

THE RALPH BRINSTER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Created in 2011 by the Dean's Alumni Council, the Ralph Brinster Lifetime Achievement Award is Penn Vet's highest award of recognition.

As demonstrated by its first recipient, Dr. Ralph Brinster, this award recognizes outstanding individuals who have shown innovation, excellence, and leadership in the veterinary profession both nationally and internationally.

The 2013 recipient of the Ralph Brinster Lifetime Achievement Award is **Dr. David Nunamaker, V'68**, who received a standing ovation at the award ceremony during the Penn Annual Conference.

Dr. Nunamaker is the retired University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine Jacques Jenny Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery. In this role, he tirelessly pursued a greater understanding of the mechanics of bone modeling and remodeling in horses, based on various types of exercise surfaces, and designed a now widely used external fixation device for horses suffering catastrophic leg fractures.

Dr. Nunamaker served as Director of the Richard S. Reynolds Comparative Orthopaedic Research Laboratory, where he conducted in-depth research into many conditions affecting Thoroughbreds and Standardbred racehorses. His work offered the racing industry enlightened alternatives to traditional training methods that would benefit the horse.

He established two patents for external skeletal fixation and researched bucked shins for over 18 years with more than one million dollars in support from the USDA, NIH, and private and industry funding. Through his research, Dr. Nunamaker developed a plan to prevent bucked shins, which could reduce the incidence of this condition from 70-90 percent to less than five percent.



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