



Fall 2011

Faculty & Staff News

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Dr. Jill Beech, the Georgia and Philip Hofmann Professor of Medicine at New Bolton Center, retired this summer after 39 years of dedicated service to Penn Vet.

Drs. Ken Drobatz, director of emergency services and professor of critical care, **Urs Giger**, director of the Metabolic Genetics Screening Laboratory; **Meg Sleeper**, chief, section of cardiology, **Nicola Mason**, assistant professor of medicine and pathobiology; **Mark Oyama**, professor, Department of Clinical Studies – Philadelphia; **Erica Reineke**, assistant professor of emergency and critical care; **Deb Silverstein**, assistant professor, Department of Clinical Studies — Philadelphia; and **Charles Vite**, assistant professor, neurology and neurosurgery, were invited to speak the ACVIM Forum in June 2011. At the meeting, Penn Vet residents in small animal internal medicine and cardiology also gave research presentations.

At the annual conference of AVMA in St. Louis this past July, Penn Vet’s Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Medical Genetics **Donald F. Patterson** received the 2011 AVMA Lifetime Excellence in Research Award for his research on hereditary disorders in companion animals and comparative genetics. In addition, **Drs. Meg Sleeper** and **Urs Giger** were invited speakers.

Dr. Urs Giger was invited by the China Agricultural University, China’s Animal Science and Veterinary Medical Associations and Hong Kong’s Veterinary Association to lecture on clinical hematology and genetics in companion animals in Beijing, Urumqi, Shanghai and Hong Kong in July 2011.

Ms. Patricia Hall, development coordinator for New Bolton Center, retired this spring after 18 years of dedicated to service to Penn Vet.



Dr. Urs Giger



Dr. Ronald Harty



Dr. Christopher Hunter



Ms. Jennifer Lucas



Dr. Wilfried Mai

DR. MARK HASKINS

Mark Haskins, VMD, MS, PhD, professor of pathology at Penn Vet, was awarded the first-ever Dean’s Award for Distinguished Service in recognition of his longstanding dedication to the School and his role in educating students, mentoring faculty and advising administrators.

When presenting the award to Dr. Haskins, Dean Joan C. Hendricks said, “[Dr. Haskins’] generous and principled dedication to the profession and to the School are unparalleled. You never hesitate to share your experience, your wise counsel, and your strong advocacy when you



identify a way you can have a positive impact. You are passionate and at the same time scientifically rigorous in your assessment of all sides of a question or issue. Through the years, legions of students have participated in your hands-on care for the dogs and cats with inherited diseases who form the basis for your research program. They have seen for themselves what an impact a caring, compassionate veterinarian can have on the lives of animals — both those who are in the research program and those who benefit from the research.

“While an award cannot be sufficient, it is a pleasure to have the opportunity to express my personal gratitude to you for lending the full force of your personality to improving your School.”

Mr. Barry Haines, director of facilities at New Bolton Center for 33 years, retired this summer after 33 years of dedicated service to Penn Vet.

Dr. Ronald N. Harty, associate professor of microbiology, was invited to serve as lead guest editor of a special issue of the journal *Advances in Virology* on the topic of virus budding/host interactions.

In July, **Dr. Christopher A. Hunter**, chairman of the Department of Pathobiology at Penn Vet, along with Dr. Terri M. Laufer, associate professor of medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine, in conjunction with The American Associate of Immunologists, offered an Introductory Course in Immunology.

Dr. Candace Jacobson, who recently completed her residency in large animal reproduction, successfully passed the certifying examination of the American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) and is now a Diplomate of the ACT.

Ms. Jennifer Lucas has been named director of finance for Ryan Hospital.

Dr. Wilfried Mai has been promoted to associate professor of radiology, Department of Clinical Studies – Philadelphia.



Ms. Rachael Mant

Ms. Rachael Mant has joined the sports medicine and imaging team at New Bolton Center. In this role, Rachael's primary responsibility is working in the Equine Performance Center and Treadmill as a technician.

Dr. Michael May was promoted to associate professor of pharmacology in the Department of Animal Biology.

Mr. Kevin McBride joined Penn Vet as business administrator for Ryan Hospital.

Dr. Kathryn E. Michel has been promoted to professor of nutrition, Department of Clinical Studies – Philadelphia.

Dr. James Orsini, associate professor at New Bolton Center, was named to the International Equine Veterinarians Hall of Fame.

Dr. Cynthia M. Otto, associate professor of critical care and director of the Penn Vet Working Dog Center, was featured in an Animal Planet documentary about the Hero Dogs of 9/11.

Dr. Mark Oyama presented lectures at the Advances in Canine Mitral Valve Disease meeting in Cremona, Italy in Sept 23-24, 2011. The two-day seminar was sponsored by the Italian Companion Animal Veterinary Association, Italian Society of Veterinary Cardiology and the European Society of Veterinary Cardiology. Dr. Oyama was also on the scientific program committee as well as a speaker for the Human and Veterinary Crosstalk Symposium on Cardiology in Bordeaux, France Oct 1-2, 2011 as well as an invited speaker at the World Feline Veterinary Conference in Boston about feline cardiac biomarkers Sept 8-11, 2011. Recently, Dr. Oyama was promoted to professor of cardiology, Department of Clinical Studies – Philadelphia.



Dr. Mark Oyama



Dr. Thomas Parsons

Dr. Thomas Parsons, associate professor and director of the Swine Teaching and Research Center at Penn Vet's New Bolton Center, was recently honored by The New York Farmers, Inc. at the group's annual spring dinner in New York City where he was presented with The Farmers Medal for outstanding achievement in agriculture.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Saint-Jeannet was promoted to professor for developmental biology in the Department of Animal Biology.

Dr. Jantra Suran, lecturer of radiology, was selected as the winner of the American College of Veterinary Radiology Resident Author Award this year for her paper titled "Contrast Enhancement of Extradural Compressive Material on Magnetic Resonance Imaging," which was published in the January 2011 issue of the journal *Veterinary Radiology and Ultrasound*.



Dr. Jean-Pierre Saint-Jeannet

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ALUMNI AWARDS of MERIT

Penn Vet is seeking nominations for the 2011 Alumni Award of Merit and other awards for distinguished Penn Vet alumni. Alumni include matriculating graduates, as well as interns, residents and post-doctoral fellows.

To be presented at the Penn Annual Conference in March 2012, these awards are given to alumni that have made outstanding contributions to their profession and to the School. Awards are given annually to recognize distinguished graduates for

their contributions that advance knowledge in biomedicine, promote the welfare of animals through public education of animal owners and benefit society through civic activities that foster the advancement of the profession and the School's good name.

Please forward your nominations to Jillian Marcussen, director of stewardship and special projects, at 215.898.4235 or jillian2@vet.upenn.edu with a statement of support for each candidate.