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Scholarships

Dr. Deubler Honored by University

Dr. Josephine Deubler, V'38, received the Alumni Award of Merit, the highest award presented by the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Society on October 30. The award is given in recognition of outstanding service to the University of Pennsylvania. It was presented to Dr. Deubler and six other Penn alumni during a Gala "Celebrating Leadership Luminaries" at Wanamaker's Tea Room. Norman P.

Hetrick, University Trustee and member of the School's Board of Overseers, presented the award after Maury Povitch introduced Dr. Deubler. The citation follows:

Inspired by five family members who were veterinarians, all male, you set out to leap the hurdles that society had created for women and that nature had

created for you when you became profoundly deaf in early childhood. Staying the course and overcoming all obstacles, not least of all loneliness, you emerged as the first woman to graduate from Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine.

Spurred on by this achievement, you went on to earn a Master's and Ph.D. from Penn and became the first female to be admitted to the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association. Joining the School of Veterinary Medicine faculty, where you are now an Emeritus Professor, you began 53 years of research on diseases afflicting populations largely equine, feline, and bovine. But it was clear that your heart belonged to the canines as you gained international renown as a breeder, exhibitor, and judge of dogs — even judging Best in Show at Westminster. You remain, after 25 years, Show Chairman of both the Montgomery County Kennel Club and the Bucks County Kennel Club.



In addition to your volunteer work for the Animal Rescue League of Philadelphia and the Bucks-Montgomery Veterinary Medical Association, you have served Penn and your profession as the School's class agent, as Secretary and Historian of the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society, by writing for the magazines Bellwether and Popular Dogs, and by establishing Penn's popular Canine Symposium and Feline Symposium. The

School receives countless gifts in your name, including the fully endowed Dr. M. Josephine Deubler Dean's Scholarships and contributions to The Josephine Deubler Genetic Disease Testing Laboratory.

A true winner; you have earned every award in the dog fancy, including the Mark L. Morris, Sr. Lifetime

Achievement Award for Contribution to the Health and Well-Being of Dogs, and three of the School of Veterinary Medicine's top honors — the Bellwether Medal, the Veterinary Medicine Alumni Award, and the Centennial Medal. If there were a Best in Show for veterinarians, you would surely have won that, too. We now proudly bestow on you, Dr. Josephine Deubler, our own Red and Blue Ribbon, the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Award of Merit. 🐾

Scholarships

Deborah Murtha, V'99, received the Robert Shomer Scholarship, granted by the New Jersey Veterinary Foundation. The Joseph Millar Scholarship, awarded by the same organization, was given to Ellen Fitzgibbon, V'99.

Student Summer Research Program

The School encourages students to consider research as a career option and has in place a summer research program to expose them to bench research. The level of interest among students was high as 21 applied for a place in the 1998 Student Summer Research Program, the largest number ever. From these 16 students were selected, again a record number. The program, revitalized in 1990 with support from the Merck Foundation, exposes veterinary students to all aspects of biomedical research. Students submit a research proposal and once accepted into the program, perform biomedical research during June, July and August. They are required to write the results of the research in the form of a scientific paper, and orally present the findings to others.

Each year different faculty volunteer as mentors and the students perform research in their laboratories under their guidance. Students participate in weekly seminars and give an oral presentation of their work to the seminar group. In September each had to hand in a report in the form of a scientific paper. This will also be submitted in March 1999 for the School of Veterinary Medicine Phi Zeta Day. A large number of students are still working with their mentors and performing additional studies. Many are planning to submit their studies for publication.

The 1998 group of students worked with mentors in the Departments of Clinical Studies at Philadelphia and New Bolton Center, the Department of Animal Biology, the Department of Pathobiology as well as with researchers at the School of Medicine, Childrens Hospital and the VA Hospital in Philadelphia.

In addition to the Merck Foundation, the NIH provided funding for the 1998 program, as did the Office of the Dean and the School's Mari Lowe Center for Oncology.