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Award for Dr. Allam



Dr. Mark W. Allam, V'32, former dean and Professor Emeritus of Surgery, received the John Whitley Eckman Award for Outstanding Service to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. The award was presented on January 18, 1996 by Dr. Robert H. Bradley, Jr., past president and chairman of the awards committee. Following is the citation:

"Mark Whittier Allam was born in Fernwood, Pennsylvania. The two happy circumstances, his middle name and the woody sound of his birthplace, may be in part responsible for this remarkable man's happy disposition and optimistic turn of mind. Anyone who loves animals is a lovable person, understanding, as he must, those who cannot communicate with words. Full of fun, full of wisdom — Mark Allam! We salute him; we love him!" Those words were written over 20 years ago by Dr. Katherine Boucot Sturgis, the first Lady president of our College. They are certainly still true today. I don't think anyone who has had the privilege of knowing this wonderful man would ever disagree.

Dr. Mark Allam was elected to the Fellowship on March 28, 1972, the first Veterinarian, in fact the first non-M.D., to receive that distinction, and may I say a happy distinction for the College as well. Over the many years of his associa-

tion with us, Dr. Allam has served the College well on many diverse committees, as Chairman of the Committee on Audit, and as a member of the Council, our governing board, where he still sits as Councillor Emeritus. He maintains a low profile, but his opinions always count, especially in Harrisburg where he is held in highest esteem. Formerly Dean of the Veterinary School of the University of Pennsylvania, he was responsible for the creation of the New Bolton Center, a world renown center for animal husbandry and research.

In conclusion, I will again echo Dr. Sturgis's sentiments: Mark, we salute you! We love you! Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in applauding Dr. Mark Whittier Allam as the College of Physicians of Philadelphia awards him the John Whitley Eckman Award for Outstanding Service. ■

From the Dean



Following are remarks delivered on March 5, 1996, by Dean Alan M. Kelly to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania House Appropriations Committee.

I wish to thank the Committee for your past support. You and your predecessors have provided the School with an appropriation for almost 90 years. This support recognizes the special contributions Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine makes to the economy of Pennsylvania and especially to the Commonwealth's #1 industry, agriculture.

Nevertheless, I am troubled to tell you that the School is once again threatened by the funding level proposed in the Governor's budget. For Fiscal Year 1997, the Governor submitted a budget

for the School of \$15,098,000, which is \$5,609,000 or 27% less than the appropriation of \$20,707,000 received in the present fiscal year. The amount proposed is virtually the same as the School received in the 1988-89 academic year, eight years ago. Adjusted for inflation, \$15 million in 1989 is worth approximately \$11 million today.

Cuts of this magnitude will damage the School irrevocably. Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine has the reputation of being the premier veterinary school in the world. Figure 1 outlines one measure upon which our reputation is based: listed are the numbers of papers that have been published by Penn Veterinary School faculty during the past twelve years in *Nature* and *Science*, probably the two most prestigious scientific journals in the world, compared to all other veterinary schools throughout the world. We produced 40% of the papers contributed by veterinary schools, our nearest rival produced just 5% of the papers. When compared to medical schools in the Commonwealth the results are equally

favorable and are an eloquent statement of the quality of the Veterinary School faculty.

Unfortunately, our reputation as the leading veterinary school will be lost and will not be recovered in our lifetime if the Governor's proposals are sustained. Furthermore, a more predictable line of funding must be found for the School cannot survive as a quality institution with the roller coaster financing it has been received in the past several years; planning is futile, faculty and student morale is undermined, recruitment or replacement of new faculty is suspended and fund raising from the private sector, upon which we are extremely dependent, is crippled.

The School is the only school of veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth. It is also one of Pennsylvania's great bargains. Financing for almost all of the land and buildings at the 600 acre New Bolton Center campus and at the School's Philadelphia campus has come from private sources. Today, this physical plant is valued at approximately \$350