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Scholarships

Opportunity Scholarship Honors Constantine “George” Pournaras

Former students and residents have funded a new Opportunity Scholarship to honor **Constantine “George” Pournaras**, who worked at the School for more than 40 years. Pournaras learned about the creation of the scholarship shortly before he passed away on May 4, 2002.

At first, Pournaras worked in a variety of positions at the School, but he is best known for his service as an anesthetist at New Bolton Center. According to **Dean Alan M. Kelly**, “The scholarship is a wonderful tribute to George and his many contributions during his four decades of service to Penn. We will be forever grateful for the



impact he had on caring for patients and on teaching students.”

The effort to create this living memorial to Pournaras was led by **James V. Stewart, V’68**. According to Dr. Stewart, “New Bolton Center was a defining influence in our lives and George Pournaras was an integral part of this process. The initiation of this Opportunity Scholarship prior to George’s death allowed us to reaffirm and restate our love for the program and the people who helped to make us who we are today.” The scholarship’s funders are:

- **Jill Beech, V’72**, The Georgia E. and

Philip B. Hofmann Professor in Equine Medicine and Reproduction, New Bolton Center;

- **Ronald J. Martens, D.V.M.**, Professor of Medicine and Coordinator of Equine Infectious Disease Program, Department of Large Animal Medicine and Surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University;
- **William Moyer, D.V.M.**, Professor of Sports Medicine & Department Head, Department of Large Animal Medicine and Surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University;
- **Dean W. Richardson, D.V.M.**, The Charles W. Raker Professor of Equine Surgery and Chief of Large Animal Surgery, New Bolton Center
- **James V. Stewart, V’68**, Partner, Yergey, Stewart, Vallance & Associates, Laurel, Md.

According to Dr. Moyer, who first met Pournaras when he was an intern and resident and who later served on the New Bolton Center faculty from 1980 to 1993, “New Bolton Center, Dr. Charles Raker, and the myriad of dedicated folks like George have made such a positive and lasting contribution. The value of that collective contribution cannot be calculated but only estimated as being enormous. For me personally, it was a life enhancing experience.”

Linda L. Pournaras Alonzo, George’s daughter, expressed her family’s appreciation for the scholarship’s creation: “Growing up my father devoted his life to two things ... New Bolton Center and his family. He taught us that hard work and family are the two most important things in life ... when I received the phone call from Dr. Stewart informing me of the scholarship, fortunately my father was still alive, and I could not contain my joy and pride ... I relayed to him what Dr. Stewart said to me that he touched their lives and made them better people, and that they wanted to do something in his honor to thank him.”

Established in 1998, the Opportunity Scholarship Program is designed to foster scholarship support and mentoring opportunities for students. The recipient of the Pournaras scholarship is **Timothy Mann, V’06**, a resident of Brooklyn, N.Y. He is a 1999 graduate of Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass., where he majored in Geography. He is interested in studying equine medicine at Penn.

Scholarships *(continued from page 9)*

Joshua Eaton, Lauren Entes, Stephen Godin, Caitlin Heinze, Carrie Horton, Michael Koch, Ann Kroken, Christa Regan, Jennifer Seybold; David Kersten V’03 and Anna Skope, V’03 also received Billhardt Scholarships.

Dr. M. Josephine Deubler Dean’s Scholarships were awarded to the following members of the Class of ’04: **Kara Ballek, Raul Casas-Dolz, Laura Javicas, Rachel Pearson, Kelli Russell, Arlene Schneiderman**. Bruce J. Heim Dean’s Scholarships were awarded to the following members of the Class of 04: **Jill Crompton, Daniel Eisenberg, Kathy Heym, Karen Mondziel, Linda Nelson, Jocelyn Patterson; Meredith Daly, V’03** also received a Heim Scholarship. The Jack Mara/Hill’s Pet Products Dean’s Scholarship was awarded to **Lauren May, V’05**.

The following members of the Class of ’05 received Henry S. McNeil, Jr. Dean’s Scholarships: **Derek Cissell, Brian Palmeiro, Koranda Wallace; Holly Connolly, V’03** also received a McNeil Scholarship. J. Maxwell Moran, Sr. Dean’s Scholarships were awarded to the following members of the Class of 03: **David Bessler, Julia Lane; Karen Mondziel, V’04**; and the following members of the Class of 05: **Christopher Blum, Rachel Cianciolo, Nora Grenager, Justin Kontir, Audra Olsen, Sarah Reuss, Joshua Snyder**.

Ethel G. and Allen H. Carruth Dean’s Scholarships were awarded to **Erik Herrema, V’03, Christa Regan, V’04** and these members of the Class of 05: **Amanda Bowden, Stephanie DiFrischia, Amy Durham, Sabrina Goscilo**.

Samuel T. and Emily Rawnsley Dean’s Scholarships were awarded to **Simon Alexander, V’04, Meghan Brumsted, V’05, Scott Gellman, V’04, Kimberly Johnston, V’03, Ellen Rickey, V’05**. The Dr. John Baxter Taylor Scholarships were awarded to **Raul Casas-Diaz, V’04 and Nadira Williams, V’06**.

Holly Edwards, V’04 and Siobhan Haney, V’04 received New York Farmers Scholarships. Edwin J. Andrews Dean’s Scholarships were awarded to **Gina Cairone, V’03 and Keira Geithman, V’05. Nathan Harvey, V’03 and Rosemary Santos, V’05** received Class of ’67 Scholarships. The Harry B. Roshon Memorial Dean’s Scholarships were awarded to **Jill Compton, V’04 and Erik Herrema, V’03. Christina Phillips, V’03** received the Eberhard LeSchin Founders Scholarship. The Palace H. Seitz Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Lisa Meddock, V’03**.

The following members of the Class of ’06 received Opportunity Scholarships (OS): **Christie Schroth** – The Sandy and Charles Koenig OS; **Christin L. Veeder** – The Charles F. Reid OS; **Nadine A. Salomon** – The M. Phyllis Lose OS; **Amanda L. Lang** – The Solstice OS; **Patrick J. Ford** – The Norbert and Mary McManus OS; **Lauren M. Greene** – The Charles W. Raker OS; **Alexander M. Chan** – The Conrad Roblejo OS; **Kari Lyon** – The William J. Solomon OS; **Michelle H. Patrick** – The Marilyn B. Weber OS; **Leslie C. McLaughlin** – The Yergey, Stewart and Vallance OS; **Timothy Mann** – The George Constantin Pournaras OS; **Kristin Willoughby** – The Hopewell Veterinary Group OS.

Association to organize a working group of Avian Influenza experts in San Antonio to address the problems of H5 and H7 Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza issues.

Dr. Sherrill Davison, V'83, associate professor of avian medicine, was accepted into the Wharton School Executive MBA program; classes began in May. In July, she conducted the Board Meeting for the American College of Poultry Veterinarians; she has held the position of Secretary/Treasurer for three years. Dr. Davison was awarded a two-year grant from U.S. Poultry and Egg Association to investigate "Mycoplasma Gallisepticum in Commercial Layers in Pennsylvania." Dr. Eric Gingerich from the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Stanley Kleven from the University of Georgia are co-investigators.

Dr. Craig Clifford, resident in oncology, received a grant for a pilot study "Magnetic Resonance Imaging of Canine Splenic and Hepatic Lesions." The grant was made by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Field in memory of their dog Belinda.

Dr. Pamela Wilkins, assistant professor of medicine and reproduction, became board certified in the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. Dr. Wilkins is now board certified in two specialties, The American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. She is one of only eight active equine specialists in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care in the United States. Dr. Wilkins presented eight hours of lecture on equine emergency and critical care at the SIVE (Society of Italian Equine Veterinarians) meeting in Italy in January 2002. She chaired the equine program at the International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Meeting in San Antonio in September.

Dr. Regina Turner, V'89, assistant professor of reproduction, presented an abstract at the 8th International Symposium on Equine Reproduction held in Fort Collins, Colo. Dr. Turner also was chair of the equine sessions at the Society for Theriogenology Annual Meeting held in Colorado Springs.

Dr. Bernd Driesen, assistant professor of anesthesia, in April, spent a week as visiting professor in the anesthesia service of the Veterinary Medical University of Vienna, Austria and gave a presentation on the role of blood substitutes in the treatment of hemorrhagic shock. In May, he was invited by the Department of Anesthesiology, School of Medicine, University of California-Los Angeles, to present a "Proposal for the Development of an Applied Basic Sciences Program for the Study of

Scholarships

The Western States Scholarship was awarded to **Karen Mondziel, V'04**, **Jason Cordeiro, V'03** and **Tony Ebling, V'03** each received the SCAVMA Community Service Grant; Tony Ebling also received a Wagner Rural Medicine Scholarship as did **Amber Itle, V'03** and **Rebecca Garabed, V'03**. **Kimberly Johnston, V'03**, **Mary Kwacz, V'03** and **Christopher Ryan, V'03** each received a John and Maximillian Masley Scholarship. Ms. Kwacz also received a scholarship from the Union County Kennel Club and Christopher Ryan is the recipient of at Pfizer Animal Health Scholarship.

The Jay Jason Scholarship was awarded to **James Nutt, V'04**. The Rotary District 7450 awarded a scholarship to **Emily Kuprion, V'03**. **Kimberley Johnston, V'03** was awarded a scholarship by Lloyd's Equine Research and Education Program. The Csaba Vedlik Scholarship was awarded to **Anne Kroken, V'04**, **Jennifer Jones, V'03** and **Aylin Attila, V'04** each received a Lois F. Fairchild Scholarship in Veterinary Public Service.

The Westminster Kennel Foundation Scholarship was awarded to **Meredith Daly, V'03**. **Brett Begley, V'03** received the Dr. J. E. Salisbury Scholarship. The Alonzo Edminston Scholar-

Hemoglobin-based Oxygen Carriers." In July, the School of Medicine at UCLA appointed Dr. Driesen as adjunct assistant professor of anesthesiology. Also in July, he gave a presentation entitled "Increase in systemic oxygen content by hemoglobin glutamer-200 (bovine; Oxyglobin®) – Promise or reality?" at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Dr. Gerhard Schad, professor of parasitology, was elected to honorary membership in the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology. He was also elected to the Council of the American Society of Parasitologists.

Dr. Meryl Littman, V'75, associate professor of medicine, received a grant from the AKC Canine Health Foundation for "Longitudinal Field Studies of Families of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers Affected with Protein-Losing Enteropathy and/or Protein-Losing Nephropathy and the Foundation of a DNA Bank." The co-investigators are **Dr. Paula Henthorn**, associate professor of medical genetics and **Dr. Urs Giger**, Charlotte Newton Sheppard Professor of Medicine.

ship was awarded to **Nadira Williams, V'06**. **Kaira Geithman, V'05**, received the American Kennel Club Scholarship. University of Pennsylvania Hertzler Scholarships were awarded to **Timothy Mosebey, V'05** and **Michelle Regester, V'06**. **Amy Field, V'05**, **Karen Mondziel, V'04** and **Scott Goldman, V'03** each received a United States Army Scholarship. **Danielle Springer, V'03** is the recipient of the Shirley E. Possinger Dean's Scholarship. The Charles F. Reid Dean's Scholarship was awarded to **Karena Joung, V'03**. **Gina Cairone, V'03** received the Frank and Mae P. Contino Dean's Scholarship. **Coleen Kane, V'03** received the Eric Tulleners Dean's Scholarship.

The following received Anne Linn White Dean's Scholarships: **Kristin Burton, V'03**, **Holly Lynn Connolly, V'03**, **Kathy Heyn, V'04**, **Emily Kuprion, V'03**, **Julia Lane, V'03**, **Lisa Meddock, V'03**, **John Vinciguerra, V'03**, and **Jeffrey Sachar, V'03**. The following members of the Class of '03 received Charles S. and Phyllis H. Wolf Dean's Scholarship: **Daniel Hall, Bridget Hanley, Emily Kuprion, Julie McDade, Krista Vernaleken**.

The following members of the Class of '04 received Mrs. Jack Billhardt Dean's Scholarships: **Mandy Becker**, (continued on page 10)

Dr. Ina Dobrinski, assistant professor of large animal reproduction, received a grant from the National Institutes of Health for work on germ cell transplantation in pigs.

Dr. Leszek Kubin, research associate professor in the Department of Animal Biology, received from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute a new four-year research grant to study the role of hypothalamus in the control of sleep and cardiorespiratory consequences of sleep loss; he also received another grant from the same Institute to organize the 8th International Symposium on Sleep & Breathing in Reykjavik, Iceland, May 31-June 2, 2002

Dr. Christopher Hunter, associate professor of parasitology, received a large, new grant to study the "Early Immune Response to Toxoplasma gondii."

Dr. Gail Smith, V'74, professor of orthopedic surgery, chair, Department of Clinical Studies-Philadelphia, and **Dr. Amy Kapatkin**, assistant professor of surgery, have co-authored a three-part series on hip dysplasia appearing in three successive issues in the *Compendium* starting July 2002. In July, Dr. Smith presented a scientific paper at the annual meeting of the European College of Veterinary Surgeons in Vienna, Austria.