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Rosettes & Ribbons: Some Recent Accomplishments of Note at the School

Dr. Phillip Scott, professor of immunology, has been awarded the 2004 Stoll-Stunkard Memorial Lectureship by the American Society of Parasitologists. The honor is given to a researcher whose prominence in basic research is evident, and who is not necessarily a parasitologist, but one whose research might enhance investigations on parasites, hence fostering cross-fertilization of ideas and approaches. Dr. Scott is recognized for his studies on the immune response to the protozoan parasite, *Leishmania*. He demonstrated that distinct T-cell subsets are associated with resistance and susceptibility to these parasites.

Sherrill Davison, V'83, associate professor of poultry medicine, **Susan Casavant**, and the EDGIS unit were awarded the "2003 Pennsylvania Award for Excellence in Geographic Information Technology for the Visionary Application of Geospatial Technology to Serve the Citizens of Pennsylvania." Presented at the 2003 Pennsylvania GIS Conference in Harrisburg, the award honors government, business, an academic organization, or exceptional individuals working in the field of Geographic Information Technologies who have provided exemplary service to the citizens of Pennsylvania. The work being done at New Bolton Center focuses on mapping the locations and attribute information of the poultry, swine, dairy, and cattle farms in Pennsylvania primarily for epidemiological purposes.

In June, Dr. Davison attended the Northeastern Conference on Avian Diseases in Portland, Maine and presented two papers entitled: "The Use of Geographical Information System Technology in the Poultry Industry," and "Detection of *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* in Layers Using Sentinel Turkeys." Dr. Davison conducted the Board meeting of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians in July during the AVMA meeting in Denver. She is

Gail Smith, V'74, resumed duties of chair of the Department of Clinical Studies—Philadelphia after a half-year sabbatical and would like to acknowledge the wonderful job done by **Joan Hendricks, V'79**, Bower Professor of Medicine, as interim chair in his absence.

Secretary/Treasurer of the ACPV and has held the position for four years.

Chick Weisse, V'98, lecturer in surgery, passed his board exams and is now a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. At the invitation of a specialty practice in San Diego, Dr. Weisse and Dr. Jeff Solomon of HUP traveled there. They performed percutaneous transvenous coil embolizations of two intrahepatic shunts in a dog and a cat. They also lectured.

Dr. Weisse received a grant from the Morris Animal Foundation to study "Magnetic Resonance Imaging of Canine Focal Splenic and Hepatic Lesions," the co-investigators are Drs. Clifford, **Skorupski, Sorenmo**, Pretorius, Siegelman, **Drobatz**, and Solomon.

Dr. Adrian R. Morrison, professor of behavioral neuroscience, was recognized as a "Significant Early Contributor" to the field of modern sleep research at the annual meeting of the Sleep Research Society in June in Chicago where REM sleep was first recognized 50 years ago.

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The meeting was held jointly with the American Academy of Sleep Medicine and the World Federation of Sleep Research Societies. As outgoing president of WFSRS, he chaired the Closing Symposium: Past Accomplishments and New Visions for Sleep Research around the World. Also, the International Union of the Physiological Sciences has appointed Dr. Morrison to their newly formed Committee on Ethics. In July, he lectured on Developing an Ethical Perspective on the Use of Animals in Research at the annual conference for teachers sponsored by the American Physiological Society.

Dr. Zhengia Dou was promoted to associate professor of agricultural systems and **James Ferguson, V'81**, was promoted to professor of nutrition.

In March, **Dr. Robert Eckroade**, associate professor of poultry pathology, presented six papers in Japan entitled "Control of Avian Influenza in the United States," "Avian Influenza in Chile," "Avian Influenza in Mexico," "Current Exotic Newcastle Disease in Southern Cali-

fornia, March 2003," "Animal Welfare in the United States," and "The Veterinary School at the University of Pennsylvania."

In July, he conducted the annual meetings of the American Association of Avian Pathologists during the AVMA convention in Denver. Dr. Eckroade is celebrating his 22nd and final year as Secretary/Treasurer and CEO of the AAAP. He was presented a Special Appreciation Award by AAAP President Dr. Syed Naqi for his untiring and superb leadership and service. The award was made possible by the generous contributions of the AAAP membership.

David M. Nunamaker, V'68, Jacques Jenny Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, was the keynote speaker at this year's Voorjaarsdagen meeting in Amsterdam in April. The lecture was "On Bucked Shins" and "On Bone and Fracture Healing."

Dr. Leszek Kubin was promoted to research professor of physiology. The Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH, awarded Dr. Kubin a new five-year research grant to study the relationship

between respiratory disorders during sleep and central neural mechanisms of diabetes and related metabolic disorders.

Dr. Craig Clifford, former resident in oncology at the Ryan Hospital, passed the oncology boards and

is now a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in the specialty of oncology. Dr. Clifford presented his MRI study on the characterization of hepatic and splenic lesions in the canine at the recent ACVIM meeting; he received the Greg MacEwen Young Investigator Award provided by Heska.

Perry Habecker, V'81, staff pathologist, and **Dr. Robert Poppenga**, associate professor of toxicology, are co-investigators on a three-year National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration grant to study marine mammals and to perform complete autopsies and toxicologic analyses of all marine mammals recovered by the New Jersey Marine Mammal Stranding Center.

Dr. Cynthia Otto, associate professor of critical care, spoke at the Voorjaarsdagen meeting in Amsterdam in April and at the AVMA meeting in July.

Dr. Eric Gingerich, staff veterinarian in the laboratories of avian medicine and pathology, presented papers on a number of poultry diseases at several meetings: the North Atlantic Poultry

Health and Management Conference in Portsmouth, N.H.; Penn State University Poultry Management and Health Seminar in Manheim, Pa.; Layer Health Management School at Purdue University; and Northeastern Conference on Avian Diseases in Orono, Maine.

Dr. Roselyn Eisenberg, professor of pathobiology, was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology in April, 2003. The AAM is the honorific leadership group within the American Society for Microbiology, the world's oldest life science organization. Fellows are elected through a highly selective, annual, peer review process, based on their records of scientific achievement and original contributions that have advanced microbiology.

Dr. Jorge Guerrero, adjunct professor of parasitology, has been recently appointed to the National External Advisory Committee of the College of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Illinois.

Dr. Ina Dobrinski was promoted to associate professor of reproduction. She was invited to teach at the Woods Hole Course "Frontiers in Reproduction" and received the following grants: from NIH/NICHHD for "Transgenic Goats Produced by Germ Cell Transplantation," and from NIH/NCRR for "A Novel Approach to Germ-Line Preservation in Macaques."

Dr. Fabio Del Piero, assistant professor of pathology, was the 2003 recipient of the Jurak Award for outstanding contribution to comparative pathology. Members of the European Society of Pathology and the Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia presented this award to Dr. Del Piero in recognition of his efforts to present and study diseases involving both humans and animals and to keep a link between veterinary and medical sciences. Dr. Del Piero has also become a member of the scientific committee for the Jurak Symposium of Comparative Pathology.

Mark Haskins, V'69, professor of pathology and medical genetics, presented a talk at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, San Antonio, Texas, "Intravenous Retroviral Gene Therapy for Canine Mucopolysaccharidosis VII." At the American Society for Gene Therapy, Washington, D.C., he was chair and presenter at a workshop on "Genetic Diseases: Gene Therapy for Lysosomal Storage Diseases," and was asked to host a Meet the Expert for Lunch session on "Gene Therapy for Lysosomal Storage Diseases Using Large Animal Models." Haskins was appointed to a

Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching

Dr. Kenneth Drobatz, associate professor of critical care medicine and director of the Emergency Service at the Ryan Veterinary Hospital, is a recipient of the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching. The recipients from all the schools in the University were honored during a ceremony in April. The Lindback Awards for Distinguished Teaching at the University of Pennsylvania were established in 1961 with the help of the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation. Award winners are determined by nominations and recommendations made by faculty and students in December based on certain guidelines. Two separate committees, one in the Health Schools and one in the Non-Health Schools consisting of six previous award winners and four students, carefully decide among the nominees.



The *Almanac* published some of the comments in support of Ken Drobatz's nomination: "Dr. Kenneth Drobatz joined the faculty of the Veterinary School in 1991.

He won the Resident's Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1996, 1999, and 2001, as well as The Norden Distinguished Teaching Award in 2002. He has consistently received the highest scores on course evaluations with one student writing that Dr. Drobatz's class is outstanding despite being on Friday afternoon. Colleagues were equally enthusiastic about Dr. Drobatz's teaching noting 'Ken's strength is that he regularly inspires his students; he gets his students to think logically and calmly about critical care. The enrollment for the elective courses he teaches is always close to 100% of the class—students want to be taught by him. It is to his credit that all of our residents have passed the specialty-certifying exam, no small feat, as the pass rate is only 50-70%. A former student writes: 'Dr. Drobatz is one of the best clinical instructors I have ever had. Over the past five years I have seen him head the emergency service, head the residency program, head the intern program and find the time to receive a master's degree in statistics. Through his example he challenges his students to go one step further. He is indeed an outstanding candidate for the Lindback Award.'"

three-year term as the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the National Mucopolysaccharidosis Society.

Dr. Tracy Bale has joined the faculty as an assistant professor of neuroscience. Her research interests are in the neuroendocrinology of stress and the genetics of stress-related disorders including obesity and depression.

Dr. Alex Reiter, lecturer in dentistry, gave talks in April on feline dentistry and oral pathology at the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna, Austria. In May he lectured in South Africa at Cape Town, Durban, and Pretoria, and in July at the World Veterinary Dental Congress in Kyoto, Japan.

Gail K. Smith, V'74, professor of orthopedic surgery, **Tom Gregor**, **Dr. Pamela McKelvie, V'81**, and **Dr. Paster** presented a PennHIP® training seminar affiliated with the AVMA meeting in Denver, the first PennHIP seminar on the road since PennHIP returned to Penn. Dr. Smith was an invited speaker in Birmingham, U.K. at both the British Small Animal Veterinary Association

and the British Veterinary Orthopaedic Association in April 2003.

Dr. Eric Parente was promoted to associate professor of surgery. Parente, **Dr. Christine Adreani, V'01**, resident in surgery, and **Dr. Dean Richardson**, Charles W. Raker Professor of Surgery, were awarded a Firestone grant to investigate the benefits of gene therapy to enhance reinnervation for treatment of laryngeal hemiplegia.



Mary Ruth Hammond retired after 39 years of excellent service to New Bolton Center and the School.