Meet David Williams

College Unveils Facility Plan

Thank You, College Supporters

State-of-the-art small animal surgery suites and ICU/ER

Equine Sports Medicine Clinic

Academic Commons, to support expanded veterinary class size
In this issue

Spotlight on the Veterinary Teaching Hospital

By Herb Whiteley

For many alumni and friends of the College, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital is the most visible and tangible aspect of our institution.

This is where your beloved companion animals and valuable agricultural assets—or those of your referred clients—receive expert care.

This is where your future veterinarian or your future colleagues in practice receive their capstone education.

This is where the newest surgical approaches, best diagnostic tests, and state-of-the-art treatment protocols are developed and tested.

Without a doubt, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital participates in all aspects of our mission and vision, contributing indispensably to the College’s leadership in veterinary education, scholarship, and public engagement.

This past summer, the teaching hospital became an independent College unit equivalent to the three academic departments and the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. A new faculty-level position, director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, was created.

This leader will work very closely with Dr. David Williams, the new head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine, to ensure outstanding clinical service that is integrated with and supports departmental teaching and research activities.

I am pleased to have Dr. Williams aboard and to have the realignment of the hospital administration taking shape. (See more next page.)

The teaching hospital will play crucial roles in two new College initiatives that will transform our future.

As I hope many of you now know, the Urbana campus of the University of Illinois has undertaken to develop national prominence in the area of translational biomedical research, work that uses discoveries in the basic sciences to create practical applications for improving human and animal health. Our College is leading this effort, which fosters collaborations among scientists in disciplines across the campus. As the only full-service medical facility on campus, the teaching hospital supplies a crucial real-life laboratory and experts in biological systems for this outcome-oriented research.

The second major initiative of 2005 is our comprehensive facility plan. We have mapped out facility needs to support our growth over the next 20 years. Key additions to the teaching hospital include a new small animal surgery wing and expanded capacity for diagnostic imaging.

The equine surgery and medicine section seized the opportunity afforded by the planning process to propose an Equine Sports Medicine Clinic. This advanced facility would provide unmatched service to the Midwest equine industry, expose veterinary students to a broad range of cases, and facilitate research in equine performance and physiology.

The proposal for an Equine Sports Medicine Clinic is generating excitement. Two new equine surgeons have joined the faculty.
Clinical Department Head Brings a Focus on Research, Teaching

As the new head the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine, Dr. David Williams steps into a recently redefined role, one that focuses on the scholarly and educational aspects of the department.

An internationally known expert in gastroenterology, Dr. Williams joins us from Texas A&M University, where he led the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery from 1997 to 2003.

He looks forward to encouraging "a culture that elevates discovery through research" and helping faculty build successful collaborative research programs.

Producing new information

"Veterinary schools produce new information for our profession. If we are not performing that role, who will do it?" he asks. "My own research career has been spent using fairly basic biochemistry to solve clinical problems."

While completing his PhD at the University of Liverpool, he developed the canine serum trypsin-like immunoreactivity (TLI) assay that has become the gold standard for diagnosis of exocrine pancreatic insufficiency.

Later while a faculty member at the University of Florida, he established the Gastrointestinal Laboratory, which offers specialist gastrointestinal function tests used by veterinarians around the world. The laboratory, which moved with him to Kansas State, Purdue and Texas A&M Universities, conducts clinical research trials related to the diagnosis and management of gastrointestinal diseases in dogs and cats.

Dr. Williams has received more than 70 funded grants thus far in his career, with more than 150 publications in refereed journals and proceedings.

As department head, one of his chief roles will be to help faculty members garner the financial support they need to grow their research programs.

"On the companion animal side, which includes horses, we’ll seek funds largely through private support," he explains. "In large animal, we’ll look to federal sources related to public health and biosafety issues."

An interesting career

"A blend of research, teaching, and clinical service makes for a more interesting career and makes the job a satisfying one," he says.

His enthusiasm about the role of the clinician scientist and his international reputation will facilitate making strategic faculty hires.

"I will work with faculty in the department to identify and build areas of strength," he says, noting that strong emergency/critical care and internal medicine sections are vital for supporting the clinical and educational program.

Dr. Williams was born in England. He earned a veterinary degree and master’s degree at the University of Cambridge, completed an internship and residency in small animal internal medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, then returned to England for a PhD. His first faculty position was at the University of Florida, and he has also been the head or chief of small animal sections at Kansas State University and Purdue University.

He is a diplomate of both the American and the European Colleges of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Many organizations in Europe and the United States have honored

continued on page 3

Teaching Hospital Gets a Promotion, Director

Acting on the recommendations of an external advisory committee that studied the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine last spring, the College has elevated the Veterinary Teaching Hospital to the level of the three academic departments and the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. A new faculty-level position, director of the hospital, has been created to focus on providing outstanding patient care and service to clients and referring veterinarians and on fostering a clinical environment that supports both teaching and research activities.

Creation of this position allows the head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine to focus on departmental goals: enhancing scholarly activities, developing graduate programs, continuing the excellence of residency programs, and ensuring the quality of the clinical education of veterinary students.

Dr. Ann Johnson, a member of the College faculty for more than 20 years, returned from semi-retirement to serve as interim director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Over the past 6 months she has made much progress in setting up a hospital management structure that is closely linked to but independent of the clinical medicine department.

A committee, chaired by Dr. Larry Firkins and comprising of College faculty, students, hospital staff, and referring veterinarians, is conducting a national search to find a permanent director.
Leadership Takes Shape

College Unveils Facility Plan to Advance Its Vision

Through ongoing strategic planning, the College of Veterinary Medicine has established a vision to be a leader in veterinary and comparative biomedical education, scholarship, and public engagement.

In 2003 we crafted a strategic plan that outlines our programmatic goals. In 2005 we completed a comprehensive facilities plan that gives shape to those goals.

The plan maps out more than 200,000 gross square feet of potential new buildings and infrastructure that could be implemented over the next 20 years.

- An Equine Sports Medicine facility will feature a swimming pool for equine recovery and rehabilitation, equine-accessible MRI and CT, and a half-mile racetrack.

- An “academic commons” with teaching laboratories and classrooms will accommodate a possible 150-student class size. This new building, which will house a lobby, atrium, and other features designed to foster interaction, will create the identity for the veterinary campus and establish the image for the rest of the facilities.

- Additions to the Small Animal Clinic for state-of-the-art surgery suites, imaging, exam rooms, ICU/ER, and student teaching areas will improve the quality of service and care.

- Renovations to vacated space in the Basic Science Building will expand research and diagnostic laboratories.

- The architects included the potential for a 1,000-seat auditorium in the plan.

Our plans to revitalize our physical plant and increase our veterinary class size will assist us in meeting the growing need for veterinarians. Federal legislation introduced in 2005 would authorize grants to expand the size of veterinary colleges and increase the number of veterinarians educated in public health and biomedical research. Having our facilities plan in place will make us competitive for these funds, when they are available.

In addition, our plans advance our prominence within the University of Illinois system. The Urbana campus this year committed to developing national competitiveness in biomedical translational research—interdisciplinary collaborations that translate fundamental research discoveries into practical biomedical applications to improve human and animal health and society. Our College plays a leading role in this initiative, which will look to our clinical facilities and expertise for success.

While the proposed growth will meet vital national and campus needs, the majority of funding for this expansion must come from private giving and foundations.

This is an exciting step toward the future of our College. We welcome alumni and friends of the College to get involved. Your feedback, your financial support, and your partnerships with clients and funding organizations will all be needed as we move toward our vision.

To learn about opportunities for named giving and other avenues of assisting the College, please contact:

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College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Illinois
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How Did the Plan Come to Be?

- **mid 2004:** Architectural firm, CUH2A, selected. CUH2A has experience both with other University of Illinois units and with large biomedical facilities.
- **fall 2004:** Information gathering phase involves faculty, students, and staff. A "visioning session" identified core issues and values.
- **Goals identified include:**
  - project an image of the College that matches our vision
  - create a southern gateway to the campus
  - link the basic sciences building and the hospital complex
  - provide people spaces that foster interaction
  - prepare for the educational, research, and public engagement initiatives of the future
- **winter 2005:** CUH2A made several visits to the College for additional feedback
- **spring 2005:** plan was delivered and unveiled in May.

You can read the full facility plan report online at [http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/bldgcomm.html](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/bldgcomm.html).

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**Dean's Column, continued**

Dr. Matt Stewart, a board-certified equine surgeon who has been on faculty for 3 years focusing on orthopedic biology research, has extended his appointment to include clinical service.

Dr. Martin Allen, who in 2001 had completed a master's degree and equine residency at Illinois, has returned as a faculty member.

We value the support of our alumni and friends as we evolve to better serve you and embark on new initiatives that bring us closer to our vision. If you have any questions, please contact me at dean@cvm.uiuc.edu.

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**Clinical Department Head, continued**

Dr. Williams for his research and contributions to the field of veterinary practice. In 1995-96 he served as president of the Comparative Gastroenterology Society.

**Lasting impact**

Dr. Williams would like to effect change in the veterinary field, and he sees veterinary education as an important way to contribute. He believes that research and teaching go hand in hand.

"Researchers can be excellent teachers,” he says. “They are not necessarily the most popular at the time, but years later students realize that these are the teachers who taught them how to think.”

At the same time, he professes a “real world” view of veterinary education. His views are informed in part by the experiences of his wife, Catherine, a veterinarian who has practiced in private, corporate, and emergency settings.

His involvement in graduate-level education includes serving as adviser or committee member to nearly two dozen PhD or master’s degree students.

His goals as department head also include establishing good communication with students and getting to know referring veterinarians.

"It’s rewarding to take on a challenge,” he says.”I like people and I like organizing things.”
When it comes to the ease with which pathogens jump from one species to another and from one continent to another, the world seems very small and interconnected indeed. Perhaps, then, it is not so very odd that a veterinary college in the American heartland is home to a project based nearly 8,000 miles away in Uganda’s Kibale National Park, and that this project has a far-reaching agenda: to determine how human intervention in wild ecosystems affects the emergence of infectious diseases, and to combine this research with a strong international graduate education program and public health outreach to households near Kibale.

The Kibale EcoHealth Project is led by Dr. Thomas Gillespie, who holds joint appointments in pathobiology and anthropology, and Dr. Tony Goldberg, pathobiology.

Dr. Gillespie is also the director of the University of Illinois Earth and Society Initiative on Emerging Disease & Ecosystem Health, which unites centers, programs, laboratories, and individual researchers across the Urbana campus that share an interest in human and wildlife health, land use, biodiversity, and conservation. The Kibale EcoHealth Project is one of several flagship projects within that cross-campus initiative.

“Illinois has all the expertise to investigate complex and urgent questions surrounding the relationship between the environment, sustainable development and agriculture, and human and ecosystem well-being,” says Dr. Gillespie. “The Earth and Society Initiative pulls that expertise together and puts a spotlight on it.”

The research component of the project examines key human behaviors, primate behaviors, ecological conditions, and landscape features that may contribute to disease transmission between species. Ultimately, project leaders hope their findings will suggest effective public health and conservation intervention strategies not only to improve conditions in Kibale but also to help protect human health worldwide from emerging infectious disease.

Drs. Uriel Kitron, Mark Kuhlenschmidt, and Marilyn Ruiz, pathobiology, also collaborate on this research, which draws on epidemiology, molecular ecology, behavioral ecology, social and clinical survey, and spatially explicit modeling.

The Kibale EcoHealth Project employs five full-time staff members in Uganda. Dr. Innocent Rwego, a Ugandan veterinarian who had prior experience conducting research with mountain gorillas, is the on-site project manager.

“He is a perfect fit for this project,” says Dr. Gillespie.

Two field assistants observe primate behavior, and two others conduct surveys among 100 Ugandan households enrolled in the study. The surveys examine key human behaviors, such as antibiotic use among residents and their livestock.

In addition to the sociological data collected, a molecular ecology aspect of the study will use DNA fingerprinting techniques to trace the transmission of bacterial pathogens among primates, humans, and livestock.

The project fosters international graduate study and exchange, sending U.S. students to Kibale and bringing students from African universities here.

“The Department of Zoology at Makerere University, located in the Ugandan capital of Kampala, spent much of this past fall based in Urbana. The Kibale EcoHealth Project has established formal ties with Makerere University, which has granted Dr. Goldberg an honorary lectureship in zoology so that he can mentor Dr. Rwego and other students from that institution. The Department of Zoology at Makerere University has agreed to provide laboratory space for our work,” says Dr. Gillespie, “and the veterinary college and Department of Wildlife, Agriculture, and Resource Management have also pledged their support.

“We hope someday to partner with a network of East African universities to assist them with infrastructure and training, especially in epidemiology,” adds Dr. Gillespie.

Dr. Gillespie and Dr. Goldberg met in Urbana in 1996, as Dr. Gillespie finished his bachelor’s degree in Ecology, Ethology and Evolution at the University of Illinois and
Dr. Goldberg began the DVM program here at the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Goldberg had recently finished his PhD in anthropology from Harvard University and Dr. Gillespie was beginning his graduate studies. Eventually Dr. Goldberg completed a master's degree in pathobiology here as well and joined the department's faculty. Dr. Gillespie went on to earn master's and PhD degrees in zoology from the University of Florida, then joined Dr. Goldberg's laboratory as a post-doctoral fellow in 2004 before assuming his current faculty position in Winter 2006. (Aspects of Dr. Gillespie's doctoral thesis, which examined the impact of various forms of human disturbance such as logging and forest fragmentation on host-parasite dynamics in three species of monkey, is described on page 8.)

Funding for the research aspects of the Kibale EcoHealth Project has been secured from the Morris Animal Foundation, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

Project leaders hope their findings will help protect human health worldwide from emerging infectious disease.

Illinois Program Has Global Impact on Animal Health

Even when they are not doing fieldwork in another hemisphere, experts in the College's Zoological Pathology Program (ZPP) are contributing to the survival of endangered animals from around the globe. Their role encompasses providing diagnostic services to zoological institutions and wildlife biologists, participating in management plans for captive populations of endangered species across North America, and collaborating on research projects that address health problems in both captive and free-living animal populations.

The ZPP, part of the College’s Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, has been in operation in the Chicago area since 1993. Among its primary functions are to provide daily, on-site diagnostic services to the Brookfield Zoo, Lincoln Park Zoo, and John G. Shedd Aquarium and to train veterinarians in the unique aspects of zoo and wildlife pathology through residency programs. The program also contributes to veterinary education through 3- to 6-week externships completed by veterinary students nearing the completion of their degree.

In addition to providing diagnostic services to the Chicago area zoological community, faculty members Dr. Michael Kinsel and Dr. Karen Terio participate in species survival plans, which are part of a program administered by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association to help ensure the survival of selected wildlife species.

There are currently 87 survival plans that cover 116 individual species in North American zoos and aquariums. Each plan recommends optimal breeding strategies and may include other conservation activities, such as research, public education, and field projects. Veterinary pathologists review laboratory work and necropsy results for every individual of a given species at participating institutions across the country in order to monitor diseases in these critical populations of endangered species. Among the species served by ZPP experts are the African wild dog, clouded leopard, black-footed cat, fishing cat, and white rhinoceros.

Locally, ZPP has long been involved in disease surveillance collaborating with wildlife biologists within the Cook County Forest Preserve to monitor and study disease trends in populations of native wildlife. Dr. Dr. Karen Terio continued on next page
Kinsel has long been participating in similar efforts for large carnivores in southern Africa. ZPP is currently in the process of developing and implementing a disease surveillance program for primates in Gombe National Park in Tanzania.

Pathologist Helps Solve Disease Mysteries

A growing aspect of the College’s Zoological Pathology Program (ZPP) involves more in-depth laboratory research into disease issues identified in surveillance programs. Dr. Karen Terio, who joined the faculty in 2004 after working and studying at the University of California at Davis, is continuing her collaborations on two long-term research projects, in wild cheetahs and wild lions, that look at why a pathogen may cause disease under some conditions but not others.

Dr. Terio uses many of the latest molecular diagnostic testing capabilities, such as real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR), to look for patterns of gene expression that can explain these differences. This expertise brings a new dimension to the contributions of ZPP toward improving wildlife health and management.

The cheetah study, under the direction of UC-Davis’s Dr. Linda Munson, one of the world’s experts on cheetahs, is teasing out the factors that cause a high incidence of Helicobacter-associated gastritis in captive cheetahs. Gastritis develops in more than 95 percent of cheetahs in captivity worldwide, while fewer than 5 percent of wild cheetahs have this problem. Gastritis causes weight loss and can be a primary or contributing cause of death in captive cheetahs.

Both captive and wild cheetahs are known to be infected with Helicobacter, an agent which also causes ulcers in human beings, and both populations are extremely similar genetically. So what causes this difference in disease manifestation?

“We are picking apart the details of the immune system, using the same advanced laboratory techniques available to human disease research,” says Dr. Terio. “We know that stress can alter the immune system, and that cheetahs in captivity have a more dramatic inflammatory response to infectious diseases than wild cheetahs do.”

Dr. Terio is also collaborating on research that is taking a new look at lion die-offs in the Serengeti related to Canine Distemper Virus, exploring if such contributing factors as weather and parasite burden have made this infection sometimes very deadly but other times not.

The findings of these research projects may hold the key for more effective management practices and standards of care for captive and free-ranging wildlife worldwide.

On the morning of August 25, keepers noticed that Aussie, a 1,023-pound polar bear at the Brookfield Zoo, was reluctant to sit down. He appeared to be favoring his stomach, rocking from paw to paw to avoid any pressure on his mid-section.

When Dr. Jennifer Langan reported to the Bear Grotto, she was certain that Aussie needed emergency medical attention. It was clear that he was in significant discomfort due to the swelling of an umbilical hernia. The lump had enlarged to 20 times its original size within a few hours. Aussie’s condition became severe and his recovery depended on a successful operation, which would require removing the long round mass at his navel.

Dr. Langan contacted the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and within hours equine surgeon Dr. Chris Byron, anesthesiologist Dr. Rachael Carpenter, and intern Dr. Karissa Kaufmann (shown below after the surgery) arrived at the zoo.

Aussie was then darted to put him to sleep for transport. Nearly 20 zoo keepers lifted the bear out of the holding area behind the grotto and laid him onto a forklift. Then he was taken outside and transferred to a low bed truck.

When they arrived at the zoo’s hospital, Aussie was lowered onto a platform at the building entrance and wheeled into the operating room, where he was prepped for surgery.

Dr. Langan could find only two other cases of polar bears requiring surgery for umbilical hernias. She compared notes with her counterpart at the Philadelphia Zoo while preparing for Aussie’s surgery.

Bears have many layers of blubber and muscle, so, after ensuring that the mass consisted of fat and contained no intestinal matter, Dr. Byron made a deep, long incision (extending about 2 feet) down Aussie’s stomach to remove the round mass—which was roughly a little larger than a football. Surgery lasted a total of five hours, and the medical team stayed until about 9:45 p.m. to be sure Aussie recovered safely from anesthesia and surgery. He was given postoperative pain medication to make his recovery period as comfortable as possible.

After recuperating in his den for about three weeks, Aussie is now back on exhibit and acting like his old self.
Joan Embery Brings Her ‘Wild Life’ to Illinois

With her entertaining Tonight Show appearances and high-profile career as the goodwill ambassador for the San Diego Zoo, Joan Embery may seem to have led a wild life. But when she visited the College in August, Embery revealed the hard work and dedication to the preservation of wildlife and the environment that has been at the core of her efforts since her early days in go-go boots giving bottles to zoo babies and training an elephant to paint.

Embery’s lifelong career has focused on educating and motivating the public about the need to preserve and protect wild animals and their habitats.

In 2002, after leaving her long-time post with the zoo, Embery participated in the Envirovet Summer Institute, a global program run by Dr. Val Beasley, veterinary biosciences, to educate the conservation leaders of the future. She says that experience reinvigorated her efforts on behalf of wildlife, and now she serves as an Envirovet faculty member.

She came to Urbana to raise awareness about Envirovet and other College programs, such as our Wildlife Medical Clinic and collaborations with the Chicago zoos, that focus on global health through education, discovery, and action.

While here, Embery toured the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and lunches with a number of veterinary students interested in conservation medicine. She told the students that, growing up, she had dreamed of becoming a veterinarian, but instead her career took a different course.

She also met with Dr. Thomas Gillespie, swapping stories of conservation outreach efforts in Uganda (see story page 4).

On the evening of August 11 Embery spoke to a rapt audience in the Large Animal Clinic Auditorium about her entertainment career and about the need for and the future of wildlife conservation. Her talk, entitled “Joan Embery’s Wild Life: The Fun, the Reality, the Future,” ranged from hilarious clips from the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson to sobering statistics about the future of conservation and global health.

The College looks forward to future collaborations with Embery to increase public awareness and to raise money for the new Endowment for Conservation Medicine. For more information about the endowment, see the Advancement Office Web page at www.cvm.uiuc.edu/advancement/ or call 217/333-2762.

Upon completion of the program, residents are qualified to sit for board certification examination with the ACZM.

Dr. Michelle Davis is the first resident accepted to the program. She earned a DVM from Louisiana State University and completed internships in aquatic medicine at the Mystic Aquarium in Mystic, Conn., and in small animal medicine at the Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston, Mass.

“I’ve always wanted to work in zoo and aquatic medicine. This program offers a comprehensive study of both zoo and aquatic medicine,” says Dr. Davis. “I wanted to come here because the vets are all very well known, and they practice high-quality medicine.”

Dr. Langan plans to have a new resident join the program each year.

“The program involves 10 veterinarians who work every day in exotic, zoo, aquatic, and wildlife medicine. Because of their expertise we can offer residents excellent hands-on experience and exposure to conservation and environmental husbandry,” she says.

“I want to see our residents go on to make an impact, whether working with free-ranging wildlife, exotic animals in captivity, or wherever they end up.”

News from the Zoos

By Quinn Propst

A new residency program in zoologic and aquatic animal medicine started last summer. It is administered through the College’s Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine but located primarily at Brookfield Zoo, Lincoln Park Zoo, and Shedd Aquarium in Chicago.

“The great advantage of the program is that we have three world-class zoo and aquarium institutions in a concentrated metropolitan area. The resident can go on a pager’s notice to watch a procedure or surgery at any of the three institutions,” says Dr. Jennifer Langan, a College faculty member based at Brookfield Zoo.

Dr. Langan and Dr. Kathryn Gamble, director of Veterinary Services at the Lincoln Park Zoo, supervise the residency program. Both are Diplomates of the American College of Zoological Medicine.

Residents will serve four-month rotations at each institution as well as rotations with wildlife and exotic animal medicine and surgery at the College. They can also elect to rotate through specialty areas such as imaging, anesthesiology, and large animal surgery in Urbana.

The 3-year program, which can be combined with a graduate degree, has a scholarly emphasis. Residents are responsible for conducting an original research project, writing five peer-reviewed manuscripts, and presenting at professional meetings.
Pathology Fellowships Grow

This year Illinois received two new pathology fellowships, bringing to four the number of pathology residencies funded by the pharmaceutical industry. In total, Illinois has more than a dozen training positions in anatomic, clinical, toxicologic, and zoologic pathology, most of which combine a residency with a PhD degree.

Veterinary pathologists are increasingly in short supply to participate in biomedical research in industry, academia, and government. To address this need and to enhance interaction between academic and industrial professionals in this field, the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and the Society of Toxicologic Pathology recently created the ACVP/STP Coalition for Veterinary Pathology Fellows.

Illinois was one of five institutions selected from 17 competitive applications to receive funding for a new training position during the first year of the program. A total of 15 new positions are anticipated by the end of 2007.

The Coalition Fellowship positions, funded by industry and private foundations, support three years of residency and/or PhD graduate research training in anatomic or clinical pathology. The fellows will be expected to complete the ACVP Certification Examination and/or their PhD degree within two years of the end of funding.

The industry sponsor for a Coalition Fellowship in anatomic pathology at Illinois is Glaxo-Smith-Kline.

Another new pathology residency fellowship, funded by Merck, begins this fall. Dr. Noelle Bennett, a graduate of Tuskegee University, is the recipient. In addition, Illinois will add a second National Cancer Institute pathology residency position in this academic year.

New Dentistry Modules Available on VEO

Veterinary Education Online (VEO), the College’s Web-based continuing education program, has now been offering quality and value for busy veterinary professionals for one full year. Veterinarians and veterinary technicians in 17 countries and more than 40 states have already enrolled.

This fall five new small animal dentistry modules were added:
- Periodontal Therapy
- Management of Fractured/Worn Teeth
- Jaw Fracture Management
- Oral Tumor Management
- Management of Unusual Oral Lesions

In addition to small animal dentistry, there are skills-building courses in pain management, ophthalmology, diagnostic imaging, cytology, parasitology, and emerging diseases. To enroll in a self-paced VEO course from any computer with Internet access, go to www.veoillinois.org.

Surgery Tech Makes Trek for Hurricane Relief Work

After Katrina hit, Nancy Bauer, a veterinary technician in the small animal surgery section, made the 13-hour drive to Gonzales, La., to work at a temporary animal shelter set up at a local fairground.

“‘There were about 1,300 animals there: dogs, cats, horses, and some exotic animals as well,” she reports. “I basically did kennel work the first few days, taking the dogs for walks, cleaning cages, feeding, and making sure they all had water.

“After that, I worked in the export area where they were shipping dogs and cats out to other shelters so they could be adopted or picked up by their owners. We vaccinated, dewormed, and microchipped each animal before it left.

“It was rewarding work, but it was incredibly hot and humid. We slept outside in tents. The most annoying thing was that there were only two showers for all the women there—probably a couple hundred each day.”

Web Site Features Fast Facts on Dog Flu, Avian Influenza

The Office of Public Engagement has released columns geared to the general public to address frequent concerns regarding the emergence of an equine flu virus in the dog population and the threat of an avian influenza epidemic.

Check these out and share them with your clients. You can find them from the Center for Zoonoses Research home page: http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/czr/
Student-Run Program for Domestic Abuse Victims Helps Hurricane Victims

When Hurricane Katrina wailed through the Gulf Coast, Peja’s three newborns were only one week old. Like their owner, Kim Mullins, and her own children, these cats were left homeless. After Ms. Mullins learned from the Red Cross about the College of Veterinary Medicine’s offer to house the companion animals of those displaced by the storm, she decided her family would stay in Champaign-Urbana.

The new kittens—Brandon, PJ, and Shaq—and their mom received free medical examinations at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and were housed through A Pet’s Place, a volunteer program created and run by veterinary students to aid a different sort of victim: those escaping domestic violence.

A Pet’s Place is a “safe-haven” program founded by students and faculty in the College in 2002. It partners with two area domestic violence shelters to provide no-cost housing and medical care for the pets of women living at the shelter.

The program fills a vital gap in community services for those seeking safety for themselves, their children, and their pets, which are often regarded as members of the family. Most domestic violence shelters do not accept pets, but often abuse victims will not leave their situation if their pets must remain behind.

Ms. Mullins made frequent visits to Peja and her offspring during the month she spent securing permanent living arrangements in the area. “I am most grateful,” she said after being reunited with her cats. “The students loved them and took care of them.”

In all, seven dogs and five cats were housed through the disaster relief effort coordinated by A Pet’s Place.

In September, A Pet’s Place was the recipient of the first-ever “Team Award” through the Campus Award for Excellence in Public Engagement. The award recognizes faculty members, academic professionals, staff, and students who, working together as a team, have made a significant contribution in engaging the public on a sustained basis to address critical societal issues. This recognition included a $5,000 contribution to the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine to support and enhance the program.

The program was initiated and managed by Dr. Christina Comm, Class of 2005, Tom Satkus, Class of 2006, Jennifer Koranda, Class of 2007, and Kathleen Quigley, Class of 2008, with the support of Drs. Dianne Dunning and Steve Marks, and Cheryl Weber, client counselor specialist. Its success relies on the dedication of many students as well as animal caretakers at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Canine Katrina Victims Land in Illinois

Dr. Allan Paul, associate dean for public engagement, marshaled a team of veterinary students to assist with exercising and examining about 80 dogs flown from Dothan, Ala., to Willard Airport on November 29.

The animals came from states hit by Hurricane Katrina. An airlift, coordinated by the American Kennel Club, the Florida Association of Kennel Clubs, and ABKA (a trade association for pet care services), relocated them from an Alabama shelter to make room for additional rescue dogs.

Many volunteers worked long into the night to care for the animals. About half of the dogs were dispatched to Illinois shelters or kennels and the rest continued on a flight to Wisconsin the following day.

According to Katherine Berns, the owner of a local boarding kennel who coordinated the local relief effort, nearly all the dogs brought to Illinois had been adopted by the middle of December.

Dr. Gary Brummet (IL DVM ’81), owner of A&E Animal Hospital in Urbana, and Dr. Kathleen McManamon (IL DVM ’98), owner of Four Counties Mobile Vet in Broadlands, also assisted with physical examinations of each dog.
Summer Research Training Program Receives NIH Support

The Center for Zoonoses Research has received a short-term research training grant from the National Institutes for Health to attract highly qualified veterinary students to biomedical research careers.

The College has been conducting the summer research training program since 2003, allowing 27 veterinary or pre-veterinary students to gain research experience. There is a growing need in government, industry, and academia for veterinary scientists prepared to conduct research, especially in the areas of biodefense, antibiotic resistance, and zoonoses—diseases passed from animals to humans.

The new NIH grant, awarded through the National Center for Research Resources, ensures the continued success of the program. It will supply more than $50,000 a year for up to 5 years to allow 10 U.S. veterinary students to participate in the three-month Summer Research Training in Infectious Diseases.

Principal investigator on the grant is Dr. Uriel Kitron, a professor of pathobiology and community health, and the scientific co-director of CZR. Dr. Roberto Cortinas, former CZR co-director who is now with the University of Georgia, wrote the original grant proposal.

Eligible students will have completed one or two years toward the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at any of the 28 U.S. institutions that grant veterinary degrees. Program participants will be paired with faculty researchers for laboratory and field work.

Students, Faculty Mentors, and Research Topics for the 2005 Summer Research Training in Infectious Diseases

Sponsored by the College and Merck-Merial

- Ryan Ainsworth, Illinois Class of 2008; Dr. Thomas Eurell; Investigation for biomarkers in fish infected with atypical mycobacteria
- Miranda Bertram, Kansas State, Class of 2008; Dr. Brenda Wilson; Localizing the activity domain of Pasteurella multocida toxin

Sponsored by the Pfizer Pre-Veterinary Program

- Wanda Averhart, junior in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Dr. Sherrie Clark; Immuno expression of potential cell cycle regulatory factors in the developing pig testis
- Cara Williams, junior in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences; Dr. Victor Valli; Morphologic, phenotypic, and quantitative cellular characterization of feline small intestinal immune cells

Upcoming Holistic Medicine Seminar

The March 4 Seminar for Alternative Therapies in Veterinary Medicine is geared to veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and students interested in holistic medicine. The format combines lectures and wet labs.

For more information, visit the Office of Public Engagement Web site at www.cvm.uiuc.edu/ope/.
Logging Changed Ecological Balance for Monkeys

Excerpted from a story by Jim Barlow, University of Illinois News Bureau

Twenty-eight years after intense selective logging stopped in the region now known as Uganda’s Kibale National Park, the red-tailed guenon is a primate still in decline.

The logging practice changed the ecological balance for these monkeys, leading to behavioral changes and opening the door for multiple parasitic infections, according to a study published recently in the Journal of Applied Ecology by Dr. Thomas Gillespie and co-authors Colin Chapman of McGill University in Canada and Ellis Greiner of the University of Florida.

Researchers focused on three primate species, collecting 1,076 fecal samples from the heavily logged area and from an undisturbed, nearby forest from August 1997 to August 2002 as part of a longitudinal study of logging's impact. The samples came from red-tailed guenon, red colobus, and black-and-white colobus and were analyzed for the eggs and larvae of worms and protozoan cysts.

While the three primate species were subject to a higher risk of infections, only the guenons suffered from an increased number of parasites, including three parasites not found in undisturbed forest. In the selective-logging area, more than 50 percent of the trees, many of them the food sources for the mostly fruit-eating guenons, had been removed.

“We saw dramatic changes in the prevalence of infection and in the frequency of multiple infections in these logged areas,” said lead researcher Dr. Gillespie, who has joint faculty appointments in the Department of Pathobiology and in Anthropology.

Dr. Gillespie initiated the research as an EPA fellow and doctoral student at the University of Florida. He continues the work at Illinois to better understand the interplay between habitat disturbance and primate conservations and health in Uganda. He is collaborating with Dr. Tony Goldberg, pathobiology, and other researchers at Illinois, where state-of-the-art facilities and faculty expertise are uniquely suited for studying disease emergence, zoonotic diseases and the consequences of land-use changes.

“Knowledge of how particular species are affected by various forms of ecological change is essential to promote land-use policy that is compatible with animal and human health and biodiversity conservation,” Gillespie, Chapman and Greiner wrote in the conclusion of their study.—Full story at http://www.news.uiuc.edu/news/05/0614primates.html

Stem Cells Are Under Tight Regulation Within Special Niche

Scientists in the Department of Veterinary Biosciences played a key role in uncovering a regulator of stem cell renewal in germ cells of the male. This discovery could lead to new treatments for infertility, cancer, and therapeutic regulation of stem cells.

The study, which was published in the August 18 issue of Nature, originated in the Department of Pathology and Immunology at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. There Dr. Kenneth Murphy’s laboratory used gene knockout technology to remove a “transcription factor” called ERM. Transcription factors are proteins that facilitate specific gene activity and improve the function of a cell by increasing synthesis of key proteins and other factors that regulate cell physiology, including cell multiplication or mitosis.

The Washington University group found that the ERM knockout mice were infertile and contacted Dr. Rex Hess, whose laboratory specializes in male infertility and the development of a potential male contraceptive. The Illinois group discovered that although the testis appeared normal for a few weeks, the stem cells did not self-renew, which led to complete depletion of germ cells and sperm.

It was discovered that ERM was produced not by the germ cells, but rather by the Sertoli cell, a nurse cell that regulates germ cell development. The nurse cell, under the regulation of the ERM gene, synthesizes factors that are secreted, forming a niche or environment, to ensure that the stem cells renew themselves and thus perpetuate spermatogenesis continually.

Understanding this stem cell regulation has major implications for treating male infertility and possibly testicular cancer. It is also possible that environmental chemicals could affect the stem cells during development, producing a decrease in sperm counts in the adult.

The male reproduction side of this project is being transferred to the University of Illinois campus. The laboratories of Dr. Hess and Dr. Paul Cooke will focus on understanding the molecular mechanisms involved, and the knockout mice will be used for the broader study of factors that regulate adult and embryonic stem cells. 
To Stem Toxoplasmosis, Keep Cats Indoors

Excerpted from a story by Jim Barlow, University of Illinois News Bureau

Keep pets inside, stop feeding strays, cook meat sufficiently and reconsider the way the veterinary profession and public health agencies think—and teach—about the zoonotic pathogen Toxoplasma gondii.

Such were the recommendations given by Dr. Milton McAllister, pathobiology, in an address at the 20th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, held in Christchurch, New Zealand, in October.

Dr. McAllister based his recommendations on a review of numerous studies on the animal-carried pathogen during the past decade. His review was published in the September 30 issue of the journal Veterinary Parasitology.

“Our profession needs to come to grip with the accumulating body of evidence about the tremendous burden wrought on society by toxoplasmosis,” Dr. McAllister writes. “Further research is needed to clarify the association between toxoplasmosis and mental health, but until such time that this association may be refuted, it is my opinion that the current evidence is strong enough to warrant an assumption of validity.”

He and his colleagues are beginning to work on a new vaccine, which, if successful, would be administered to cats orally, possibly incorporated into a treat. The vaccine would be used to prevent cats from shedding toxoplasma.

His review notes a long list of maladies made worse by toxoplasma infection in people with suppressed immunity and cites a growing list of studies that link problems in people whose immune systems are not impaired. Among the latter problems are fever, enlarged lymph nodes, weakness and debilitation, damaged vision, or multi-systemic infections with serious complications such as pneumonia and hepatitis. Toxoplasma also is a causative agent of encephalitis in AIDS patients.—Full story at http://www.news.uiuc.edu/news/05/1018toxoplasma.html

Dr. Roy F. Barnes
Clinical Assistant Professor, Small Animal Surgery, Veterinary Clinical Medicine
- DVM, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, 2000
- MS, University of Illinois, 2005

Research interests: Application of minimally invasive surgery to the diagnosis and treatment of companion animal surgical diseases, especially the use of laparoscopy for the diagnosis of gastrointestinal and urogenital diseases in both the canine and feline species; reconstructive surgery in animals with neoplasia.

Before coming to Illinois for a master’s degree and a residency in small animal surgery, Dr. Barnes served as an emergency clinician at the Animal Emergency Clinic of North Texas in Southlake, Texas, from 2001 to 2002. He also completed a surgical internship at Dallas (Texas) Veterinary Surgical Center and spent a year on a rotational internship at Raleigh, N.C., where he worked in emergency care management.

Dr. Julie K. Byron
Clinical Assistant Professor, Small Animal Medicine, Veterinary Clinical Medicine
- DVM, Ohio State University, 1998
- MS (Veterinary Clinical Science), Ohio State University, 2004
- Dipl., American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, Small Animal Internal Medicine, 2004

Research interests: Urodynamic studies for diagnosis of lower urinary tract disease; cystoscopy; therapy of lower urinary tract disease in dogs with an emphasis on congenital disease and sphincter mechanism incompetence; and feline and canine diabetes mellitus.

Dr. Byron spent the past year at PetCare Veterinary Hospital in Santa Rosa, Calif., where she was an associate internal medicine specialist. In 2003 she completed a residency in small animal internal medicine at The Ohio State University in Columbus. From 1999 to 2000 Dr. Byron was an associate veterinarian at the New York Veterinary Hospital in New York, N.Y. Previously she spent a year in an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the VCA West Los Angeles Animal Hospital in Los Angeles, Calif.

Amy MacNeill
Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor, Pathobiology, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
- DVM, University of Florida, 1998
- Dipl., American College of Veterinary Pathologists, 2004
- PhD, University of Florida, 2005

Research interests: Examining poxvirus proteins that suppress the immune system of the infected animal; virus serine proteinase inhibitors (serpins) as treatments for immune-mediated diseases; poxvirus pathogenesis; poxviruses in cancer therapies.

From 1999 to 2005 Dr. MacNeill earned her PhD at the University of Florida College of Medicine. Her principal area of research was poxvirus immunopathology. During the same period she also completed a clinical pathology residency at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. MacNeill has practiced small animal and avian medicine and surgery at the Banfield Pet Hospital in Gainesville and Jacksonville, Fla., at the Westside Animal Hospital in Gainesville, Fla., and at the Russell Animal Hospital in Concord, N.H.
Dr. Susan L. Schantz, professor of environmental toxicology and psychology, has spent most of her research career investigating the human health effects of environmental contaminants.

For the past four years, Dr. Schantz has directed the FRIENDS Children’s Environmental Health Research Center, a $5 million program jointly funded by the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences and the Environmental Protection Agency.

The center conducts both laboratory-based animal studies and parallel epidemiological studies of Hmong and Laotian populations who live near Green Bay, Wis.

After the Vietnam War, Hmong and Laotian refugees settled in Wisconsin’s Fox River Valley and continued the fish-based diet of their country of origin. They were not aware of the fishing advisories or the toxins in the fish, says Dr. Schantz.

Dr. Schantz, who grew up in Green Bay, knew this would be an important place to study the neuro behavioral effects of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and methyl mercury.

“My research focuses on exposure to these compounds during development and aging, two periods when the nervous system is particularly vulnerable to toxic insult,” says Dr. Schantz.

The children’s center is unique because it combines research with community-based intervention education. “We work very closely with the community to reduce exposure and to gain their perspectives on health issues,” says Dr. Schantz.

The center may expand its scope and look at adolescents and young adults as well as children. A specialist in early infant cognition hired recently will enable the center to test infants as young as two months.

“We will do tests at birth that are predictive of a child’s IQ,” says Dr. Schantz. “If they have been affected developmentally, maybe we can intervene at a younger age.”

Dr. Schantz hopes the children’s center will continue beyond its five-year funding term. She wants to follow the babies they are studying now into adulthood to better determine the long-term impacts of PCBs and methyl mercury.

Another current career goal for Dr. Schantz is to improve the toxicology training program. She is program chair for the campus’s Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Program and directs the training grant, which was recently renewed for the next five years.

Dr. Schantz is also excited about a new research challenge. She is part of a multidisciplinary team on campus that gained funding last year to study the health effects of soy isoflavones found in dietary supplements. She will study the effects of phytoestrogens on cognitive function and brain tissue.

Dr. Schantz has been at the University of Illinois for 15 years. She earned her bachelor’s and PhD degrees at the University of Wisconsin.

Despite an impressive research career making advances that improve human lives, Dr. Schantz finds the most satisfaction at home:

“Raising my daughter is my greatest accomplishment. When I put things in perspective I realize that family is what’s most important.”

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**Research Projects Funded Between April 1 and September 30, 2005**

- Beasley VR. Illinois Department of Natural Resources, $14,207, The Feline Thyroid Gland: A Model for Endocrine Disruption by PBDEs?
- Beasley VR. World Wildlife Fund, $10,000, Environmental Toxins Disrupt Ovarian Circadian Rhythms.
- Stewart M. Shriners Hospitals for Children, $22,208, ADAMTS Processing and Activation-Degradomics and Therapeutics.
- Stewart A. Veterinary Orthopedic Society, $10,000, Development of Tendon-Derived Mesenchymal Progenitor-Based Therapy for Tendon Healing in Horses.
College Celebrates Service and Excellence of Faculty and Staff

For the past 13 years, the College has held a fall awards ceremony to recognize faculty, graduate students, and staff members for their service and achievements. Listed here are the award winners from both 2004 and 2005.

2005 Faculty and Staff Awards
The following awards included $1,000 and a certificate, unless otherwise noted.

Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Research Excellence Award
for quality and quantity of publications, research awards, and outside recognition
Dr. Tom Goetz
Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine

Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Service Excellence Award
for outstanding committee work, clinical service, and continuing education
Dr. Anne Barger
Clinical Assistant Professor, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Helen Kruger Teaching Excellence Award
for teaching with enthusiasm, dedication, clarity, and creativity and integrating subject concepts into the overall framework of the veterinary curriculum; selected by third- and fourth-year veterinary students
Dr. Ralph Hamor
Associate Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine

Chicago Veterinary Medical Association Outstanding Instructor Award
for an instructor who provides excellence in clinical instruction; selected by members of the CVMA who graduated from the College in the previous two years; $1,500 to purchase equipment or supplies and a certificate
Dr. Sandra Manfra-Marretta
Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine

Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence
for research that shows promise of attaining or that has attained national recognition
Dr. Indrani Bagchi
Professor, Veterinary Biosciences

Dr. Norman and Mrs. Helen Levine Award
for research productivity and excellence among young faculty at the College; $500
Dr. Allison Stewart
Assistant Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine

Terry and Judy Rathgeber Academic Professional Excellence Award
for exemplary performance and professionalism, demonstrated creativity and initiative, and interpersonal skills
Kim Knapp
Veterinary Technician I, Veterinary Clinical Medicine

Dr. Robert and Lucy Graham Staff Excellence Award
for outstanding contributions by a staff employee
Lou Ann Miller
Technologist IV, Electron Microscopy Center

Shirley A. Seets Staff Excellence Award
for demonstrated excellence in overall job performance and service
Tish (Leatitia) Lehigh
Account Technician II, Pathobiology

From top: Dr. David Gross and retiree Judy Mewes; Dr. David Williams and 25-year service awardee Barbara Huffman; Dr. Ted and Mrs. Carroll Valli with Dr. Kathleen Heinz-Taheny; Dean Herb Whiteley and Dr. Allison Stewart; Dr. Mariangela Segre with Astrid Uebing; Dr. Dan Rock and 15-year service awardee Dr. Federico Zuckermann.
2005 Graduate Student Awards

Dr. Joseph O. Alberts Award
for an outstanding graduate student in veterinary medical science; $100 and a certificate
Motoko Mukai
Veterinary Biosciences

Dr. Walter E. Hoffmann and Dr. Ann L. Johnson Resident Teaching Excellence Award
for a resident, intern, or graduate student in training at the College for an AVMA-recognized specialty board; $1,000 and a certificate
Elena Gorman
Pathobiology

Drs. Diego and Mariangela Segre Fellowship
for an outstanding graduate student in the Department of Pathobiology, $1,500 and a certificate
Astrid Uebing
Pathobiology

Dr. Ted and Carroll Valli Award
for current DVM/PhD candidates; $500 and a certificate
Dr. Kathleen Heinz-Taheny
Pathobiology

Dr. Edward J. and Lois G. Voss Award
for a graduate student conducting research in pursuit of a master’s or PhD degree in immunology, molecular biology, or biochemistry in the Department of Pathobiology; $1,000 and a certificate
Dr. Kathleen Heinz-Taheny
Pathobiology

Dr. Paul B. Doby Award
Dr. James Lowe
Pathobiology

Dr. Walter E. Hoffmann and Dr. Ann L. Johnson Resident Teaching Excellence Award
Dr. April Paulman
Pathobiology

Drs. Diego and Mariangela Segre Fellowship
Georgina Cheng
Pathobiology

Dr. Ted and Carroll Valli Award
Dr. Carla Morrow
Veterinary Biosciences

Dr. Edward J. and Lois G. Voss Award
Yan Ling
Pathobiology

Retiree Recognition

Seven retirees from fiscal year 2005 were recognized at the November 17, 2005, ceremony. Their names, titles at the time of retirement, and years of service are:
Ronald Smith, Professor and Interim Department Head, 32 years;
Laura Anglen, Anatomy Preparator, 11 years;
Judy Mewes, Staff Secretary, 19 years;
Sherri Brewer, Administrative Clerk, 11 years;
Rebecca Strater, Veterinary Technician II (Surgery), 29 years;
Peggy Wyatt, Staff Clerk, 40 years;
Gregg Clabaugh, Veterinary Research Specialist, 30 years.

Eight retirees from fiscal year 2004 were recognized on November 18, 2004. Their names, titles at the time of retirement, and years of service are:
Judy Reinhart, Research Programmer, 4 years;
James Stockdale, Herder at Dixon Springs, 16 years;
Theodore Diem, Building Mechanic at Dixon Springs, 18 years;
Terry Rathgeber, Associate Dean of Advancement, 32 years;
Dr. Mark Simon, Associate Professor, 32 years;
Dr. Gordon Benson, Professor and Chair of Anesthesiology, 28 years;
Dr. Randall Ott, Professor and Director of On-Line Degree Program, 28 years;
Dr. Ted Lock, Professor, 32 years.
The University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine was well represented at the 25th annual conference of the Veterinary Cancer Society, held in Huntington Beach, Calif. in October. All of the oncology service attended the meeting and some presented scientific abstracts, including Drs. Anne Barger, Roy Barnes, Louis-Philippe de Lorimier, Timothy Fan, David Heller, Lorin Hillman, Hugues Lacoste, Olya Smrkovski, Ted Valli, and Jacqueline Wypij.

At the 48th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, held in November in Hershey, Pa., Dr. John Andrews, director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, and Dr. Gavin Meerdink, also of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, were honored with AAVLD life memberships, which recognize members who have made outstanding contributions to veterinary diagnostic medicine or to AAVLD.

Dr. Lily Cheng, pathobiology, won the $500 AAVLD Foundation Trainee(Graduate Student or Resident) Award for her poster presentation.

At the 4th CL Davis Diagnostic Pathology Symposium, held in conjunction with the AAVLD annual meeting, Drs. Wanda Haschek-Hock, pathobiology, and Gavin Meerdink were invited speakers. Dr. Meerdink spoke on General Diagnostic Toxicology and Dr. Haschek on Organ specific toxicity.

Several residents recently passed the certification examination to be recognized as board-certified specialists in the American College of Veterinary Medicine. They are as follows: Dr. Brett Tennent-Brown (Large Animal), Dr. Amy Weideman (Oncology), and Drs. Eric Linnetz and Melanie Otte (both Small Animal). Drs. David Heller and Hugues Lacoste recently passed the ACVIM qualifying examination in Oncology. Dr. Camilla Lieske passed the examination to become a diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Toxicology. Dr. Adam Patterson passed the certification examination to become a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology.

Three faculty members lectured in a seminar series on “Biodefense and Emerging Health Policy Issues,” sponsored by the University of Illinois Program in Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security: Dr. John Herrmann, veterinary clinical medicine, Dr. Uriel Kitron, pathobiology, Dr. Dan Rock, head of pathology, all spoke.

Web designers Nancy Oliver and Karen Edwards and illustrator Kerry Helms of the College’s Biomedical Communications Center won the national “Collaborative Teaching and Research Award in Higher Education Innovation” from Macromedia for a Web site created for Dr. Ann Johnson. Try the Fracture Planning program, designed to allow veterinary students to become proficient in fracture planning before treating a patient, here: http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/fracplan/.

Dr. Val Beasley, veterinary biosciences, is featured in an interview on Frog Calls on a Web site hosted by documentary filmmaker David McGowan. See www.midwestfrogs.com. It was mentioned in the “NetWatch” section of the 28 October issue of Science magazine.

Dr. Beasley also presented at the XIIIth International Society for Animal Hygiene Congress: Animals and Environment in Warsaw, Poland, in September. He also represented the Envirovet Program in Wildlife and Ecosystem Health at a workshop held in Kaunas, Lithuania, in September. The workshop is drafting a proposal for new master’s degree program offerings in Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture.

Dr. Peter Constable, interim head, veterinary clinical medicine, gave presentations at the Academy of Dairy Veterinary Consultants spring meeting in San Luis Obispo, Calif., in May. In September Dr. Constable gave continuing education lectures at the Southwest Veterinary Symposium in Fort Worth, Texas. In October he was the keynote speaker at the Australian Cattle Veterinary Association conference. He spoke on calf diarrhea, bovine respiratory disease, and bovine neurologic disease, including bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

Dr. Larry Firkins, pathobiology, was recently named Assistant Dean for Public Engagement in addition to his continuing appointment as an association professor and swine Extension veterinarian. He also served on the American Veterinary Medical Association task force to draft the recently approved position statement on pregnant sow housing. The 13-member task force critically reviewed over 200 scientific studies related to pregnant sow housing. The position statement is on the AVMA Web site at http://www.avma.org/policies/animalwelfare.asp#sowhousing.

At the 4th CL Davis Diagnostic Pathology Symposium, held in conjunction with the AAVLD annual meeting, Drs. Wanda Haschek-Hock, pathobiology, and Gavin Meerdink were invited speakers. Dr. Meerdink spoke on General Diagnostic Toxicology and Dr. Haschek on Organ specific toxicity.

Authors’ Corner:


Dr. Ann Johnson, interim hospital director, recently published AO Principles of Fracture Management in the Dog and Cat. Focusing on the biology of fracture healing, this book is designed to guide the surgeon through all the stages of fracture management and also covers considerations for rehabilitation. Dr. Johnson also recently coauthored Atlas of Orthopedic Surgical Procedures of the Dog and Cat, with Dr. Dianne Dunning. It features the latest techniques for arthroscopy, joint stabilization, arthrodesis, fracture repair, corrective osteotomies, and limb amputation. The publisher is Elsevier.

Dr. Ronald D. Smith, emeritus professor (shown at right with veterinary medicine librarian Greg Youngen), donated a copy of the third edition of his book, Veterinary Clinical Epidemiology, to the Veterinary Medicine Library. The preface acknowledges the excellent collection and services provided by the library. The publisher is CRC Press.
Dr. Jonathan Foreman, veterinary clinical medicine, worked as the official veterinarian at a Federation Equestre Internationale reining competition held in Gifford, Ill., in March. He presented new data at the annual meeting of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in Baltimore in June. He also gave invited lectures at the Purdue University Fall Conference in September. Dr. Foreman was a course leader and gave a lecture at the recent Training Course for Event Veterinarians run by the United States Equestrian for the FEI in Fair Hill, Md., in late October. He was recently invited to present a paper at the 7th International Conference on Equine Exercise Physiology in Fontainebleau, France, next summer.

Dr. Wanda Haschek-Hock, pathobiology, was appointed associate editor of Toxicologic Pathology, a journal of the Society of Toxicologic Pathology. Her term will run July 2005 through December 2007. She and Dr. Tanasa Osborne, graduate student in pathobiology, gave an invited presentation titled “GEMS: Models of Respiratory Disease” at the 4th Workshop on the Pathology of Mouse Models for Human Disease held at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., in August.

Dr. Haschek-Hock (at left) hosted the annual meeting of the Sydney University Graduates Union of North America, which brought dozens of alumni of the University of Sydney who currently live in North America to Urbana in mid October. College faculty member Dr. Matt Stewart, who is also a member of SUGUNA, presented to the group and participated in the meeting. College guests at the meeting included Dr. Ned Hahn, Dr. Peter Constable, and Dean Herb Whiteley (pictured at right with Judge Kim Santow, chancellor of the University of Sydney, Robert Charles, Australian Consul General from the Embassy in Chicago, and Robert Ettinger, SUGUNA President).

Dr. Jack Herrmann, veterinary clinical medicine, was appointed by the director of the Illinois Department of Public Health to the team responsible for creating the State Health Improvement Plan. He will review available county health assessments with data from national sources and data on health systems within regions of the state.

Dr. Herrman also helped draft the Public Health Preparedness Workforce Development Act, which was originally introduced in the 108th Congress last year and reintroduced in the Senate in March (S. 506). The Act would provide scholarship and loan repayment programs to attract more students to the public health professions.

Dr. Rex A. Hess, veterinary biosciences, gave invited lectures in reproductive biology at the University of Giessen, Germany, in April; at the University Campus Zurich-Irchel, Winterthur, Switzerland, in June; and at the University of Lausanne, Dorigny, Switzerland, in July. He was recently elected to serve as a member of the Executive Council for the American Society of Andrology from 2005 to 2008.

Kirsten Holthusen and Avenel Joseph, both graduate students in veterinary biosciences, received awards from the Larry Ewing Memorial Trainee Travel Fund to attend the 2005 Society for the Study of Reproduction Annual Meeting in Quebec City, Canada. Holthusen also received the Lalor Foundation Award.

Kim Knapp, technician in veterinary clinical medicine, was invited to join Pfizer’s Technician Expert in Compassionate Care program, a group of technicians who teach pain management and exceptional care practices to fellow veterinary technicians across the nation.

Dr. Steve Kneller, veterinary clinical medicine, gave an invited lecture on clinical imaging modalities in the Bioengineering Interdisciplinary Group Seminar, a course offered through the Department of Mechanical Engineering, in October.

Sherrie Lanzo, laboratory manager in veterinary biosciences, received the campus Dad’s Association Outstanding Staff Certificate of Merit. She is shown here with the students who nominated her: Lauren Jacobsen, Jeff Gerlesits, Erica Jewell, Christina J. Hansen, Debbie Sink, Amanda Evans, and Catherine Benson. Not pictured is Agnes Bajor.

Dr. Gay Miller, pathobiology, presented a paper at the 7th International Livestock Environmental Symposium in Beijing, China, in May. Her trip also included presentations at China Agricultural University, Beijing; Shandong Agricultural University, Taian; and Shanghai Jiaotong University, Shanghai; and visits to three large swine farms, arranged by the Guangdong Livestock Extension Services in and around Guangzhou, Guangdong, in South China.

Carla Morrow, graduate student in veterinary biosciences, received funding through the NIH Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program, which is similar to a NIH Individual Fellowship.

Dr. Gerald Pijanowski, associate dean for academic and student affairs, was honored with a Rose Fay Thomas Special Recognition award from the Anti-Cruelty Society at its annual meeting in Chicago, Ill., in December. It was given in appreciation for his time and dedication to the animals and the students.


Dr. David Schaeffer, veterinary biosciences, and co-authors Pooja Anand, Christopher P. L. Barkan, Charles J. Werth, and Barbara S. Minsker won “Best Paper Award on Environment” for their presentation at the Environment & Human Factors session of the 8th International Heavy Haul Conference in June in Brazil.
Dr. Clifford F. Shipley, veterinary clinical medicine, spoke at the American Veterinary Medical Association/World Veterinary Conference in Minneapolis in July and at the Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas in February.

Dr. Petra Volmer, veterinary biosciences, presented nine invited lectures in clinical toxicology at the Central Veterinary Conference in Kansas City, Mo., in August. She currently serves as the departmental editor for the Toxicology Briefs department of the journal Veterinary Medicine. Toxicology Briefs are published every other month and are posted on the Web site of the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center. Dr. Volmer is editing the toxicology section of the next edition of the Handbook of Small Animal Practice, published by Elsevier.

Student News

Marcia Chien, Class of 2008, was one of only 28 veterinary students from around the world selected to attend the Leadership Program for Veterinary Students, hosted by the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University, last summer. She received the Program Prize for best overall research project, as judged by the underlying hypothesis, project design, research results, and presentation. Her research project was entitled “The role of tissue transglutaminase in cell mobility and invasion.”

Lynn A. Collura, Class of 2006, has won the Veterinary Student Award for 2005 from the American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners in recognition of her extraordinary accomplishments in the field of laboratory animal medicine. The award included a monetary scholarship, certificate, and a complimentary one-year membership in the Society.

Sarah Deitschel, Class of 2006, ran in the Chicago Marathon on October 9, raising approximately $850 for the Wildlife Medical Clinic. She had served as co-manager of the clinic in her second and third years of veterinary school.

Nick Guedet, Kelli Kramer, and Jim Park, all from the Class of 2007, spent last summer helping Illinois veterinary practices learn about and implement online business management tools from the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues (NCVEI). These students serve on the executive board of the Veterinary Business Management Association.

More than 100 practices participated, and feedback on the program was very positive. The project was initiated and managed by the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association, with financial support from national and regional VMAs, industry sponsors, and the College’ Office of Academic and Student Affairs.

Laurice Jackson, a high school student from South Holland, Ill., worked with Drs. Karen Campbell and Dr. David Schaeffer through the campus Summer Research Apprenticeship Program II. She won Outstanding Project Paper and Distinguished Scholarship awards for her project, titled “Canine atopic dermatitis: a retrospective study of intradermal and serum tests.”

Several veterinary students have served or are serving in the military, often missing a year or more of their studies.

Dr. George Eales joined the National Guard right out of high school and served throughout his undergraduate education. Originally a member of the Class of 2002, he was deployed to Wiesbaden, Germany, during his fourth year of veterinary school. After spending six months guarding an airbase there, he returned and completed his degree, joining the Greenhaven Animal Clinic, a mixed animal practice, in San Jose, Ill., in 2003.

Sandy Miller served as a Supply Sergeant in Bakaal, Iraq, from November 2003 to February 2005. She too was in her fourth year of veterinary school at the time of her deployment. Miller joined the Army National Guard to help pay for veterinary school, but has really come to enjoy it. She has reenlisted for another six years and plans to retire in the military.

“The being in a leadership position in the military gave me a lot of confidence and independence,” says Miller. “I love my job and the people I work with, so that is a big part of why I’m staying in the military.”

Miller says the Office of Academic and Student Affairs, headed by Dr. Gerald Pijanowski, helped ease her transition back to school, where she finished her degree in December.

“The school was absolutely awesome. Dr. Pijanowski was in touch with me all along,” says Miller. “I had such a good support system from the school while I was gone.”

Specialist Gilbert Turner IV, Class of 2008, is currently stationed in a small town about 30 miles south of Baghdad, and expects to return in April or May of 2006. He joined the Guard in 2002 because he felt it was his duty to serve his country.

Going from veterinary school to serving in the armed forces is a big change, but also very rewarding, says Turner.

“I enjoyed school a lot and I miss my friends and family more than words can say, but I wouldn’t change it,” says Turner. “I’m extremely proud of what I’m doing and it is something I’ll always take great pride in.”

Dr. Lisa Read (IL DVM ’97), at left, was recently deployed to Iraq. She contacted Dr. Clifford Shipley, veterinary clinical medicine, before she left to obtain an Illini pennant to take with her.
Message from the President of the University of Illinois Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association

Dear Colleagues:

When is the last time you went to visit a vet school classmate?

Now, when is the last time you went to visit the school?

For me, I would have to say it’s been too long for both. Email and phone call chains have kept us in touch with each other. Cards and pictures help us to catch up. The challenges of life and work have consumed much of the available time in our days.

Visits from veterinary students to our practice help to re-connect our business with the activities of the College. None of us would admit the courses were “fun”, but somehow we all managed to squeeze a little fun into the school days along the way. As I recall, some had a lot of fun and somehow squeezed in a little school along the way too.

We also communicate regularly with the faculty and diagnostic lab staff at our practice.

However, I find myself feeling rather insignificant when I hear the stories of the award winners (see story this page) who have contributed massive amounts of time, energy, and money to the College.

These award winners show us all how it really can be done: balancing the time and energy devoted to their own career and life goals with their commitment to helping others and serving the profession. I realize that my own class was preceded by decades of strong commitment to the profession and to progress in the education of future generations of veterinarians.

The next step for me is to search out how to give back. We have an opportunity to reconnect with the College as well as our classmates through reunions and message boards. The College makes an effort to include us, and we need these committed scientists and educators to build the profession. The College also offers support in arranging reunions and finding each other.

I look forward to giving back to the College and to meeting with my classmates to enjoy their stories at our 10-year reunion, which is coming in 2006.

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Bill Hollis
Class of 1996

College and Veterinary Alumni Association Honor Three

On Thursday, October 20, the College and the University of Illinois Veterinary Medical Alumni Association presented two Dr. Erwin Small Distinguished Alumni Awards and a Special Service Award. Dr. Andrew Lucyshyn (DVM ’95), president of the alumni association, made the presentations during the evening social gathering at the 86th annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians.

The Dr. Erwin Small Distinguished Alumni Award was given to distinguished Illinois graduates who have made significant contributions to the profession or College.

Dr. Rosemary LoGiudice (DVM ‘81) is the director of Membership and Field Services for the American Veterinary Medical Association and the adviser to the Student AVMA. Before joining the staff of the AVMA she had been in equine practice for 20 years and had owned Country Care Animal Hospital in Manhattan, Ill. She has been very active with the Illinois State VMA, including serving as president, and has served on the College’s dean search committee, alumni association board, and many student applicant interview teams. In 1995, she received the Special Service Award from the College and its alumni association. She was especially pleased to receive the current award, named for her longtime mentor and friend, Dr. Small.

Dr. Kenneth Terrill “K.T.” Wright (DVM ’62), owner of the Blandinsville (Ill.) Veterinary Clinic, was honored for being a strong supporter of the College and for his leadership in the American Association of Swine Veterinarians, including serving on the Board of Directors, chairing its Foundation, and serving as the AASV delegate to the AVMA. In 1991 he received the first Meritorious Service Award from the AASV. At the College he is a member of the Dean’s External Advisory Committee. He is known for his support and mentoring of students and practitioners. He facilitated the establishment of the Class of 1962 Endowment Fund, which sponsors food animal speakers at the College’s annual Fall Conference, and with his wife he created the Kenneth T. and Betty L. Wright Scholarship for veterinary students.

Dr. Samuel Wesley Thompson (DVM Iowa State ’46, MS Iowa State ’56, Dipl. ACVP), veterinary pathologist and founder of the Charles Louis Davis Foundation, received the Special Service Award for an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to the veterinary profession or the College. Dr. Thompson served in the U.S. Army from 1946 to 1967, achieving the position of chief of the Department of Veterinary Pathology at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and Senior Veterinary Pathologist at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathol-
ogy. From 1967 to 1980, he was manager of the Pathology Department at CIBA-GEIGY Pharmaceuticals. During his career he also held teaching appointments at Colorado State University and Georgetown University and was a frequent consultant to the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army. The nomination for Dr. Thompson called him “the founder, visionary, and leader” of the C.L. Davis Foundation, an organization of more than 4,000 members in more than 95 countries with an interest in veterinary and comparative pathology.

Class of 1955

The 50th reunion of the Class of 1955 took place October 14 and 15 in Urbana. Classmates enjoyed a brunch at the dean’s house, tours of campus and the veterinary complex, and a dinner at the Illini Union. Attending were (from left) Drs. Jim Finnell, Don Osborne, Stan Larsen, Chuck Josephson, J.D. Kerr, James Allison, Robert Keough, Lloyd Helper, Paul Johnson, Ralph Ziegler, and Hal Sheets.

Several individuals affiliated with our College were honored at the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association Convention, held in Springfield in November. Their names and awards are: Dr. Wesley Bieritz (IL DVM ’63), Veterinary Service Award; Dr. John Spence (IL DVM ’01), Erwin Small First Decade Award; Terry Rathgeber, former associate dean for development at the College, Honorary Life Membership Award; and Dr. Gavin Meerdink, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Board Service Award.

Dr. Wayne Rehn (IL DVM ’61), of Alpha, Ill., was recently appointed a trustee on the Housing Resources Trust Board of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. Rehn previously served as vice grand president of the National Board for the fraternity which he joined in 1956.

Dr. Jorge Guerrero (IL MS ’68, IL PhD ’71) received the Distinguished Veterinary Parasitologist Award at the annual meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists, held in Minneapolis, Minn., in July. Two earlier recipients of this award also had a strong connection to Illinois: Dr. Norman D. Levine, former faculty member, received the award in 1986, and Dr. Byron Blagburn (IL PhD ’82) received it in 2001.

We want to hear from you!

Your fellow alumni, as well as the College of Veterinary Medicine, want to find out what has been happening in your life. Send your news to be included in Veterinary Report, which is mailed three times a year and is also available online at www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vetreport/. Email your updates to editor@cvm.uiuc.edu or mail or fax this handy form.

NAME: _________________________________________________________________________________

YEAR(S) OF GRADUATION AND DEGREE(S) EARNED: ______________________________________

ADDRESS: ______________________________________________________________________________

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(We will send you our monthly electronic newsletter, Illinois VetNews. If you prefer not to receive it, check here: ☐)

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(We will send you our monthly electronic newsletter, Illinois VetNews. If you prefer not to receive it, check here: ☐)

We will send you our monthly electronic newsletter, Illinois VetNews. If you prefer not to receive it, check here: ☐
Dr. Roger Mahr (Iowa State DVM ’71), of Geneva, Ill., was elected president-elect of the American Veterinary Medical Association for 2005-2006. Dr. Mahr will spend his term focusing on the improvement of animal and human health. He identified the shortage of food supply veterinarians and the low numbers of veterinarians in public practice as areas of particular concern.

Dr. Mahr recently sold the small animal practice he had owned and operated for 31 years in order to focus on his responsibilities to the AVMA. Dr. Mahr has served as president of the ISVMA and the Chicago VMA, chaired the Illinois Veterinary Licensing and Disciplinary Board, and served as the District VI representative to the AVMA Executive Board.

Dr. Michael M. Pavletic (IL DVM ’74) was elected as the 2007 president of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. Dr. Pavletic is currently the director of surgical services and head of the Department of Surgery at Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston. He is the author of the Saunders/Elsevier Atlas of Small Animal Reconstructive Surgery and has developed over 40 original wound management and reconstructive surgical techniques currently used in small animal surgery. In 1996, Dr. Pavletic received the Bourgelat International Award from the British Veterinary Small Animal Association for his numerous contributions to the veterinary profession.

Rear Admiral Linda R. Tollefson (IL DVM ’80) has been appointed Assistant Commissioner for Science at the Food and Drug Administration. Most recently, RADM Tollefson served as Deputy Director of the Center for Veterinary Medicine. In that capacity she led an effort to implement a risk-based approach to address antimicrobial resistance and was instrumental in the founding of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System for Enteric Bacteria. She also served as Chief of Epidemiology in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, where she served as liaison to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Dr. Tollefson has given exemplary service to FDA for 21 years in a variety of key positions. Science underpins all of FDA’s decisions and with her many years of experience as a manager and scientist at FDA, Dr. Tollefson is the best choice to help lead FDA’s key office for science,” said Dr. Lester Crawford, Commissioner of the FDA.

Dr. Nancy Everds, Dipl. ACVp (IL DVM ’86), was installed last summer as the president of the Society of Toxicologic Pathology, the premier international organization of veterinary and medical pathologists researching the effects of xenobiotics on animals and humans. Dr. Everds is the first clinical pathologist to be elected president of STP. She lives in Galena, Md., and works for the DuPont Company at the Stine-Haskell Laboratory in Newark, Del.

Dr. Joanne Carlson (IL DVM ’93), owner of Loving Care Animal Clinic in Rolling Meadows, has served as president of the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association since January. She has been on the CVMA Board of Directors since 1998.

Dr. Carlson says, “My philosophy has always been to practice the highest quality of veterinary medicine with compassion and individual attention.” She writes public education articles for local newspapers, and speaks at pet shows and to school groups about veterinary medicine.

Dr. Arlin Rogers (DVM IL ’90, MS IL ’92, PhD CSU ’01) and his wife, Kasey, announce the birth of their first child, Cameron Joseph Rogers on September 10, 2005. Dr. Rogers is currently the chief of Comparative Pathology in the Division of Comparative Medicine at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. Judy Karnia (DVM ’94) and her husband, Scott, welcomed daughter Ciela Parc Hermanson on August 20, 2004. Dr. Karnia is an associate at the Saguarro Veterinary Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz.

New Alumni Center Offers Commemorative Pavers

The Alice Campbell Alumni Center, now under construction on the Urbana-Champaign campus, will give University of Illinois alumni a place to call their own. You can celebrate your achievements or those of your new graduate with the purchase of an engraved stone patio paver at the new center. It is a fitting way to commemorate a connection to the University. For more information, see https://www.uiuaa.org/alumnicenter/pavers1.asp.

Dr. Harry Rhoades, former associate professor of bacteriology and mycology at the College, died August 10. He joined the College staff in 1945. In 1946 he taught bacteriology and mycology to the first class of veterinary students to enroll at the College. When he retired in 1981, it was estimated that he had taught more than 1,800 students.

Dr. Joseph L. Musolino (IL DVM ’60), of Quincy, Ill., died July 4. Dr. Musolino was a partner in Adams County Veterinary Service for 27 years after graduation. He then started the Adams Area Animal Clinic, which he had operated for the past 18 years. He was a lifetime member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and a recipient of the Veterinarian of the Year Award, given by the Quincy Humane Society.

Gifts in memory of a classmate or friend may be made to the Veterinary Medicine Achievement Fund or Class Endowment Fund. For more information, see the form at the end of this publication.

Dr. Kathryn (Cochran) Duncan (DVM ’96) and her husband, Bill, had twin girls, Maycee and Bridgette, on September 23, 2005. Dr. Duncan is an associate in a small animal veterinary practice in Sutton’s Bay, Mich.

Dr. Christine A. Merle (DVM ’96), a consultant with the Brakke Veterinary Practice Management Group, recently gave presentations at the American Veterinary Medical Association annual convention and the American Boarding Kennels Association annual trade show. In 2006 she’ll be speaking at the Midwest Veterinary Conference and the American Animal Hospital Association annual meeting. She takes office as the president-elect of the Association for Veterinary Practice Management Consultants and Advisors in January. She and her husband, Steve Habek, live in Zionsville, Ind.

Banfield, The Pet Hospital, recently hired two 2005 Illinois graduates. Dr. Jennifer Shader is practicing in Darien, Ill., and Dr. Jason Smith is practicing in Brier Creek, N.C.
Class of 1960  
*Front row, from left:* Drs. Byford Wood, Nelly Lee, Phillip Watson, and Robert Pensinger;  
*back row:* Drs. Ron Kolar, Samuel Clem, Harley Schnowske, Raymond Husmann, and David Rash.

Class of 1965  
*Front row, from left:* Drs. Charles W. Smith, James Sokolowski, Robert McDavidt, Edwin McLaughlin, Albert Dorn, and Chester Swanson;  

Class of 1975  
*Front row, from left:* Drs. Marc Raffe, Rick Pehta, Ray Kusnerz, Bill Augustine, and Marc Klarman;  
*back row:* Drs. Wally Hoffmann, Ron Gill, Larry Miller, Craig Peterson, Ron Goeckner, Greg Williams, Lark Derrig, Bob Derrig, and Sharman Elison.

The Class of 1975 held an auction at its reunion to boost the class endowment fund. Classmate Dr. Greg Williams, now a professional auctioneer in Reno, Nev., led the auction, which raised over $5000. A quilt created in memory of Gene Skelley sold for $1000.

Class of 1980  
*Seated, from left:* Drs. Jim Artwohl and Deborah Logerquist;  
*standing:* Drs. Alan Jackson, Bill Harris, Phil Gillen, Dave Watkins, George Rodgers, Fred Mulch, Wayne Johnson, and George Rudawsky.

Class of 1995  
*Front row, from left:* Drs. Sharla (Rasmussen) Thill, Pam (Powell) Stoc, Barb Royal, Kate Ball, Donna Maxwell, Sherry (Aardsma) Lendman;  
*middle row:* Dan Lendman, Ruth Etherton, Melissa Alexander, Dan Ball, Mary Hernandez, Esther Hii, Sue Sterr, Cecilia Friberg, Kathy Lucyshyn;  
*back row:* Drs. Jeff Hermann, Joe Abrassart, Bob Loeding, Jeff Oswald, Steve Overstreet, Matt Ackerman, Steve Levin, Doug Keen, Raviv Ballfour, Bob Summers, and Andy Lucyshyn; Dr. Sheila (King) Newenham took the photo!

Classes Meet During Fall Conference 2005
Welcome, Class of 2009!

The Class of 2009, with 112 students, is the largest in the history of the College. Lecture halls had to be renovated to accommodate that number and to put electrical outlets at every seat, since many new students have elected to receive all their course notes electronically for use on tablet computers.

This class is the second to be admitted using a revamped admissions process that looks at academic record only in the first phase of evaluation. The second focuses on background and recommendations, and the third phase on personal interview.

“For the past 8 years or so, the entering classes have had average cumulative and science GPAs in the 3.5 range,” says Mary Kelm, assistant dean for Academic and Student Affairs. “The earlier admissions process put the greatest emphasis on academic achievement. It is reassuring to note that even though we now are much more focused on the non-academic achievements of our applicants, we have continued to admit classes with high academic ability.”

Facts from the Class of 2009

Total Class Size: 112
Residency: Illinois, 79; Non-resident: 33 (from 18 states, including Florida, California, New Hampshire, and Hawaii)
Age range: 20 to 41 No. > 25: 14 No. < 21: 11
Degrees earned: BS, BA, MS, JD, DPharm
Degrees earned at: Augustana College; Barnard College; Boston University; California State University-Pomona; Clemson University; Cornell University; Eastern Illinois University; Florida State University; Illinois Wesleyan University; Iowa State University; Northern Illinois University; The Ohio State University; Purdue University; Smith College; Southern Illinois University; State University of New York; Syracuse University; University of Chicago; University of Colorado; University of Florida; University of Massachusetts; University of Notre Dame, University of Wisconsin; Western Illinois University, and more than 50 other institutions.

Join today! A portion of your dues directly benefits the College.

A club fair held during orientation gave first-year students a sampling of the more than two dozen student organizations active at the College of Veterinary Medicine.
New Faces in Development

One was raised on an Illinois farm, earned degrees from the University of Illinois and Eastern Illinois University, and spent 16 years doing professional outreach between the medical staff at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana and referring health care professionals in the region.

The other was born and educated on the East Coast, with degrees from the University of Maryland and The Catholic University of America, and had worked in development at a private college in Washington, D.C., for the past five years.

But both of the College’s new associate directors of development say they have found a home here and are busy making connections with alumni, faculty, students, clients, and other friends of the College.

Jim Pound and Heather Vazquez joined the advancement team last fall. Their title is the same, but they have separate areas of focus.

“My primary responsibilities include major gift fund-raising, alumni relations, corporate relations, and special events,” says Jim Pound. “I’ve already hosted receptions at the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association Convention in Springfield and the American Association of Equine Practitioners meeting in Seattle.”

Heather Vazquez and Jim Pound introduce themselves to Sidney, one of the patients at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. The two new associate directors of development are looking forward to many introductions with alumni and friends in the coming months.

“I am honored to be a part of the College and to work with many friends, alumni, and patients whose lives are touched every day by the work of our extraordinary faculty and students,” says Heather Vazquez. “My focus is on increasing contributions to the annual fund, planning our important telemarketing efforts, managing our stewardship activities, and developing financial support for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, as well as major gift fund-raising.”

The advancement team has seen many changes recently. Secretaries Beth Erwin and Sarah Adams both moved to positions with other units on campus last summer. Beth had been a part of the College of Veterinary Medicine for nearly 20 years and had countless friends on our staff and our extended College family. We thank them both for their valuable service and wish them well in their new endeavors.

Renée Mullen, who served as assistant dean for advancement from July 2004 through November 2005, now heads the advancement office for the College of Consumer and Family Sciences at Purdue University. Her husband, Dr. Peter Constable, accepted a position as the Department Head for Veterinary Clinical Sciences at Purdue’s School of Veterinary Medicine.

During Renée’s tenure here:

- Gift commitments totaling more than $9 million were finalized, including four new award and scholarship endowments to support future generations of veterinarians.
- Six new class endowments were launched, with a combined $77,410 in lead gift commitments, and existing class endowments moved closer to their goals.
- More than $16,000 has been committed toward the goal of $25,000 to endow the Ted Lock Scholarship Fund, created in honor of Professor Lock at his retirement in 2004.
- In 2004 holiday gifts to the College in honor of loved ones brought in over $15,000 for student, faculty, and programmatic support.

We thank Renée for her tireless efforts on behalf of the College and wish her and Peter all the best at Purdue.

As the College advancement staff looks forward to the exciting challenges ahead in 2006—raising awareness and funds about new programs and buildings for Equine Sports Medicine, Small Animal Surgery, and much more—we will soon be introducing a new assistant dean and new support staff members for this vital team.
The College of Veterinary Medicine acknowledges its sponsors for the support of alumni and student events.

**Platinum Sponsors**
- Fort Dodge Animal Health
- Hill’s Student Feeding Program
- Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Inc.
- Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association
- Nestle Purina PetCare Company
- VCA Animal Hospitals

**Gold Sponsors**
- Pfizer Animal Health

**Silver Sponsors**
- Banfield, The Pet Hospital
- Chicago Veterinary Medical Association
- Eli Lilly/Eланко Animal Health
- Hawthorne Animal Hospital
- Merial Limited
- Novartis Animal Health
- Schering Plough Animal Health

**Bronze Sponsors**
- Auxiliary to Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association
- Central Illinois Veterinary Medical Association
- Eastern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association
- Gruelle/AVMA GHLIT
- Kankakee Valley Veterinary Medical Association
- Mississippi Valley Veterinary Medical Association
- Southern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association
- University of Illinois Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association

**Companion Animal Memorial Fund Participants**

The Companion Animal Memorial Fund enables veterinarians and owners to express their compassion by memorializing clients’ or their own pets and at the same time contributing both to research that benefits other companion animals and to innovative teaching and service efforts at the College.

**Animal Care Center of Lake Villa, Lake Villa, IL**
- Animal Health Care Center, Arcola, IL
- Animal Medical Center of Litchfield, PC, Litchfield, IL
- Animal Medical Center of Itasca, Itasca, IL
- Animal Wellness Center of Monee, LLC, Monee, IL
- Arboratum View Animal Hospital, PC, Downers Grove, IL
- Batavia Animal Clinic, Ltd., Batavia, IL
- Becker Animal Hospital, Northfield, IL
- Belleville Animal Clinic, Ltd., Belleville, IL
- Bellwood Animal Hospital Inc., Rockford, IL
- Bethany Animal Hospital, Sycamore, IL
- Bloomingdale Animal Hospital, PC, Bloomingdale, IL
- Blue Ribbon Grooming, Inc., Wheaton, IL
- Blum Animal Hospital Div RubinVeterinary Services Ltd, Chicago, IL
- Boulder Terrace Animal Hospital, Naperville, IL
- Bramer Animal Hospital, Ltd., Evanston, IL
- Brunswick Animal Hospital, Normal, IL
- Bushnell Veterinary Service, PC, Bushnell, IL
- Butterfield Veterinary Clinic, Warrenville, IL
- Cairo Animal Hospital Ltd., Highland Park, IL
- Capitol Illini Partners, LLC, Springfield, IL
- Chicago Pet Clinic, Chicago, IL
- Companion Animal Hospitals Big Hollow, Peoria, IL
- Country Care Animal Hospital, PC, Manhattan, IL
- Country Court Animal Hospital, Ltd., Buffalo Grove, IL
- Countryside Veterinary Clinic Ltd., Yorkville, IL
- Covenant Animal Clinic, Clinton, IL
- Crooked Creek Animal Hospital, Centralia, IL
- Danada Veterinary Hospital, PC, Wheaton, IL
- Deer Grove Animal Hospital, Palatine, IL
- Dixon Veterinary Hospital, PC, Dixon, IL
- Dwight-Pine Bluff-Lakewood Animal Hospital, LLC, Dwight, IL
- Family Pet Clinic, Tinley Park, IL
- Festival Bel Air Veterinary Clinic, Bel Air, MD
- Fitzpatrick Equine Field Service, Kankakee, IL
- Four Paws Animal Hospital, O Fallon, IL
- Fox Animal Hospital, Evanston, IL
- Fox Valley Animal Hospital Ltd., Crystal Lake, IL
- Freeburg Animal Hospital, PC, Freeburg, IL
- Freeport Animal Hospital, Freeport, IL
- Gateway Veterinary Clinic, St Charles, IL

**Corporation and Foundation Friends**

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- Abbott Laboratories
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- The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- American Veterinary Medical Association
- Amgen Foundation
- Animal Eye Care Associates, Inc.
- Arthritis Foundation
- The Baxter International Foundation
- Bayer Corporation
- Bed, Bath and Beyond
- Better Batters, Inc. DBA The Original Pancake House
- Biaggio’s Ristorante Italiano
- Bikeworks
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- Body and Sole
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- Brookfield Zoo
- The Burgess Family Foundation, Inc.
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- Cam-O-Lot Acres
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- The Carrie Pouch
- Caterpillar Foundation
- Cedars of Lebanon Foundation, Inc.
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- Central Laboratory for Veterinarians
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- Chicago Blackhawks Hockey Team, Inc.
- Chicago Veterinary Medical Association
- CNA Foundation
- Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Inc.
- Corn Belt Kennel Club
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- Deitschel.com, LLC
- Donnellan Funeral Home
- Eastern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association
- El Toro
- Eli Lilly and Company Foundation
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- IBM Matching Grants Program
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- Illinois Great Dane Club
- Illinois Equine Field Service
- Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association
- Indianapolis Zoo
- Inhibitex, Inc.
- International Life Sciences Institute
- Jillian’s Billiard Club
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- Le Peep Restaurant
- Level X Paintball Park
- Lynfred Winery
- Merck & Co., Inc.
- Merial Limited
- Michael C. Pope, P.C.
- Minneci’s Ristorante
- Mississippi Valley Veterinary Medical Association, Inc.
- Morris Animal Foundation
- Motorola Foundation
- Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation
- National Park Board
- N.E.W. CMG, LLC DBA Ahead H.R.
- New Jersey Veterinary Foundation
- Niles Animal Hospital and Bird Medical Center, PC
- Northern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association
- Office Depot
- Ozier Investments
- P and T Construction, Inc.
- Pages For All Ages Bookstore, Inc.
- Panera Bread Company
- Pantall Hotel
- The Pawner House Pet Hotel
- Peck Marketing Group, Inc.
- Penny Lane Farm, Inc.
- Pfizer, Inc.
- Pfizer Foundation
- Prairie Gardens
- PrairieLand Anti-Cruelty Program
- The Procter & Gamble Fund
- Quad Counties Veterinary Clinic
- Quinn’s
- Nestle Purina PetCare
- Ralston Purina Company
- The Raynie Foundation, N.P.O.
- Robert Allerton Park
- Ronald Rehling Associates, Inc.
- Ross Products Division Abbott Laboratories
- Saffin Pet Shop
- Savvy 16 Theatre
- SBC Foundation
- Scott County Kennel Club
- Serologicals Corporation
- Siam Terrace
- Simmons & Associates
- Smart Drug Systems Inc.
- Snyder & George Electric Contractors, LLC
- Southern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association
- Spoon River Blacktop
- Stadtheim Foundation
- State Farm Companies Foundation
- Sygen International
- Tail Waggers Pet Chateau
- Tasting De Vine
- Tellabs Operations Inc.
- TGI Fridays
- This Old House Crew
- Twin Springs Farm
- University Book Source
- The UPS Foundation, Inc.
- Valen tino Vineyards
- Verna L. and John R. Hildebrand Foundation
- Vizirac Inc.
- Waview Registered Holsteins
- Wheaton Kennel Club, Inc.
- The Winn Feline Foundation
- Wyeth
Make a gift to the College of Veterinary Medicine

Yes, I want to support the College of Veterinary Medicine with my gift of: [ ] $1,000  [ ] $500  [ ] $250  [ ] $100  [ ] Other: $_________

Please direct my gift(s) to the following fund(s).

$_________ Veterinary Medicine Achievement Fund (334415). For student, faculty, and alumni awards and scholarships and special events.

$_________ CARE Pet Loss Helpline (330732). For the student-run service that provides compassionate support for people experiencing grief over the loss of a companion animal.

$_________ Envirovet Program (333575). For the education of students and scientists in ecosystem health and repair for the ultimate benefit of wildlife, domestic animals, the public, and economic health.

$_________ Friends of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (334406). In support of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital overall or any of the hospital’s specialty areas or sections. List specialty area here, if desired: __________________________

$_________ Humane Connection (331042). For care that “goes the extra mile” for companion animals whose owners have limited means.

$_________ Ted Lock Scholarship Endowment Fund (775955). Honoring Professor Emeritus Ted Lock in support of students interested in food animal, equine, or mixed practice in a rural area.

$_________ Veterinary Medicine Graduate Student Fellowship Fund (334290). In support of master’s and PhD students.

$_________ Wildlife Medical Clinic (334522). In support of the student-operated Wildlife Medical Clinic, which treats over 2,000 patients annually.

$_________ Class Endowment Funds. Please check the appropriate year: [ ] Class of 1952 (771651); [ ] Class of 1962 (771615); [ ] Class of 1963 (771655); [ ] Class of 1975 (771763); [ ] Class of 1983 (771653).

$_________ Companion Animal Memorial Fund (331160). To memorialize beloved pets and at the same time support research that benefits other companion animals.

PET’S NAME  SPECIES

OWNER’S NAME

ADDRESS  CITY, STATE, ZIP

$_________ Other. Please specify: ____________________________________________________________

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University of Illinois
College of Veterinary Medicine
3505 VMBSB
2001 S. Lincoln Ave.
Urbana IL 61802

PHONE: 217/333-2762
FAX: 217/333-4628
EMAIL: advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu

SM9HT
February
20  Alumni Reception at the Western Veterinary Conference, Las Vegas, Nev. E-mail advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu.
24-26 College of Veterinary Medicine exhibit at the International Kennel Club Show, Chicago, Ill. Contact the Office of Public Engagement, 217/333-2907.

March
4  Seminar for Alternative Therapies in Veterinary Medicine, Urbana, Ill. Contact the Office of Public Engagement, 217/333-2907.
17-19 College of Veterinary Medicine exhibit at the Chicagoland Family Pet Expo. Contact the Office of Public Engagement, 217/333-2907.
23-24 Toxicology Short Course, Urbana, Ill. Contact the Office of Public Engagement, 217/333-2907.

April
1  Veterinary Medicine Open House, Urbana, Ill. See www.cvm.uiuc.edu/openhouse/.
8  Awards and Scholarships Ceremony, Urbana, Ill. Email admissions@cvm.uiuc.edu.
13-14 9th Annual Conference on New & Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases, Urbana, IL. Contact Debra Domal, Center for Zoonoses Research, at 217/265-8511.
29  Doodle for Wildlife, Urbana, Ill. Contact the Advancement Office, 217/333-2762.

May
14  Commencement, Urbana, Ill. Contact Student Affairs at admissions@cvm.uiuc.edu.

September
16  Fall Conference Tent Party, Champaign, Ill. Football game against Syracuse. Contact the Advancement Office at advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu.
A torn ligament in the knee is not just a problem for human athletes. It’s the most common orthopedic problems affecting dogs, too—especially large dogs.

Dr. Dominique Griffon, an orthopedic surgeon at Veterinary Teaching Hospital, is doing more than just repairing the problem, known as cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) deficiency. She is conducting research to identify ways to predict which individuals are susceptible to this problem, and to determine what steps can be taken during the dog’s early life that will prevent CCL deficiency in its adulthood.

She is enrolling adult Labrador retrievers in a multi-dimensional study designed to determine the usefulness of radiographs, bone density measurements, and computer tomography (CT) evaluations of the hind limb conformation as a means of identifying differences in dogs with CCL deficiency and normal dogs.

In addition, the gait, or walk, of some dogs enrolled in the study will be analyzed at the Human Dynamics and Controls Lab within the University of Illinois College of Engineering. This lab is equipped to study issues related to musculoskeletal biomechanics and rehabilitation engineering using such techniques as dynamic systems modeling, control theory, and movement analysis.

Dr. Griffon plans to extend what she learns from the comparison of normal dogs and those with CCL deficiency through additional study into preventive measures, such as physical therapy and/or surgical alteration of growth plates, that can reduce the incidence of CCL deficiency in susceptible individuals.

Presently, the study needs to enroll pure-bred Labrador retrievers both with CCL deficiency and normal dogs without orthopedic disease. A complete description of the study is on the Web at www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vth/documents/cclannounce.pdf.

More Clinical Trials

- Oncology has partly or fully funded trials on canine appendicular osteosarcoma, canine bladder transitional cell carcinoma, and feline oral squamous cell carcinoma. For details, please call Nancy George at 217/244-7789.

- Rehabilitation has two trials that evaluate the effects of pain-control medication on weight bearing, muscle mass, and joint pain following rehabilitation. One seeks dogs with elbow dysplasia and the other seeks dogs the need cranial cruciate ligament surgery.

Details about current trials are on the Web: http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vth/clinical.html