



Summer 2001

Rosettes & Ribbons: Some Recent Accomplishments of Note by Faculty and Staff

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Barry Stupine, director of VHUP, has been promoted to vice dean for administration and finance. In July, Mr. Stupine, former dean **Robert R. Marshak**, and Dr. Neils Peterson of UC Davis, went to Israel to consult at the Koret School of Veterinary Medicine at Hebrew University on faculty and academic issues, organizational issues and finances.

Dr. Charles Newton has stepped down as associate dean and is taking a sabbatical leave. **Dr. Jeffrey Wortman, V'69**, associate professor of radiology, has been promoted to associate dean of the School. **Malcolm Keiter** has been promoted to assistant dean for admissions and **Ashra Markowitz** has been promoted to assistant dean for student affairs.

Dr. Pamela Wilkins, assistant professor of medicine and reproduction, gave two platform talks at the ACVIM Forum in Denver, one on "Magnesium Infusion in Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy" and the other on "Rabies in Large Animals" (the abstract was co-authored by Fabio Del Piero). Dr.

Wilkins also presented a lecture on West Nile Virus to the Philadelphia Society for Religion and Science.

Dr. Christopher Hunter was promoted to associate professor of parasitology.

Dr. Karen Rosenthal, staff veterinarian at VHUP, gave a talk on small mammals at the SAVAB-Flanders meeting in Belgium in May.

Dr. Fabio Del Piero, assistant professor of pathology, was a platform speaker at the ACVIM Forum in May. He received grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for the study of bovine virus diarrhea virus (BVDV), avian influenza and paralytic equine herpesvirus 1 infections. He received an USDA formula fund grant to study the pathogenesis of West Nile virus natural infection in horses. In June, Dr. Del Piero was an invited speaker at the Jurak Symposium of Comparative Human and Veterinary Pathology: "Viral intestinal diseases of production and companion animals;" at the Central Veterinary Laboratory, Budapest, Hungary: "Equine Viral Arteritis;" University of Milan, Italy: "Foot and Mouth Disease;" and at the University of Turin, Italy: "An introduction to West Nile flavivirus and eastern equine encephalitis alphavirus."

Kelly Ardis, director of budget and finance for the School, and **Robert Sadoff**, business

administrator, won a Models of Excellence Award in April. This award is presented monthly by the University for suggestions that increase efficiency.

Dr. Gail Smith, V'74, professor of surgery and chair, Department of Clinical Studies, Philadelphia, presented a paper with data derived from the PennHIP database at the Veterinary Orthopaedic Society meeting in March, in Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada.

Dr. Cynthia Ward, V'87, was promoted to associate professor of medicine. Dr. Ward received an American Heart Association Research Grant.

Dr. Benson Martin, V'80, was promoted to associate professor of equine sports medicine.

Dr. Michaela Kristula was promoted to associate professor of medicine in field service.

Dr. Gary Smith, professor of population biology and epidemiology, completed his one-year tenure as President of the New Jersey Society of Parasitologists in June 2001. Dr. Smith has

one-year grant from the University of Pennsylvania Research Foundation for a project entitled "Functional Analysis of the VP24 Protein of Ebola Virus." He presented a poster at the 20th Annual Summer Symposium in Molecular Biology on Emerging Viral Diseases at Penn State University in June; the poster's title was "Rhabdoviruses and the Cellular Ubiquitin/Proteasome System: A Budding Interaction?"

Johanna "Jeleen" Briscoe, V'02, won the Association of Avian Veterinarians' 2001 student manuscript competition with a paper entitled "Non-medical risk factors for feather picking in pet parrots". She was invited to present this paper at the AAV annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., August 2001.

Dr. Robert Poppenga, associate professor of veterinary toxicology, was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Japanese Society of Clinical Toxicology in Tokyo in July. His topic was "The One Medicine Concept: Applications

in Veterinary and Human Clinical Toxicology". He also lectured to practicing veterinarians, veterinary students and veterinary faculty at Azabu University, School of Veterinary Medicine, Azabu, Japan.

Dr. Alexander Reiter

passed dental boards and is a diplomate of American Veterinary Dental College.

Dr. Carl E. Aronson, associate professor emeritus of pharmacology/toxicology, was recently awarded the Lloyd E. Davis Award of the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics' (AAVPT). This prestigious honor is given for outstanding contributions over an entire career to the advancement and extension of knowledge in the fields of veterinary or comparative pharmacology. The presentation by AAVPT President Dr. Scott A. Brown took place on May 22, 2001 in Denver Colorado during AAVPT's 12th Biennial Symposium, in conjunction with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine meeting.

Amy Bogdanoff, administrative assistant in medical genetics, has been elected secretary of the A-3 Assembly at the University for the coming year. **Mary Grau** of medical anatomy, has been elected vice-chair of the assembly.

Trish DiPietrae, executive assistant to the dean, has been elected vice chair of the Penn Professional Assembly.

(continued on page 14)

Rosettes & Ribbons

some recent accomplishments of note at the School

written an English Pantomime ("Dick Whittington and his cat") which was performed by the resident acting company at the People's Light and Theatre, Malvern, Pa., in June and July 2001.

Dr. Mark Haskins, V'69, professor of pathology, received a grant with **Drs. Urs Giger** and **Matthew Ellinwood** from the National MPS Society to develop and characterize an animal model of mucopolysaccharidosis IIIB. Dr. Haskins presented a paper at the 4th American Society of Gene Therapy on "Adeno-Associated Virus-Mediated Correction of Retinal Pigment Epithelial Storage in Feline Mucopolysaccharidosis VI" in Seattle. He has been asked to serve on the organizing committee of the 7th International Symposium on Mucopolysaccharidosis and Related Diseases in Paris in 2001.

Dr. Cynthia M. Otto has been promoted to associate professor of critical care medicine.

Dr. Rebecka Hess has been appointed assistant professor of medicine.

Dr. Ronald Harty, assistant professor of microbiology, received the Pfizer Award for Research Excellence 2001. Dr. Harty received a

Rosettes & Ribbons (continued from page 13)

Dr. Evelyn S. Ivey, lecturer, special species medicine, received a grant from the Chinchilla Health Information Network to study normal cardiologic, radiographic, and hematologic parameters in healthy chinchillas.

Dr. Gerhard Schad, professor of parasitology, is spending his six months sabbatical at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural College, Copenhagen, Denmark. He presented a paper at the US-Japan Medical Conference in July in Washington. Dr. Schad has been voted to an honorary membership in the World Association for Veterinary Parasitology. This was announced at the annual meeting of the group in Stresa, Italy in August.

Dr. Charles Benson, professor of microbiology, was honored by the Boy Scouts of America for his volunteer work. Dr. Benson was presented the Silver Beaver Award, the highest award given by the organization to adult volunteers. Dr. Benson received a grant from the Pennsylvania Animal Health Commission for his study "Treatment of Staphylococcal mastitis using specific bacteriophage."

Dr. Shelley Rankin, research assistant professor, presented two papers about drug resistance in Salmonella strains at the National Antibiotic Resistance Monitoring System meeting in May in Maryland.

Dr. Roselyn Eisenberg, professor of microbiology, and her colleagues, Dr. Gary H. Cohen, professor of microbiology at the School of Dental Medicine, and Dr. Tao Peng and Dr. Gary Dubin, received an U.S. Patent for a Soluble Herpesvirus Glycoprotein Complex Vaccine. The vaccine is against the herpes simplex virus.

Dr. Bruce Freedman has been appointed assistant professor of pathology. Dr. Freedman received a NIH grant for his project "HIV-1 Env and macrophage chemokine receptor ionic signaling."

Dr. Michael Goldschmidt, professor of pathology, has been appointed as laboratory head of the laboratory of pathology and toxicology.

Dr. James Lok, associate professor of parasitology, received a grant from Fort Dodge Animal Health to investigate 12-month prophylactic activity of injectable moxidectin against canine heartworm. Dr. Lok presented talks at the 2001 Heartworm Symposium in San Antonio, Texas in April.

Dr. Patricia McManus, V'80, was promoted to

associate professor of pathology.

Dr. Oriol Sunyer, assistant professor of microbiology, received a National Science Foundation grant for his study "Role of C3 diversity in innate immune reactions of Teleost fish."

Dr. Andrei Thomas-Tikhonenko, assistant professor of pathology, received a Pilot Program Grant from the University of Pennsylvania Cancer Center for his study "Infection-mediated Suppression of Tumor Vascularization and Growth."

Dr. Thomas Van Winkle, V'75, has been promoted to professor of pathology.

Dr. Joan Hendricks, V'79, Henry and Corinne R. Bower Professor of Medicine, received a research grant from the University Research Foundation for her project "Neural and Genetic Substrates of Drosophila Rest."

Dr. Paula Henthorn, associate professor of medical genetics, received a grant from the University Research Foundation for her study "Molecular Characterization of a Canine Model of Human Nonsyndromic Deafness."

Dr. Jose Gardia-Lopez, V'96, lecturer in sports medicine, and **Dr. Elizabeth LaFond**, lecturer in surgery, passed their boards and are now diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Surgery.

Dr. David Kritchevsky, Caspar Wistar Scholar, professor of biochemistry, was awarded a Honorary Doctor of Science degree by Purdue University. Dr. Kritchevsky was recognized for "outstanding contributions to nutrition research elucidating the unique role of lipids, calories and fiber in human nutrition and disease." The American Oil Chemists' Society elected Dr. Kritchevsky a Fellow of the AOCS.

The **School** received awards from NIH and the Merck-Merial Animal Health Grants Program to support innovative research by veterinary students. Sixteen students are spending three months this summer engaged in research projects at New Bolton Center, Philadelphia and the University. They are mentored by School faculty and University faculty.

Dr. Robert Whitlock, associate professor of medicine, recently served as the keynote speaker at the Vermont Veterinary Medical Association Meeting Large Animal Session, presenting the most recent information on Johne's Disease in cattle, including the proposed National Indemnity program for Johne's Disease in dairy cattle.

Other presentations on Johne's Disease were made at the Northeast United States Animal Health meeting in Delaware. Dr. Whitlock recently was awarded a subcontract to develop immunomagnetic separation techniques for improved diagnostics for Johne's Disease in cattle, from the USDA, Small Business Innovation Research Program in conjunction with Dr. Joe Crabb at ImmunCell Corporation in Portland, Me.

Dr. Adrian Morrison, professor of behavioral science, has been elected vice president of the Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research.

Lindback Award for Dr. Sertich

Dr. Patricia Sertich, V'83, associate professor of reproduction, received the Lindback Award for Excellence in Teaching. Following are the comments published in the *Almanac* announcement of the awards: "Dr. Sertich joined the faculty in 1992. She has won the Student Government Teaching Award in 1998 and twice received the Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teaching Award. Her teaching evaluations are consistently outstanding with over ninety percent of the students rating her as excellent.

The comments for the Lindback nomination ranged from "Dr. Sertich is everyone's favorite teacher" to "the best professor I have had in Vet School" to a "god." Students commented frequently on her sense of humor and actually having fun in the classroom. She achieves an instant rapport with students.

In addition, a number of letters from former students attest to the lasting impact Dr. Sertich has had on those in her classes: "I found myself quoting from her lectures just a couple of days ago" one former student writes, while another comments: "The lessons and the feeling of having been exposed to a great teacher have not faded; I have relied quite heavily on her lecture notes since graduation." "I attribute my choice of career specialty and my clinical skills to Dr. Sertich." Dr. Sertich loves to teach and certainly deserves recognition for her service to students. The Lindback affords that recognition."