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2007 Alumni Reunion Dinner and VMAS Annual Meeting

On October 27, 2007, approximately 150 alumni and guests assembled to reunite, recognize and reminisce at the 2007 Alumni Reunion Dinner, held at the Allam House, New Bolton Center. All Penn Vet alumni were invited to attend, and classes ending in '2 & '7 were celebrated. In addition, the 25th and 50th reunion classes of 1982 and 1957 were honored and recognized for each endowing a student scholarship as class reunion gifts.

During the evening, the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society (VMAS) conducted a modified Annual Meeting and installed the following members:

- President (2007 to 2009):* **Michael Moyer, V'90**
- President-elect (2007 to 2009):* **Carla Chieffo, V'86 GR'98**
- Member at Large:* **Heather Berst, V'00**
- Member at Large:* **Kristen Dance, V'98**
- Member at Large:* **Linda Rhodes, V'78**
- Reinstate – Member at Large:* **Brenda Stewart, V'70**

The bylaws that govern the activities of the VMAS were also modified, and can be found on the next page and at www.vet.upenn.edu/alumni. ♡



Marilyn Weber, V'75, was awarded a President's Plaque in recognition of her service as president from 2005 to 2007.



Reunion classes of 1982 and 1957 celebrate at the 2007 alumni dinner. Photos by John Donges.



VMAS Changes Bylaws to Reflect Alumni Advances

By a majority vote of all alumni members present at the 2007 Alumni Reunion Dinner/VMAS Annual Meeting, the bylaws that govern the activities of the VMAS were modified to better reflect the growing family of Penn Vet Alumni, as well as to offer more flexibility in how, when and why alumni recognition awards are presented.

CHANGES TO BYLAWS

By a unanimous vote of all alumni present, the VMAS Bylaws were changed to reflect the following:

MEMBERSHIP

The first category of change focuses on MEMBERSHIP of the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society. As you may know, all Penn Vet graduates are automatically part of the Society.

■ CHANGE #1 – ARTICLE II: MISSION

The passage reads: “The mission of VMAS is to promote the interests of the Veterinary School, to encourage and perpetuate the spirit of good feeling and commonality of interests among (graduates) alumni. . . .”

Change: The word “GRADUATES” was changed to “ALUMNI.” This language is much more reflective of our alumni body.

■ CHANGE #2 – ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

The passage reads: “Ex-officio members shall include the Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, the School’s Directors of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, and Presidents of Veterinary Medical Associations of Pennsylvania and its contiguous states, and VMAS past presidents from the last ten years.”

Change: The wording regarding ex-officio members to the Board was changed to include presidents of all VMAS branches of states contiguous to PA.

■ CHANGE #3 – ARTICLE IV: VOTING

The passage reads: “Alumni and honorary members shall have the privilege of making motions and debating. Voting shall be limited to those alumni holding a VMD degree, or those who have completed an internship, residency or post-doctoral degree at the School, in addition to all members of the Executive Board, regardless of degree, during their term of office. Ex-officio members of the Board shall have the privilege of debate but not vote unless they are alumni holding a VMD degree.”

Change: The wording reflects that residents, interns and post-doctorates are now considered part of the Penn Vet alumni family, and may vote at meetings, unless they are ex-officio members.

■ CHANGE #4 – ARTICLE VI: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, Section 1–Composition

The passage reads: “All officers must be graduates of the School. Members-at-large may be graduates of the School, or graduated residents, interns or post-doctorate students.”

Change: As in Article IV, the wording reflects that residents, interns and post-doctorates are now considered part of the Penn Vet alumni family, and may vote at meetings. However, the role of OFFICER will remain exclusive to graduates holding a VMD degree.

■ CHANGE #5 – ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Change: This passage was changed to reflect the new change in staffing structure in the Penn Vet Alumni Relations Office. Once a combined position, the roles of director of alumni relations and director of annual giving now are two separate entities.

MEETINGS

The second category of change deals with meetings of the Veterinary Medical Alumni Society. These changes allow the ability to provide awards and other special recognition at special meetings such as the Penn Annual Conference in addition to events such as Alumni Day, which includes our Annual Meeting.

■ CHANGE #6 – ARTICLE IX: STANDING COMMITTEES

The passage reads: Regarding alumni awards “... Those (alumni recipients) selected by the Board shall be honored by receiving awards at the Society’s Annual Meeting or special meeting designated by the Board.”

Change: The wording reflects that some business usually conducted at the Annual Meeting on Alumni Day, such as the presentation of alumni awards, can be moved to special meetings designated by the Board. This allows us to incorporate annual meeting business into Penn Annual Conference activities. ♣



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