4-1-1994

Alan Kelly Named School's Acting Dean
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Alan Kelly, professor of pathology and chairman of the Department of Pathobiology at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Veterinary Medicine, has been named Acting Dean of the School, effective January 1, 1994.

Dr. Kelly will head the School until a permanent replacement for Edwin J. Andrews can be found. Andrews, Dean of the School since 1987, announced last June that he would be stepping down from the post on December 31, 1993. The search committee for Andrews’ replacement has been appointed.

From the Dean

Presently the School and the University are in states of transition as we change from one administration to another. President-Elect Judith Rodin will assume office on the first of July and will be joined by her newly nominated provost, Dr. Stanley Chodorow. Chodorow is associate chancellor for academic planning at University of California, San Diego, and dean of its School of Arts and Humanities. We welcome them both with enthusiasm and look forward to expanding the academic excellence of our School under their leadership. Dr. Chodorow is a particularly interesting choice as provost; he is a medieval historian but started his academic career as a pre-veterinary student at Cornell. He has a love of animals, has worked on farms, and knows a good deal about our profession.

Within the School, the search committee for the Gilbert S. Kahl Dean of Veterinary Medicine is making good progress and hopes to be able to offer a list of candidates to President Rodin by late summer.

The School’s new leadership will immediately have to face many issues that are critical to our future. In anticipation of this, the faculty is now involved in the creation of a long-range strategic plan that will outline the School’s development needs for the remaining years of this century. Our fiscal stability and the level of tuition are major concerns. For FY ’94-’95 we are included in Governor Casey’s budget for the amount of $14.2 million. Although we are grateful to the Governor for this amount, it means we must apply to the University for $5.1 million of additional funding to balance next year’s budget.

Now we must start to devise ways of obtaining more adequate and stable funding from the General Assembly for FY ’95-’96 and beyond. We must also address a level of tuition that is approaching $20,000 per annum and is prohibitive for too many students. A related issue is the level of specialization that is available for students in the professional curriculum and the directions veterinary medicine is likely to take in the next century. Over the next several months, the faculty will debate these issues and attempt to build a consensus about what must be done in the future to preserve the preeminence of our School. We hope this blueprint will ease the transition for our new dean and eagerly await the appointment.

Alan M. Kelly, B.V.Sc.,
M.R.C.V.S., Ph.D.
Acting Dean

William Kilbourne, a co-executor of the estate of Elizabeth Lowe presents a check to William Schanbel, chairman of the School’s Board of Overseers, and Dean Edwin J. Andrews.