



4-1-2002

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

**Dr. Colin Harvey**, professor of surgery and dentistry, gave several presentations at the British Veterinary Dental Association meeting in Birmingham, U.K., the 10th Anniversary meeting of the Spanish Veterinary Surgical Association meeting in Madrid, and in Fukuoka, Osaka, Sapporo and Tokyo for the Nippon Animal Hospital Association in 2001. In December 2001, he was awarded a US patent for use of a drug as a method to prevent further development of dental resorptive lesions in cats. He was also elected secretary of the American Veterinary Dental College.

**Ron Menaker**, a member of the School's Board of Overseers, has been appointed chairman of the board of directors of the American Kennel Club.

**Dr. E. Neil Moore**, professor of physiology, gave a talk entitled "Understanding Cardiac Electrophysiological Changes in Animals and their Relevance in the Clinic" at a symposium on "Bridging Biomarkers — From the Animal to the Clinic" presented at the annual meeting of the International Life Sciences Institute meeting in Cancun, Mexico.

**Dr. Sue McDonnell**, adjunct associate professor of reproduction behavior, spoke at the AAEP meeting in San Diego, Calif. in November. She also made a presentation at the IERS Conference on Equine Reproduction in Solvang, Calif. which followed the AAEP meeting. In February Dr. McDonnell gave courses at Equine Canada, the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine and in Norrköping, Sweden.

**Dr. Yvonne Elce**, lecturer in surgery, New Bolton Center, **Drs. David Puerto** and **Janna Norris**, lecturers in surgery, VHUP, are now a Diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

**Ashra Markowitz**, assistant dean for student affairs, has assumed responsibility for student financial aid

**Dr. Alexander Reiter**, lecturer in dentistry, became the 15th member of the European Veterinary Dental College (EVDC); he is one of the very few individuals that are Diplomates of both colleges, the American Veterinary Dental College and the EVDC.

**Barry Stupine**, vice dean, in March addressed the Friends of Hebrew University about progress at the Koret School of Veterinary

Medicine of Hebrew University, the only veterinary school in Israel.

**Roxanne Bachman**, oncology nurse, spoke at the February New Jersey Veterinary Technician Conference about chemotherapeutic agents. Ms. Bachman has been nominated for president of the Veterinary Oncology Nursing Society.

**Bruce Rappoport**, associate dean for New Bolton Center, was elected president of the Pennsylvania Livestock Association and appointed chairman of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Horse Division.

**Dr. Daryl Biery**, professor of radiology, and **Dr. Margaret Casal**, assistant professor of medical genetics, gave day-long presentations in Pittsburgh in March at a seminar for veterinarians, veterinary technicians and dog breeders. The event was organized by the Western Pennsylvania VMA and the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association.

**Dr. Charles Benson**, professor of microbiology, has received a 3-year subcontract from a

and TV stations in large urban markets. Dr. Otto received a five-year grant from NIH to study hypoxic regulation of nitric oxide synthesis. She presented lectures at the North American Veterinary Conference in Orlando, FL in January and spoke about the search and rescue dogs at the World Trade Center to the Midwest Veterinary Conference in Columbus, OH and the Long Island Veterinary Medical Association. Dr. Otto was re-elected as Vice President of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care.

**Dr. James D. Lok**, associate professor of parasitology, received a new NIH grant to study the role of insulin-like signal transduction in the development of parasitic nematodes.

**Dr. Gary Althouse**, associate professor of medicine, gave an invited talk on "Troubleshooting Semen Quality" at the 9th Annual Iowa State University Swine Disease Conference held in November 2001. He also gave an invited talk on "Boar Stud Audits" at the annual conference of the American Association of Swine Veteri-

narians in Kansas City in March. Dr. Althouse has been elected as president-elect for the Society for Theriogenology – a 2,400 member international veterinary organization with a focus on theriogenology.

**Dr. Daniel Morris**, assistant professor of dermatology, lectured in Tokyo and Osaka for the Japanese Association of Small Animal Practitioners. He then traveled to Australia to deliver the keynote address on "The host/pathogen relationship of canine Malassezia dermatitis" at the 1st annual Australasian veterinary dermatology conference in Sydney.

**Dr. Charles Vite**, research associate in neurology, was awarded a two-year continuation of his grant by the NIH – National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. This research uses nuclear magnetic resonance techniques to study the therapy of central nervous system disease in naturally-occurring animal models of lysosomal storage diseases. Dr. Vite is completing his one-year term as Chair of the Neurology Examination Committee for the ACVIM.

**Dr. Gail Smith, V74**, professor of orthopedics, and chair, Department of Clinical Studies, Philadelphia, made presentations at the Western States Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, Nev. and at a Nestle-Purina-sponsored

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*some recent accomplishments of note at the School*

grant with the University of Utah to do bio-prospecting for new alternatives to antibiotics.

**Dr. Shelley Rankin**, has been appointed assistant professor of microbiology and will have, as one of her responsibilities, the supervision of the VHUP Clinical Veterinary Microbiology Laboratory. In April, Dr. Rankin presented some of the results of the investigation into Salmonella Newport by the Salmonella Reference Center (at New Bolton Center) at a day-long seminar in Atlanta, sponsored by the CDC. **Drs. Charles Benson, Donald Munro** and **Helen Aceto, V97** also participated in the seminar. All four attended the Conference on Emerging Diseases which preceded the seminar.

**Dr. Cynthia Otto**, associate professor of critical care medicine, received grants from the AKC Canine Health Foundation for the study of search and rescue dogs that worked at the disaster sites of the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. The three-year project has received a lot of media attention and Dr. Otto was interviewed by a number of national newspapers

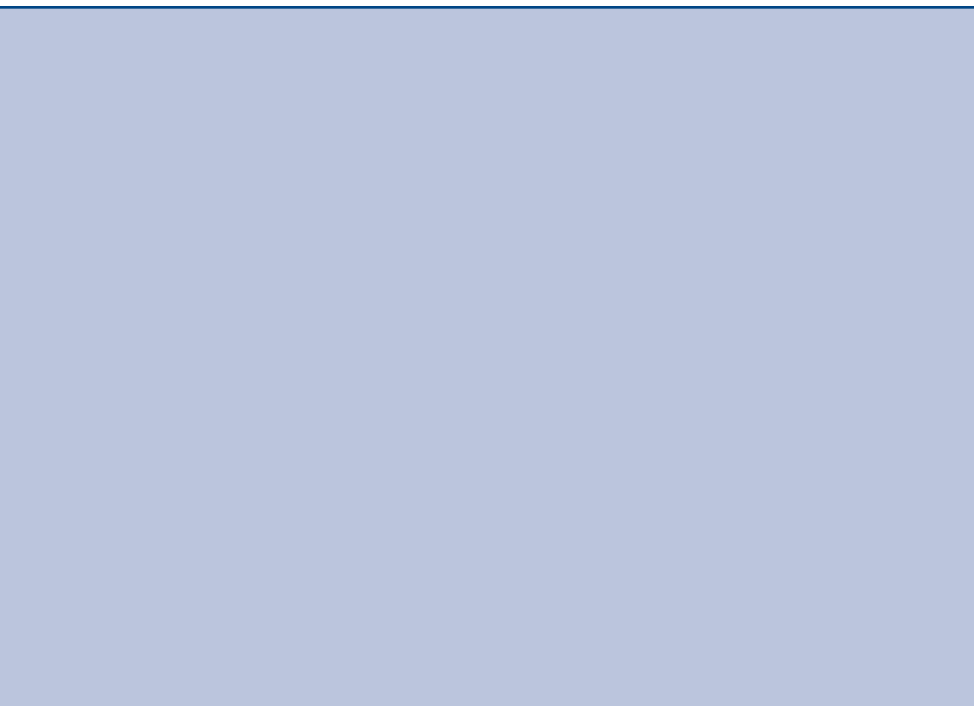
symposium at the Veterinary Orthopaedic Society meeting in March. This meeting was also attended by **Drs. Amy Kapatkin** and **Michelle Powers** who both gave scientific presentations.

**Dr. Robert Eckroade**, associate professor of poultry pathology, has been appointed a member of the organizing committee of XIII Congress of the World Veterinary Poultry Association's Conference scheduled for Denver, Colo. in 2003. He was a member of the organizing committee for 5th International Symposium on Avian Influenza held in Athens, Ga. in April. Dr. Eckroade was appointed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in December 2001 to a two-year term on its Foreign Animal and Poultry Diseases Advisory Committee. The Committee will advise the USDA on the most effective and efficient disease control plans and policies to effectively prevent the introduction of foreign diseases and eliminate any that should develop in the United States.

**Dr. Jean-Pierre Saint-Jeannet**, assistant professor of developmental biology, received a three-year research grant from the Deafness Research Foundation for a project entitled: "Control of inner ear development by Sox proteins" and a five-year research grant from NIH/NIDCR for a project entitled: "Control of neural crest development in Xenopus"

**Dr. Helen Aceto, V'97**, lecturer in animal health economics, received a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to evaluate carcass disposal techniques and their application in emergency management disease control; this is a follow-up on the UK foot and mouth disease crisis. Dr. Aceto was an invited speaker this spring at the annual conference of the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture – "How to Maintain Herd Health and Water Quality, and at both the Western and Eastern Pennsylvania Grazing and Forage Conferences – "Biosecurity on Your Farm."

**Dr. Donald A. Abt, V'61**, Professor Emeritus of Aquatic Animal Medicine, received the first Cape Cod Patricia Lambert Wildlife Veterinarian Award. The award, sponsored jointly by the Humane Society of the United States, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History and the Massachusetts SPCA, was established to honor the memory of Patricia Lambert a Cape Cod resident and wildlife advocate. Dr. Abt was honored and recognized for his 25 years of directing and organizing Aquavet® and for his service to the Cape Cod Stranding Network, of which he is president.



## University-wide Honor for Blood Bank Team

The University of Pennsylvania honored **Donna Oakley**, director of the Penn Animal Blood Bank, **Wendy L. Hatchett** and **Kym Marriott**, technicians in the blood bank, on April 15, 2002 with a Models of Excellence Award for designing and implementing the volunteer canine blood donor program.

More than a decade ago, Donna Oakley, then head nurse, VHUP, developed the concept of volunteer canine blood donors to meet the transfusion needs of the critically ill patients at the hospital. The motto "Pets Helping Pets" was chosen and the program gained the support of many dog clubs, breeders and individuals in the region. They came to VHUP with their dogs for regular donations of blood. Driving to the city was inconvenient for many and Donna developed the concept of a bloodmobile that would go out to groups of donors. Funds were raised from individuals, clubs and the Bernice Barbour Foundation and the bloodmobile became a reality in 1982. Since then it has gone out many times a week to collect blood from dogs

throughout the Delaware Valley and there have been more than 3,000 canine blood donors in the program; currently there are about 1,000 active donors. Donna, with the assistance of Kym and Wendy, has fine-tuned and expanded the program and VHUP can now supply blood and blood products to area veterinarians.

The Penn Animal Blood Bank is unique – it is based on volunteer participation and it comes to the donors with the bloodmobile. This would not be possible without the creativity, hard work and organizational talent of Donna Oakley, Wendy Hatchett and Kym Marriott.

Penn's Models of Excellence Program was established two years ago by the president, provost, and executive vice president. It is designed to support the values of the University, to present models of outstanding staff member practices and achievements for emulation, and to recognize and celebrate outstanding staff member contribution to the University's mission – above and beyond job expectations.