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Meet Dean Joan Hendricks

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JOAN HENDRICKS
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about the cover: After an international search, Dr. Joan Hendricks, V’79, GR’80, was selected as the School’s 12th dean. The announcement was made on October 31, 2005, by Penn President Amy Gutmann and Provost Ron Daniels. Read the announcement and the first dean’s message from Dr. Hendricks in this issue. Dr. Hendricks is pictured at the gates of the Old Vet School Quadrangle. Photo by Sabina Pierce.
Joan Hendricks Named Dean of School of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Joan Hendricks, V’79, GR’80, has been named dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine. The announcement was made October 31, 2005, by Penn President Amy Gutmann and Provost Ronald J. Daniels. Dr. Hendricks, who assumed the position January 1, 2006, succeeds Dr. Alan Kelly, who is stepping down after 11-plus years.

Dr. Hendricks is the Henry and Corinne R. Bower Professor of Small Animal Medicine as well as section chief of Critical Care in the Department of Clinical Studies. She is also the founding director of the Veterinary Clinical Investigation Center and holds a secondary appointment as a professor in the Department of Medicine in Penn’s School of Medicine.

“Dr. Hendricks’s appointment is the culmination of a comprehensive search for a new dean,” Dr. Gutmann said. “We looked all over the country as well as internationally and not surprisingly found the best candidate right here at Penn.

“Joan has served on the School’s faculty for more than 20 years. Her knowledge of Penn is broad and deep, her commitment to the School’s mission passionate. We feel fortunate indeed to be passing on the deanship from one outstanding leader, Alan Kelly, to another, who has distinguished herself equally in three areas vital to the School: research, education and clinical service.”

“To be entrusted with the leadership of this world-renowned school,” Dr. Hendricks said, “is the highest honor I could receive. So much of me is invested in this wonderful place, in the education of bright and ambitious young people and in research.”

Dr. Hendricks has been a leader in critical care, enhancing teaching and patient care. With colleagues at the Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital, she was instrumental in establishing a Center for Critical Care at the Veterinary Hospital that brought together the Emergency Service, Intensive Care Unit and the Hospital’s Anesthesia Service into a single section.

By successfully recruiting and retaining highly regarded tenure-track faculty in the Department of Clinical Studies, she advanced the stature and importance of research at the School. Dr. Hendricks has built the School’s clinical research capabilities by recruiting outstanding clinician educators and establishing an innovative partnership with Pfizer Animal Health that will support clinical trials.