



Fall 2012

## Faculty & Staff News

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AGUIRRE

**Gustavo Aguirre, VMD, PhD** spoke on May 30, 2012 at the Centre for Brain Repair, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge University, UK. His lecture was on "Photoreceptor directed gene therapy restoring function and structure, and reversing inner retinal remodeling."

**Tracy L. Bale, PhD** won the Medtronic Award given by the Society for Women's Health Research. The Medtronic Prize is given to a female scientist in her early to mid career who has devoted a significant part of her work to sex differences research and has served as a role model and mentor for both colleagues and students.

**Dana Clarke, VMD, DAVECC, Urs Giger, DVM, PhD, MS, Bonnie Miller, BS, RDH and Deb Silverstein, DVM** were invited speakers at the annual American Veterinary Medical Association Conference in August in San Diego.



CLARKE

**Hannah Galantino-Homer, VMD, PhD, DACT** was an invited participant and presenter at the Havemeyer Equine Laminitis Workshop II in Key Largo, Fla., which ran from April 29 - May 3, 2012. Dr. Galantino-Homer also lectured at the joint Annual Conference of the Society for Theriogenology and American College of Theriogenologists entitled "Endocrinopathic Laminitis and Equine Metabolic Syndrome," August 24 in Baltimore, Md. She is also serving on the American Association of Equine Practitioners Foundation Laminitis Research Committee.

**Joana Goic, DVM** earned top prize at the inaugural House Officer Research Day at Penn Vet, held on June 15. The awards for best resident presentation and best overall presentation went to Danielle Weinstein, DVM. In total, 18 residents and interns presented their findings from a variety of research projects.



HUNTER

**Mark Haskins, VMD, MS, PhD** was appointed to Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association.

**Christopher A. Hunter, BSc, PhD** ran an international course at Penn with approximately 180 attendees. The intensive, two-part course, taught by world-renowned immunologists, provided a comprehensive overview of the basics of immunology. This course is for students new to the discipline or those seeking more information to complement general biology or science training. The AAI Introductory Course in Immunology is sponsored by The American Association of Immunologists. In addition, Dr. Hunter served as an external examiner for a PhD at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm and organized a Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cellular Biology conference in February.



LINARDI

**Renata Linardi, PhD** was awarded a two-year fellowship from the United States Department of Agriculture - National Institute of Food and Agriculture to study "Equine lamellar organotypic culture system: A tool for laminitis research and regenerative medicine."

**Sandra Z. Perkowski, VMD, PhD, DACVA** has joined Ryan Hospital as a staff veterinarian and head of the anesthesia service. Dr. Perkowski is also a certified veterinary acupuncturist.



PERKOWSKI

**Deborah C. Silverstein, DVM** lectured at the Latin American Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society meeting in mid-July. In addition, Dr. Silverstein organized and spoke at the emergency and critical care portion of the American Veterinary Medical Association meeting in San Diego in August.



UTTER

**Mary Lassaline Utter, DVM, PhD, DACVO** was an invited speaker at the 2012 International Equine Ophthalmology Consortium in Stirling, Scotland, which took place in June.

## FRANK SPEAKING AND COMMUNICATION

More than 30 years of research in medical communication demonstrates the value of implementing shared decision-making into client communication. The evidence shows improved clinical outcomes, including compliance, and increased client and veterinarian satisfaction. This aspect of clinical training has not received a great deal of attention in the veterinary school curriculum until recent years.

With that in mind, members of Penn Vet faculty participated in a workshop to facilitate the enhancement and development of a curriculum that advances mastery of communication skills by veterinary students, house officers and the faculty and staff of the teaching hospitals and diagnostic services of the School of Veterinary Medicine. The FRANK program, run by Jane Shaw at Colorado State University and Carol Barton at Pfizer with help from Erika Krick, VMD and Denise LaMarra from the Perelman School of Medicine Simulated Patient Program, introduces basic communication skills concepts and permits attendees to practice these skills through 10 case-based simulated client interactions while working in a supportive small group setting with individualized attention to learning goals. The plan is for attendees to participate in future curriculum development and teaching. One especially exciting prospect is a collaboration with the School of Medicine's Simulated Patient Program to develop simulated clients to help train our students.

### PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

**Rebecca Syring**, VSEC  
**Michelle Trappler** (V'08), VSEC  
**Tom Garg** (V'98), Animal Critical Care and Specialty Group  
**Suzanne Donahue** (V'99), Animal Critical Care and Specialty Group  
**Ann Bastian** (V'93), Valley Central Emergency Veterinary Hospital  
**Barbara Dallap**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**David Levine**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Marie-Eve Fecteau**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Jeremy Wang**, Penn Vet, Animal Biology  
**John Lewis**, Penn Vet, Ryan Hospital  
**Pat Sertich**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Ray Sweeney**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Dan Hume**, Penn Vet, Ryan Hospital  
**Louise Southwood**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Tamara Dobbie**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Alex Hamberg**, Penn Vet, Pathobiology  
**Meryl Littman**, Penn Vet, Ryan Hospital  
**Rose Nolen-Walston**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Amy Durham**, Penn Vet, Pathobiology  
**Helen Wheeler-Aceto**, Penn Vet, New Bolton Center  
**Denise Lamara**, Penn, Perelman School of Medicine  
**Amy Attas** (V'87), Penn Vet Board of Overseers  
**Mary Bryant** (V'95), Meriel