

NEWS

Vol. 27, No. 2, Spring 2010

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VETERINARY MEDICAL TEACHING HOSPITAL

Building a Team for Innovation in Surgery

Geraldine Hunt brings experience and leadership to the small animal surgery services available to practitioners and clients of the William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH).

Hunt, whose background includes directorship of the Small Animal Teaching Hospital at the University of Sydney, Australia, joined the UC Davis faculty in 2009 and became chief of the VMTH Small Animal Surgery Service in January 2010.

A full team of faculty surgeons, a strong technical staff and state-of-the-art equipment support innovation in both soft-tissue and orthopedic surgery.

“Our specialists are equally skilled in all aspects of general surgery,” says Hunt, “and each clinician offers additional expertise in a particular area.”

Continued on page 3

CLINICAL SERVICE

VOLUNTEERS SPAY/NEUTER 77 DOGS

In a nationwide effort to help community members, improve animal health and reduce pet overpopulation, the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine provided 77 low-cost spay and neuter procedures for large dogs from Yolo and surrounding counties on Spay Day 2010. The event was held February 27 and 28 at the Gourley Clinical Teaching Center.

More than 175 veterinary students, staff members and veterinarians volunteered to spay and neuter the dogs. Animals arrived Saturday afternoon and remained overnight. On Sunday morning veterinarians performed the exams and surgeries. Other specialists oversaw anesthesia and recovery. Students accompanied animals throughout the receiving, exam, surgery, recovery and discharge process.

The event helps low-income pet owners protect their animals' health and well-being, and reduces pet overpopulation. Preventing unwanted litters eases overcrowding at local shelters, reduces euthanasia of healthy animals, and protects against illness or injury of abandoned pets.



Veterinary students Ruoshan (Jessie) Sun, class of 2013; Karen Allies, class of 2012; and Shelly Ford, class of 2010, prepare a patient for anesthesia during Spay Day 2010.

School Decides 2010-13 Funding Targets

Due to critical budget impacts at the campus and school levels, Dean Bennie Osburn and the faculty are deeply engaged in budget planning. Targets are set for cutbacks over the next three years, and aside from one-time savings, permanent reductions add up to \$3 million.

"Reductions of this magnitude will affect faculty positions."

"Reductions of this magnitude will affect faculty positions," Osburn says. "We won't be able to refill positions lost through retirement or attrition until budget targets are met."

School leaders, faculty and staff committees are scrutinizing teaching programs and administrative functions to streamline processes that range from personnel reviews to research proposals. A committee on administrative restructuring made dozens of recommendations that, when coupled with other management steps, could save about \$500,000 annually.

At the teaching hospital, faculty members working with industry representatives, referring veterinarians and clients are analyzing food animal training opportunities to coordinate all food animal programs at the Davis and Tulare sites.

Osburn has urged faculty to complete a curriculum review, which will help to update priorities for the budget process. "The school's highest priority in the coming months is to address budget challenges while maintaining the quality of our teaching programs," he says.

Promotion of school specialties such as surgery, community practice, cardiology and oncology is part of the effort to bring in clinical income and increase the caseload needed for teaching.

Osburn has emphasized that raising funds for endowed chairs is one way to provide permanent support for faculty positions and help to stabilize the teaching program.

A National Perspective

A recent survey by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges focused on the impact of state funding for U.S. veterinary colleges and schools. It revealed some disturbing trends over the past two years:

The state funding for 27 veterinary schools has declined by \$50 million—equivalent to the total funding for two veterinary colleges. The major budget reductions for the schools will come about next year when stimulus funds are exhausted. As a result, some veterinary colleges are expecting a 20 percent budget reduction for the coming year.

Nationwide, 415 staff positions and 146—out of a total of 3,595—veterinary faculty positions have been eliminated. The following specific programs closed at some schools across the country: behavior, cardiology, microscopic imaging, diagnostic toxicology, epidemiology, pathobiology, neuroscience, ophthalmology, and small animal and equine theriogenology.

—Bennie Osburn, February 2010

CANINE HEALTH

THIS SUPERSTAR SAVES LIVES

Though he has nothing to do with Hollywood, "Superstar" is an aptly named Rottweiler/Labrador/Boxer mix, according to staff at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.

On February 5, Regina Patton brought Superstar in for his 20th blood donation in the school's Canine Community Blood Donor Program, making her dog the first to have reached that milestone.

"He loves coming here," says Patton, a UC Davis employee. "It helps other dogs, it helps the teaching hospital—and I get to spend more time with him." Patton, a resident of Davis, brings the dog to the hospital about once a month. Besides lots of dog chewies, Superstar and the other donor dogs receive free flea and heartworm treatments.

The program began in February 2008, and Superstar was one of the first dogs to donate. The hospital's blood bank collects, processes and stores canine blood for transfusions to treat a variety of conditions. Applications range from surgical

complications to kidney failure. In 2009, the hospital transfused 205 animals.

Superstar's blood donations over the past 19 months have saved an estimated 35 lives. His 20th donation was immediately designated for a cancer patient in need of a whole blood transfusion the same day.

Blood donation for dogs is minimally invasive. During the animal's first visit, which lasts about a half hour, candidate dogs receive health examinations and have their blood typed. The checkup is free and includes veterinary services valued at \$300. Eligible animals may return for a half-hour donation visit. Donor dogs receive a "goodie bag" of treats and access to free blood products for life, should they need them. After four donations, they also receive a stainless steel blood donor tag designed and donated by "Sticky Jewelry."

In addition to the obvious benefits to sick and injured pets, the program also provides an

Animal health technicians Julie Burges (left) and Dyne Hansing work with super blood donor Superstar.



opportunity for dog owners to become involved in the veterinary community and share a special bond with their pets.

The program always welcomes new donors, says Julie Burges, supervisor of the Transfusion Medicine Service. The service offers appointments during the week and one Saturday each month. Blood donor dogs must be 1 to 8 years old; weigh at least 55 pounds; be current on their flea, tick and heartworm preventive medications; and have never had puppies or been pregnant. To set up a screening appointment, pet owners may call (530) 752-1393, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or send an e-mail message to caninebloodbank@gmail.com.

Innovation in Surgery

Continued from page 1

Redefining Soft Tissue Surgery

With the hiring of five surgeons since 2009, the faculty is revitalizing services in soft tissue surgery with more treatment options and better service, including emergency referrals.

One new focus is surgical oncology, part of a holistic cancer therapy plan that may include chemotherapy and radiation.

Interventional radiology, including the use of fluoroscopy to guide delicate procedures, is a component of the team's approach, as is minimally invasive surgery.

The new techniques facilitate treatment of a wider range of problems. For example, William Culp, whose training includes a fellowship in surgical oncology, deals with malignancies that block the urethra, trachea, esophagus or colon; nonresectable tumors; and tumors that can be treated with direct delivery of chemotherapy.

For many conditions, the surgeons increasingly employ a range of minimally invasive surgery (MIS) techniques, using scopes, catheters, wires or stents. Laparoscopy and thoracoscopy are two examples. Liposuction to remove fatty tumors is another new service. These new MIS methods also aid in reconstructive and vascular surgery, treatment for liver shunt disease in dogs and other surgical treatments.

William Culp, faculty specialist in small animal soft tissue surgery (center), and surgeons Mark Fuller and Lisa Bazzini remove a parathyroid to treat an adenocarcinoma in a canine patient at the William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.



Orthopedic Surgery

The service's orthopedic surgeons concentrate on injury, degenerative disease, inherited disorders and other problems of the musculoskeletal system.

Orthopedic procedures include arthroscopy, total joint replacement, external skeletal fixation, cranial cruciate ligament surgery, and muscle, tendon and joint stabilization procedures.

The orthopedic specialists address growth deformities, fractures, bone cancer, joint diseases of young dogs, osteoarthritis, patellar luxation and other problems.

"Every patient is as important as the next," Hunt says. "We want to be part of the team of referral vets, clients and patients."

Training Opportunities

The increased number and variety of cases now possible with the full complement of faculty also benefits the school's teaching mission.

"Veterinary students benefit from seeing both the simple and complex procedures," says Hunt. By the middle of 2010, she says, five residents will be on board for specialty training.

VMTH Small Animal Clinic Surgery Group

Geraldine Hunt, BVSc, MVetClinStud, PhD, FACVSc, Chief of Service

William Culp, VMD, DACVS

Michele Steffey, DVM, DACVS

Kelli Mayhew, VMD, DACVS

Philipp Mayhew, BVM&S, DACVS

Amy Kapatkin, MS, DVM, DACVS

Kei Hayashi, BVMS, DVM, PhD, DACVS

ANIMAL WELFARE

Statewide Emergency Plans Are One Step Closer

The International Animal Welfare Training Institute (IAWTI) has received \$250,000 from the California Emergency Management Agency to assist in providing coordinated statewide rescue and care of animals during natural disasters.

The agency grant will help formalize a framework for emergency response and protocols at county and regional levels. Volunteers and emergency responders can then be authorized to include animals in rescue and care during floods, fires or other disasters—in a single location, or across county or other district lines.

The institute's codirector, Tracey Stevens-Martin, is meeting with regional agencies and animal-related organizations to establish a structure for authorizations at the local, regional and statewide levels.

"This funding," says John Madigan, IAWTI director, "takes us to the next step toward a statewide disaster response program that will minimize the suffering and loss of life of pets, horses and livestock."

Emergency Planning Participants

California Veterinary Medical Association

California Emergency Management Agency

California Dept. of Food and Agriculture

United States Department of Agriculture

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Early Bovine Experience Program Inspires

The 2009 Early Veterinary Student Bovine Experience Program (EVSBEP) brought 20 students closer to food animal practice.

The program provides students with opportunities to work on production units or with food animal veterinarians. Director John Angelos says, "While most students start the program having had some food animal experience, EVSBEP provides an excellent opportunity to explore an area of veterinary practice that a student may not have previously experienced or considered."

"I realized that I am going to have an incredible career in dairy medicine."

"At a dairy or with a practitioner, students see firsthand the scope of veterinary skills, food safety issues, client relations and other concerns of food animal practice," Angelos says. "Students deal with outbreak response, beef operations, pregnancy examinations, vaccination programs, heat stress

management, stall design, feedlots, bull breeding and other aspects of the industry."

The program began in 2000 with seven students and has grown to accommodate 20 participants, thanks to school scholarships, support from Pfizer Animal Health, and the veterinarians who volunteer to mentor students.

In her program evaluation, **Ashley Amaral**, class of 2011, says, "I appreciated the exposure to preventive medicine, the basis for beef cattle production systems. This experience gave me some unique, marketable abilities." Amaral and classmate **Zuhal Elhan** spent time with practitioner Nancy Martin of East Meets West Large Animal Services in Vacaville.

Tara Jacobsen, class of 2011, says, "EVSBEP is what interested me in food animal medicine in the first place. Veterinarians are very generous with their time and patience."

Students worked at single-practitioner operations and practices with multiple veterinarians. Many worked around



Carla Rodriguez gained experience on dairies in both California and Mexico.

California's large dairies. Students also shadowed veterinarians in other states or abroad.

Carla Rodriguez, class of 2011, augmented her veterinary experience at Atwater-Merced Veterinary Clinic and Sierra View Animal Health with travel to two dairy regions of Mexico: Jalisco and Torreón.

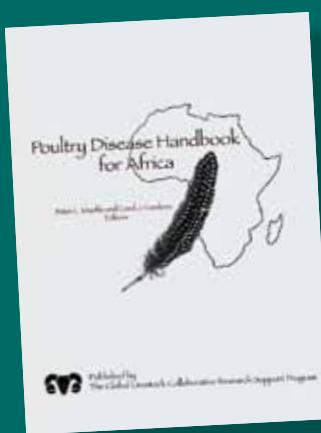
"One benefit of the program was the chance to observe technological differences and similarities among different sized dairies in the U.S. and Mexico," says Rodriguez. "This experience has reinforced my desire to work with food animals." Read about Rodriguez's Mexico visit, sponsored by International Programs, online (<http://bit.ly/RodriguezDairy>).

Scott Hamilton, class of 2012, who was mentored at Mill Creek Veterinary Clinic, a dairy practice based in Visalia, says, "I realized that I am going to have an incredible career in dairy medicine."

Early Bovine Experience Program Featured on TV Magazine

January 8, "California Country" television magazine presented a segment on the Early Veterinary Student Bovine Experience Program at the School of Veterinary Medicine.

In summer 2009 the television crew of "California Country," produced by the California Farm Bureau Federation, shadowed veterinarian Nancy Martin as she mentored two veterinary students, Ashley Amaral and Zuhal Elhan, who were out in the field to gain practical experience with beef cattle. Watch it online (<http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/whatsnew/article.cfm?id=2144>).



Avian Flu School Has Impact on Poultry Health in Africa

The Wildlife Health Center's Avian Flu School/Poultry Health Disease Project, under the Global Livestock Collaborative Research Support Program, has produced a handbook for training and field diagnosis of diseases that afflict village and smallholder poultry in Africa.

The *Poultry Disease Handbook for Africa*, edited by Peter Msosso (Sokoine University) and Carol Cardona, and coauthored by David Bunn and university partners in Ghana, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania, includes a "clinical signs and necropsy diagnosis" decision tree. It was distributed in March to veterinary schools in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Togo, Ghana, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Sudan.

RESEARCHERS COMPLETE GENOME OF THE HORSE

An international team of researchers that includes scientists at the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory has completed the genome sequence of the domestic horse. Their findings, published in *Science* in November 2009, hold important implications for improved breeding of horses, a \$39 billion industry in the United States, and for studies of human health.

"This very high-quality genome sequence gives us access to information to help us identify the genes for specific traits in the horse," says coauthor Cecilia Penedo, a geneticist and associate director of the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory. Public access to the actual genome of the horse, she says, facilitates experiments that once would have been done through comparative studies of other

animals. "From a basic science perspective, the horse genome sequence will contribute data to an understanding of evolutionary changes that have molded the genomes of animal species."

Penedo supplied DNA from Arabian and Quarter horse breeds and worked on a horse linkage map that identified a linear order of genetic markers along the horse chromosomes. She says, "The horse linkage map was one of the ancillary resources used by the Broad Institute scientists to help with the whole genome assembly work."

Penedo and genetics graduate student Leah Brault are using this information to help them identify the cause of equine cerebellar abiotrophy, a neurological condition found almost exclusively in Arabian horses. The condition causes serious problems, including head tremors and poor equilibrium, in affected horses.

Penedo and James Murray, professor in the Department of Population Health and Reproduction, have worked with the Horse Genome Project practically since its inception in the 1990s, when the late Ann Bowling and colleagues began to develop a genetic map of the horse. Researchers note that more than 90 hereditary conditions—for example, infertility, inflammatory diseases and muscle disorders—affect both humans and horses.

EQUINE GENETICS

Equine Vet Studies Deafness in Paint Horses

News about the equine genome sequence and its implications in combating genetic diseases comes as Associate Professor Gary Magdesian seeks answers to a genetic problem in American Paint Horses.

"Kena" is a deaf horse—specifically, an American Paint Horse. Magdesian, an equine veterinarian at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital and Kena's owner, has been researching deafness, a rare disorder in Paints.

Magdesian coauthored a 2009 study showing that American Paint Horses with certain coat patterns and blue eyes appear to be at particular risk for deafness.

In the study, published in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*, he wrote, "We compared clinical findings, results of a hearing test used in humans called a brain auditory-evoked response test, and genetic investigation." He found several links.

"We identified the genotype of the endothelin B receptor gene (linked

to a specific overo coat pattern) in the majority of both confirmed and suspected deaf American Paint Horses, and to a significantly greater extent than in hearing Paint Horses," Magdesian says.

- All 14 deaf American Paint Horses had abnormal brain auditory-evoked response tests.
- Most deaf American Paint Horses had splashed white or splashed white-frame blend coat patterns.
- Other coat patterns noted in deaf horses included frame overo and tovero.
- Extensive head and limb white markings were observed in deaf horses.
- Most deaf horses had two blue eyes.
- Most deaf and suspected deaf horses (91 percent) had the endothelin B receptor gene mutation.



Kena, a deaf American Paint Horse, is owned by Gary Magdesian, who carries out research on the genetic condition.

Magdesian points out that deaf and suspected deaf horses can be used successfully in performance events. He says that the mutation does not explain all deafness—some of the deaf horses were negative for this mutation. However, it is possible that the presence of this mutation, coupled with the splash overo or other gene, increases the odds of deafness. In addition, there is some randomness to coat color and pigment of the inner ear, where certain cells are essential to hearing. Still, he says, "Owners and veterinarians should be aware that some American Paint Horses are more at risk for deafness than others."

NEW FACULTY

Meet the school's newest faculty members!

FOOD ANIMAL & HERD HEALTH

VMTRC PROVIDES HOST OF EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

The Tulare-based Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center (VMTRC) excels in outreach, one of its many missions.

"Providing tours and learning opportunities to local groups and international visitors is an important part of the educational and service missions for the Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center and for the School of Veterinary Medicine as a whole," says Terry Lehenbauer, associate director. "Events take many forms, from tours and internships that attract prospective students to continuing education for veterinarians and agricultural producers."

Tours and Demonstrations

To stimulate interest in animal science, dairy production medicine and veterinary careers, the VMTRC hosted 18 tours and presentations for 281 visitors from July 2008 to February 2010. A steady stream of elementary, high school and college students flows from the San Joaquin Valley, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly), San Diego, Argentina, Brazil, India, Israel, Japan, Mali and Taiwan. One professor has brought 500 international students for short courses on American dairy practices. Presentations cover cow reproduction, milk quality, nutrition, calf rearing, heifer management and animal welfare.

Professional and Industry Education

Besides the annual Dairy Production Medicine Seminar, single courses and ongoing training sessions during the same time period included 75 events serving approximately 2,000 veterinarians and industry professionals. Workshops and UC Cooperative Extension courses included a dairy cattle welfare workshop, dairy herdsman short courses, small-animal conferences and new sessions in emergency-response training.

Internships and Technical Training

The Milk Quality Laboratory internship offers opportunities for high school students to work



SHARIF ALY

Assistant professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, Population Health and Reproduction

EDUCATION

PhD, epidemiology, UC Davis, 2009

MPVU, UC Davis, 2003

BVSc, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo University, Egypt, 1998

EXPERIENCE

Graduate researcher, Veterinary Medicine and Epidemiology, UC Davis, 2006–09

Instructor, Veterinary Graduate Academic Program, UC Davis, 2004–06

Residency, food animal reproduction and herd health, UC Davis, 2001–04

Internship, food animal production medicine, University of Idaho, 2000–01

Dairy veterinarian, private practice, Egypt, 1998–2000

SPECIALTY

Veterinary infectious disease epidemiology, dairy production medicine, cattle reproduction, herd health, outbreak investigation



HEATHER KNYCH

Assistant professor of clinical veterinary pharmacology, California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System, Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory, Molecular Biosciences

EDUCATION

PhD, pharmacology/toxicology, UC Davis, 2008

DVM, School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis, 2005

MS, physiology, San Jose State University, San Jose, California, 2000

BS, biochemistry/cell biology, UC San Diego, 1997

EXPERIENCE

Specialist, pharmacology, Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory, UC Davis, 2008–10

Graduate researcher, Pharmacology/Toxicology Graduate Group, UC Davis, 2005–08

Research associate, Tularik Inc. (AMGEN), South San Francisco, Calif. 1997–2001

SPECIALTY

Equine pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, metabolism and analgesia, equine drug testing and development



PHILIPP MAYHEW

Assistant professor of soft tissue surgery, Surgical and Radiological Sciences

EDUCATION

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons, 2005

BVM&S, veterinary medicine and surgery, The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, 1996

EXPERIENCE

Staff surgeon, Columbia River Veterinary Specialists, Vancouver, Washington, 2008–10

Assistant professor, small animal surgery, University of Pennsylvania, 2006–08

Lecturer, Section of Small Animal Surgery, University of Pennsylvania, 2004–06

Residency, small animal surgery, University of Pennsylvania, 2001–04

Postdoctoral fellowship, orthopedic research, PennHIP (University of Pennsylvania Hip Improvement Program), 2000–01

Rotating internship, small animal medicine and surgery, University of Pennsylvania, 1999–2000

Small animal veterinarian, The Bay Veterinary Group, Lancaster, Lancashire, U.K., 1996–99

SPECIALTY

Soft tissue surgery, hepatobiliary surgery, minimally invasive surgery (laparoscopic, thoracoscopic procedures), orthopedics

in a professional environment and learn basic laboratory skills. Since January 2010, interns may also accompany veterinarians to farms and observe them providing clinical services to local herds.

The VMTRC also provides classroom space on a weekly basis for more than 20 students enrolled in College of the Sequoias' Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) program.

This unique partnership between the VMTRC and local community college expands student awareness of the many career options associated with veterinary medicine.

Clinical Rotations

For veterinary students, familiarization tours stimulate interest in fourth-year rotations

in dairy production medicine and herd health. During a stay of two to eight weeks, visiting students build experience in all on-farm clinical activities, surrounded by the unique environment of the large-scale dairies for which California is known. One distinctive feature is that veterinary students throughout the country may do their rotations in Tulare. This program is considered a model for national veterinary student exchange.

Because of its strategic location in the heart of dairy country, the VMTRC offers access to key mentors from the veterinary school, California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory, Dairy Food Safety Laboratory, California Department of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and more.

THANK YOU NOTES

DEAN'S CLUB HONOR ROLL

Dean's Club donors sustain the school's reputation as a top-tier academic institution dedicated to providing the best veterinary education, and advancing animal, human and environmental

health. The following alumni and friends contributed to the Annual Fund Dean's Club July 1, 2008, through December 31, 2009:

Dean's Club Executive Circle

Gifts of \$5,000 or more

Brewer, Robert '54 *

Humber, Kent '82

Ina, Michael '74

O'Brien, Michael '76

Dean's Club

Gifts of \$1,000 or more

Bishop Veterinary Hospital

Bradford, Robert '70

Brown, Gaylord '78

Caston, Homer '55 *

Circle H Veterinary Hospital

Circle of Friends
Veterinary Hospital
Cisneros, Pedro '85
Clark, James '88
Codington, James '80
Coster, Ian '58 *

Crippen, Deborah
Crow, Steven '73
Dickson, Russell '78
Dillon, Gary '74
Dillon, Renee '74
Donan, Debra '75
Eslinger, Loren '84
Feldman, David '90
Floyd, Michael '61
Frizzell, William '79

Granstedt, Marta '78
Gus, John '80
Hamby, Donald '63
Harper, Alfred '81
Herbert, Larry '62
Iburg, Linda '87
Jackson, Robert '53 *

Jocoy, Jock '54 *

Keagy, Richard '59 *

Kerr, H. Jay '77
Kidd, William '75
Kidwell, Larry '58 *

La Pittus, Morton '61
Lakeside Pet Hospital
Lander Veterinary
Clinic, Inc.

Lansing, Keith '56 *

Levesque, Donald '75
London, Craig '80
Mader, Douglas '86
Morgan, Melanie '88
Nestruck, Valerie '83
Neves, Arthur '65
Osburn, Bennie
Parry, Susan '85
Peacock, Paul '52 *

Pedroia, Patricia
Pilch, Lloyd '75
Pio, Mark '85
Plocher, Philip '54 *

Ringen, Ronald '66
Robertson, Kimberly '86

Rodi, Christopher '93
Schwab, Deanna '96
Switzer, John '62
Tennant, Bud '59 *

Tierra Mesa
Veterinary Clinic
Tucker, Pia '87
Uchimura, Richard '65
Ulrich, C. Paul '82
University Animal
Hospital, PLCC
Ventress, Floyd '61
Wang, Chien
Wetmore, William '55 *

Williams, John '87
Wright, Ronald '93
Zimmerman, John '62

* Rose Circle

Alumni who have celebrated their 50th anniversary

ENDURING LEGACY

Estate Gifts Further School's Mission

The School of Veterinary Medicine is the beneficiary of three recent estate gifts, each an enduring legacy that furthers the school's role as a leader in advancing animal, human and environmental health.

Kathleen Wallace, a dog lover from Vacaville, Calif., left the bulk of her estate to the school. Since August 2009, distributions of \$1.8 million have been received—in honor of her dogs, Vamp and Toupee—and directed to a variety of school programs.

Mary Stuart "Stuie" Krause, widow of Kinko's cofounder, Brad Krause, donated \$1.4 million in unrestricted support to the school. She and her husband cared greatly about all animals. Mr. Krause had participated in a mountain lion capture with Walter Boyce, codirector of the Wildlife Health Center, and from time-to-time they had been clients of the William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.

Morton and Eva Scheidt contacted the school in 1996 after receiving a letter notifying them that their veterinarian had made a gift in memory of their beloved Lhasa Apso, Tashi. In 1997, the Scheidts became members of the Heritage Society for Animals, designating one-quarter of their estate to benefit the teaching hospital. Their gift of \$252,000 will be used for a portion of facility renovations in the Small Animal Clinic.

In recognition of their generosity, names of the donors are engraved on the Heritage Society for Animals Honor Roll plaques, permanently displayed in the teaching hospital and Center for Companion Animal Health.

ALUMNI

REUNION WEEKEND IS SET

The date is set, the reunion committees are being organized and planning is under way for the 2010 Alumni Reunion Weekend. Scheduled for Oct. 1–3, the school will host the 50th reunion for the class of 1960, as well as reunions for the classes of 1970, 1980, 1985, 1990 and 2000. On Saturday, Oct. 2, the school will host tours, followed by the 21st Oscar W. Schalm Lecture. Informal class gatherings will take place during the afternoon. Later that evening, an all-class celebration dinner will be held in Freeborn Hall.

On Sunday, Oct. 3, the William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital will offer the Second Annual Fall Practitioners Seminar, a continuing professional education event.

For more information, visit the reunion Web site (<http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/alumni/reunions>), or call the Office of Development at (530) 752-7024 to learn more about plans for your specific class.



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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Students Build Connections to the Future

Nine students. Eight countries. One summer. Students in International Programs gained clinical and research experience in 2009—and a sense of professional purpose. They also learned skills with animals found nowhere else in the world—from capturing giraffes in game preserves to monitoring the health of lemurs.

In Rwanda, **Krista Jones** joined scientists and local veterinarians to examine cows, survey families and collect samples for a parasite study in a government livestock program. “It is truly rewarding to feel that our work will have a direct impact on the project’s success, and thus the health of these cattle and the ability of their owners to adequately provide for their families,” she says.

“I have a particular interest in research,” says **Aimee Reed** about her project with lemurs in Madagascar, working with faculty member in wildlife medicine, Scott Larsen. “Being able to start a project from scratch, compile background research, travel abroad and collect data has been a valuable training opportunity.”

Robin Chadwin, Lauralea Colamussi and **Katherine Wolf** worked at animal shelters with different objectives in Europe and Nepal, but they shared a commitment to canine health. In Nepal,

Wolf’s tasks were aimed at protecting children from rabies and helping to develop humane population control methods for street dogs. Chadwin and Colamussi focused more on canine welfare in Spain, where they cared for mistreated greyhounds as part of an international adoption program.

Barbara VanGilder became the first veterinary student accepted into the Field Practicum in Public Health and the Environment in the School for Field Studies in Kenya. She investigated pesticide use among the Maasai people. “Working with the Maasai community was an incredible way to experience Kenya, realize what their needs are and understand what their concerns are,” says VanGilder. “I hope to develop outreach programs in the developing world.”

Read all the student reports online (<http://bit.ly/SVMIntlProg2009>) and learn more about International Programs’ criteria and opportunities (<http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ip/>).

International Programs 2009 Participants

Eight students are in the class of 2011; Barbara VanGilder is in the class of 2012.

Robin Chadwin, Lauralea Colamussi—Shelter experience with greyhounds, Spain

Krista Jones—Livestock parasite research, Rwanda

Lydia Lam—Wildlife and conservation medicine, South Africa

Aimee Reed—Lemur research and clinical experience, Madagascar

Carla Rodriguez—Dairy medicine, Mexico

Barbara VanGilder—Animal pesticides and public health, Kenya

Katherine Wolf—Rabies prevention, Nepal

Natalie Zdimal—Equine medicine, Germany and the Netherlands



Krista Jones (center), class of 2011, worked with scientists and local veterinarians on a livestock parasite study in Rwanda.