay-Russell, WIFSS interim director and program manager of the UC Davis Western Center for Food Safety. The study also found bacteria that harbored antimicrobial-resistant genes can transfer them to other bacteria, potentially spreading resistance if consumed. The study was published in the journal *Microbiome*.

Overview of study: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxjFzmFX54Q>



Photo credit: W. Smith

One Health Institute:

The second-year veterinary student curriculum used online teaching formats to create virtual problem-based learning opportunities, such as this group of students on Zoom who included faculty role playing in their One Health Task Force presentation on addressing tickborne disease problems for the VET414 Population Health block.

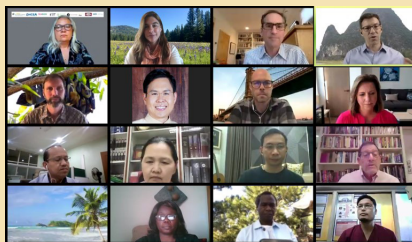


Photo credit: W. Smith

One Health Institute:

The USAID One Health Workforce –Next Generation Project used a One Health virtual community of practice approach to offer a One Health COVID-19 interactive webinar series that engaged over 3,000 professionals from 44 countries around the world.

California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS): Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease:

CAHFS is working with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the US Department of Agriculture to provide diagnostic services for rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD). The first diagnosis of the disease near Palm Springs, Riverside county, was confirmed on May 11, followed by additional confirmed cases in Orange, San Bernardino and San Diego counties. To date, RHD has only been detected in wild cottontails and jackrabbits in California, but all lagomorph species may be susceptible. CDFW is tracking the geographic spread and impact of RHD on wild rabbits, jackrabbits, and hares.

Strategy 2.2. Enhance Research Training and Experiential Opportunities for Clinician-Scientists, Residents, Veterinary Students, and Graduate Students

Center for Companion Animal Health (CAAH):

The CCAH was pleased to continue providing support to SVM residents by providing resident research publication and STAR project support totaling over \$9,000.



Center for Equine Health (CEH):

Two CEH foals were born. The CEH breeding program is a collaborative effort with the Equine Reproduction Service and offers residents and students opportunities to be involved in all aspects, from breeding to neonatal care.

Global Programs: The Office for Global Programs coordinated the submission and review of a record number of 31 proposals from 1st and 2nd year professional and graduate students seeking to obtain funding for summer research and/or professional experience. There were 17 applications for International Externships, 11 for Global Fellowships and three for Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) Internships. The International Programs Committee awarded 11 International Externships and a separate faculty review committee awarded nine Global Fellowships, four focused on feline health and five for work with underserved communities. Two students were awarded CCF Internships funded by a private donor and the Office for Global Programs. Students awarded funding will present virtually at Global Programs Day on September 17th.

The COVID-19 pandemic prompted a series of discussions with each of the students selected for funding to determine if they wanted to accept or decline their award. If accepted, they had the option to either defer and apply their funding for approved senior externships or projects in 2020-2021 or propose an alternative project for the 2020 summer that did not require international travel. Of the students awarded Global Fellowships, four declined the award, two deferred and three proposed alternate projects. Seven of the students awarded International Summer Externships deferred their awards and four proposed alternate projects. Arrangements were made for the two students who were awarded CCF Internships to conduct their internships either in the summer of 2021 or during an approved senior externship.

The Office for Global Programs conducted virtual Safety Orientation and Video Workshop trainings on safety and security for all of the students with approved global projects and externships, as well as provided training on how to tell stories and create videos about their experiences.



Woutrina Smith at Clover Valley field site.

Photo credit: B. Bird

One Health Institute and UCGHI Planetary Health Center of Expertise:

In California, multi-disciplinary field research launched to provide veterinary and graduate student summer research opportunities to study wetlands restoration, ecosystem health, and wildlife epidemiology as part of creating healthy headwater ecosystems that advance planetary health issues for long-term sustainability.

VMTH: Maureen Griffin received the 2020 AAVC Resident Award, recognizing a high degree of excellence in chosen specialty.

Strategy 2.3. Enhance Shared Resources that Support Clinical, Basic, and Translational Science

Center for Companion Animal Health (CAAH): provided research, equipment and publication support to faculty as follows:

- Thirteen faculty research equipment grants funded in the amount of \$123,925.
- Three faculty research grants funded in the amount of \$73,532.
- One faculty match research grant funded in the amount of \$7,500.
- Three faculty publication cost support in the amount of \$1,955.

In keeping with the CCAH mission to improve the health of companion animals by encouraging and supporting academic studies and clinical research, the CCAH approved 26 faculty grants from its annual call for proposals. \$379,437 will be awarded to support research in the areas of Anesthesia, Cancer, Infectious Disease, Genetics, Ophthalmology, Neurology, Nutrition, Orthopedics, Renal, SARS-CoV-2, Surgery, and Viral.

Center for Equine Health (CEH):

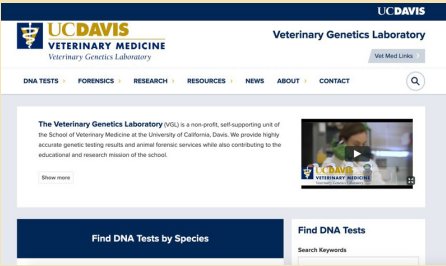
CEH Enduring Legacy Funds were used to support a one-month-old Quarter Horse colt that was diagnosed with rhabdomyolysis. This case was an excellent learning opportunity for all involved since the colt needed physical and medical support for multiple critical problems.

Strategy 2.4. Promote Impact of School's Research to Enhance Recognition and Influence Policy and Stakeholder Engagement

California National Primate Research Center

CNPRC Core Scientists Chris Miller, DVM PhD (VM:PMI), Smita Iyer, PhD (VM:PMI) and Koen Van Rompay DVM PhD (CNPRC) led a multi-disciplinary team of investigators who identified cellular immune profiles of COVID-19 infection in a rhesus macaque model. A key finding of the study was the observation of T follicular helper cell responses following infection of monkeys with SARS-CoV-2, suggesting that vaccine strategies that target this arm of the immune system may promote lasting protection from the virus. Other SVM contributors to the publication were Stephen McSorley (Department of Anatomy, Physiology & Cell Biology) and Katherine Olstad (Department of Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology).

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.07.07.191007v1>



The Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL)

VGL launched an updated and advanced website along with several new DNA tests for the veterinary community.

GOAL 3: PROVIDE CUTTING-EDGE CLINICAL PROGRAMS

Strategy 3.1. Enhance the Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) Services to Promote an Unmatched, Compassionate Patient Care and Client Experience

VMTH:

Information on Animals That Have Tested Positive for COVID-19

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/information-animals-covid-19>

- Completed development, refinement and implementation of protocols for COVID-19 prevention to enable ongoing hospital operations and clinical instruction.
- Completed feline ward and laundry.
- Ongoing release of VMACS enhancements.
- Preparation for new PACS implementation.

Strategy 3.2. Support Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) Programs that Promote a Culture of Collaboration, Excellent Educational Experiences, and Innovative and Effective Clinical Care

VMTH: UC Davis Surgery Resident Wins National Award

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/index.php/news/uc-davis-surgery-resident-wins-national-award>

VMTH: Behavior Resident Wins Research Award

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/behavior-resident-wins-research-award>

VMTH: Equine Residents Win Orthopedic Research Awards

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/equine-residents-win-orthopedic-research-awards>

Strategy 3.3. Advance Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) Facility Plan, Operations and Infrastructure

Advancement:

- In total, \$85,086,683 has been raised for the VMC Campaign.
- Fundraising for the All Species Imaging Center is complete, and planning is moving forward.

Big Ideas Virtual Series: A View into the Future of UC Davis Veterinary Medicine

On May 13, Dean Michael Lairmore shared his vision for a dramatically redesigned veterinary hospital where clinicians, scholars, and veterinary students collaborate in integrated teams to advance the health of animals, people, and our environment. This facility, which focuses on healing, innovation and discovery, will be the world's premier veterinary facility.

Strategy 3.4. Promote Expertise, Program Breadth and Innovation for Reputation and Philanthropic Success

VMTH: Continual Care Available Throughout COVID-19 Crisis Saves Dog's Life.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/continual-care-available-throughout-covid-19-crisis-saves-dogs-life>

VMTH: Three Equine Specialties (and a Dedicated Family) Come Together to Heal Horse.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/three-equine-specialties-and-dedicated-family-come-together-heal-horse>

VMTH: Neurosurgery and a Dedicated Owner Help Paralyzed Dog Walk Again.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/index.php/news/neurosurgery-and-dedicated-owner-help-paralyzed-dog-walk-again>

VMTH: Philanthropic Fund Helps Pit Bull Fight Cancer.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/philanthropic-fund-helps-pit-bull-fight-cancer>

VMTH: Successful Clinical Trial Added Years to Dog's Life.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/successful-clinical-trial-added-years-dogs-life>

VMTH: Surgery and Chemotherapy Utilized to Avoid Amputation of Dog's Paw.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/surgery-and-chemotherapy-utilized-avoid-amputation-dogs-paw>

In collaboration with internal partners
and through generous support of our donors, the school raised
a total of **\$34,533,595** in the **2019–20** fiscal year, despite the
COVID-19 pandemic.

Advancement: The SVM Advancement Team co-hosted the online Association of Veterinary Advancement Professionals annual conference online.

Strategy 2.3. Enhance Shared Resources that Support Clinical, Basic, and Translational Science

Center for Companion Animal Health In keeping with the mission to improve the health of companion animals by encouraging and supporting academic studies and clinical research the CCAH provided research, equipment and publication support to faculty and residents.

Center for Equine Health: Purchased LOGIQ Next Gen portable ultrasound system and echocardiography probe for research use

Center for Equine Health: Initiated Pioneer 100 Horse Project (sponsored by Platinum Performance)

Dr. Bart Weimer of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, have been testing a new way to authenticate the composition of raw materials. Through the application of metagenomics, analytics and cloud technology we are generating new insights and understanding of food supply chains. As described in our co-authored research paper Food authentication from shotgun sequencing reads with an application on high protein powders, published in the Nature Partner Journal Science of Food, the consortium has created a new pipeline for food component identification that can simultaneously detect multiple expected and unexpected components.

Comparative Pathology Lab Wins a 2019 Lab Safety Award: The Comparative Pathology Lab (also know as the Imai-Leonard Lab) won a UC Davis Lab Safety Award, presented in October. The Safety Services Lab Safety Awards are part of UC Davis' commitment to recognizing labs with a strong safety emphasis who are doing their part to Think Safe. Act Safe. Be Safe.

GOAL 4: ADVANCE THE WELLBEING OF ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Strategy 4.1. Prioritize School Resources that Focus on Initiatives to Address Societal Needs

Admin: The fiscal office participated in the Provost Budget Advisory Committee meetings; participated in the SVM's budget advisory task force and reached agreement on 20-21 budget targets; conducted the annual budget meeting with the Provost; prepared budget information for the State of the School address; finalized the VMDO budgets for FY 20-21; and finalized phase 2 SVM return to work plan guidelines and phase 2 research resumption guidelines with the Office of Research and Graduate Education.

Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center: OWCN adjusted existing protocols and procedures to ensure best achievable capture and care to oiled wildlife taking into account COVID-19 safety guidelines.

Strategy 4.2. Enhance Local and Global Communications, and Engagement to Advance the School's Impacts



COVID-19 'LIVE' Series Debuts

Featuring experts across UC Davis, the UC Davis LIVE series on Facebook and YouTube launched a new series focusing exclusively on COVID-19 research. UC Davis LIVE: COVID-19 debuted on May 7 with guests Dean Michael Lairmore; Prasant Mohapatra, vice chancellor for research and Allison Brashear, dean of the School of Medicine. They presented an overview of how UC Davis is working to find solutions to the problems presented by the pandemic.

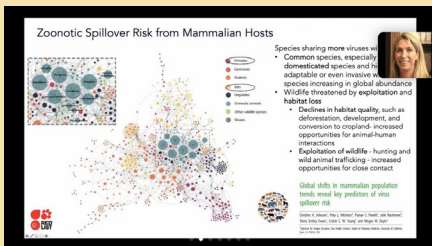
<https://www.ucdavis.edu/coronavirus/news/covid-19-live-series-debuts-may-7>



'Deans Discuss': COVID-19' Podcast

In this weekly video podcast series about COVID-19, Dean Michael D. Lairmore, and Allison Brashear, dean of the School of Medicine, examine the collaboration taking place across UC Davis to find solutions to this global threat, and consider the pathways to progress that lie ahead.

Episodes 1-9 now available at <https://www.ucdavis.edu/covid-19/deans-discuss>



COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall

Dean Lairmore and the One Health Institute co-hosted a virtual COVID-19 Town Hall on April 9 to present updates on SVM's COVID-19 response efforts. More than 400 SVM faculty, staff, students and community members in attendance.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/svmone-health-institute-covid-19-response-town-hall-meeting-report>

State of School Virtual Townhall

Dean Michael Lairmore hosted the annual State of the School address on May 21st. In addition to congratulating the school for being named #1 again worldwide by QS World Rankings, the Dean highlighted the school's response to the COVID-19 crisis, which has brought the role of veterinarians to the forefront of global health. He also discussed the goals of the school's Strategic Plan, major achievements over the past year, and how we are aligned for future success. Dean Lairmore honored the 2020 Alumni Achievement Award recipients, and staff and faculty retirees.

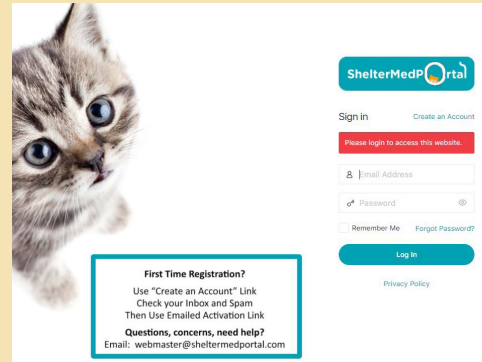
<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/index.php/news/2020-state-school>

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/index.php/news/honoring-2020-alumni-achievement-award-recipients>



Koret Shelter Medicine Program: Shelter Medicine Portal

As California faced the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and moved to shelter-in-place in mid-March, the UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program pivoted a planned online learning portal for members of the animal sheltering industry to a critical resource and community for industry to stay up-to-date with rapidly changing shelter environments and for the shelters, as they sought to move animals from shelter housing to foster homes and swiftly transition to virtual adoptions.



Three months after going live in mid-April, the portal has more than 850 users, hosts six comprehensive online courses related to animal sheltering during the COVID-19 era with almost 600 students enrolled, and has just produced its eighth weekly email industry events calendar.

Koret Shelter Medicine Program: Protecting cat lives with cage “portals”

To prepare for potential pandemic-driven increases in animals needing to be rehomed, shelters sent record numbers of cats and dogs to foster homes. Emptied cat cages gave shelters the chance to “portalize,” transforming cramped single-compartment cages into spiffy double-compartment condos by poking holes in cage walls and sealing them with plastic portals. The Million Cat Challenge, a joint project of the KSMP, the University of Florida and Maddie’s Fund, parlayed a generous discount from the portal manufacturer and funds from multiple sources into a giveaway of 2,685 portals to 82 shelters across the U.S. and Canada. Fundraising continues, with the goal of providing portals to every shelter that requested them.



Strategy 4.3. Increase Multicultural Awareness and Outreach to Underserved Populations and Communities

Global Programs: The Office for Global Programs held a Cultural Awareness Workshop for SVM Students in collaboration with Global Affairs for all of the students awarded funding. The focus was on the importance and application of cultural awareness locally as well as globally.

Strategy 4.4. Promote and Support the One Health Approach to Advance the Mission

One Health Institute: The One Health Institute supported COVID-19 response with global support of labs in 30 countries in Africa and Asia; support of CNPRC to develop SARS CoV-2 testing; environmental testing for SARS CoV-2 at the UC Davis Medical Center through a collaborative grant with Jonathan Eisen (funded by UC emergency fund), and development of a serologic assay to test dogs and cats treated at the VMTH for exposure to SARS CoV-2 through a collaborative grant with Stefan Kellar (funded by CCAH).

Western Institute for Food Safety and Security (WIFSS): WIFSS's annual three-week Summer One Health conference was reimaged as a two-week online event held July 20-31. The conference, titled "One Health for Food Systems Conference: Integrating Veterinary, Food, Animal, Agriculture, and Engineering Sciences," provides an in-depth educational experience for undergraduate students around the globe to learn about the importance of applying a One Health approach to solving specific, complex problems that arise at the interface of people, animals, and the environment.

<http://www.wifss.ucdavis.edu/onehealthconference>

Strategy 4.5. Advance Strategic Communications and Use Information Technologies to Demonstrate Program Success and Impacts of Education, Research, and Outreach Programs

New SVM Magazine: Synergy

The SVM Communications team launched *Synergy*, a magazine published twice a year, to highlight feature stories, research breakthroughs, clinical advances and accomplishments of our vet med community. The magazine replaces our *Advance* and *Heartbeat* print newsletters. The first edition showcases One Health collaborations, pet behavior "news you can use," DVM student leaders working in global health, and a day at the zoo with an SVM alum.

SVM Quarterly Brief

The Quarterly Brief is the school's new general information electronic communication. Articles from *Synergy* are featured in the first edition, along with the school's response to the COVID-19 crisis, and inspiring patient stories. For more information and subscription choices, visit the SVM publications page.

New Instagram 'Ask Me Anything' Series

SVM Communications launched a new Instagram “Ask Me Anything” series in April with initial offerings dedicated to COVID-19. Dr. Christine Kreuder Johnson answered questions about veterinary medicine’s role at the forefront of COVID-19; Drs. Jane Sykes and Brian Bird discussed pets, wildlife and COVID-19; and Dr. Liz Stelow discussed how pet behavior may be impacted by shelter-in-place policies.

View the playlist for the entire AMA series.

SVM IT: Hired the new IT Director for Application Development Dan Ransom; hired new Systems Administrator Michael Hull; integrated Zoom-Crest-Mediasite to ensure lecture recordings are available on our streaming system; ensured Zoom functioned effectively for online teaching; created VPN sites for researcher access during phase 1x and 2; selected ExamSoft Manager as remote proctoring vendor; facilitated virtual commencement; created State of the School video; decommissioned CERE; closed 622 tickets in March, 623 tickets in April, and 803 tickets in June.

Advancement Communications:

Collaborated with faculty and Strategic Communications to generate numerous media hits, including these high-profile stories:

- [COVID-19 Q&A: Protecting Pets and People During the Pandemic](#)
DVM360
- [Pet Owners Need Not Panic After Tiger’s Positive Coronavirus Test](#)
Boston Herald
- [Cats, Dogs, and the Coronavirus: What You Need to Know](#)
elemental
- [Animals And COVID-19](#)
Insight on Capital Public Radio
- [Cats Are Far More Susceptible to New Coronavirus Than Dogs Are, But People Shouldn’t Be ‘Fearful’ Of Their Pets, Researchers Say](#)
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
- [Osteoarthritis Problems in Three Legged Dogs](#)
Tripawds
- [UC Davis Large Animal Clinic Gets New Director](#)
Davis Enterprise
- [Stress During COVID-19 Can Affect Your Dog or Cat. Here’s What You Can Do.](#)
Capital Public Radio
- [Why the New Coronavirus Affects Some Animals, but Not Others](#)
Smithsonian

- [Can My Pet Get Coronavirus? What Bay Area Pet Owners Need to Know](#)
San Francisco Chronicle
- [Cats Are a Bit More Susceptible to the Coronavirus Than Dogs Are, but You Shouldn't Be Afraid of Your Pets](#)
ZME Science
- [Your Pets Probably Won't Get the New Coronavirus](#)
Wall Street Journal
- [UC Davis Veterinarians Give Pet Owners Advice After 2 NY Cats Test Positive for COVID-19](#)
Fox40
- [Can Pets Get Coronavirus? Chief Veterinarian at UC Davis Says Dogs, Cats Are Likely 'Dead-end Hosts'](#)
ABC7 San Francisco
- [Do Weighted Blankets Help Dogs' Anxiety?](#)
Mic
- [PET: The Latest Advance in Equine Imaging](#)
North American Trainer
- ['Tiger King' Star Says America's Unregulated Zoos Could Be Putting Thousands of Tigers at Risk of COVID-19](#)
Newsweek
- [6 Spring Safety Tips for Pets](#)
PetCoach
- [What Does Vitamin Deficiency in Horses Look Like?](#)
The Horse
- [CHRB's Postmortem Program Shapes Safety Initiatives](#)
Bloodhorse

GOAL 5: PROMOTE A VIBRANT AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Dean:

Dean Lairmore co-chaired the UC Davis search for the Provost/EVC (Dean), which successfully recommended Mary Croughan to the chancellor, who hired Dr. Croughan.

<https://www.ucdavis.edu/news/uc-davis-chancellor-gary-may-selects-mary-croughan-next-provost-and-executive-vice-chancellor>

COVID-Related Safety for the School (Goal 5)

The EC was updated that the Educational Access Team is continuing to provide guidance for the participation of professional students in the VMTH. The team is monitoring SARS-CoV-2 statistics, communicating with students/staff/faculty/administration, and ensuring that policies developed within the SVM and the VMTH are not in conflict with policies from the offices of California's Governor, county, city and University of California.

Strategy 5.1. Build Community through Value, Respect and Awareness for All

Paulina Crook receives Chancellor's Staff Award

On March 5, Dr. Paulina Crook, Director of the Office for Global Programs, received the Chancellor's Staff Award for International Engagement from Chancellor Gary May at the Global Affairs International Connections reception. Dr. Crook was recognized for her outstanding international engagement in carrying out the university's missions of teaching, research, and service.

Strategy 5.2. Clarify and Support Expectations for Career and Personal Development of Faculty, Staff, and Students

Drs. Jennine Ochoa, Crystal Rogers, Sina Marsilio, and Jessica Morgan were selected to participate in the National Center for Faculty Diversity and Development's Faculty Success Program for Fall 2020.

Dr. Bret McNabb Named Director of Large Animal Clinic

Dr. Bret McNabb has been appointed as director of the Large Animal Clinic at the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH). An assistant professor of clinical livestock reproduction in the School of Veterinary Medicine's Department of Population Health and Reproduction, Dr. McNabb has been service chief for the VMTH's Livestock Herd Health and Reproduction Service since 2013.

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/uc-davis-names-dr-bret-mcnabb-director-large-animal-clinic>

Dr. Patricia Pesavento participated in the UC Women's Initiative for Professional Development

during winter and spring 2020. The systemwide leadership and team-building program brings together cohorts of faculty, academic personnel and staff across the UC system and includes exposure to issues of diversity, fairness, inclusion, and open communication.

Strategy 5.3 Recognize the School's Sustainability and Success Depends upon our People Resources

Population Health and Reproduction/Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology: Hired new Chief Administrative Officer Dyana Greene. Dyana replaces long-serving CAO Linda Potoski, who retired after 20+ years of service to the school.

One Health Institute: Dr. Michael Ziccardi Named Executive Director of the One Health Institute

Dr. Michael Ziccardi has been appointed as the executive director of the One Health Institute (OHI). Ziccardi, a wildlife veterinarian, epidemiology professor and scientist, will lead the OHI in its mission to solve complex problems impacting health and conservation such as zoonotic disease emergence, food insecurity and biodiversity loss.

<https://ohi.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/michael-ziccardi-named-executive-director>

VMTH: Heroes During Pandemic Come in All Shapes and Sizes...and Species

<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/heroes-during-pandemic-come-all-shapes-and-sizesand-species>

ACADEMIC PERSONNEL NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENTS



Brian Bird, MPH, DVM, PhD,

Associate Adjunct Professor of Emerging and Zoonotic Disease,
One Health Institute, 3/1/2020



Pouya Dini, DVM, PhD,

Assistant Professor of Equine Theriogenology,
Population Health and Reproduction, 6/1/2020



Dr. Patricia Pesavento,

Appointed Chair of the Department of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology;
and Appointed Chair of the Faculty

FACULTY SENATE:

Proposed Undergraduate Minor in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Graduate School of Management (Goal 1?)

The EC reviewed this proposal for a new undergraduate minor program in the GSM, and had no concerns.

Proposal for a Temporary/Alternate Admissions Interview System – CASPer (Goal 1)

The EC discussed the Admissions Committee's proposal for a temporary, alternate non-academic admissions assessment process to select the Class of 2025 (if in-person interviews are not possible due to COVID restrictions). The proposed CASPer (Computer-Based Assessment for Sampling Personal Characteristics) process is a form of the Situational Judgement Test (SJTs) format with proven metrics and evidence-based support. The concept is similar to the MMIs, where candidates are presented with realistic, hypothetical scenarios to assess how they will behave in certain situations and evaluate their responses, based on attributes like empathy, communication, ethics, collaboration, etc. With CASPer, the responses are reviewed and scored by a pool of masked, trained raters from around the US (rather than by the SVM faculty); those scores are then averaged and adjusted based on internal quality assurance and quality control measures of the raters. The EC approved the proposal. The faculty consideration process will commence with a Town Hall Meeting presented by the AC on July 21, followed by an official comment period, and then a formal vote in early August. The AC will be requested to prepare the draft ballot language, along with the pro/con statements for approval by the EC.