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Rosettes & Ribbons: Some Recent Accomplishments of Note at the School
Dr. Rosario Cerundolo, assistant professor of dermatology, was elected vice president of the European College of Veterinary Dermatology in January.

Sheldon Steinberg, V’59, is now a professor emeritus of neurology. He will be at the Ryan Veterinary Hospital two weeks per month.

Anson J. Tsugawa, V’98, lecturer in dentistry, passed his board exam to become a new diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College.

John R. Lewis, V’97, resident in dentistry, passed his exam to become a fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry.

Dr. Charles Vite was appointed assistant professor of neurology. He spoke at the NIH workshop of the 1st International Conference on Glycoprotein and Related Storage Diseases in April in Rockville, Md. He shared data on effective gene therapy of the central nervous system in cats with the naturally occurring lysosomal storage disease alpha-mannosidosis.

Dr. Cynthia Otto, associate professor of critical care, gave invited talks, “Hypercoagulability as a cause of thrombosis and thromboembolism” and “Hypertonic saline resuscitation: From veterinary to human application,” at the 42nd Annual Symposium on Critical Care, Trauma, and Emergency Medicine, in Las Vegas, in February. She also gave an invited talk, “Medical surveillance of dogs deployed to the World Trade Center and the Pentagon,” at the National Medical Disaster Systems 2004 Disaster Response Conference, in Dallas in April.

Drs. Alexia McKnight, recently promoted to assistant professor of radiology at New Bolton Center; Lisa Ziemer, V’98, senior research investigator, radiology; and Tobias Schwarz, assistant professor of radiology, passed the radiology board exams and are now diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Radiology. Dr. Schwarz was invited to the University of Glasgow Veterinary School for a research project and gave a talk on “Applications of helical computed tomography in small animals” during his stay.

Mark Donaldson, V’93, assistant professor of medicine, spoke at the North American Veterinary Conference, in Orlando in January.

Dr. Virginia Reef, chief, Section of Sports Medicine and Imaging, was a keynote state of the art speaker at the 13th Triennial Meeting of the International Veterinary Radiology Association in Midrand, South Africa in August.

Drs. Gabi Seiler, lecturer in radiology, and Darryl N. Biery, GV’67, emeritus professor of radiology, presented studies about CT of the canine trachea (Seiler) and effects of restricted feeding on radiographic and histopathologic hip phenotype (Biery) at the 13th Triennial Meeting of the International Veterinary Radiology Association in Midrand, South Africa in August.

In the Section of Radiology, Department of Clinical Studies–Philadelphia, Drs. Ana Caceres, resident; Yael Porat-Mosenco, resident; Allison Zwingenberger, resident; Lisa Ziemer, V’98, senior research investigator; Gabi Seiler, lecturer; Van M. Knox, V’94, staff veterinarian; Rob McLear, V’96, consultant, adjunct assistant professor; Darryl Biery; Jeffrey Wortman, V’69, section chief, associate professor; and Tobias Schwarz participated in the 2003 Annual Conference of the American College of Veterinary Radiology, in Chicago, and presented their studies about dual-phase CT angiography of the normal canine pancreas (Caceres), reduction of skull-base related CT artifacts (Porat-Mosenco), computed radiographic artifacts (McLear), and aneurysmal right auricles in the canine heart (Schwarz).

Dr. Loren H. Evans, emeritus professor of surgery, received the Distinguished Educator Award from the American Association of Equine Practitioners during its annual convention in November 2003. He was recognized for his efforts as a mentor and professor at Penn. Dr. Evans retired from the school in 1993. He is seen as a pioneer in the field of abdominal surgery and as one of the creators of the diagnostic lameness examination.

A paper published in 1989 by Dr. Adrian R. Morrison, professor of behavioral neuroscience, with colleagues at UCLA, was selected for a poster in an exhibit on Milestones in Sleep and Epilepsy Research by Pfizer Pharmaceuticals at the annual meeting of the American Epilepsy Society in Boston in December.

Dr. Morrison was the speaker at the annual banquet of Partners in Progress, the Canadian Biomedical Research Support Organization, in April in London, Ontario.

The Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division (PSP) of the Association of American Publishers announced that Dr. Mike Ross, professor of surgery, with coauthor Sue J. Dyson, will receive the PSP Award, in the Nursing and Allied Health subdivision, for their book, Diagnosis and Management of Lameness in the Horse, published by Elsevier in 2003. The awards are given annually to acknowledge excellence in book, journal, and electronic publishing in all disciplines represented by professional, scholarly, and reference publishing.

Michael Pierdon, V’05, received a $5,000 scholarship for the best student presentation at the American Association of Swine Veterinarians Foundation’s annual meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. His presentation was titled “Growth dynamics of two common bacterial contaminants found in extended porcine semen.” Alpharma Animal Health provided the financial support for the award.

The Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine named Dr. Urs Giger, Charlotte Newton Sheppard Professor of Medicine, and Dr. Rod Paige from Cornell University joint recipients of the John E. McCoy Award as outstanding individuals in the field of clinical veterinary medicine. The award was established in 1958 by Dr. McCoy’s former students and colleagues to honor his teaching career of 23 years at WSU.

Dr. Giger visited the College in April to receive the award and make a presentation entitled, “Hereditary diseases in companion animals: From clinical signs to the molecular defect.”

Dr. Giger also was presented the 2002 Scientific Achievement Award by the World Small Animal Veterinary Association at the organization’s meeting in Granada, Spain in October. The award is given annually to an outstanding veterinary researcher for his/her lifetime scientific contributions to the health of small animals.

Gail K. Smith, V’74, professor of orthopedic surgery, was selected to receive the 2004 World Small Animal Veterinary Association Iams Saki Paatsama Award for excellence in the field of Orthopaedic Medicine and Surgery. It is the second time the award has been given. The award will be presented during the opening ceremony of the 2004 WSAVA Congress on October 6 in Rhodes, Greece.

Dr. Ina Dobrinski, associate professor of reproduction, gave invited talks at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Brisbane, Australia; the
Monash Institute of Reproduction and Development, Monash University, Clayton, Australia; and the annual meeting of the International Embryo Transfer Society in Portland, Oregon. Dr. Dobrinski also received a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Mark Haskins, V’69, professor of pathology and medical genetics, gave a talk, “Retroviral gene therapy in mucopolysaccharidoses,” at the Experimental Transplantation and Immunology Branch, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md. He also gave a talk, “Large animal models of alpha- and beta-mannosidosis,” in April at Glycoproteinoses: An International Workshop on Advances in Pathogenesis and Therapy, at Bethesda, Md.

Dr. Jorge Guerrero, adjunct professor of parasitology, was appointed visiting professor of parasitology at the College of Veterinary Medicine of the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, in Lima, Peru. He also became a diplomat of the European Veterinary Parasitology College. From March 14 to April 10, Dr. Guerrero served as visiting professor of parasiticide at the College of Veterinary Medicine of the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela in Lugo, Spain.

Dr. Andras M. Komaromy, research associate in ophthalmology, taught a two-day Equine Ophthalmology course for the Hungarian Veterinary Chamber in March in Budapest, Hungary. Dr. Komaromy also participated in seminars on ocular gene therapy at the Department of Ophthalmology, Semmelweis University and the Hungarian Retinitis Pigmentosa Society — both of which took place in March in Budapest.

Patricia Sertich, V’83, associate professor of reproduction, gave the following talks at the Association Vétérinaire Equine Francaise, in Montpellier, France, in October: “Affections et gestion de la fin de gestation,” “Gestation de la non delivrance,” and “Comment faire une echoguide transrectale du placenta en fin de gestation?” This group is the French equivalent to the American Association of Equine Practitioners.

Dr. Sertich also gave the following talks at the Delaware Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting, in Dover, Delaware, in April: “The pregnant mare — Understand the normal events to improve diagnosis and management of these 11 months,” “Parturition — An explosive event,” “Placental evaluation — The mirror of life,” and “High risk pregnancies — Detecting these problems early so effective interventions can be made.”

Ralph Brinster, V’60, Richard King Mellon Professor of Reproductive Physiology, was selected by the Institute for Scientific Information as a “Highly Cited Researcher” in molecular biology and genetics for the period from 1980 to 2000. About 1 in 1,000 authors of scientific articles are in this category. Dr. Brinster’s biography and publications have now been added to the ISI website for Highly Cited Researchers at <www.isihighlycited.com>.

Dr. K. John McLaughlin, assistant professor of reproductive physiology, received two research grants from the National Institutes of Health: “Uniparental cells: Hematopoietic reconstitution potential,” and “Mouse somatic cell clones: Reprogramming and development.” He also received a grant, together with Satoshi Kurosaka, “Development and gene expression of bovine clone-clone chimeras,” from the Lalar Foundation.

Victoria Johnson, lecturer in radiology, presented an abstract, coauthored with M. Sullivan, “High-resolution computed tomography (HRCT) of the normal canine lung,” at the British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA) Congress in April in the United Kingdom. Dr. Johnson also received the BSAVA Clinical Research Abstract prize in surgery for her presentation, “Thoracic high-resolution computed tomography (HRCT) in the diagnosis of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.”

Hannah Galantino-Homer, V’93, post-doctoral fellow, received a three-year Mentored Clinical Scientist Training Program Grant (K08) from NIH/NICHD to study “Molecular aspects of in vivo sperm capacitation” and to prepare for certification by the American College of Theriogenologists.

Dr. Galantino-Homer presented a poster, “A method to quantify the protein tyrosine phosphorylation assay of sperm capacitation,” at the annual meeting of the American Society of Andrology, in April, in Baltimore.

Jenny O’Connor, behavioral technician, presented a lecture on behavior modification and led a master class with Dr. Diane Frank of the University of Montreal on behavioral triage at the North American Veterinary Conference, in January in Orlando. Both events were geared to veterinary technicians.

Dr. Gerhard A. Schad, professor of parasitology, was selected by two federal agencies to join site-visit teams to evaluate ongoing scientific programs. One of these involved the Southwest National Primate Research Center in San Antonio, a National Center for Research Resources of the National Institutes of Health. The other involved the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences in Bangkok, Thailand, a laboratory of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research specializing in enteric diseases, retrovirology, and arthropod-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue, and scrub typhus. The panel reviewed an ongoing program of the National Academy of Sciences that matches postdoctoral associates with federal laboratories for specialized research training and experience. In Thailand the associates are working in research programs involving the culture of organisms causing malaria, and in studies of the population biology of mosquitoes transmitting dengue viruses.

Dr. Schad also has been selected as the American Society of Parasitologists 2005 Clark P. Read Mentor Awardee.

Promotions

Dr. James “Sparky” Lok was promoted to professor of parasitology. Dr. Bernd Driessen was promoted to associate professor of anesthesiology. Dr. Danian Gu was promoted to research assistant professor of medical genetics. The following promotions are effective July 1, 2004: Dr. Kenneth Drobatz to professor of critical care; Dr. Lesley King to professor of critical care; Dr. James Serpell to Marie A. Moore Professor of Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare; Dr. Karin Soremmo to associate professor of oncology; Dr. Jean-Pierre Saint-Jeant to associate professor of developmental biology; Dr. Daniel Yee to research associate professor of molecular pharmacology.