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From the Dean

Edwin J. Andrews

University of Pennsylvania
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It's an exciting time for veterinary medicine in general and our School in particular. As I assume the Deanship, I will be evaluating our direction over the next several years. Our unique position as a school of leadership places on us an added burden of responsibility. Our peer institutions and biomedical science at large will look to us and the future direction we chart.

Our new administrative structure has been defined and recruitment of key individuals is well underway. With a new organization in place, we can focus our attention on the future and begin a long-range planning process.

The era of "agricultural medicine" is upon us and we must look to the integration of our basic science and clinical disciplines to fully optimize our programs of education, research, and service in this critically important area. We must consider how better to take advantage of our unique geographic location in close proximity to rich agricultural interests, dynamic health care industries, and entrepreneurial biomedical research.

We will be enhancing our mission as an educational institution where our primary focus must be on the student, our raison d'etre. Yet the research and service traditions of the School must not suffer as we balance our direction and thrust.

I am enthused by the tremendous potential before us. My vision for the future is that of the School itself—it is boundless.

We have the strength of a foundation provided by Dr. Mark Allam and Dr. Bob Marshak, coupled with an outstanding faculty, the highest quality students, and generous supportive friends.

I look forward to working with you all as my "partners in progress."

— Edwin J. Andrews, V.M.D., Ph.D.

New Appointments

Dean Edwin J. Andrews has appointed Dr. Daniel Cohen associate dean for research, and Dr. Charles D. Newton has been named director of recruitment.

James F. Wilson, D.V.M., J.D., joined the School as acting medical director of VHUP. Dr. Wilson, a graduate of Iowa State University Veterinary School, holds a law degree from UCLA. For 13 years he has been a small animal practitioner in the San Francisco Bay area; he also taught law and ethics and business management courses at the University of California Veterinary School at Davis.

Dr. Wilson is no stranger to Penn. He visited last year to teach in the professional foundations course and to work in the dermatology department as a specialist in small animal ear problems. Currently, Dr. Wilson is at VHUP three days a week and serves as acting medical director. The position may develop into a full-time position in the spring after he has completed his book on law and ethics in veterinary medicine, an in-depth textbook about legal areas having an impact on the profession.

In this newly created position, Dr. Wilson supervises the medical services at VHUP, the clinical pathology laboratory, pharmacy and medical records, as well as dealing with decisions pertaining to the purchase of equipment. The new position will help VHUP to further upgrade medical care to clients and increase the efficiency with which such care is delivered. He will also teach a course in veterinary business management and participate in the professional foundations course.

Mr. Bruce A. Rappoport has joined the School’s staff as director of the George D. Widener Hospital for Large Animals at the New Bolton Center campus. Mr. Rappoport, a resident of Turnersville, N.J., has been a hospital administrator for more than ten years. Prior to coming to New Bolton, he held the position of executive vice-president and chief operating officer at Lourdes Ancillary Services, Inc., Collingswood, N.J. Previously, he served as senior vice-president at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, a 384-bed teaching hospital in Camden, N.J. Before coming to New Jersey, Mr. Rappoport held administrative positions in hospitals in Florida. He graduated from Ohio State University and received an M.H.A. degree from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Rappoport wants to improve communications with clients, particularly in the administrative area. Clients are encouraged to call him with comments, suggestions, and complaints regarding the hospital’s operation. He can be reached by calling (215) 444-5800.

Jeffrey P. Roberts, appointed assistant dean for development and planning, is responsible for School-wide activities in development, strategic planning, communications, and construction management.

Among the many hats he wears, Mr. Roberts, in his newly established position, is reorganizing and strengthening the development office, creating an office of communications, construction management, and managing the completion of the Second Century Fund.

Mr. Roberts arrives at the School with a set of very unusual qualifications. He graduated from the University of Rochester, received an M.A. in American History from Temple University and completed Ph.D. coursework in Urban History and Geography. He helped organize a consulting company that specialized in architecture, history, and land use. In addition he served as a meteorologist in the U.S. Navy. Mr. Roberts was curator/historian at the Atwater Kent Museum, Philadelphia. Prior to his joining the Veterinary School, Mr. Roberts was director of development at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, where he managed successfully the arboretum’s first capital campaign. Beyond his professional interests, he has served on the boards of several Philadelphia cultural institutions.