

Family and friends filled the Zellerbach Theatre at the Annenberg Center on May 22 for the 115th Commencement Exercises of the School. Cameras clicked and families cheered as 99 graduates and members of the faculty marched in and took their places on the stage. The Class of 2000 was composed of 78 women and 21 men. This brings the total of Penn veterinary graduates to 1,683 women and 3,943 men.

Dean Kelly opened the ceremony and he was followed by Christine Connelly, chair, the School's Board of Overseers. The commencement address was given by Dr. Arthur L. Kaplan, director of the University's Center for Bioethics.

During the presentation of the diplomas and the hooding, Dr. Kelly was

assisted by Dr. James B. Lok, Dean's Awardee for Leadership in Basic Science Education, Dr. Dorothy Brown, Dean's Awardee for Leadership in Clinical Science Education, and Associate Dean Dr. Charles Newton.

Veterinary Medical Alumni Society President Dr. Robert W. Stewart, V'68, presented the class flag to Class President Omar Farias-Llovet. Dr. Dean Richardson, 2000 Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Awardee, assisted with the awarding of prizes and Dr. Jeffrey A. Wortman, V'69, associate dean for curricular affairs, assisted with the recognition of honor graduates. The official part of the proceedings came to a close after PVMA President Lawrence J. Gerson, V'75, administered the Veterinarian's Oath to the newly minted VMDs.



## Class of 2000

Leslie Carter Agulnick \*\*  
 Tracy Beth Akner  
 Samantha Lynn Asikainen  
 Elizabeth Branscomb Bales  
 Laney Jean Baris \*  
 Gillian Lee Beamer  
 Annette Belovi  
 Linda Marie Bender  
 Heather Aimee Berst  
 Benjamin Marc Brainard  
 Jason William Brooks \*\*\*  
 Jennifer Kay Buchholz \*\*\*  
 Catherine Elizabeth Buck  
 Christine Michele Burhans-Scruggs  
 Gabor Rocco Capodanno \*  
 Heather Elizabeth Chalfant \*\*\*  
 Sonja Tsung-Ying Chou  
 Monica Carrie Clare \*\*  
 Mary-Margaret Rachel Clements  
 Lisa Rose Cote  
 Shawn Matthew Day  
 Jamison DeSantis  
 Joan Diebold \*  
 Claudia Page Dwyer  
 Jennifer Whitcomb Elliot  
 Michael Joseph Engler  
 Omar Farias-Llovet  
 Allison Jane Felley  
 Dana Danette Fite  
 Dawn Catherine Fitzhugh  
 Michael Joseph Fullmer  
 Teresa Vanderlaan Garofalo  
 Curtis Henry Geary  
 Athan Vasilios Gerovasilou

Sarah Morrill Gladstone  
 Kirsten Brenda Glass \*  
 Jennifer Allison Granite  
 Cheryl Marie Gross  
 Tracey Anne Hall  
 Caroline Breneman Hallman  
 Troy Matthew Hallman  
 Jennifer Saylor Hamlet  
 Kimberly Beth Hammer  
 John Davidson Hershey  
 Anne Elizabeth Hessinger  
 Julie Mae Hoberman  
 Amy Holford  
 Jennifer Ann Hopkinson  
 Hillary Rachel Gorman Israeli  
 Krista Sue Kasprenski \*  
 Elizabeth Louise Knighton  
 Deborah Lynn Landis  
 Scott Lewis  
 Erika Kirsten Lilja  
 Lise Marie Lund  
 Kimberly Sharon Chee-Len Mah  
 Kristin Ann Mahoney  
 Janna Makovoz  
 Susana Martinez-Walter  
 Michelle Stacey Mayers  
 April Dawn McCord  
 Blaire Lynn Michael  
 Kelli Lynn Monahan  
 Heidi Kay Moore  
 Anita Pratt Morris \*\*  
 Margaret Childs Mudge \*  
 Jaime Alexandra Napolitano  
 Alisa Linn Newton \*\*\*

Sabrina Nicole Nye  
 Lisa Marie Olver \*  
 Diane Elizabeth Overlay \*\*  
 Sherry Ann Podhayny  
 Tammy Lynn Rakowski  
 Jeanette Rilling  
 Susan Stavros Rourke  
 Jack Denver Runk  
 Marcela Salas  
 Jodie Ann Elizabeth Santore  
 Elena Sawickij  
 Sean Douglas Sawyer  
 Kenneth Robert Schwartz  
 Lisa Jean Shientag  
 Howard Lawrence Silberman  
 Lara Joan Slusarz  
 Stephanie Eileen Snyder  
 Caroline Michelle Soter \*\*  
 Perri Stark  
 Tripp Morgan Stewart  
 Elvira Minge Tate \*  
 Tanya Thies  
 Donna Marie Trent-Burchess  
 Tara Krystal Trotman \*\*\*  
 Dana Lee Walck  
 Jennifer Jane Wandell  
 Michael Robert Watts  
 Kelli Elaine Weaver  
 Jacob Robert Werner  
 Staci Phillips Wiemelt  
 Edwin Alberto Zayas-Cruz  
 \*\*\**Summa Cum Laude*  
 \*\**Magna Cum Laude*  
 \**Cum Laude*



## Award Recipients

### **Leonard Pearson Prize**

Jacob Robert Werner

### **J.B. Lippincott Prize**

Jennifer Kay Buchholz

### **1930 Class Prize in Surgery**

Heather Elizabeth Chalfant

### **Auxiliary to the American Veterinary Medical Association Prize**

Benjamin Marc Brainard

### **Auxiliary to the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association Prize—Small Animal Award**

Elvira Minge Tate

### **Auxiliary to the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association Prize—Large Animal Award**

Lara Joan Slusarz

### **1956 Class Medal for Achievement in Pathology**

Tara Krystal Trotman

### **James Hazlitt Jones Prize in Biochemistry**

Joan Diebold

### **American Animal Hospital Association Award**

Sean Douglas Sawyer

### **Merck Awards**

#### *Small Animal Award*

Gabor Rocco Capodanno

#### *Large Animal Award*

Teresa Vanderlaan Garofalo

### **George M. Palmer Prize**

April Dawn McCord

### **Everingham Prize for Cardiology**

Gabor Rocco Capodanno

### **Large Animal Surgery Prize**

Jennifer Kay Buchholz

### **Large Animal Medicine Prize**

Kirsten Brenda Glass

### **Morris L. Ziskind Prize in Food Animal Medicine**

Scott Lewis

### **Morris L. Ziskind Prize in Public Health**

Monica Carrie Clare

### **Hill's Award**

Blaire Lynn Michael

### **Pharmacia & Upjohn Awards**

#### *Small Animal Award*

Caroline Michelle Sorter

#### *Large Animal Award*

Jennifer Kay Buchholz

### **Faculty/SCAVMA Prize**

Alisa Linn Newton

### **American College of Veterinary Surgeons Prizes**

#### *Small Animal Surgery Prize*

Tara Krystal Trotman

#### *Large Animal Surgery Prize*

Kirsten Brenda Glass

### **American Association of Feline Practitioners Award**

Jennifer Ann Hopkinson

### **Field Service Prize**

Jacob Robert Werner

### **Phi Zeta Award**

Diane Elizabeth Overley

### **Anatomy Prize**

Tara Krystal Trotman

### **American College of Veterinary Radiology Award**

Marcela Salas

### **Iams/VECCS Award for Excellence in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care**

Benjamin Marc Brainard

### **Charles F. Reid Sports Medicine and Imaging Award**

Heather Aimee Berst

### **Lynn Sammons Food Animal Award**

Jason William Brooks

### **VetSmart Human/Pet Bond Award**

Hillary Rachel Gorman Israeli