

Italian physicians in Bertinoro, Italy. His lecture was titled "Meccanismi del Controllo Motorio nel Sonno." Last September he participated in a symposium, "Sleep Medicine on the Eve of the Third Millenium" in Bologna, Italy.

Dr. Karen Overall, V'83, lecturer in behavior, gave presentations to and participated in workshops at the California Narcotic Canine Association meetings in Burbank in January. In February she gave talks to the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association and participated as a presenter at the Veterinary Post-Graduate Institute course in Phoenix, Ariz.

Dr. Shelley Rankin, research assistant professor in microbiology, received a two-year grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Agriculture to study "PCR Detection of *Listeria monocytogenes* in ruminants." Dr Fabio Del Piero is a co-investigator. Dr. Rankin gave a presentation at the PADLS Spring Diagnostic Conference in April on "Multiple Drug resistant *Salmonella* Newport strains in Pennsylvania".

Dr. Ina Dorbrinski, assistant professor of large animal reproduction, received a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture: "Improving Fertility of Preserved Bovine and Porcine Semen," and a grant from the NIH/NICHD: "Identification of Stem Cell Markers in Mammalian Testes." Dr. Dobrinski gave an invited talk earlier this year at the California Regional Primate Center, Davis, Calif.

Dr. Andrei Thomas-Tikhonenko, assistant professor of pathology, received funding from the University of Pennsylvania Cancer Center for the project "Infection-mediated suppression of tumor vascularization and growth." It draws on the recent discovery by **Drs. Andrei Thomas-Tikhonenko** and **Christopher Hunter** that acute infection with *Toxoplasma gondii* leads to suppression of tumor angiogenesis and precludes neoplastic growth. This study, which is of potential therapeutic significance, has been recently accepted for publication in the Cutting Edge section of the *Journal of Immunology*.

Dr. Robert Whitlock, associate professor of medicine, has been awarded a two year research grant to develop a PCR based assay for John's Disease in Alpacas by the Alpaca Research Foundation in Kallisbell, Mont. Dr. Whitlock received funds from B-D BioSciences and Land-O-Lakes Foods to conduct an international survey of culture methods for John's Disease in 30 countries. This is first ever international survey to compare the diagnostic

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techniques for John's Disease among the leading diagnostic laboratories in the world. Dr. Whitlock recently presented several lectures on John's Disease to the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association annual meeting in Indianapolis in January.

The University's Research Foundation awarded grants to: **Dr. Michael Atchison**, professor of biochemistry, **Dr. Gary Smith**, professor of population biology and epidemiology, **Dr. Francis Luca**, assistant professor of physiology, and **Dr. Quin Yu**, assistant professor of pathobiology.

James Kehler, V'02, was named a 2000 Morris Animal Foundation Fellow. Each year

students are nominated by principal investigators for their devotion and contributions to the advancement of veterinary medicine through animal health studies. James was nominated by **Dr. Paula Henthorn**, associate professor of medical genetics.

Dr. Sue Kimmel, resident in medicine, received a grant from the IAMS Company and placed third in the 2000 Eukanuba Veterinary Diets®/BASFCASE Report Competition for Residents. The grants are awarded to eight veterinary residents for completing outstanding research studies or clinical reports that demonstrate the role of nutrition in managing common diseases affecting dogs and cats.

Nezpercius dodsoni

The March issue of the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* contains a note entitled "A new fossil frog from the Upper Cretaceous Judith River Formation of Montana" by Richard W. Blob, Matthew T. Carrano, Raymond R. Rogers, Catherine A. Forster and Nora R. Espinoza. Rick Blob was a Penn undergrad who trained with **Dr. Peter Dodson**, professor of anatomy, in Montana for several years and who recently finished his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. He is now on a post-doctoral fellowship at the Field Museum in Chicago. Cathy Forster was Dr. Dodson's Ph.D. student. She is now associate professor of anatomy at SUNY Stony Brook.

The name of the new frog is *Nezpercius dodsoni*! The citation reads "Genus name honors the Nez Perce tribe. The type locality for the genus is within sight of Cow Island, where the Nez Perce tribe crossed the Missouri River as they were pursued toward Canada in 1877. Species name honors Peter Dodson for his contributions to paleoecological research in the Judith River Formation."