Faculty Named to Lead Student Affairs

New Heritage Collection Meets Students' Needs

Thank you, College Supporters!
Before you read my column, I’d like you to stop and close this publication. Take a moment to look again at the image on the cover.

Reflected in one of the cases in the new Zuschlag Veterinary Heritage Collection and Information Commons, our students are at the center. That’s where they belong, because they are our future.

The centerpiece of our College is the professional veterinary degree program. It is our top strategic initiative and our top priority in the current capital campaign.

One of the most compelling features of the Zuschlag room is that it welcomes students to the veterinary profession by serving their needs, with a quiet, comfortable study space, 24/7 Internet connectivity, and nearly 200 years of progress in veterinary science to point the way to the advances they themselves will someday make.

Supporting students through scholarships is one of best ways alumni and friends can assist the College. Scholarships are needed now more than ever.

Tuition costs continue to rise and so does the educational debt of students. Scholarship assistance alleviates some of the financial burden so future veterinarians can focus on their studies.

Competition for the best students is also on the rise. Outstanding Illinois residents are recruited to other veterinary programs and to other professions that can offer attractive scholarships. With more scholarships we can ensure the excellence of our student body, those future alumni who will augment our reputation by word and deed.

Some of you are in a position to endow a student scholarship outright at $25,000 or more.

Others of you are not able to make this level of commitment alone, but you can band with classmates to establish a gift. The Class of 1987 recently hit the endowment mark. It only takes recognizing that you can make a difference in the life of a veterinary student and deciding to make a gift.

Even recent graduates can have an impact. By pledging a dollar a week—only $52 a year—a class with 100 members who all contribute can build their own scholarship in just five years.

Your investment in a student scholarship is an investment in the future of our College and the future of the veterinary profession. I invite you to make this investment today.
Two long-time faculty members have recently been selected to help lead our effort to ensure the excellence of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Illinois.

Dr. Jonathan Foreman became the associate dean for Academic and Student Affairs on July 1, and Dr. Dawn Morin became assistant dean of Academic Affairs and Curriculum on November 16.

In early November they shared their perspectives on their new roles and the issues facing the DVM program.

**Organization of the ASA Office...**

**Foreman:** We need to be sure people understand that Mary Kelm is still an assistant dean in the ASA office. If you think about our unit’s name—the Office of Academic and Student Affairs—Dawn will focus on the “Academic” side and Mary will continue to handle the “Student” side. The office represents both the students and the faculty.

Dawn will assist with revision and assessment of the curriculum and will coordinate clinical rotation planning and scheduling. Mary will continue to focus on recruiting, admissions, student counseling, and running the careers office.

I hope to be focused on bigger projects, taking a longer term vision for the office.

One of the projects I’ll be focusing on is preparing information for the Provost on outcomes assessment. The entire Urbana campus will have an accreditation site visit in 2009. The veterinary college is way ahead of many other units on outcomes assessment. Since 1997 this office has been collecting data. We have piles and piles of data, but we need to do more to collate the data and note trends.

Several changes in the curriculum have already been driven by these data: the new externship for credit, the increase in business courses taught by Dr. Firkins, and the introduction of the shelter medicine rotation, to name a few.

**Experience related to their new positions...**

**Morin:** I was appointed to chair the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine courses and curriculum committee in 2004. Up to that point my main involvement in curriculum revision was altering

**Morin:** I like the challenge of taking on new positions that didn’t exist before.

**Foreman:** I’ve always seen myself as a teacher first. My role as associate dean is more of the same.

continued on page 2
I had a 10 percent appointment as assistant department head for curriculum and instruction, but due to the complex and ever-changing nature of the clinical curriculum, I ended up spending 40 to 50 percent of my time in that role. In the past three years I’ve learned a lot of things from my VCM activities that will be helpful in my new position.

With this appointment, I will not be advising graduate students or doing research, but I’ll continue to lecture and conduct labs in the veterinary curriculum. I feel it is important for me to continue teaching. I particularly enjoy the bovine surgery class.

Also, I like the challenge of taking on new positions that didn’t exist before, as I did when I became director of the Agricultural Animal Care and Use Program. It is rewarding to learn new skills and facilitate positive change.

Foreman: Dr. Morin and I have been working together clinically since 1986. Dawn was the first food animal resident to become board certified in internal medicine here. She is plenty talented enough to handle both jobs [assistant dean and director of AACUP].

I’ve always seen myself as a teacher first. My role as associate dean is more of the same. My teaching commitment remains the same, although my clinical appointment has been cut back.

It’s important to stay in touch with students. That’s what we’re really here for.

Status of DVM curriculum revision...

Foreman: We are taking our time and doing it in a thoughtful way. The goal of curriculum revision is to better prepare our graduates for careers in clinical practice and for lifelong learning. We want to give our students the skills they need to succeed as new practitioners.

Both Dawn and I are ad hoc members of the faculty subcommittee working on the current proposal for revision. Dr. Mark Mitchell is the chair.

The proposal is innovative and heavily focused on integrating the basic, or preclinical, sciences with the clinical sciences. Because of the work faculty have done over the past year, this innovation is already happening informally. For example, Mark Kuhlenschmidt has asked me for strangles slides, so his lecture is not just about the bacteria itself, but about clinical manifestations.

Morin: A big thing for readers of the Vet Report to know about is the new for-credit primary care externship program. Every fourth-year student will have the opportunity to do one or two such externships, and for the most part these will be in Illinois at practices run by Illinois graduates.

We hope a lot of practitioners will register their practices for the externship program. The more opportunities available for students the better. [Editor’s note: See sidebar for details.]

### Jonathan Foreman

**Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs**

**Professor of Equine Medicine**

- BS, Biology, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.
- DVM, University of Georgia, Athens
- MS, Veterinary Science, Washington State University, Pullman
- Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

**Career highlights:** Has taught undergraduate, veterinary, and graduate courses at Illinois since 1985; invited to serve as attending veterinarian for the 1996 Olympic Summer Games; received 2003 Campus Award for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Teaching; received College research excellence awards in 1992 and 1998; active in the veterinary and lay equine communities; contributed to the post-graduate education of nearly 100 interns, residents, and visiting scholars, more than 200 scientific and lay publications; oversaw or participated in more than 40 research projects.

**Research interests:** Equine exercise physiology and respiratory disease
Another recent change is that fourth-year students can go to approved specialty practices to do cardiology and neurology rotations for credit.

**Goal of DVM curriculum revision...**

**Foreman:** Faculty agree that they want students to leave with a greater sense of satisfaction.

How do we do that? By making the curriculum more clinically relevant throughout, and more practical in the senior year through externships. We have to face the fact that the students we are admitting want to be practitioners.

It’s a very demanding, rigorous curriculum. Some students will always be frustrated. But we want our graduates to say “I got a hell of an education,” even if there are parts that are not obviously relevant to their career path.

**Morin:** Illinois is really lucky to have retained a broad clinical education that trains students in comparative medicine. Really lucky.

**Foreman:** It’s all just comparative medicine. Students who want to be small animal vets can learn a lot on the equine rotations. Don’t tune us out just because we work on really big dalmatians.

Surgery is surgery. Medicine is medicine. No matter the species, you are making clinical decisions.

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**Register Your Practice to Host Students**

Fourth-year veterinary students may now receive credit for completing a 2- or 4-week Primary Care Elective Rotation at a private veterinary practice. The goal is to increase students’ knowledge and skills pertaining to practice management, business practices, primary care, and preventive medicine.

Small animal, mixed, and large animal practices are all eligible, provided they have a substantial primary care component. Specialty practices are not eligible.

If you are interested in mentoring a student in this way, please register your practice on-line at www.VCRCIllinois.org. Follow the instructions from the “Post a Position” link.

Externship arrangements are the responsibility of the student and practitioner. Registering your practice allows veterinary students to choose your practice for a rotation but does not guarantee that you will be matched with a student. Likewise you have the option to decline to take a student.

Students must be able to accomplish a majority of defined learning objectives at your practice. You must provide opportunities for the student to meet the learning objectives, and assure that the student is adequately supervised.

For more information, see the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine Web site: http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vcm/.

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**Dawn Morin**

**Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs and Curriculum**

**Director, University of Illinois Agricultural Animal Care and Use Program**

**Associate Professor of Community Health and Preventive Medicine**

- BS, Animal Science, University of New Hampshire, Durham
- DVM, The Ohio State University, Columbus
- MS, Veterinary Clinical Medicine, University of Illinois
- Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

**Career highlights:** Came to Illinois in 1986; completed an internship and residency in food animal medicine and surgery; joined the faculty in 1991; served on numerous national organizations addressing bovine mastitis and spent six years on ACVIM Credentials Committee; received College research awards in 1992 and 1996; more than 180 scientific and lay publications and 30 research projects; supervised dozens of residents, interns, and graduate students.

**Research interests:** Bovine mastitis, well-being of agricultural animals used in teaching and research, ruminant medicine and camelid medicine.
Class Notes Go Digital

By Mike Vainisi

Like typewriters and film strips, will spiral notebooks and pencils be headed to the graveyard of educational tools?

Starting with the Class of 2011, the College of Veterinary Medicine is requiring all students to own laptop computers.

Dr. Jonathan Foreman, associate dean for academic and student affairs, says the policy will eventually make the College paperless, preparing students to work in paperless clinical environments and also eliminating the cost of photocopying class notes—an expense of $30,000 last year, according to Dr. Foreman.

“We want to train students to work with computers,” Dr. Foreman says. “Everybody has been to human hospitals where they check things in on a computer. Eventually, our clinic will go paperless. That’s where we are headed.”

Throughout the semester, an electronic notes representative from each class obtains lecture slides from professors. The representative then uploads the day’s lecture notes to a secure Web site that students can access. Students download the slides before class begins. With the entire presentation on their computers, students waste no time copying slides word-for-word into a notebook, and there is no photocopying involved.

“It’s a good system,” says Joshua Locher, a third-year student. “Professors don’t get bombarded with e-mails [for notes], and everyone can have their notes forever.”

Tablet Technology

Because of the new requirement, many are choosing the “Tablet PC,” a laptop that allows students to write directly on the computer screen.

First-year students follow an anatomy lecture on their laptops.
Hope Hollingsead, a first-year student, purchased her Tablet last year after learning about the technology during previous visits to campus.

“It sounded like a good idea,” Hollingsead says. “It’s something you can use all four years and will help especially when studying for boards.”

A Tablet PC looks like any other laptop computer, but can transform into a digital notepad. The screen’s special hinge allows it to be swiveled and collapsed over the keyboard. Students can then follow along in class, taking notes and drawing diagrams on their screen with a special stylus pen, which also operates the computer.

“I can’t imagine going back,” says Locher, a Tablet owner.

The technology has taken off at the College. Erin Lindblad, a fourth-year student who was one of the earliest students to use a Tablet, says 58 of the 108 students in her class now use Tablet PCs.

“In radiology, for example, you have a total advantage with the Tablet because you can have the image right on your screen,” Lindblad says. “The professor can also go online, find an image, send it out to us and we can download it right in class. It’s in color. You can zoom in and out.”

The technology was pioneered in the College four years ago by now-retired Dr. Jo Ann Eurell, professor of veterinary biosciences, who saw promise in the Tablet PC as a tool for veterinary medicine.

Benefits Outweigh Risks

A hard drive crash is the only fear of laptop owners. That’s why the College has emphasized the idea of backing up data to students. The College computing services office also offers Tablet PCs for rent, just in case students must send their own in for repair. Hollingsead keeps a 2 gigabyte jump drive in her computer as a back up.

“They told us laptops are more likely to crash, but this [jump drive] has been able to back up everything so far and it was not expensive,” Hollingsead says.

Lindblad thinks the risk of a hard drive crash pales in comparison to the ease and convenience of the Tablet PC.

“You are just as likely to lose a notebook,” she says.

Facts about the Class of 2011

Total Class Size: 118
Gender: 22 males; 96 females
Residency: 97 Illinois residents; 21 non-residents (from 12 states—including California, Connecticut, Idaho, New Jersey, New York, and Virginia—and Korea)
Age Range: 20 to 44; 77 percent between 22 and 25 years old
Degrees Earned: BS, BA, MS, MBA, PhD
Selected Undergraduate Institutions:
  - Illinois schools: Augustana College, Eastern Illinois University, Illinois State University, Millikin University, Southern Illinois University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (37 students)
  - Big Ten schools: Indiana University, Michigan State University, Northwestern University, Ohio State University, Purdue University, University of Iowa, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin
  - Others: Brigham Young University, Cornell University, New York University, University of Arizona, University of California, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of New Hampshire, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee

Megan Fleming annotates a slide on her Tablet PC.
Infectious Disease Researcher Positioned to Inform Global Policy

By Mike Vainisi

International security may seem an unlikely topic at a veterinary college, but a new faculty member bridges these disparate fields.

“In general there is a lack of public awareness of the effect of infectious diseases on world affairs,” says Dr. William Laegreid, who travels widely to study high-consequence diseases of livestock, such as foot-and-mouth disease, African swine fever, and African horsesickness.

“Naturally occurring disease has trade implications and security implications that are global in nature,” he says.

With a joint appointment in the College’s Department of Pathobiology and in the University’s Program in Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security (ACDIS), Dr. Laegreid will conduct research into the effect of host and virus genomic variation on disease expression and will also work to translate research findings into public policy.

High Stature

Dr. Laegreid comes to Illinois after eight years as a research leader in animal health at the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Neb. He had previously served as a research leader in molecular pathology at the USDA’s Plum Island Animal Disease Center in Greenport, N.Y.

“Adding Will Laegreid [to ACDIS] is particularly exciting as he has a very high stature in his field,” says Jeremiah Sullivan, professor of physics, who has been an active member of ACDIS for over 25 years and served as its director for eight years. “When someone has that stature, they have a much greater impact talking to policy makers.”

Founded in 1978, ACDIS researches global security policy and advises governmental and non-governmental organizations on international security issues. With the end of the Cold War and the rise of new threats to international security, ACDIS has expanded its research focus to such areas as biosecurity and bioterrorism.

“People tend to look at emerging disease and bioterrorism as different entities,” Dr. Laegreid says. “In either case, we have a disease we have to deal with. It’s the same basic rules.”

Infrastructure Needed

The nation’s ability to deal with new disease risks needs improvement, according to Dr. Laegreid. When West Nile virus broke in North America in 1999, for example, it took the scientific community by surprise. Before that outbreak, which affected primarily people, horses, and birds, there had been “no way to get funding to research a rare disease found in Africa and the Middle East,” notes Dr. Laegreid.

The first case of “mad cow” disease in the United States, discovered in Washington state in December 2003, illustrates the potential for economically devastating effects of disease. The market price of live cattle plummeted at a rate of $10 million a day. The decline was finally reversed after researchers determined that the infected cattle originated in Canada.
People tend to look at emerging disease and bioterrorism as different entities,” Dr. Laegreid says. “In either case, we have a disease we have to deal with. It’s the same basic rules.”

Regardless, the economic effects linger. Beef exports are at half of their level before the scare. While a variety of factors have contributed to the decline in beef exports, Dr. Laegreid believes the underlying issue is disease.

The national pet food recall last April provides another example of the susceptibility of the economy and public health to international health threats.

“Melamine was found to be an extender used in China, and it induced disease in U.S. pets,” Dr. Laegreid says. “We were fortunate to have practitioners notice similar cases of a rare condition, renal disease, and they were able to identify the cause. But you’re not always going to be that fortunate.

“What we need is a veterinary infrastructure that allows us to effectively identify new threats and respond,” he says.

Veterinary Connection

Improving readiness for situations like those cited by Dr. Laegreid will take a better-equipped veterinary work force.

“Historically, vet schools have turned out practitioners who are technically well trained, which has served us well. But the world is more complex,” Dr. Laegreid says.

He thinks preparing students to be lifelong learners is the best way to prepare them for handling emerging diseases.

“It’s unlikely we could train a student to have prior knowledge of every possible disease,” he says. “So we have to train them to recognize problems as they arise.”

Dr. Laegreid says he is glad to have made the move to a veterinary college.

“I really like the opportunity to do some teaching and interact with students,” Dr. Laegreid says. “Lots of energy is derived from being around students.”
Research Farm Program Consolidated in Urbana

In order to best steward available resources, the College of Veterinary Medicine this summer closed its operation in the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center, located near Simpson, Ill. Animals were sold, facilities and equipment were transferred to other units, and positions were transferred to the College’s Veterinary Research Farm in Urbana, effective in July.

The decision to close our Dixon Springs farm came late last year, shortly after the move was recommended by an external task force created by the University of Illinois Provost to evaluate field research and education centers of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

“We recognized that it was not fiscally responsible for both our College and ACES to maintain separate units at Dixon Springs,” says Dr. Edwin Hahn, associate dean for research. “In addition, our College was maintaining research farms both there and in Urbana. We are focusing our resources to expand our animal research facilities in Urbana to address long-term needs of students, faculty, and other stakeholders.”

Renovations to the facilities in Urbana will enhance teaching capabilities in swine, bovine, and equine studies. Veterinary students will also have the opportunity to gain food animal experience at Dixon Springs with the beef herd that the College of ACES continues to operate and at other locations throughout Illinois through the primary care externship program.

Dr. Hahn also notes that the change creates new opportunities for research in large animal infectious disease and biomedical research close to the College.

Fond Farewell

Dr. Uriel Kitron, professor of pathobiology, has taken a position as chair of the Department of Environmental Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., with joint appointments in the Rollins School of Public Health and the Program in Biology, Ecology and Evolution.

During his 20 years at the College, Dr. Kitron helped develop a research and teaching focus on the eco-epidemiology of infectious diseases. His research efforts, with funding from agencies including the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ranged from a large-scale collaborative study of Lyme disease and ticks in the Midwest to a study of the urban ecology of West Nile virus in Chicago and international studies of malaria and schistosomiasis in Kenya and of Chagas disease in Argentina.

His course “Epidemiology and the Media” helped engage veterinary students in examining how scientific information is conveyed to the general public.

Dr. Kitron also served as co-director of the College’s Center for Zoonoses Research.

We wish him well in his new position.

Veterinary College, Faculty Member Garner Humane Society Awards

On October 12, the Champaign County Humane Society honored the College of Veterinary Medicine with the Organization of the Year award in appreciation of “the many faculty, staff, and students who share their time, resources and talents in partnership with the Champaign County Humane Society to ensure quality veterinary care for all animals.”

Dr. Sandra Manfra Maretta, professor of veterinary clinical medicine, was the recipient of the Humanitarian of the Year award “in recognition of her outstanding leadership as an educator and an advocate for partnerships between the Champaign County Humane Society and the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine and for her dedication to ensuring quality veterinary care for all animals.”

New EVP Draws 40 ‘Top-Shelf’ Swine Vets

A new Executive Veterinary Program in Swine Health Management kicked off on October 18 with a module on industry trends and information technology.

Forty outstanding veterinarians will spend two days in Urbana every other month until April 2009. Between class meetings participants will complete assigned work, apply the information at their work place, and communicate regularly with fellow students and instructors.

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New ER Head Brings Changes

With the arrival of Dr. Maureen McMichael to lead the emergency and clinical care program, communication with referring veterinarians and clients will be enhanced. Case summaries are now faxed to referring veterinarians within 24 hours of patient admission, and a direct phone line will soon be added to the ER service. Dr. McMichael expects to add point-of-care testing in the ER shortly. An introduction to Dr. McMichael appears on page 13.

Imaging Makes Updates

In March the Veterinary Teaching Hospital acquired a Vet-MR Grande and became the only veterinary facility in Illinois and one of only a few other veterinary schools to offer magnetic resonance imaging of the upper neck, brain, and lower extremities of horses and other large animals. The new MRI features a stronger magnet that only recently came into use in human hospitals.

Since then, the imaging section has added a number of other technological advances, according to Susan Hartman, senior imaging specialist.

As part of an effort to improve efficiency by adopting a “filmless and paperless” approach to case management, radiology is now completely digital. Instead of exposing images on film, images are taken and uploaded to a computer monitor in three seconds.

Radiologists use a voice-recognition program to capture reports and make digital transcriptions for on-the-spot editing.

The new PACS (Picture Archival and Communication System) makes images accessible from any computer in the College, provided the viewer has an authorized username and password. Clinicians can also view patient data from home. PACS will continue to be used to provide hospital clients with information regarding their animal’s health.

As technology advances veterinary care, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital strives to stay at the leading edge.

Says Hartman: “We want to offer state-of-the-art examinations for patients while providing the best possible training for our students.”

Elbow Dysplasia Trial Announced

Dr. Dominique Griffon, veterinary clinical medicine, is seeking large breed dogs under 4 years of age that have been diagnosed with disease of the medial aspect of the elbow for a study that seeks to better understand the development of elbow dysplasia and treatment options. Dogs enrolled in the study will be treated with traditional surgical methods; after treatment, the dog must return for a six-week follow-up appointment and the owner must complete a 12-week progress report.

For a complete description of this and other current clinical trials at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, go to www.vetmed.illinois.edu/vth/ and choose “Clinical Trials.”

Executive Veterinary Program Participants

Dr. Grant Allison (ISU ‘84)
Dr. Keith Bretey (ISU ‘94)
Dr. Kristin Clements (IL ‘01)
Dr. Joseph Connor (IL ‘76)
Dr. Todd Distad (MIN ‘01)
Dr. Tara S. Donovan (KSU ‘98)
Dr. William DuBois (OKL ‘96)
Dr. Noel K. Garbes (ISU ‘91)
Dr. Thomas Gillespie (PUR ‘79)
Dr. Jennifer L. Greiner (ISU ‘03)
Dr. Jeffrey W. Harker (PUR ‘94)
Dr. Peggy Anne Hawkins (ISU ‘91)
Dr. Alan T. Hertz (ISU ‘05)
Dr. Derald J. Holtkamp (ISU ‘97)
Dr. Marlin J. Hoogland (ISU ‘05)
Dr. Erin E. Johnson (IL ‘04)
Dr. Randy G. Jones (NCSU ‘85)
Dr. Locke A. Karrier (MS ‘99)
Dr. Lynn Keller (MO ‘78)
Dr. Michael Lemmon (PUR ‘75)
Dr. Jason Miller (KSU ‘98)
Dr. Bill Minton (OSU ‘85)
Dr. Pablo Moreno (UBAC ‘85)
Dr. Jeff O’Kones (ISU ‘84)
Dr. Daryl G. Olsen (ISU ‘82)
Dr. Thomas M. Painter (IL ‘81)
Dr. Brian J. Payne (IL ‘05)
Dr. Michael Pierdon (UP ‘05)
Dr. Doug Powers (PUR ‘97)
Dr. Sarah Probst Miller (IL ‘01)
Dr. Craig J. Rowles (ISU ‘82)
Dr. Alan B. Scheidt (PUR ‘76)
Dr. Cameron S. Schmitt (ISU ‘02)
Dr. Kent J. Schwartz (ISU ‘78)
Dr. Harry O. Snelson (NCSU ‘90)
Dr. Matthew B. Turner (NCSU ‘00)
Dr. John T. Waddell (IL ‘81)
Dr. Douglas L. Weiss (ISU ‘71)
Dr. Todd E. Williams (ISU ‘02)
Dr. Paul E. Yeske (ISU ‘85)
Heritage Collection a Labor of Love for Many

The October 5 dedication of the Dr. Walter E. Zuschlag/ISVMA Veterinary Heritage Collection and Information Commons was the culmination of the contributions and hard work of many people.

Before the ribbon-cutting, Dean Herb Whiteley spoke of the coming generations of students who would gain an understanding of their profession’s history in the room—and go on to make their own contributions to the profession. Dr. Linda Katehi, provost of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, noted the value of the relationship between the state veterinary association and the University. Dr. Craig Stevenson, president of the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association, said it was fitting that the dedication occurred during the 125th anniversary of the ISVMA. Eric Zuschlag, one of the six Zuschlag children, offered heartfelt remembrances of his father. All of the children attended the ceremony with their families.

Dr. Walter E. Zuschlag (IL DVM ’54) was an avid collector of artifacts relating to veterinary history. After his death in 2006, his widow, Maureen, donated his collection and made a large gift to create a room to display historical material. Her gift also created an endowment to provide ongoing support for the collection.

Combining a historical collection with an information commons, the room is a place where veterinary students congregate around the clock surrounded by artifacts and documents that bring to life the everyday efforts and extraordinary achievements of Illinois veterinary practitioners, educators, and researchers. The room features state-of-the-art computer connectivity and spaces for individual and group study.

It is located on the second floor of the Veterinary Medicine Basic Sciences Building, near the Office of Academic and Student Affairs.

Highlights of the 34 sponsored cabinets in the Zuschlag collection include antique microscopes, copies of America’s earliest veterinary texts, syringes dating to the Civil War era, and implements and tools used for a variety of veterinary purposes.

The members of the ISVMA Museum and History Committee who selected objects for display were Dr. Wayne Brown, Dr. Gary Brummet, Diane Fagen, Dr. Gene Gambrel, Dr. Shannon Greeley, Dr. Richard Hull, Dr. Cecil Ingmire, Dr. Donna Juhl, and Mr. Peter Weber. David Vyverberg, Karen Edwards, and Kerry Helms from the College’s Design Group created the architectural and graphic design for the room.

Students quickly fell in love with the new study space.

Thank you, donors to the Dr. Walter E. Zuschlag/ISVMA Veterinary Heritage Collection and Information Commons!

Dr. William L. and Mrs. Elise J. Augustine
Dr. Michael L. and Dr. Mark C. Biehl
Dr. Wesley G. and Mrs. Sheila D. Bienitz
Dr. Wayne W. and Mrs. Doris B. Brown
Dr. J.B. Bruederle and Ms. Elizabeth A. McCarthy
Drs. Gary O. Brummet and Donna L. Juhl
Chicago Veterinary Medical Association
Class of 1956
Dr. Elizabeth Clyde-Druin
Dr. Walter W. Dalttsch, Jr.
Dr. John M. and Mrs. Vicki Erhardt
Mr. Alan and Mrs. Nancy Gambrel
Dr. Loren E. and Mrs. Anna Bell Gambrel
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Dr. Ronald E. and Mrs. Terry L. Gill
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Greater Rockford Veterinary Medical Association
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Dr. Cecil W. and Mrs. Mary A. Ingmire
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Mrs. Julia E. McCutchan
Dr. William J. and Mrs. Alicia McEniry
Dr. Edward V. McGinnis
Dr. James H. and Mrs. Elaine F. Nadler
Family of W.G. and Mrs. Mary Ruth Raudabaugh
Dr. Sheldon B. and Mrs. Paulette Rubin
Dr. Erwin Small
Southern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association
Dr. Craig A. and Mrs. Linda S. Stevenson
Dr. Deborah L. Wagner
Dr. Herb and Mrs. Yvette Whiteley
Mr. Harold W. and Mrs. Loretta Zoellick
Mrs. Maureen P. Zuschlag
By Tim DeBord

When selecting a new research project, Dr. Indrani Bagchi looks for potential to reveal new information—and excitement.

“What appeals most is exciting,” she says. “An experiment usually doesn’t work, but the single time it does work it makes your day and makes up for all the frustration and unhappiness.”

Dr. Bagchi, a professor of veterinary biosciences, chairs the physiology division and teaches reproductive physiology in the veterinary degree program. Her main focus is on research, and she received the Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Research Excellence Award in 2004.

Her lab studies the molecular basis of steroid hormone action in the female reproductive tract during embryonic implantation, and all the factors that surround the implantation process. Her lab currently has a joint grant from the National Institutes of Health to investigate the role and function of contraceptives, a project that Dr. Bagchi believes will yield valuable clinical applications.

“The ultimate goal is clinical application,” Dr. Bagchi says. “Especially enhancing fertility and generating new and improved contraceptives.”

Dr. Bagchi did her undergraduate work and earned her master’s at the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi, one of the leading academic institutions in India. She completed a degree in chemistry as an undergrad, and says she always intended to make a career of biomedical research.

After moving to the United States, Dr. Bagchi pursued her doctorate in biochemistry at the University of Nebraska. She grew interested in veterinary medicine after animal models were used to complement her biochemistry research.

Dr. Bagchi earned a postdoctoral degree from Baylor University, and moved to Illinois in 2001. She says she was drawn by the College’s superb reputation and notable faculty in reproductive biology.

Outside the College, Dr. Bagchi keeps busy with her husband, a professor in molecular and integrative physiology at Illinois, and two kids.

By Tim DeBord

When selecting a new research project, Dr. Indrani Bagchi looks for potential to reveal new information—and excitement.

“What appeals most is exciting,” she says. “An experiment usually doesn’t work, but the single time it does work it makes your day and makes up for all the frustration and unhappiness.”

Dr. Bagchi, a professor of veterinary biosciences, chairs the physiology division and teaches reproductive physiology in the veterinary degree program. Her main focus is on research, and she received the Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Research Excellence Award in 2004.

Her lab studies the molecular basis of steroid hormone action in the female reproductive tract during embryonic implantation, and all the factors that surround the implantation process. Her lab currently has a joint grant from the National Institutes of Health to investigate the role and function of contraceptives, a project that Dr. Bagchi believes will yield valuable clinical applications.

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Oskee Bow Wow 2007, continued from back cover

vices, oncology ward, and diagnostic imaging suites, with the state’s only MRI that can image horses; an opportunity to meet the Wildlife Medical Clinic’s resident birds of prey; and a social hour featuring wine and hors d’oeuvres donated by local establishments and live music.

Since 1997 more than 2,000 grieving pet lovers have called the CARE Pet Loss Helpline for support as they coped with the death of their cherished companion animal. Hundreds of veterinary students have deepened their appreciation for the human-animal bond and strengthened their compassion and client relations skills through involvement in the Helpline and the associated elective course.


Additional support came from Atlanta Bread Co., Butler Funeral Homes & CREMA-

More photos of the event are online at the Advancement page: www.vetmed.illinois.edu/advancement/.

Dr. Julia Brannan, CARE Helpline founder, shared the spotlight with other three former student directors, Dr. Rebecca Buraglio, Dr. Brianne McLaughlin, and Erica Jewell.

Gary O’Brien, local radio personality and emcee, got to know Grizzle, a coatimundi, and owner Monica Montgomery.
R. Avery Bennett  
**Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine**  
- BS, Western Michigan University, 1973  
- DVM, Michigan State University, 1983  
- MS, Colorado State University, 1987  
- Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons  

**Professional interests:** Surgery of exotic animals, minimally invasive surgery, laparoscopic and thorascopic surgery, oncologic surgery, and microsurgery.  

Dr. Bennett worked as a math instructor and Peace Corps volunteer before entering veterinary school. After finishing his DVM he completed a small animal surgery residency and master’s degree in clinical sciences at Colorado State University. In 1988 he became a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons while in private practice at the Santa Anita Small Animal Hospital in Monrovia, Calif. Dr. Bennett co-founded the Veterinary Medical and Surgical Group in Ventura, Calif., served as chief veterinarian and surgeon at the San Francisco Zoo, and served as associate professor at the University of Florida and University of Pennsylvania.

Carrie Breaux  
**Assistant Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine**  
- DVM, University of Illinois, 2001  
- MA, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, 2006  
- Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology  

**Professional interests:** Diseases of the retina, ocular pathology, and equine ophthalmology.  

Dr. Breaux received her veterinary medicine degree from the University of Illinois and completed an internship in equine medicine and surgery at Littleton Large Animal Clinic in Colorado and an ophthalmology internship at Eye Specialists for Animals in Colorado. She then completed an ophthalmology residency and earned her master’s degree at Western College of Veterinary Medicine. She is one of a small number of veterinary ophthalmologists trained to perform retinal reattachment surgery.

Olivier Dossin  
**Assistant Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine**  
- DVM, Veterinary School of Toulouse, France, 1987  
- MS, Paris VII University, Faculté de Medecine Bichat, France, 1991  
- PhD in Pharmacology, Toulouse III University, France, 1999  
- Diplomate, European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine  

**Professional interests:** Small animal gastroenterology including liver and pancreatic diseases with particular interest in canine inflammatory bowel disease diagnosis and management, helicobacter infection and its role in gastritis in dogs, and liver enzyme pharmacokinetics.  

Dr. Dossin served as a faculty member in the Veterinary School of Toulouse in the south of France where he focused mostly on clinical work and teaching. His teaching included a great deal of continuing education. His interaction with private practitioners raised interesting research questions. Dr. Dossin looks forward to engaging with students, interns, and residents. His long range goals include the development of a program in applied canine and feline gastrointestinal research. He was drawn to Illinois because of the potential research interactions that could be developed both within the College and across the campus.

Wanda Gordon-Evans  
**Assistant Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine**  
- DVM, University of Missouri, Columbia, 2000  
- PhD, Iowa State University, Ames, 2007  
- Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons  

**Professional interests:** Joint resurfacing technology; clinical outcome measurement; use of mesenchymal stem cells in neurologic and orthopedic disease, and the treatment and pathophysiology of osteoarthritis; arthroscopy, management of osteoarthritis, canine rehabilitation, and the treatment of intervertebral disk disease.  

Dr. Gordon-Evans completed a small animal internship at Kansas State University before pursuing an orthopedic research fellowship and small animal surgery residency at Iowa State University, where she learned the total elbow replacement procedure. Her doctoral studies focused on tissue engineering and clinical outcome measures of osteoarthritis. She looks forward to providing state-of-the-art care for patients and clients. She hopes to provide students and residents with a fun and interactive learning environment and opportunities in both clinical and laboratory research.

Jason Herrick  
**Assistant Professor, Veterinary Biosciences**  
- BS, Michigan State University, 1996  
- MS, Ohio State University, 1998  
- PhD, Purdue University, 2003  

**Research interests:** The development of assisted reproductive technologies and application of those techniques to conservation of endangered species; the interaction between the environment and the development of embryos during the preimplantation period; formulation of a culture medium for domestic cat embryos and utilization of this medium to develop in vitro fertilization procedures for endangered small cat species, specifically the black-footed and sand cat.  

Dr. Herrick held a post-doctoral position at the Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, where he worked with embryo culture media. He hopes to continue research on feline embryos and his work with black-footed cats and sand cats. Much of his current research on embryos has concerned their metabolic activity, a good indicator of embryo health which provides important information on what the embryo needs in culture to survive. He also plans to do more comparative research with several species to see how maternal diet affects the metabolism of the embryo.

Laura Kohrt  
**Clinical Assistant Professor, Pathobiology, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory**  
- DVM, University of Illinois, 1996  
- MS, University of Illinois, 1999  

**Research interests:** Ophthalmic and avian pathology.  

After completing her degrees, Dr. Kohrt conducted research into the mechanisms of pathogenesis of *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium at the University of Minnesota. She has returned to Illinois as an anatomic pathologist and looks forward to enhancing and expanding the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory’s services.
Research Projects Funded Between April 1 and September 30, 2007

Byron C. $24,282, USDA/Animal Health & Disease, Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Glucosamine on Equine Articular Cells

Campbell K. $5,988, IDEXX Laboratories, Diagnostic Usefulness of IDEXX Serum in Dogs with Suspected Hypothyroidism

Dikanov S. $261,462, National Institutes of Health, Structure of Reaction Intermediates in the bc1 Complex

Dirikolu L. $16,899, Illinois Department of Agriculture, Pharmacokinetics of Toltrazuril Sulfone in Cattle: A Potential Medication for N. caninum Infection

Dirikolu L. $8,000, USDA/Animal Health & Disease, Pharmacokinetics of Toltrazuril Sulfone in Cattle: A Potential Medication for N. caninum Infection

Fan T. $32,157, Morris Animal Foundation, Evaluation of the mTOR Inhibitor Rapamycin in Dogs with Osteosarcoma

Flaws J. $490,580, NIH, Risk Factors for Hot Flashes in Mid-life Women

Garrett L. $25,000, Cummings (Nathan) Foundation, Clinical Trial Evaluating Piroxicam in the Treatment of Naturally Occurring Osteosarcoma

Gillespie T. $16,600, Lincoln Park Zoo, Examination of Chimpanzee Gastro-intestinal Parasites: A Component of the Gombe Ecosystem Health Project

Goldberg T. $22,268, USDA/Hatch, Identification of Critical Epitopes for an Effective Polysaccharide Vaccine against PRRS Virus

Griffon D. $20,000, USDA/Animal Health & Disease, Hyaluronic Acid and Chondrogenic Differentiation of Mesenchymal Cells in Chitosan Sponges

Hess R. $93,992, NIH, Novel Signaling Molecules in Wolffian Duct Development and Differentiation

Hofmann M. $124,464, NIH, CDA: Isolation and Characterization Testis Stem Cells; Influence of GDNF

Hofmann M. $295,832, NIH, Isolation and Characterization Testis Stem Cells; Influence of GDNF

Kakoma I. $20,000, National Science Foundation, Planning Visit to Rwanda

Lau G. $7,135, Titan Pharmaceuticals Inc., The Efficacy of Galium Maltolate Against Pseudomonas aeruginosa Mediated Acute Pneumonia Infection in Mouse Models of Cystic Fibrosis


Maddock C. $23,790, USDA/Hatch, Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Glucosamine on Equine Articular Cells

McAllister M. $35,400, Illinois Department of Agriculture, Improving the Safety of Pork: Preliminary Steps to Reduce Contamination of Pig Farms with Toxoplasma, a Common Parasite Transmitted from Pork to People

McAllister M. $5,990, USDA/Hatch, Preserving a Tenuous Resource: Maintenance of a Promising Vaccine Strain of Toxoplasma gondii

Stewart A. $47,736, American Quarter Horse Association, The Use of Tendon Derived Progenitor Cells to Promote Tendon Healing in Horses

Stewart A. $23,266, USDA/Animal Health & Disease, Co-treatment with Hylartin-V and Betamethasone on Inflamed Chondrocytes

Stewart M. $250,000, Illinois Regenerative Medicine Institute, Restoring Mesenchymal Cell Plasticity for Musculoskeletal Tissue Regeneration

Stewart M. $22,881, USDA/Animal Health & Disease, Impact of TERT Expression on Equine Synovial Fluid Cell Proliferation and Chondrogenesis

Valli V. $42,128, American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, A Collaborative Study by Veterinary Oncologists, Pathologists and Diagnostic Laboratories to Enhance the Detection, Diagnosis and Treatment of Canine Lymphoma

Zuckermann F. $59,539, Pfizer Animal Health, Evaluation of Two Compounds for Their Ability to Stimulate a Cytokine Response in Porcine Mononuclear Cells

Zuckermann F. $341,045, USDA, In Vivo Analysis of PRRS Virus Immunopathogenesis

Zuckermann F. $25,048, USDA/Hatch, Immunopathogenesis of PRRS Virus

William Laegreid
Professor, Pathobiology
BS, Washington State University, 1980
MS, Washington State University, 1984
DVM, Washington State University, 1985
PhD, Washington State University, 1988

Research interests: The pathogenesis and control of animal diseases; especially high-consequence infections of livestock; understanding how genomic variations of hosts and pathogens interact to influence the expression of disease at the population level.

Dr. Laegreid led a research group of the Agricultural Research Service working on zoonotic foodborne pathogens, and genomics of livestock disease, including E. coli O157:H7 and bovine spongiform encephalopathy. Previously he worked at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center initiating pathogenesis and vaccine research primarily on arthropod-borne transboundary diseases such as African horsesickness and Venezuelan equine encephalitis, as well as working with other exotic diseases such as African swine fever and foot-and-mouth disease.

He will teach in the professional and graduate curriculum and further develop existing international research projects.

Maureen McMichael
Associate Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine
BS, Columbia University, 1991
DVM, Cornell University, 1995
Diplomate, American College of Emergency and Critical Care

Professional interests: Oxidative stress, reperfusion injury, probiotics.

Dr. McMichael completed an internship in private practice and a residency at Tufts Veterinary School. While on faculty at Texas A&M she established their first program in veterinary emergency and critical care medicine, which eventually led to a new emergency and critical care service. She also started a formal collaboration with local veterinarians to facilitate night and weekend veterinary emergency service to the local community.

Dr. McMichael plans to enhance emergency and critical care at Illinois with point of care testing in the ER, an increase in technical staffing, and continuing education on emergency and critical care. She will teach small animal emergency and critical care and conduct research in oxidative stress in animals and humans.

Professional research projects.

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Dr. Kneller Retires After 32 Years of Giving His All

By Sarah Dowling

Dr. Stephen Kneller’s interest in radiology began at Purdue’s School of Veterinary Medicine while he was a veterinary student, working for three years in the radiology department before graduating in 1968.

However, once Dr. Kneller graduated he decided to return to his roots and go into practice as a large animal veterinarian.

“I was originally from a farming background, dealing with hogs and cattle all my life, and it just made sense to do what I had originally gone to vet school to do,” says Dr. Kneller.

A twist of fate brought Dr. Kneller back to the world of radiology. While discussing radiographs of a client’s horse with his former employer at Purdue, Dr. Kneller was urged to look into a radiology training position open at the University of Georgia.

After only six months in practice Dr. Kneller decided to return to academia and delve into the field of veterinary radiology. Upon the completion of his training he continued on at the University of Georgia as an assistant professor instructing courses on radiology and anatomy.

Since joining the faculty at Illinois as associate professor and chief of the radiology section in 1975, Dr. Kneller has experienced numerous changes and advances in the field of veterinary imaging, from the introduction of ultrasound to veterinary medicine in the 1980s, to the development of digital radiology in more recent years.

Over the past 32 years Dr. Kneller has devoted the majority of his time to training veterinary students, interns, and residents. What initially triggered his interest in radiology and what has kept him involved is the thrill of discovery and the ability to pass his passion on to his students.

“My biggest joy is when I can finally see the light bulb come on in the students’ heads as they fit in that last piece of the puzzle,” says Dr. Kneller.

Dr. Kneller feels that passing his knowledge and expertise on to his future colleagues is his greatest career accomplishment. “I have had the honor of working with and training a lot of talented people here,” he says.

Quoting his own mentor, Dr. Bob Lewis, Dr. Kneller states: “If my residents do not leave the College better radiologists than I am, then I haven’t done my job correctly!”

Those who have worked with Dr. Kneller know that he teaches and lives by one of his favorite sayings, “All it takes is all you’ve got.”

Dr. Kneller plans to remain active in the radiology community after his retirement. However, he also looks forward to spending time with his family, traveling the world with his wife, and having more time to enjoy woodworking and gardening.

Dr. Sandeep Akare, fellow in anatomical pathology, presented a case report on fumonisin-induced pulmonary edema in swine at a meeting in conjunction with the 2007 Society of Toxicologic Pathology in Puerto Rico in June.

Dr. Jim Brendemuehl, veterinary clinical medicine, presented an abstract at a meeting of the Society for Theriogenology and spoke at the California Veterinary Medical Association’s annual meeting and at a horseman’s clinic in Wisconsin.

Dr. Larry Firkins, pathobiology, spoke around the world in the past year, including in Brazil, China, Colombia, Mexico, the Philippines, and Venezuela. He was also appointed to the Provost Institutional Entrepreneurship @ Illinois Ad-hoc Committee, where he will explore ways to continue supporting and encouraging entrepreneurship at the University of Illinois.

Dr. Jodi Flaws, veterinary biosciences, has been asked by Provost Linda Katehi to serve on a four-member team to plan a Division of Biomedical Sciences on the University’s Urbana campus. Such an infrastructure would help increase visibility, develop external partnerships, and lead initiatives related to translational research activities.

Dr. Thomas Gillespie, pathobiology, was selected to advise the Defense Sciences Research Council on potential linkages between parasitic infections and behavior, culture, and violence. He was invited by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Pox Unit to present his lab’s monkeypox findings at the International Conference on Emerging Zoonoses, held in Cyprus in November. He also presented a workshop on primate disease for EUPRIM-Net, a network of eight European primate centers, and gave a seminar at the Max Planck Institute in Leipzig, Germany.

Derek Meyer, an undergraduate researcher in Dr. Gillespie’s lab, has received a National Geographic Young Explorer’s Grant of $4,500.
Dr. Thomas Graves, veterinary clinical medicine, was appointed to replace Dr. Dawn Morin as assistant head for curriculum and instruction in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine. This position provides leadership for ongoing curriculum review and the day-to-day administration and coordination of instructional activities for the department's portion of the veterinary curriculum.

Dr. Dominique Griffon, veterinary clinical medicine, has been invited to lecture at a meeting of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons on simultaneous gait kinetics and kinematics, a novel approach to study dogs' gait mechanics which she is using to determine predisposition to cruciate ligament disease in Labrador retrievers.

Dr. Wanda Haschek-Hock, pathobiology, received the 2007 Society of Toxicologic Pathology Achievement Award at its annual meeting in June. The award recognizes Dr. Haschek-Hock's numerous accomplishments in teaching, research, advanced training, and regulatory policy. She was acknowledged as a tireless advocate for the specialty. Dr. Haschek-Hock was a councilor on the STP executive committee from 1992 to 1996, acting as chair from 1994 to 1995, and she served as secretary/treasurer from 2002 to 2005.

Dr. Katie Heinz-Taheny, pathobiology, in September completed all four parts of the board examination administered by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists, and is now a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists. She has taken a position with Eli Lilly and Co. headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind. Her studies were supported by an Eli Lilly Fellowship in Toxicologic Pathology.

Dr. Walter Hoffmann, interim director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, was presented with the 2007 Honorary Member Award by Dr. Mary Anna Thrall, president of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists, at that organization's 58th annual meeting in Savannah, Ga. Honorary membership recognizes a person who has contributed in an extraordinary manner to the advancement of veterinary pathology.

Dr. Ibulaimu Kakoma, pathobiology, chaired the international scientific planning committee for the International Research Conference on Biodiversity and the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, held July 23 to 25.

It was the first conference of its kind to be sponsored by the government of Rwanda, and Rwandan President Paul Kagame gave an opening address. More than 300 attended, including several from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The National Science Foundation provided a $20,000 grant.

Conference themes included Conservation Biology, Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, Ecosystem Health, and Economics, Tourism, Conservation and Communities.

Proceedings will be edited and published by three from Illinois: Dr. Kakoma; Dr. Osee Sanogo, Illinois Natural History Survey; and Richard Warner, UI Extension.

Dr. Allan Paul, pathobiology and associate dean for public engagement, presented at the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting and the 12th Annual Bi-State Infectious Disease Conference in St. Louis, Mo., in October. He was also named guest editor for the Journal of Veterinary Parasitology.

Drs. Ricardo Ochoa, STP president-elect (left), and Jerry Long, STP president, pose with Dr. Haschek-Hock.

Dr. Kakoma confers with Dr. Alecia Lilly, a scientist with the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International.

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continued on page 16
Dr. Fred Troutt, veterinary clinical medicine, will serve as a nonvoting consultant to the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association. In July he completed a six-year term on the council. In his final two years he had served as vicechair and chair of the council.

At the request of the current chair, Dr. Shannon McGee, and with the approval of the AVMA executive board, Dr. Troutt will participate in council meetings through the end of 2008. The measure was taken in part to ensure continuity and institutional memory of the council during a period when a large percentage of the council’s 20 members have two years’ experience or less and the AVMA staff consultant to the council, Dr. Don Simmons, has retired.

“The Council on Education truly is a remarkable group of people who work very hard and are dedicated to maintaining the quality of the educational process,” he says, pointing out that accreditation site visits to the 41 institutions worldwide that are accredited by the AVMA COE represent only one aspect of the council’s work.

“Issues came up daily,” he says, of his tenure as council chair.

During Dr. Troutt’s term of service the COE added a new standard for accreditation relating to Outcomes Assessment to ensure that data on the performance of graduates are collected and used to improve the educational process.

“It has been an extraordinarily worthwhile professional endeavor,” says Dr. Troutt. “To feel that you’ve facilitated necessary professional veterinary education is really a very rewarding experience.”

Dr. V.E. “Ted” Valli, pathobiology, in November hosted four European pathologists (from left, Dr. Timothy Scase, University of Cambridge, U.K.; Dr. Paola Roccabianca, University of Milan, Italy; Dr. Florian Colbatzky, Boehringer Ingelheim, Biberach, Germany; and Dr. Harold Tvedten, Vange, Sweden) to complete an extensive review of lymphoma slides with the goal of establishing international standards for cancer diagnoses. Third-year Illinois veterinary student Amanda Corbisiero, standing, helped facilitate the visit.

Dr. Dick Wallace, veterinary clinical medicine, in July attended the executive board meeting of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners in Washington, D.C., and in September attended the annual AABP conference as the organization’s vice president. He is now the AABP’s president-elect and will be the program committee chairman for its 2008 conference. In addition, he attended the National FFA conference to help recruit young people into food supply veterinary medical fields and is planning the annual Area Dairy Days, scheduled for the first three weeks in January.

Dr. Brent Walling, holder of the Merck Pathology Fellowship in pathobiology, received a travel fellowship to attend the 6th Annual Workshop on the Pathology of Mouse Models for Human Disease, held at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine.

2007 College Awards

Faculty, staff, and graduate students at the College were honored for service excellence and length of service in a ceremony held September 13. The awards and winners were:

- Dr. Larry Firkins, pathobiology and assistant dean for public engagement, received the Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger All-Around Excellence Award in recognition of a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in the areas of teaching, research, and service.

- Dr. Joan Jorgensen, veterinary biosciences, received the Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Teaching Excellence Award in recognition of an instructor who presents material with enthusiasm, dedication, clarity, and creativity.

- Dr. Carol Maddox, pathobiology and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, received the Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Service Excellence Award in recognition of a faculty member’s outstanding committee work, clinical service, and continuing education.
New Student Clubs Promote Lab Animal Careers, Diversity

The Laboratory Animal Medicine Club was founded this fall, sponsoring several speakers and group activities. Its executive board is composed of Jenn Asher, president; Allison Ostdiek, vice president; Kate Sippel, treasurer; Charity Beals, secretary; and Ruth McAlonon, first-year class representative. The club hopes to become an official student chapter of the American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners.

Also formed recently is the Veterinary Students as One in Culture and Ethnicity (VOICE) organization. Illinois has one of three charter chapters for the national VOICE organization. The group aims to increase sociocultural awareness in veterinary medicine and to promote racial and ethnic diversity within the College and veterinary profession.

Dr. Matt Stewart, veterinary clinical medicine, received the Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Research Excellence Award in recognition of a researcher’s published body of work, research awards, and outside recognition of published works.

Ginger Passalacqua, coordinator of client services in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, received the Terry and Judy Rathgeber Academic Professional Excellence Award for outstanding performance by an academic professional staff member.

Dr. Chen Gilor, veterinary clinical medicine, received the Dr. Walter E. Hoffmann and Dr. Ann L. Johnson Resident Teaching Award, presented to an outstanding graduate student or resident in training for an AVMA-recognized specialty board.

Dr. Humphrey Yao, veterinary biosciences, received the Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence, presented to a current faculty member conducting research that shows promise of attaining or has attained national recognition.

Dr. Luke Borst, pathobiology, received the Dr. Ted and Mrs. Carroll Valli Award for an outstanding veterinary student concurrently pursuing DVM/PhD or a PhD candidate already holding a DVM.

Dr. Gabriela Calzada-Nova received the Dr. Edward W. and Mrs. Lois G. Voss All-Around Excellence Award for a graduate student conducting research in pursuit of a master’s or PhD in immunology, molecular biology, or biochemistry in the College’s pathobiology department.

Dr. Calzada-Nova and Dr. Sangeeta Rao received the Dr. Paul B. Doby Award for outstanding graduate student research in the area of infectious diseases in food animals.

Kapil Vashisht received the Drs. Diego and Mariangela Segre Research Fellowship for an outstanding graduate student in the pathobiology department.

Lauren Markovic, Class of 2009, completed a veterinary intern experience with the Food Safety and Inspection Service, the public health agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture last summer. In addition to traveling to Washington, D.C., she also conducted humane handling audits in Alaska and California.

The American Kennel Club awarded scholarships to 23 students from 19 U.S. accredited schools of veterinary medicine. Three students from Illinois were awarded $5,000 scholarships:

Angela Corn Yates, Class of 2008; Ann Johnson, Class of 2009; Benjamin Perry, Class of 2010.

The group’s executive board is composed of Doreen Turner, president; Annie Lo and Lauren Morgan, both co-vice presidents and treasurers; Arielle Herndobler, fundraising and outreach chair; Priya Bhatt, social chair; and Kelly DeBaene, first-year class representative.

Dr. Ronald Jones, executive associate for regulatory operations, Office of Field Operations, poses with Lauren Markovic.

Retirees honored at the September 13 ceremony and their years of service were Gerald Bargren, 17; Dr. Stephen Kneller, 32; William Schnitzlein, 14; Linda Swett, 24; and David Vyverberg, 20.

Denise Archambeault, veterinary biosciences, received the Dr. Joseph O. Alberts Award for a graduate student with an outstanding academic record and submitted research paper.

Marie Childress, accountant II in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, received the Dr. Robert and Lucy Graham Staff Excellence Award for a staff employee who has made significant contributions to the College.

Nikki Hausmann, staff secretary in the office of veterinary research, received the Shirley A. Seets Excellence Award for demonstrated excellence in job performance and service.
Our alumni association has accomplished several new goals this year, of which we may all be proud.

Our Board of Directors now includes a student from each current veterinary class. Our goal in adding student members was not only to have some input from the students about what they would like to see us do, but also to disseminate information from us back to the students.

With the money from a 50/50 raffle at the 2006 Fall Conference, we gave a business card holder engraved with the University of Illinois logo to each 2007 graduate. It was a small gift, but well received. We also provided ‘stress packs’ of goodies to students at final exam time. Some of our board members also served as judges at the 2007 Veterinary Medicine Open House.

In October the alumni association sponsored the first of what will hopefully become an annual golf outing fundraiser on the Wednesday before Fall Conference. Twenty-four golfers enjoyed some amazing weather and good times at the U of I Orange Course in Savoy. Fifteen corporate sponsors helped boost our profits, which will help fund activities for the coming year.

It has been said before, but a good time was had by all. If you missed this year’s golf outing, don’t let it happen again! Be a part of the fun and camaraderie in 2008 on September 10.

We held another very successful 50/50 raffle this year at Fall Conference as well as presented our annual alumni awards to top-notch candidates who are well-deserving of the honor (see story this page).

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as president of our alumni association this past year.

Dr. Roger Dupuis
DVM IL ’71

Outstanding Alumni, Journalist Receive Awards at Fall Conference

By Tim DeBord

The College and its alumni association presented three Dr. Erwin Small Distinguished Alumni Awards and a Special Service Award on October 4 during the annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians.

Dr. Anthony Frank (DVM IL ’85), provost of Colorado State University, received the Dr. Erwin Small Distinguished Alumni Award, presented to a graduate who has made significant contributions to the veterinary profession or the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Frank completed a PhD and residency in toxicologic pathology at Purdue University before taking a faculty position at Oregon State University in 1989. He joined Colorado State in 1993, where he served as an assistant professor and department head in the pathology department, dean for research for the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and vice president for research and information technology. He was appointed senior vice president and provost of the university in 2004.

Dr. Donald Monke (DVM IL ’77), vice president of production operations for Select Sires Inc., also received the Dr. Erwin Small Distinguished Alumni Award. In 1977 he became the first veterinarian employed by Select Sires Inc., Plain City, Ohio. He was named vice president of sire health in 1989 and promoted to vice president of production operations in 2003. In his current position, Dr. Monke oversees the housing, care, export and semen collection of 1,700 bulls.

He has been chairman of the Certified Semen Services board of directors and vice chairman of the National Association of Animal Breeders.

Dr. Thomas J. Rosol (DVM IL ’81), dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University, received the Dr. Erwin Small Distinguished Alumni Award for his prominent leadership role and enormous contributions to both veterinary and human medicine through cancer research.

Dr. Rosol practiced in a mixed-animal clinic in Wisconsin before moving to The Ohio State University in 1983 as a research fellow. He earned a doctorate in experimental pathobiology and was appointed as an assistant professor in veterinary pathobiology in 1986. He served as senior vice president for research from 2003 to 2005, and was appointed dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine in 2005.

Dr. Rosol has been widely published in peer-reviewed clinical and research manuscripts and has mentored numerous doctoral candidates. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His work has earned him many notable awards, including the 2006 Distinguished Scholar Award at The Ohio State University.

continued on page 21

From left, Dr. Roger Dupuis, president of the University of Illinois Veterinary Medical Alumni Association; Steve Dale; Dr. Thomas Rosol; Dr. Donald Monke; Dr. Anthony Frank; and Dr. Herb Whiteley, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine.
Successful Surgeon Advises Pursuit of Passions, Pastimes

By Lisa Xia

Twenty-five years after receiving his DVM from the College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Michael Pavletic, a man who is among the major pioneers of small animal plastic and reconstructive surgery, heads the Small Animal Surgery Department at Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston. He has had an impressive career.

Dr. Pavletic has developed more than 45 surgical procedures, has patented two surgical devices, and has published over 80 papers. He currently serves as president of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. In 1996 he received the Bourgelat Award for Outstanding Contributions to Small Animal Surgery, a prestigious international recognition awarded by the British Small Animal Veterinary Association.

“I am especially honored to be recognized internationally for my achievements,” Dr. Pavletic says. “Today I must admit that I have had a great deal of satisfaction in my veterinary career. I love my work helping animals and their owners.”

Many of Dr. Pavletic’s innovations have revolved around his passion for reconstructive surgery and surgical oncology, interests that first took root in his last years at the University of Illinois but truly flourished during his internship at Angell Medical Center. During his subsequent residency at Angell, Dr. Pavletic focused primarily on the previously unexplored area of treating skin wounds.

“When I was an intern, other interns and staff members would transfer the more problematic skin wound cases to my care. It was even better for me that most of the doctors had no interest in this area,” Dr. Pavletic says. “Out of interest and necessity this in turn spurred my interest in plastic and reconstructive surgery.”

Because the field of plastics and reconstruction in animals was so new, many of the procedures Dr. Pavletic went on to master, he taught himself. Among his most invaluable innovations: developing methods of using muscle and skin flaps for reconstruction of the oral cavity, face, skin and trunk. One application of muscle flaps, for example, used when performing certain massive-tumor removal operations, allows surgeons to reconstruct thoracic and abdominal walls.

After serving as a professor first at Louisiana State University and later at Tufts University, Dr. Pavletic eventually found his calling back at Angell Animal Medical Center in 1998. He continues to break ground in various aspects of reconstructive surgery while balancing his administrative duties. He is currently completing the third edition of his *Atlas of Small Animal Reconstructive Surgery*, to be published in 2008 by Blackwell Publishing.

Recalling his veterinary school days, Dr. Pavletic urges veterinary students to take opportunities for leisure—as he did in veterinary school and still does. He goes fly fishing every year with a former Illinois veterinary school classmate.

“I studied hard but also took advantage of spending my free time with my family and friends,” Dr. Pavletic says. “You undoubtedly will see each other at future veterinary meetings, and occasionally work in the same business setting.”

Dr. Pavletic also advises students to focus on developing their passions in veterinary medicine, whether they apply to private practice or research.

“I have found that you will do your best work in those areas where you have a true passion for the subject,” Dr. Pavletic says. “Focus your efforts in learning as much as possible about your area of interest. If you are in private practice, your colleagues will rely on your expertise, and it’s professionally gratifying. If you seek an academic career, you will get the most enjoyment from your research and studies.”

Lastly, Dr. Pavletic emphasizes the need to have a well-developed sense of humor. “Work and family responsibilities can be a bit crazy at times, and you simply must learn to laugh at the incongruities between what might be expected and what actually occurs: the many ironies of life,” he says.

Dr. Lawrence Clark and Dr. Edwin Short (both DVM IL ’57) have spent parts of the past 10 years as medical missionaries in rural Nicaragua, where they teach students the basics of medicine. At Rancho Ebenezer, an experimental farm near Niquinohomo, Dr. Clark has developed his own teaching materials in Spanish. Dr. Short assists, teaching basic surgery and necropsy techniques. Two small classes of students have been educated this way, becoming the only health providers in their remote mountain villages. Dr. Clark retired from government service in Florida in 2002.

Dr. Willard “Skip” Nelson (DVM IL ’64), owner of the Exotic Pet & Bird Clinic in Kirkland, Wash., has recently ended a four-year term as chair of the Washington State Veterinary Board of Governors, which examines candidates for licensing and registration and investigates regulatory violations, among other duties relating to the regulatory law. He also serves on the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards.

Dr. Sheldon Rubin (DVM IL ’68), former owner and director emeritus of Blum Animal Hospital in Chicago, will be a recipient of the Chicago Illini of the Year Award in March in recognition of his overall career achievement, positive impact on the Chicago community, and commitment to the University of Illinois. Look for additional information in an upcoming issue of Veterinary Report.

Dr. Dennis Geiser (DVM IL ’72), assistant dean for Organizational Development and Outreach at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine, has been appointed to the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence 2007 Board of Examiners. The board is composed of experts who meet the highest standards of achievement and peer recognition in their fields.

Dr. Bill Herath (DVM IL ’72) was named Rotarian of the Year 2007 for East Moline, Ill. He is a past president of that organization.

Dr. Ronald Gill (DVM IL ’75), of Gill Veterinary Clinic in West Salem, Ill., was named president of the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association at its annual meeting in November.

“He has an outstanding record of leadership,” says Dr. Craig Stevenson, immediate past president of ISVMA. “He was elected by his peers because of his strong vision and commitment to excellence in veterinary medicine.”

Dr. Jeff Kula (DVM IL ’83) has joined MVP Laboratories as a technical services veterinarian and research coordinator for MVP’s autogenous vaccines and proprietary adjuvant systems.

Dr. Daniel E. Snyder (PhD IL ’83, DVM IL ’87) completed his elected term as the president of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists in July, after presiding over the organization’s annual meeting, held in Washington, D.C. Dr. Snyder is currently a scientist at Elanco Animal Health, a Division of Eli Lilly and Company, in Greenfield, Ind.

Dr. Garrett R. Oetzel (MS ’85) in September received the 2007 Alpharma/AABP Award of Excellence from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners in recognition of his consistent and direct influence on veterinarians in bovine practice. Colleagues note the precision and practicality of his presentations, which are always in high demand. Dr. Oetzel is currently on faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Brian J. Payne (DVM IL ’05) and Dr. Dyneah M. Augsburger (DVM IL ’07) have joined Carthage Veterinary Service, Ltd. Dr. Payne, of DeKalb, Ill., started the position in September. He earned a bachelor’s degree in biology with research honors in 2001 from Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington. Dr. Augsburger joined the Carthage practice in June. Her undergraduate studies were in animal science at the University of Illinois. She is originally from Livingston County and was raised on a 200-head farrow-to-finish farm.
Steve Dale, certified animal behaviorist and noted pet journalist, received a Special Service Award for his support of the veterinary profession and the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dale is an accomplished journalist who hosts three radio shows, including “Pet Central” at WGN Radio, Chicago, and writes a syndicated column for Tribune Media Services while contributing to USA Weekend and Cat Fancy. He has authored several books, including DogGone Chicago and American Zoos.

Dale’s expertise and dedication to animal well-being has earned him the American Veterinary Medical Association Humane Award and the American Kennel Club Responsible Dog Ownership Public Service Award. He is a member of the American Humane Association’s board of directors.

Nominations are invited for the 2008 College/Alumni Association awards. Please see the Alumni Web site, www.cvm.uiuc.edu/advancement/alumni.html, for a copy of the nomination form, or call the advancement office at 217/333-2761.

Dr. Brian E. Albers (DVM IL ’69) died July 13. He owned The Pet Doctor, a practice in Lakewood, Wash. He was a past president of the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association and a founding member of the Veterinary Leadership Group, which focuses on effective practice management.

Dr. Kristine Drew (DVM IL ’83) of Bloomington, Ill., died June 23. She had practiced small animal medicine at Big Hollow Animal Clinic in Peoria, Limestone Animal Hospital in Bartonville, and Eastland Companion Animal Hospital in Bloomington.

Dr. Edgar R. Folkers Jr. (DVM IL ’69) died May 2. Dr. Folkers was medical director at VCA Mission Viejo Animal Hospital in California, a practice he owned from 1974 to 2006. He received the Mission Viejo Hometown Hero Award in 2006.

Dr. Robert L. Kinser (DVM IL ’61) died July 5. He served in the Army during the Korean War, and had practiced in Carlinville, Ill. since 1963. He was a member of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, American Association of Swine Veterinarians, and the Society for Theriogenology.

Dr. Joseph Wilder (DVM Ross ’07) died November 5 in Carrollton, Ga. He completed his clinical rotations at the University of Illinois in 2006 and practiced at Carrollton Animal Hospital after graduation.
Class of 1977: Front, from left: Drs. Phil Kapraun, Jim Hastings, Doug Feller, Mike Meade; middle, from left: Drs. Tom Getzelman, Jim Zachary, Al Paul, Chris Cannon, and Jeff Stevens; back, from left: Drs. Don Monke and Jim Hill.

Class of 1982: Seated, from left: Drs. Brian Schmidt, Jo Jones, Roberta Dreil, Mary Ann Gedymin, Stacy Adams, Beth Marmon, and Donna Nykaza; standing, from left: Drs. Carl Wells, Chris Storts, Greg Grenier, Bob Groesch, Patty Pruitt, Marian Rippy (behind), Karlyn McPartland, Jeff Rak, Sue Schmitt, Mark Grove, Shelly Stevens, Janet Knipper, Michael Exarhos, Jay Nadler, David Goldwasser, John Brancel (behind), Dan Lohnes, Steve Hoozer, Ryan Clarke, Steve Samuelson, Andy Maxwell, and Dave Teykl.


Class of 1972: Drs. Alan Nathanson and Bruno Latoza.

Class of 1987: Front, from left: Drs. Scott Keller, Sheila McCullough-Nelson, Lisa Hirschfield-Warshall, James Strake, Karen Becker, and Eric Malaker; middle, from left: Drs. Neil Brammeier, Brian Rooney, Peter Lysakowski, Rae Ann Van Pelt, Dwight Boehm, Shaun Murphy, Randy Shimkus; back, from left: Drs. Dan Snyder, and Todd Harris.

Class of 1997: Front, from left: Drs. Colleen O’Rourke Scott, Heather Stopinski, Stephanie Belding, Cindy Makofski; back, from left: Drs. Erich Baumann, Keith Berley, Julia Whittington, Brigit Hollis, Elizabeth Herman North, Marjori Bundy, Janelle Bols; not shown: Drs. Jennifer Cirele, Silvia Duncan, Teresa Goodson, Valentina Merola,
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A Very Good Year, Thanks to You

By Brenda Betts

Did you have a good year? ’Tis the season for retrospection, and from my vantage point as assistant dean for advancement, our year was filled with highlights because it was filled with so many of you.

I had the privilege of meeting many alumni this year. With big crowds at our receptions at the North American, Western, AVMA, and ISMVA veterinary conferences, I got to hear about your vet school days and learn of your recent career successes. I hope to see even more Illini at our receptions in Orlando and Las Vegas in January and February 2008.

The dedication of Illinois alums to the veterinary profession continues to impress me. And I am deeply grateful for the warm reception Heather Vazquez, Jim Pound, and I get as ambassadors from the College.

This year has brought many opportunities to raise awareness of the breadth of work that goes on here. Even our own alumni are often surprised to learn about the research that is making life better for animals and people. We are fortunate to have terrific faculty who make time to discuss their work with donors or give a tour of their lab or the clinic.

One of the best aspects of my work is helping donors connect their interests and passion with needs at the College. The opening in October of the Dr. Walter E. Zuschlag/ISMVA Veterinary Heritage Collection represented a very public example of this. The many donors and volunteers involved in that project gained the joy and satisfaction of seeing the results of their efforts and knowing that the room will benefit students and visitors for decades to come.

I see the same joy in the faces of donors when they meet the students who received their scholarship, or when their gift has enabled the teaching hospital to improve facilities and establish a higher level of care for patients. Gifts that improve lives by advancing the work of the College always seem to make the donor’s life more joyful as well.

In June of this year the University kicked off the public phase of the Brilliant Futures campaign. Our College has passed the halfway mark to our $35 million goal. (Please contact me at 217/333-5545 if you’d like a copy of a new publication that outlines our campaign initiatives.)

When we achieve our goal, it will be because many, many people like you felt a connection to the College of Veterinary Medicine and responded by giving.

I look forward to another year of getting to know you, and I wish you a very good year to come.

P.S. to our long-time friends: Please join me in welcoming Beth Erwin back to the College of Veterinary Medicine Office of Advancement as an administrative aide! 

“Even our own alumni are often surprised to learn about the research that is making life better for animals and people.”

Donor Honor Roll

Gifts from donors enable the College to pursue a higher level of excellence in education and support for students, service to the public, and advances in the health and well-being of animals and people everywhere. With sincerest appreciation we acknowledge those who have given in the past year.

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Return on Investment...

By Tim DeBord

No matter where their careers lead them, our graduates are improving the lives of animals and people. But when their careers circle back to the College, there’s a big ROI for our College and for the generous donors who supported their studies through scholarships. Dr. Anne Barger and Dr. Julia Whittington both received academic scholarships while students at the College, and both joined the faculty after graduating.

Dr. Julia Whittington received the Dr. Erwin Small, Sandrik Family, and Anna M. Gallick scholarships. She graduated in 1997 and returned to see exotics cases in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and direct the Wildlife Medical Clinic. She credits the scholarships she received for helping her through school, and says more and more students both need and are deserving of scholarship help.

“Such good students are being admitted to vet schools now,” Dr. Whittington says. “But they could be in debt for years after graduation.”

Dr. Whittington also credits scholarships for helping keep students’ morale up in the face of the unending hard work needed to get through school.

“When students receive an award because they have exceeded the criteria,” she says, “they walk away feeling like the work they’ve done means that much more.”

Dr. Anne Barger received the Dr. Joseph L. Dorner Award and the Sandrik Family and Dr. Erwin Small scholarships. She graduated in 1996 and joined the faculty as an assistant professor in pathobiology in 2002. In 2004, Dr. Barger received the Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award based on the recommendation of the College’s fourth-year students.
In November 2006, Dr. Karen Kuhl and six of her classmates made the initial gifts to the Class of 1987 Endowment Fund, an endeavor by the whole class to provide general scholarship money to "up and coming" veterinarians. The 76-member class reached its $25,000 primary investment goal this fall.

"We all felt the University of Illinois prepared us well for our practice in veterinary medicine," Dr. Kuhl says. "I feel indebted to have received an education that allows us to treat animals the way we do today."

The endowment was discussed at the Class of 1987's 20th reunion, when Dr. Kuhl and her classmates hoped to promote interest to keep the fund growing. The Class of 1987's effort has already resulted in a significant and lasting gift to the College.

Now that the fund has reached $25,000, the interest earned can support a student scholarship. Reaching the mark reflects a year of hard work by Dr. Kuhl and her classmates to help veterinary students.

"I think it's wonderful," Dr. Kuhl says. "Every little bit of (financial aid) helps."

The endowment's seven signatories represent the class and decide how to award the fund's returns. The Class of 1987 endowment will serve as a general fund to provide student scholarships; it will sponsor a $1,000 scholarship in the spring of 2008.

The Class of 1987 is the seventh College of Veterinary Medicine class to fund an endowment. Four other classes are in the process of creating endowments.

"I think you always feel connected to the University and want to give back," Dr. Kuhl says. "We had a great class with good people. At Illinois, we just had as pleasant a four years as you could have studying veterinary medicine."
Successful Alumnus Gives Back to the College

By Tim DeBord

Studying at the College of Veterinary Medicine nearly finished off Dr. Todd Prince. At least, that’s the way he tells it.

“I was just lucky to get through,” he says.

Twenty three years after “making it through” with the class of 1984, Dr. Prince is a part-owner of his multiple-service practice, a diplomat with the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, and a new member of the University of Illinois Presidents Council.

After leaving the University of Illinois, Dr. Prince moved to Matteson, Ill., where he practiced with fellow Illini Dr. Michael Wells, Class of 1978. He practiced with his father in Florida for a year before moving back to the Chicago suburbs in 1990. He worked at the Animal Medical Center in Skokie before making good on his goal of founding his own practice in 2003.

Dr. Prince opened the Elmhurst Animal Care Center with partners Dr. Sandra Faeh (IL ’96) and Dr. Tom Staudacher. The clinic receives about 20,000 visits per year, and features two surgery suites, a dental suite, CT and MRI diagnostics, and full hip replacement surgeries. The clinic also offers grooming, training, boarding, and day care services in addition to primary veterinary care.

Dr. Prince’s special interest lies in surgery, and he said the clinic would like to offer more surgical procedures as its business grows.

“Surgery is the fun part,” Dr. Prince says. “But we’re always looking to expand the services we offer, maybe not physically expanding the clinic, but certainly offering additional surgeries in the future.”

Dr. Prince received diplomate status with the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, specialty Canine and Feline Practice, in 1993. He is one of only 15 veterinarians in the state of Illinois with that qualification.

Dr. Prince joined the Presidents Council in 2006 on the basis of his financial contributions to the College of Veterinary Medicine. His donations are added to the Achievement Fund and can then be used to support scholarships and areas of greatest need.
Donor’s Gifts Help Dental Program Thrive

Twenty-six years ago, Janet Mertz, of Decatur, Ill., made a generous gift to establish the first veterinary dental clinic in our Veterinary Teaching Hospital. With her continued support, Illinois today has one of the most active and productive dental programs in the country. A number of activities and honors in the past year illustrate how the investment Janet Mertz has made in the program has yielded tremendous benefits for veterinary practitioners and the many animals they serve.

- **Local recognition for community service:** For several years, Dr. Sandra Manfra Marretta, a professor of surgery who is board certified in surgery and dentistry, has been taking fourth-year veterinary students on the dental rotation to the Champaign County Humane Society to perform exams and dental procedures on the pets awaiting adoption that might otherwise go without dental treatment.

  In October, Dr. Manfra was honored as the humane society’s Humanitarian of the Year.

- **National recognition for training program:** When the American Veterinary Dental College offered its board certification examinations in March, two of the seven candidates who passed the exam—Dr. Bill Krug and Dr. Steve Juriga—were trained by Dr. Manfra. Both passed on their first attempt.

  Dr. Juriga, owner of the Veterinary Dental Center and the River Heights Veterinary Clinic in Oswego, Ill., was an alternative pathway candidate, meaning that he trained while in practice rather than while completing a traditional residency program. In October he was honored as the AVDC Outstanding Candidate of the Year.

  The program currently has two residents, Dr. Gwenn Schamberger, who will finish the residency program in 2008, and Dr. Carol Akers, who entered the program this fall after practicing for 20 years as first an equine and later a small animal veterinarian.

  Since 1982 seven veterinarians have successfully completed their veterinary dental residency training and five their alternate pathway dental training at the University of Illinois. Currently only eight colleges of veterinary medicine have a formal dental program that is headed by a Diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College; three of these are headed by specialists trained by Dr. Manfra.

- **Expanding the scope of education:** Dr. Manfra has extended her educational reach through the Internet by providing dental training modules through the Veterinary Education Online program operated by the College’s Office of Public Engagement.

  With financial assistance from the Veterinary Dental Educators Group, an organization supported by the American Veterinary Dental Society, the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry, and the AVDC, these modules are made available free of charge to veterinary students at schools without a board-certified dentist on faculty to supplement their veterinary dental education. This academic year approximately 560 students will participate in this program.

  In a similar vein, veterinary technicians and vet tech students will one day have online access to specialty training thanks to funds awarded by the Foundation for Veterinary Dentistry to Dr. Akers and Misty Finn, the dental service’s veterinary technician and clinical coordinator.

- **Wide range of species served:** Veterinary dentistry is not just for dogs and house cats. Dr. Manfra’s patients include horses, cows, swine, wolves, leopards, lions, and other big cats. Recent cases at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital have included a root canal on a horse and treatment of a large cyst causing severe deformity of a foal’s jaw.

  And thanks to financial assistance from Janet Mertz, Dr. Manfra has the equipment and instrumentation and means to provide treatment for animals at the Brookfield Zoo, near Chicago, and the Exotic Feline Rescue Center in Center Point Indiana.

  Thank you, Janet Mertz, for making the successes of the dental program possible!
## Event Sponsors

The Event Sponsorship Program makes possible many of the College’s student- and alumni-focused activities, including the student applicant recruitment program, the veterinary student orientation and blue coat ceremony, graduation celebrations, several alumni receptions at national conferences, and the annual Veterinary Medicine Open House. Thank you, sponsors of the 2006-2007 events!

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Calendar

January
12–13 Horse Breeders’ Short Course, Urbana, Ill.
20 Alumni Reception at the North American Veterinary Conference, Orlando, Fla. Contact the Advancement Office, 217/333-2762 or advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu.

February
16 Horsemans Clinic, Urbana, Ill.
18 Alumni Reception at the Western Veterinary Conference, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact the Advancement Office, 217/333-2762 or advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu.
22–24 College of Veterinary Medicine exhibit at the International Kennel Club Show, Chicago, Ill.

March
1 Illinois Camelid Health Conference, Urbana, Ill.
14–16 College of Veterinary Medicine exhibit at the Chicagoland Family Pet Expo.
28–29 Veterinary Technician Practices Conference, Urbana, Ill.

April
5 Veterinary Medicine Open House, Urbana, Ill. See www.cvm.uiuc.edu/openhouse/.
12 Awards and Scholarships Ceremony, Urbana, Ill. Contact the Advancement Office, 217/333-2762 or advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu.
17–18 Annual Conference on New & Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases, Urbana, Ill.
19 Doodle for Wildlife, Urbana, Ill. Contact the Advancement Office, 217/333-2762 or advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu.

May
11 Commencement, Urbana, Ill. Contact Student Affairs, 217/265-0380 or admissions@cvm.uiuc.edu.
15–16 Intensive Toxicology Short Course: Common Small Animal Toxicoses, Urbana, Ill.

June
5–7 Annual Midwest Conference of Parasitologists, Urbana, Ill.
26–28 4-H Veterinary Medicine Academy, Urbana, Ill.

August
16 Goat School on Artificial Insemination, Urbana, Ill.

September
11–12 Annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians, Urbana, Ill.

Please contact the Office of Public Engagement at 217/333-2907 or on the Web at www.vetmed.illinois.edu/ope for additional information, unless otherwise noted.

Programs tentatively scheduled for 2008 by Public Engagement include: Advanced Animal Endoscopy; Avian, Reptile, and Small Mammal Diagnostic Endoscopy; Fish Health Management; Koi Breeding and Reproduction; Pet Bird Ownership 101.

For more College events listings, visit www.vetmed.illinois.edu

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CARE Helpline Celebrates Tenth Anniversary with Oskee Bow Wow 2007

With the help of canine, exotic, and human special guests, more than 100 pet-friendly folks helped celebrate the human-animal bond and the tenth anniversary of the CARE Pet Loss Helpline on September 21.

The event, held at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, marked a homecoming for many of CARE Helpline’s founders and supporters. On hand were Dr. Julia Brannan (’00), the student who started the CARE Helpline in 1997; three other former student directors of the Helpline, Dr. Rebecca Buraglio (’04), Dr. Brianne McLaughlin (’06), and Erica Jewell, Class of 2008; the current director Ellen Grommet, Class of 2009; Dr. Emil Baukert (’76) who, with his wife Dr. Mary Baukert (’77), initiated a similar service in Chicago and served as advisers for CARE; and Greg Lambeth, a UI counselor who has been a supporter and resource for the program.

The evening ended with a program featuring several of the teaching hospital’s Very Important Patients and their owners, who reunited with the hospital clinicians and staff who oversaw their care.

- Mattie Evitt, a mixed-breed dog, made headlines last summer in Decatur, Ill., for her remarkable recovery from spinal injuries after she fell from a railroad trestle and lay immobile for a day.

- Daisy Weber, a 14-year-old Bichon Frise who is a cherished member of the Illini basketball coach’s family, is back on her game with the help of rehabilitation therapy after surgical repair of both knees in the past two years.

- Sam Pellum, a border collie, also benefited from rehab at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Sam shot a few hoops and then wowed the crowd with a card trick he performed on the Today Show.

- Allee Holstein, a golden retriever, visited the emergency service after injuring her foot pads.

- Two exotics patients, a green winged macaw named Martina and a coatimundi named Grizzle, also made an appearance.

In addition to the program, the evening’s activities included exclusive tours of the hospital’s ICU, rehab ser-

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Webster White, “first dog” of the University of Illinois, watched the program along with his family members, UI president Joe White and Mary White, and special guest Daisy Weber, who came with Hannah and Christy Weber.

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