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Rosettes & Ribbons: Some Recent Accomplishments of Note by Faculty and Staff

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Dr. Cynthia Otto, associate professor of critical care medicine, was named “Veterinarian of the Year” by the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association at the annual meeting in August at Hershey. Dr. Otto presented the Dr. Palace H. Seitz Memorial Lecture at the event.

Marsha Finkelman, bio-medical purchasing manager at VHUP, will take office as president of VTAAP (Veterinary Technicians and Assistants Association of Pennsylvania, Inc.) in January, 2003. She is also one of the organizers of the Academy of Veterinary Technician Anesthetists (AVTA) along with Ellen Lomastro, Wendy Curtis-Uhle, and Larry Nann. Ms. Finkelman is a member of an organizing committee for the 2004 AVMA convention to be held in Philadelphia.

Dr. Andrei Thomas-Tikhonenko, assistant professor of pathology, received a grant from the National Cancer Institute and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to study the role of infection-induced, pro-inflammatory cytokines in suppression of B-lymphoma growth and neovascularization.

Dr. Helen Aceto, V’97, lecturer in animal health economics, participated in the National Resources Conservation Service’s Eastern Region Technical Workshop – Restoring and Managing the Stream Corridor. She presented a session on biosecurity and human health issues.

Dr. Adrian Morrison, professor of behavioral neuroscience, delivered the Fourth Annual Walter C. Randall Lecture on Biomedical Ethics at the annual meeting of the American Physiological Society in April in New Orleans. He also taught in a sleep disorders course for Italian physicians in Bertinoro, Italy. In June, The Sleep Research Society awarded him its Distinguished Scientist Award at its annual meeting in Seattle, where he also gave an invited lecture. In August he spoke on the ethics of animal use at the Chatauqua Institutes as the lead-in to a program on “All Creatures Great and Small. ”

Dr. Mark Haskins, V’69, professor of pathology, presented talks in April at the Second Symposium on Lysosomal Storage Diseases, Cannes, France on the topic of “Animal Models for MPS Disorders and their Clinical Relevance” and at the Federatif de Rescherche Therapeutique, Universite de Nantes, France on “Successful Gene Therapy for a Lysosomal Storage Disease in a Large Animal Model.”

In May he spoke at the Advances in Canine & Feline Genomics: Comparative Genome Anatomy and Genetic Disease Meeting St. Louis on “Gene Transfer for Lysosomal Storage Diseases” and at the American Society for Gene Therapy, Boston Plenary Session presented one of the five best abstracts: “Neonatal Retroviral Vector-Mediated Gene Therapy for Mucopolysaccharidosis VII in Dogs Results in Stable Hepatocyte Transduction and Marked Improvement in Bone and Joint, Cardiac, and Corneal Manifestations For Up to 14 Months”. In June he gave the keynote address at the 7th International Symposium on Mucopolysaccharide and Related Diseases and 3rd Scientific Lysosomal Storage Disorders Congress, Paris, France. It was titled “Animal Models – Advantages and Limitations.”

Dr. Andrew Wood, professor of veterinary radiology, Dr. Tobias Schwarz, lecturer in radiology, and Dr. Allison Zwingenberger, resident in radiology, attended the 9th Annual Scientific Conference of the European Association of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging held in Murcia, Spain in July. Dr. Andrew Wood was the keynote speaker and presented three papers titled: “Sonography of Canine Splenic Nodules – Distinguishing Benign from Malignant,” “Equine Tendon and Ligament Sonography – Current State of the Art and Future Prospects,” and “Establishing Student Learning of Radiographic Interpretation.” Dr. Schwarz’s presentations were “Aneurysmal right auricle in two dogs” and “Advanced imaging in selected fish patients with colonic swelling” and Dr. Zwingenberger presented two papers “Helical Dual-Phase CT Angiography of the Normal Canine Hepatic Vasculature and Portal vein” and “Helical CT Angiography of Canine Portosystemic Shunts.” For her presentation, Dr. Zwingenberger received the award for the most outstanding presentation by a resident from the European College of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging.

Dr. Darryl N. Biery became Emeritus Professor of Radiology on July 1, 2002.

Dr. Margaret Sleeper, V’93, assistant professor of cardiology, is the 4th alternate for the World Equestrian Games in Jerez, Spain (endurance).

Dr. Jorge Guerrero, adjunct professor of parasitology, was appointed to the Executive Board of the American Heartworm Society in May. He will be the director in charge of organizing the Heartworm Symposium of 2004 and will be organizing the continuing education programs for the society. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Eastern States Veterinary Association and The North American Veterinary Conference. From August 5 to November 2 Dr. Guerrero serves as a visiting professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine of the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Niteroi, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Dr. James Serpell, Marie A. Moore Associate Professor of Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare, won an international competition for the best paper in Animal Studies with his essay “Beyond the Cute Response: Anthropomorphism and Anthropomorphic Selection.” The prize is publication of the essay in a special anniversary issue of the social sciences journal, Society & Animals, and a cash award.

Dr. Billy Smith, assistant professor of medicine, received a University Research Foundation Award for a project entitled “Improving Health and Productivity in Holstein Dairy Cows diagnosed with Twins: Evaluation of Feeding Strategies.”

Dr. Robert Eckroade, associate professor of poultry pathology, was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award during the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine Annual Conference and Alumni Reunion in April.

In July he conducted the annual meetings of the American Association of Avian Pathologists during the AVMA convention in Nashville. Dr. Eckroade is celebrating his 19th year as Secretary/Treasurer and CEO of the American Association of Avian Pathologists. In March, he presented a paper “Procedures for Movement of Commercial Poultry, Eggs and Poultry Products during a Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Outbreak” at the North Atlantic Poultry Health and Management Conference in Portsmouth, N.H. At the Western Poultry Disease Conference in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in April 2002, Dr. Eckroade gave a presentation entitled “Geographical Information System Technology in the Pennsylvania Poultry Industry”. In April, Dr. Eckroade spearheaded an effort under the auspices of the United States Animal Health...
Association to organize a working group of Avian Influenza experts in San Antonio to address the problems of H5 and H7 Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza issues.

Dr. Sherrill Davison, V’83, associate professor of avian medicine, was accepted into the “Mycoplasma Gallisepticum in Commercial U.S. Poultry and Egg Association to investigate Davison was awarded a two-year grant from U.S. Poultry and Egg Association; she has held the position of Secretary/Treasurer for three years. Dr. Davison was awarded a two-year grant from U.S. Poultry and Egg Association to investigate “Mycoplasma Gallisepticum in Commercial U.S. Poultry and Egg Association to investigate Davison was awarded a two-year grant from U.S. Poultry and Egg Association; she has held the position of Secretary/Treasurer for three years. Dr. Davison was awarded a two-year grant from U.S. Poultry and Egg Association; she has held the position of Secretary/Treasurer for three years.

Dr. Craig Clifford, resident in oncology, received a grant for a pilot study “Magnetic Resonance Imaging of Canine Splenic and Hepatic Lesions.” The grant was made by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Field in memory of their dog Belinda.

Dr. Pamela Wilkins, assistant professor of medicine and reproduction, became board certified in the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. Dr. Wilkins is now board certified in two specialties, The American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. She is one of only eight active equine specialists in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care in the United States. Dr. Wilkins presented eight hours of lecture on equine emergency and critical care at the SIVE (Society of Italian Equine Veterinarians) meeting in Italy in January 2002. She chaired the equine program at the International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Meeting in San Antonio in September.

Dr. Regina Turner, V’89, assistant professor of reproduction, presented an abstract at the 8th International Symposium on Equine Reproduction held in Fort Collins, Colo. Dr. Turner also was chair of the equine sessions at the Society for Theriogenology Annual Meeting held in Colorado Springs.

Dr. Bernd Driesen, assistant professor of anesthesiology, in April, spent a week as visiting professor in the anesthesia service of the Veterinary Medical University of Vienna, Austria and gave a presentation on the role of blood substitutes in the treatment of hemorrhagic shock. In May, he was invited by the Department of Anesthesiology, School of Medicine, University of California-Los Angeles, to present a “Proposal for the Development of an Applied Basic Sciences Program for the Study of Hemoglobin-based Oxygen Carriers.” In July, the School of Medicine at UCLA appointed Dr. Driesen as adjunct assistant professor of anesthesiology. Also in July, he gave a presentation entitled “Increase in systemic oxygen content by hemoglobin glutamer-200 (bovine; Oxyhemoglobin) – Promise or reality?” at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Dr. Gerhard Schad, professor of parasitology, was elected to honorary membership in the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology. He was also elected to the Council of the American Society of Parasitologists.

Dr. Meryl Littman, V’75, associate professor of medicine, received a grant from the AKC Canine Health Foundation for “Longitudinal Field Studies of Families of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers Affected with Protein-Losing Enteropathy and/or Protein-Losing Nephropathy and the Foundation of a DNA Bank.” The co-investigators are Dr. Paula Henthorn, associate professor of medical genetics and Dr. Urs Giger, Charlotte Newton Sheppard Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Ina Dobrinski, assistant professor of large animal reproduction, received a grant from the National Institutes of Health for work on germ cell transplantation in pigs.

Dr. Leszek Kubin, research associate professor in the Department of Animal Biology, received from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute a new four-year research grant to study the role of hypothalamus in the control of sleep and cardiorespiratory consequences of sleep loss; he also received another grant from the same Institute to organize the 8th International Symposium on Sleep & Breathing in Reykjavik, Iceland, May 31-June 2, 2002.

Dr. Christopher Hunter, associate professor of parasitology, received a large, new grant to study the “Early Immune Response to Toxoplasma gondii.”

Dr. Gail Smith, V’74, professor of orthopedic surgery, chair, Department of Clinical Studies-Philadelphia, and Dr. Amy Kapatkin, assistant professor of surgery, have co-authored a three-part series on hip dysplasia appearing in three successive issues in the Compendium starting July 2002.

In July, Dr. Smith presented a scientific paper at the annual meeting of the European College of Veterinary Surgeons in Vienna, Austria.

Scholarships

The Western States Scholarship was awarded to Karen Mondziel, V’04. Jason Cordeiro, V’03 and Tony Ebling, V’03 each received the SCAVMA Community Service Grant; Tony Ebling also received a Wagner Rural Medicine Scholarship as did Amber Ite, V’03 and Rebecca Garabed, V’03. Kimberly Johnston, V’03, Mary Kwacz, V’03 and Christopher Ryan, V’03 each received a John and Maximillian Masley Scholarship. Ms. Kwacz also received a scholarship from the Union County Kennel Club and Christopher Ryan is the recipient of at Pfizer Animal Health Scholarship.

The Jay Jason Scholarship was awarded to James Nutt, V’04. The Rotary District 7450 awarded a scholarship to Emily Kupprion, V’03. Kimberly Johnston, V’03 was awarded a scholarship by Lloyd’s Equine Research and Education Program. The Csaba Vedlik Scholarship was awarded to Anne Kroken, V’04. Jennifer Jones, V’03 and Aylin Attila, V’04 each received a Lois F. Fairchild Scholarship in Veterinary Public Service.

The Westminster Kennel Foundation Scholarship was awarded to Meredith Daly, V’03. Brett Begley, V’03 received the Dr. J. E. Salsbury Scholarship. The Alonzo Edminston Scholarship was awarded to Nadira Williams, V’06. Kaira Geithman, V’05, received the American Kennel Club Scholarship. University of Pennsylvania Hertzler Scholarships were awarded to Timothy Moseby, V’05 and Michelle Regester, V’06. Amy Field, V’05, Karen Mondziel, V’04 and Scott Goldman, V’03 each received a United States Army Scholarship. Danielle Springer, V’03 is the recipient of the Shirley E. Possinger Dean’s Scholarship. The Charles F. Reid Dean’s Scholarship was awarded to Karena Joung, V’03. Gina Cairone, V’03 received the Frank and Mae P. Contino Dean’s Scholarship.

The following received Anne Linn White Dean’s Scholarships: Kristin Burton, V’03, Holly Lynn Connolly, V’03, Kathy Heyn, V’04, Emily Kupprion, V’03, Julia Lane, V’03, Lisa Meddock, V’03, John Vinciguerra, V’03, and Jeffrey Sachar, V’03. The following members of the Class of ‘03 received Charles S. and Phyllis H. Wolf Dean’s Scholarship: Daniel Hall, Bridget Hanley, Emily Kupprion, Julie McDade, Krista Vernaleken.

The following members of the Class of ’04 received Mrs. Jack Billhardt Dean’s Scholarships: Mandy Becker, (continued on page 10)