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Faculty & Staff News

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David Artis, PhD, associate professor has earned the Lady Barbara Colyton Prize for Autoimmune Research, which recognizes outstanding research in the field of autoimmune diseases.

Jill Beech, VMD, a recently retired professor of medicine at Penn Vet’s New Bolton Center, received the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) Distinguished Educator Award, which is awarded to an individual (educator, mentor, or CE provider) who by his or her actions and commitment has demonstrated a significant impact on the development and training of equine practitioners. Nominations are not limited to academicians, but are open to individuals who, through their ability, dedication, character and leadership have played an important role in the educational and career development of others.

Cara Blake, DVM joined the Penn Vet team as lecturer of surgery.

Julie Callahan Clark, DVM, DACVIM was promoted to lecturer of internal medicine.

William Crumley, DVM has joined the Ryan Hospital ophthalmology team as a board-certified staff ophthalmologist. Dr. Crumley’s clinical and research interests include glaucoma and fluorophotometry.

Elizabeth Davidson, DVM was promoted to associate professor of sports medicine, clinician educator.

Peter Dodson, PhD gave a keynote talk entitled “Evolutionary History of the Spine: Episodes and Insights” to the Philadelphia Spinal Research Society on November 17, 2011. More recently, Dr. Dodson was a guest of Marty Moss-Coane on her Radio Times show, which aired on Philadelphia’s WHYY-FM on December 19, 2011. During the interview, Dr. Dodson discussed dinosaur biology in connection with the new exhibit at the Franklin Institute.

Hannah Galantino-Homer, VMD, PhD, senior research investigator, is serving as a member on the AAEP Laminitis Research Working Group, which recently launched an epidemiologic study of pasture- and endocrinopathy-associated laminitis (PEAL). The group will meet in Houston in March to develop a research plan for a second study of supporting limb laminitis. For more information on the PEAL study: www.vetmed.tamu.edu/laminitis.

Tammy Gantz, MS joined the office of student and curricular affairs as curriculum coordinator. In this role, Gantz will schedule and modify early-entry and senior year clinical rotations as well as schedule specialty duty, holiday shifts, externs and offshore students.

Jonathan Garber, VMD was promoted to lecturer of field service and successfully passed the certifying examination of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) and is now a Diplomate certified in the dairy practice category. Dr. Garber also presented lectures at the 6th Keystone Veterinary Conference in Hershey, PA. The three-day seminar was for veterinary technicians. In addition, Dr. Garber recently had a case report published in The Bovine Practitioner. The report is entitled “Tetanus in Cattle: Review and Case Description of Clinical Tetanus in a Holstein Heifer.”

Janik Gasiorowski, DVM was promoted to lecturer of surgery at New Bolton Center.

Giaccomo Gianotti, DVM joined Ryan Hospital’s anesthesia service as a lecturer.

Urs Giger, DVM, PD, MS, director of the Metabolic Genetics Screening Laboratory, is an invited speaker for a two-day symposium on clinical hematology for veterinary clinicians and for a one-day seminar on hereditary diseases for breeders in Tel Aviv, Israel in November 2012. Recently, Dr. Giger was also invited to speak on clinical genetics at the World Small Veterinary Association in Jeju South Korea in October 2011.

Hilary Goff, BS has transitioned from a 10-year position in nursing at New Bolton Center to fill the research barn manager position within the Soma lab.

Samantha Hart, DVM was promoted to lecturer of emergency medicine and critical care at New Bolton Center.

Joan C. Hendricks, VMD, PhD, The Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine, was named a Woman of Distinction by the Philadelphia Business Journal. According to the Business Journal, a panel of 12 independent judges selected 26 women from more than 300 nominations based on their accomplishments, community involvement and professional successes.

Michaela A. Kristula, DVM, MS, section chief of field service at New Bolton Center, recently had a case report published in The Bovine Practitioner, titled “Case Report: Veterinary Farm Specific Employee Training to Manage Dairy Cows at Calving Time.”
GARY C. ALTHOUSE
DVM, MS, PHD, DIPL. ACT

Gary C. Althouse, DVM, MS, PhD, Dipl. ACT, professor and chair of the Department of Clinical Studies at Penn Vet’s New Bolton Center, was recently named to the Marion Dilley and David George Jones Endowed Chair in Animal Reproduction.

“The ability to both honor and reward the most important contributors to Penn Vet is a powerful tool for the Dean,” said Joan C. Hendricks, VMD, PhD, The Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine at Penn Vet. “An endowed chair is the highest honor available in academia, and the Jones Chair is a wonderful gift. With the naming of Dr. Althouse to this chair, we are able to highlight his contributions in research to improve reproduction in many species, his extensive service to food producers globally, and — perhaps most important to the Penn Vet community — enable him to continue his crucial service to the School as a department chair without sacrificing his ongoing laboratory research.”

Dr. Althouse has served as chairman of the Department of Clinical Studies at Penn Vet’s New Bolton Center since 2007. A professor of reproduction and swine herd health, his primary areas of interest include comparative theriogenology, swine production medicine, andrology, spermatology, and semen analysis. He is widely published in these fields and his expertise is sought internationally.

A member of numerous professional, honor and scientific societies, Dr. Althouse is also the lead scientific advisor for the National Association of Animal Breeders-Certified Semen Service. A native of Pennsylvania, Dr. Althouse received his bachelor of science from Sul Ross State University; his master of science from Texas A&M University; and then his PhD degrees at Iowa State University. Dr. Althouse is a Diplomate in the American College of Theriogenologists.

Said Lawrence R. Soma, VMD, DACVA, professor of anesthesia and the Marilyn M. Simpson Professor of Veterinary Medicine, “As chairman of the New Bolton Center Endowed Chair Committee, it was my pleasure to recommend to the Dean the committee’s unanimous choice of Dr. Althouse as the Marion Dilley and David George Jones Endowed Chair in Animal Reproduction. Dr. Althouse will continue the distinguished tradition of previous stewards of this Chair.”

Meryl Littman, VMD, associate professor of medicine, spoke recently at a number of venues, including at the Atlantic Coast Veterinary Conference in Atlantic City, NJ on various Lyme disease and parasite topics including Lyme arthritis; Lyme nephritis; co-infections; blood parasites; and non-blood parasites.

Rosemary Lombardi, CVT has been named director of nursing at Penn Vet’s Ryan Hospital. Previously, she filled the role of head nurse in Ryan Hospital’s Intensive Care Unit. In her new role, Lombardi is responsible for staffing, standard of care and recruitment and retention.

Ashra Pearl Markowitz, MS, assistant dean for student affairs, was recently awarded the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA) “President’s Award” in recognition of her longstanding commitment to Penn Vet and dedicated service to generations of veterinarians.

Kasey McCafferty, CVT has rejoined the Penn Vet team as a temporary veterinary technician and will be filling in as needed at New Bolton Center.

Sue McDonnell, PhD recently received the 2011 American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) George Stubbs Award, which recognizes the contributions made to equine veterinary medicine by individuals other than veterinarians. The award is named for George Stubbs, the artist and teacher who played a vital role in veterinary education. While the individuals honored are not veterinarians, they have been directly responsible for performing an act or acts to benefit equine veterinary medicine in any or all of the following areas: leadership, public service, volunteer service, research findings, product development, public policy development, animal advocacy or humane education.

Cynthia M. Otto, DVM, PhD, associate professor of critical care at Ryan Hospital and director of the Penn Vet Working Dog Center, has achieved Champion Trick Dog status for her dog, Dolce, and Advanced Trick status for her cat, Zucca.

Dipti Pitta, MVSc., PhD joined the Penn Vet team as assistant professor of ruminant nutrition.

Ashley Reimel, CVT has joined Penn Vet’s New Bolton Center team.

In October, Ines Rodriguez, VMD, MS, director of swine health and welfare at New Bolton Center, welcomed a baby girl, Amalia Belén to her family. Amalia weighed in at 5lbs., 13 oz. at 5:35 PM on Oct. 13, 2011.
ADRIAN R. MORRISON, DVM, MS, PHD

After five decades of research in the Animal Biology Department, Adrian R. Morrison, DVM, MS, PhD, is closing his sleep research center. During his tenure, Dr. Morrison has taught hundreds of students – including Joan C. Hendricks, The Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Penn Vet – and has greatly impacted the field of sleep and wakefulness. In addition to his groundbreaking discoveries, Dr. Morrison has worked tirelessly to ensure humane care in animal research. In 2009, Dr. Morrison published An Odyssey with Animals, which highlights his personal experience in studying the complex relationship between animals and humans.

“As Adrian’s student and later colleague in sleep research, I have always been impressed by his creativity, thoughtfulness, and thoroughness,” said Dean Hendricks. “He has also been a courageous voice advocating for the unique value that studying animals brings to complex areas of science, even when his own personal career and even his safety were threatened by extremists. While we are sad his research center will be closing, his discoveries, post-retirement commitment to teaching the next generation and publishing the thoughts gained through his decades of experience provide a legacy that is a foundation for generations of scientists to come.”

Hiroki Sano, DVM joined the team as lecturer of anesthesiology.

Robert J. Schieri, MBA, CPA has joined the Penn Vet team as executive director of finance and administration.

Michael Schlicksup, DVM was promoted to lecturer of surgery.

Billy J. Smith, DVM, MS, associate professor of medicine and part of New Bolton Center’s Section of Field Service, presented lectures at the 2011 DAIRY Summit Health Science and Innovation meeting in Pocono, PA. The two-day seminar was sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim. Dr. Smith also recently assisted the Bronx Zoo veterinarians and caretakers on corrective trimming of Margaret, a 29-year-old giraffe.

Karin Sorenmo, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM, Dipl. ECVIM-CA (oncology), chief, Section of Oncology at Ryan Hospital, was an invited speaker on oncology at the World Small Animal Veterinary Association in Jeju, South Korea in October 2011.

Matthew Stock, VMD was promoted to lecturer of field service.

Oriol Sunyer, PhD was promoted to professor of microbiology and immunology.

Jantra Suran, DVM was promoted to lecturer of radiology.

Kathryn Wotman, DVM, DACVIM was promoted to clinical associate.

Michael Zaid, VMD, DACVIM was promoted to lecturer of internal medicine.

Penn Vet’s Veterinary Clinical Investigations Center is currently recruiting dogs and cats for a number of clinical studies.

Some of these trials include:

- A potential new treatment for canine lymphoma
- Studying protein-losing enteropathy/nephropathy, Addison’s disease and renal disease in dogs
- Studying weight loss in cats with cancer
- Measuring Vitamin B12 and MMA levels in cats diagnosed with lymphoma

If you have a dog or a cat that may be eligible, or if you are a primary care veterinarian with a patient suffering from any of the above, please call 215-573-0302 or email VCIC@vet.upenn.edu for more information.

To see what other ongoing studies are available, please visit www.PennVCIC.org.