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

Gustavo Aguirre, V'68, professor of ophthalmology, is the co-recipient of the 2004 Paul Kayser International Award in Retina Research. The award is given biennially to one or more vision scientists who have made a significant contribution to knowledge of the retina or retinal disease. The award was presented during the International Society for Eye Research meeting held in late August in Sydney, Australia, where Dr. Aguirre delivered the Paul Kayser Award Lecture. Dr. Aguirre also presented lectures at the Distinguished Lecture Series, Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland.

Dr. Urs Giger, professor of medical genetics, was the first keynote speaker at the inauguration of the Japanese College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in Tokyo in August 2004. The college will be structured similar to its American and European counterparts.

Jessica Caverly Rae, V'96, postdoctoral fellow in medical genetics, received a three-year NIH award to study feline I-cell disease, a unique lysosomal storage disorder.

Dr. Manuel Boller, resident in emergency and critical care medicine, and **Dr. Deborah Silverstein**, adjunct assistant professor of critical care, received a grant from the Waltham Foundation (UK) to determine "Arginine vasopressin plasma levels in dogs with naturally occurring heart failure." At the International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Symposium, held in September in San Diego, Dr. Boller received the Small Animal Case Report Award for his presentation, "An unusual case of abdominal distension in a cat."

Dr. Alex Reiter, assistant professor of dental medicine, is now a Dr. med. vet. In June he defended his thesis, "The Role of Calcitropic Hormones in Cats with Feline Odontoclastic Resorptive Lesions (FORL)," at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Vienna, Austria. In July he presented four lectures and a wet lab in dentistry and oral surgery at the 141st AVMA Annual Convention in Philadelphia. Dr. Reiter published a guest editorial on the etiology of tooth resorption in cats in the August issue of *Advances in Small Animal Medicine and Surgery*.

John R. Lewis, V'97, lecturer in dentistry, received a grant from Nestlé Purina to study the microstructure of FORL using a new technology, laser-scanning confocal microscopy. FORL is a painful condition seen in 50% of the cats

that come through the Dental Service. **Drs. Alex Reiter** and **Colin Harvey** will be co-investigators.

Dr. Charles Vite, assistant professor of neurology, was appointed editor of the on-line textbook *Clinical Neurology in Small Animals—Localization, Diagnosis, and Treatment*, sponsored by the International Veterinary Information Service.

Dr. Vite spoke at the NIH-sponsored meeting "Lysosomal diseases and the brain" in Bethesda, Md. in May.

Dr. Gary Althouse, associate professor of swine health and production management, presented an invited talk, "Common errors associated with spermogram analyses," at the 4th Biannual Meeting of the Association for Applied Animal Andrology, in August in Porto Seguro, Brazil.

Dr. Bernd Driessen, associate professor of anesthesia, with colleagues from Penn and UC

subject at the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) Annual Medical Forum in June in Minneapolis.

Sherrill Davison, V'83, associate professor of avian medicine and pathology, completed an MBA from the Wharton School in May. She was named head of the Laboratory of Avian Medicine and Pathology, effective July 1, 2004. Dr. Davison serves as the secretary/treasurer of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians.

Dr. Robert Eckroade, associate professor of avian medicine and pathology, and the Mid-Atlantic Delegate for the USAHA, attended a meeting of all regional delegates in Burlington, Vt. in April. He also attended the Live Bird Market Working Group Meeting in May in Trenton, N.J. and the National Poultry Improvement Plan meeting in San Francisco. In August, Dr. Eckroade attended the meeting of the Secretary

of Agriculture's Advisory Committee in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Sue McDonnell, adjunct associate professor and head of the equine behavior laboratory, was awarded honorary diplomate status of the

American College of Theriogenologists at the Society for Theriogenology Annual Meeting in Lexington, Ky. in August.

Dr. James Buchanan, professor emeritus of cardiology, presented two talks at the ACVIM Annual Medical Forum in June in Minneapolis, "Tracheal signs of vascular rings in dogs, and vertebral heart size revisited." Dr. Buchanan has developed a number of websites for practitioners and owners to provide information on some cardiac problems:

<http://cal.vet.upenn.edu/cardiosf>

<http://www.vin.com/library/general/JB101angio.htm>

<http://www.vin.com/library/general/JWBPda.htm>

<http://www.vin.com/library/general/JWBCardio2.htm>

<http://www.vin.com/library/general/JWBValv.htm>

<http://www.vin.com/library/general/JBPRAA.htm>

Dr. Thomas Nolan, research specialist in parasitology, was recently appointed to the editorial advisory board of the journal *Veterinary Parasitology*.

Dr. Daniel Morris, assistant professor of dermatology, is the treasurer for the American Academy of Veterinary Dermatology, an association of veterinarians, that supports education, research, and collaborations in the fields of dermatology, allergy, and otology. It is open to any veterinarian with a focus or keen interest in dermatology. Any veterinarians wishing to join

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Davis, presented abstracts at several meetings: at the ASIP Meeting in Experimental Biology 2004 in Washington in April; at the 27th Annual Shock Society Meeting in Nova Scotia in June; at 23rd European Conference on Microcirculation, in Lisbon, Portugal in September; and at the fall meeting of the Association of Veterinary Anesthetists in Vienna, Austria in September.

Dr. Andras Komaromy, assistant professor of ophthalmology, surgically placed the first cyclosporine A implant in the eye of a horse in June. This is a new and promising treatment for horses with equine recurrent uveitis (ERU, or moon blindness). ERU is the most common cause for blindness in horses. The surgery was successfully performed as part of a clinical trial in collaboration with Dr. Brian Gilger at the North Carolina State University. Because of the closure of the Widener Hospital, the surgery was done at the Equine Trauma Center in Pittstown, N.J., owned by Dr. Dennis Milne. Dr. Komaromy was awarded a K12 Clinical Scientist Development Award from the National Eye Institute. The award provides funding for five years.

Meryl Littman, V'75, associate professor of medicine, led a discussion group on the "Diagnosis and treatment of borreliosis (Lyme disease)" and presented a talk on the same sub-

the Academy can contact Dr. Morris by mail or fax (215-573-1789) for an application.

Dr. Karin Sorenmo, associate professor of oncology, is on sabbatical leave in Norway, where she is pursuing a project, "Tumor removal +/- ovariectomy in dogs with mammary gland carcinoma." This is a collaboration between veterinary schools in Finland, Norway, and the University of Pennsylvania. It is funded by the Morris Animal Foundation.

Dr. Ron Harty was promoted to associate professor of microbiology. He convened the Filovirus Workshop session at the 2004 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Virology in Montreal, Canada.

Dr. Kathryn Michel, assistant professor of nutrition, spoke at the AVMA meeting in Philadelphia in July.

Dr. Ina Dobrinski, associate professor of reproduction, received the 2004 Pfizer Award for Research Excellence. Dr. Dobrinski presented an invited talk at the Gordon Research Conference on Mammalian Gametogenesis and Embryogenesis, New London, Ct., entitled, "Transplantation of germ cells and testis tissue."

Dr. Samuel Chacko, professor of pathology, has been invited to serve as a member of the Kidney,

Urologic, and Hematologic Disease Subcommittee of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) for a four-year term. This Initial Review Group will advise the NIH director and the NIDDK director on the scientific and technical merit of applications for grants-in-aid for research, research training, or research-related grants and cooperative agreements, or contract proposals relating to scientific areas relevant to diabetes mellitus, endocrine and metabolic diseases, digestive diseases and nutritional disorders, and kidney, urologic, and hematologic diseases.

Thomas Van Winkle, V'75, professor of pathology, received the 2004 Dean's Award for Leadership in Basic Science Education. He spoke at the ACVIM Forum in Minneapolis in June on "The histopathologic classification of liver parenchymal diseases in dogs and cats." He also spoke at the 14th ECVIM Congress in Barcelona, Spain on September 10 on "The histopathologic criteria for evaluating hepatitis in the dog."

Dr. Wilfried Mai, assistant professor of radiology, received his Ph.D. in biomedical engineering. At the ACVR meeting in Montreal in August, he presented a paper, "Effects of cardiac and respiratory motion on the spatial resolution in high-

resolution imaging techniques of rodents."

Dr. Cynthia Otto, associate professor of critical care medicine, gave a talk at the National Conference on Animals in Disaster, in Philadelphia in May, "Working with and caring for search-and-rescue dogs." At the American Thoracic Society meeting in May in Orlando, she presented a talk, "Gene expression in macrophages exposed to intermittent hypoxia." In September, Dr. Otto gave four talks at the 2004 IVECCS Symposium, in San Diego: "New uses for hypertonic saline in the critical patient"; "Oxygen uptake and delivery"; "What's hot in sepsis"; and "Peer-review publications: critical evaluation and contribution."

Dr. Pamela Wilkins, assistant professor of medicine, gave 10 presentations at the Society of Italian Equine Practitioners Base Course in Equine Neonatology in February in Mornago, Italy.

Chick Weisse, V'98, assistant professor of surgery, presented two talks at the AVMA meeting in Philadelphia in July: "Veterinary interventional radiology" and "Regional tumor therapy—an approach to metastatic and non-resectable tumors."

Veterinary Acupuncture Clinic to Open at Ryan

Starting October 20, the Ryan Hospital will offer veterinary acupuncture to its companion-animal patients referred by Ryan clinicians. Currently, the American Veterinary Medical Association supports acupuncture as a complementary therapy. Acupuncture, a three-thousand-year-old medical practice, has been used to successfully treat arthritis, asthma, skin conditions, diarrhea, and other conditions in people and animals. Acupuncture points are located over nerves and blood vessels. Stimulation of the acupuncture point with a thin needle brings about local and systemic reactions after the release of opioids, endorphins, and chemical neurotransmitters, which can increase blood circulation, decrease pain, and improve immune function.

Corrina Snook Parsons, V'99, will accept clients on Wednesdays from 2:00 pm until 6:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Dr. Parsons received acupuncture certification in 2004 through the American Academy of Veterinary Medical Acupuncture, at the Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Fort Collins, Colo.

Lindback Award for Dr. Corinne Sweeney

Dr. Corinne Sweeney, professor of medicine, came to Penn in 1978 as an intern and joined the faculty of the Veterinary School in 1981. Dr. Sweeney is already the recipient of the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award and the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society's Excellence in Teaching Award. The Class of 2003 honored her and her husband, **Ray, V'82**, by selecting them to deliver the Commencement Address at the Vet School. Colleagues praised Dr. Sweeney's contributions by noting that "as a role model, she has balanced family and career with civic duties, such as her local school board presidency that shows her interest in education and teaching as wildly distributed." A former student writes: "Although it has been over 24 years since I have been in a classroom, I can clearly recall the infectious enthusiasm for the subject matter that Dr. Sweeney brought to her teaching. There is no doubt in my mind that the career path of many of my classmates has been influenced and altered by the distinguished teaching of Dr. Sweeney." Her course evaluations are



filled with superlatives: "the best professor I ever had," "Absolutely love her! Can she teach all of our classes?" "Without question one of the best professors I have had at Penn." "She is superb!" A colleague concludes, "Clearly, Dr. Sweeney has demonstrated outstanding service as a veterinary educator and is truly deserving of the Lindback Award."