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Merck Continues Support for Laboratory Animal Medical Training at The University of Pennsylvania
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Merck Research Laboratories has provided a second postdoctoral fellowship grant in Laboratory Animal Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania as a part of a growing relationship in laboratory animal medicine between Merck and the University. Dr. James “Buster” Hawkins, a 1978 veterinary graduate of Auburn University, has been selected and is now in the first year of the program.

This three year Laboratory Animal Medicine training program has been in existence at the University of Pennsylvania since 1987, and 15 veterinarians have participated during that time. The program is designed to develop competence in biomedical research and laboratory animal medicine and prepares candidates for board certification by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Individuals enrolled in this program complete a one month rotation in the Department of Laboratory Animal Resources at Merck’s West Point, PA facility.

The first Merck supported veterinarian, Dr. Laurence Handt, completed the program in June 1993, and received a Master’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania for his work investigating experimental Helicobacter pylori infections in nonhuman primates. He now works as a staff veterinarian with Merck’s Department of Laboratory Animal Resources in West Point, PA.

The joint effort by Merck and the University of Pennsylvania is an example of a growing trend of cooperation between the business and academic sectors to foster advanced training in scientific disciplines.

Scholarships

The Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc. awarded scholarships to Krista A. Price, V’95, and Kathryn Sneider, V’95, Dexter Archer, V’97, received an award from the Alonzo Edmiston Jr. Book Fund, Cindy Xanthopoulos, V’94, is the first recipient of the Iris M. McGee Scholarship.

Camille DeClements, V’94, and Stephen Euler, V’94, are the recipients of the Richard Dorr, Jr. Scholarship.

Michele Hurst, V’94, received the Israel and Anna Live Scholarship.

Reina Fuji, V’96, has been selected the Ethel G. and Alan H. Carruth Dean’s Scholar. Three new Dean’s Scholarships have been established from the estate of Irene Moore Huideng, the late sister of Dr. Melville Rawnsley, V’38, a co-founder of these scholarships. The scholarships, named the Samuel T. and Emily Rawnsley Dean’s Scholarships, were awarded to Mathew Rice, V’95, Laurie Sponza, V’96, and Lisa Van der Gaag, V’94.

A scholarship from the Mid-Susquehanna Kennel Club was awarded to Harvey E. Hummel, V’95, Blaine Connor, V’95, received a 1994 Pfizer Veterinary Scholarship Award.

The Pennsylvania Veterinary Foundation made four scholarship awards: Lisa A. Heaney-Van der Gaag, V’94, received the Dr. Samuel F. Scheidy Memorial Scholarship; the Dr. Samuel B. Guss Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Elizabeth J. Wade, V’94; Krista A. Price, V’95, is the recipient of the Dr. Palace H. Seitz Memorial Scholarship and Kathleen M. Hall, V’95, received the Trustee’s Scholarship. Jamie DeGarme, V’95, received a scholarship from the Amilian Foundation.