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Staff Notes

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Althouse named Chair of the Department of Clinical Studies–New Bolton Center

Dr. Gary Althouse was recently named chair of the Department of Clinical Studies–New Bolton Center. As the chief academic officer of the department, Dr. Althouse will be responsible for providing leadership in enhancing the department’s role within the School and University.

Dr. Althouse is also a professor of reproduction and swine herd health, and was previously the head of the Section of Reproductive Studies and the endowed Georgia and Philip Hofmann Research Center for Animal Reproduction at New Bolton Center.

Dr. Althouse’s research interests include male reproduction in veterinary and human medicine, and he remains involved in translational research that has expanded the application of several assisted reproduction technologies in many species.

Hunter named Chair of the Department of Pathobiology

Dr. Christopher Hunter has been named chair of the Department of Pathobiology. Dr. Hunter will be responsible for integrating the core activities of the department and developing new and promising areas of research, service and teaching. The department has a strong focus on basic research in cancer and infectious disease and provides vital diagnostic laboratory services for patients at both the Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital in Philadelphia and the George D. Widener Hospital for Large Animals at New Bolton Center, and it offers the largest veterinary biopsy service at an academic institution. Pathobiology faculty head the School’s initiative in the Pennsylvania Animal Diagnostic Laboratory System.

In addition to his new position, Dr. Hunter is a professor of parasitology at Penn Vet. He is active in the advancement of graduate education at Penn, is on the editorial boards of several journals and has served on numerous scientific review committees, including the National Institutes of Health, and the Howard Hughes and the Gates foundations.

Dr. Hunter’s research interests include understanding how the immune system controls infections and how this information can be used to design better ways to manage inflammation.

Harrigan named Chief Financial Officer

Maureen Harrigan has been named as the School’s chief financial officer. Ms. Harrigan was formerly the director of resource planning in the University’s Office of Budget and Management Analysis, where she was responsible for the financial analysis of the University in general and of its specific Schools/Centers. Prior to Penn, she held various management and professional positions within the Hewlett-Packard Company and Agilent Technologies for 20 years.

Ms. Harrigan earned an M.B.A. degree from Harvard University. She is a school director in the Kennett Consolidated School District and serves as chair of the school board’s finance committee.

Changes in Ryan Veterinary Hospital’s Orthopaedic Section

Dr. Gail L. Smith, V’74, professor of orthopaedic surgery, recently completed a sabbatical at the National Institutes of Health in the laboratory of Dr. Elaine Ostrander, and has returned to the Orthopaedic Service at the Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital. Dr. Smith will continue to direct PennHIP®, fast becoming the world standard for hip dysplasia screening, as well as develop programs that will include total joint replacement for hip, knee and elbow; pain management; physical therapy and rehabilitation medicine, and predictive medicine.

Other orthopaedic staff members are Drs. Rob Gilley, assistant professor of surgery; Carolyn Garzotto, V’96, consultant; and Kim Agnello, as well as numerous residents and interns. Dr. David Diefenderfer, V’81, has retired from Penn Vet and is now in private practice.