



7-1-2000

115th Commencement

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 Overley **
 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