



10-1-2003

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

**Joan Hendricks, V'79**, Henry and Corinne R. Bower Professor of Animal Medicine, was honored by the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association and presented the PVMA's Distinguished Service Award.

**Dr. Bernd Driessen**, assistant professor of anesthesia, gave a presentation in July at the Veterinary Medical University in Vienna, Austria entitled "The Patient in Renal Failure: Perioperative and Anesthetic Management." Dr. Driessen and collaborators from the University of California presented abstracts at the 77th Clinical and Scientific Congress of the International Anesthesia Research Society, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. in March; at the IXth International Symposium on Blood Substitutes, Tokyo, Japan in March; and at the Experimental Biology Meeting 2003, San Diego, Calif. in April.

**Amy Bogdanoff**, special events coordinator, earned a master's degree in public relations from Rowan University in August.

**Dr. Gerhard Schad**, professor of parasitology, presented the Roy C. Anderson Memorial Lecture at University of Guelph in November.

**Drs. Alexia McKnight**,

lecturer in radiology at New Bolton Center,

**Tobias Schwarz**, assistant professor of radiology at the Ryan Veterinary Hospital, and **Lisa S. Ziemer, V'98**, senior research

associate in radiology,

are new diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Radiology.

**Dr. Gary Smith**, professor of population biology and epidemiology, was an invited speaker at a conference on "Mathematical Modeling of the Spread of Agricultural Bioterrorism Agents" held jointly by the Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center and the Scientific and Technical Intelligence Committee at the Mitre Corporation in Virginia in September.

**Deborah Silverstein, V'93**, staff veterinarian in critical care, was elected to the Board of Regents of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care.

**Dr. Karen Rosenthal**, director of the Special Species Clinic, received the 2003 Distinguished Alumni Award from her alma mater, North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

**Dr. Corinne Sweeney**, professor of medicine, was appointed in September by the American Association of Veterinary State Board Executive Committees to the nine-member PAVE Board (Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence). Dr. Sweeney is the past president of the American Association of

Veterinary Clinicians, the organization best known for conducting the Veterinary Intern-Resident Matching Program. In November, Dr. Sweeney traveled to Seville, Spain to speak at the IV International Congress of Equine Medicine and Surgery at SICAB 2003.

**Dr. Pamela Wilkins**, assistant professor of medicine, traveled to Fort Worth, Texas, to help treat an Asian elephant at the zoo that was born six months premature. Despite the efforts of the veterinarians, the animal could not be saved. Dr. Wilkins presented talks at the Central Veterinary Conference in Kansas City, Mo. in August. Her topics were: Diagnosing and Treating Anemia in Horses and Foals; Use of Blood and Blood Products in Equine Practice; Botulism in Foals; Common Problems of the Critically Ill Neonate; Equine Emergency and Critical Care: An Emerging Specialty; Diagnosing and Treating Hemothorax and Pneumothorax in the Horse; Liver Diseases of Horses; and Practical Solutions to Neonatal Problems. In September, at the International Emergency Critical Care Symposium in New Orleans, she

donors to investigate the role of alpha-MSH in energy homeostasis in horses. He spoke at the Second International Conference on Laminitis in November in Palm Beach, Fla.

**Dr. James Serpell**, Marie A. Moore Associate Professor for Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics, was elected President of the International Society for Anthrozoology in August.

**Dr. Gary Althouse**, associate professor and chief, section of reproduction, presented an invited paper entitled "Bacteriospermia in extended porcine semen" at the 5th International Conference on Boar Semen Preservation in Doorwerth, The Netherlands in August. He also presented an invited paper from his laboratory research group entitled "Ubiquitination of retained distal cytoplasmic droplets on ejaculated porcine spermatozoa revealed by IFA in situ" at the Society for Theriogenology Annual Conference held in Columbus, Ohio in September.

**Dr. Peter Dodson**, professor of anatomy, was a guest of the Japanese government for 10 days in March. He gave a talk at the National Science Museum in Tokyo, and participated in a

symposium on the Mesozoic Life of Hokkaido in Sapporo. He was recently honored by his former student, Hailu You, GR'02, and his Chinese mentor, Dr. Dong Zhiming, who named a primitive horned

dinosaur from Inner Mongolia *Magnirostris dodsoni* (meaning Dodson's big nose!).

**Chick Weisse, V'98**, lecturer in surgery, presented two papers at the 13th Annual ACVS Veterinary Symposium, Washington, D.C. For titles and authors of abstracts, please refer to our new web page, "Recent Research" <[www.vet.upenn.edu/newsandevents/news/centresearch.html](http://www.vet.upenn.edu/newsandevents/news/centresearch.html)>.

**Meryl Littman, V'75**, associate professor of medicine, wrote a chapter about Lyme disease in an issue of the 2003 *Veterinary Clinics of North America* entitled "Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases." In May, she attended the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America (SCWTCA) Health Conference in Keystone, Col. and spoke on several topics.

**Dr. Paula Henthorn**, associate professor of medical genetics, also spoke at the meeting. In September, Dr. Littman spoke to the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Association of Canada in Ottawa about the diseases to which Wheatens are predisposed. In October, Dr. Littman and **Dr. Margret Casal**, assistant professor of medical genetics, were the speakers at the health symposium organized by the Montgomery County

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spoke on: Controversies in EHV-1 Myeloencephalopathy; Neonatal Emcephalopathy: The Veterinary Perspective; and Problems with Oxygen Delivery.

**Dr. Andras M. Komaromy**, research associate in ophthalmology, became a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists this fall.

**Jennifer Baez, V'92**, assistant professor of immunology/oncology; **Lillian Duda, V'90**; **Drs. Karen Oberthaler, Beth Overlay, V'00**, and **Karen Skorupski**, residents in oncology; and **Dr. Karin Sorenmo**, assistant professor of clinical oncology, presented five abstracts at the 23rd Annual Conference of the Veterinary Cancer Society in Madison, Wis. in September. For titles and authors of abstracts, please refer to our new web page, "Recent Research" <[www.vet.upenn.edu/newsandevents/news/centresearch.html](http://www.vet.upenn.edu/newsandevents/news/centresearch.html)>.

**Mark T. Donaldson, V'93**, assistant professor of medicine, presented an abstract at the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in Charlotte, N.C. on endocrine function testing in horses. He received a grant from the Raymond Firestone Research Trust and private

Kennel Club in Lionville, Pa. Dr. Littman and **Dr. Urs Giger**, Charlotte Newton Sheppard Professor of Medicine, were on the panel of the SCWTCA Health Forum, held during the Montgomery K.C. All Terrier Show weekend.

The PennHIP seminar, in conjunction with the ACVS meeting in Washington D.C. in October, was sold out. **Gail Smith, V'74**, professor of surgery, **Pamela McKelvie Smith, V'81**, **Dr. Erin Paster**, PennHIP fellow, and **Thomas Gregor**, PennHIP data analyst, conducted the seminar. PennHIP seminars are planned in conjunction with the Western Veterinary Conference in February and the Penn Annual Conference in March.

**Dr. Charles Vite**, senior research investigator in neurology, successfully defended his thesis that was performed in the laboratory of **John Wolfe, V'82**. The title is *Clinical/Pathological Assessment and Quantitative Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imaging of Gene Therapy of a Naturally Occurring Central Nervous System Disease in the Cat*.

**Dr. Fabio Del Piero** was promoted to associate professor of pathology.

**Patricia Sertich, V'83**, associate professor of reproduction, presented three lectures at the Association Veterinaire Equine Francaise Annual Meeting in Montpellier, France in October: "How to do a transrectal ultrasound of the placenta at the end of gestation?" and "Problems during late gestation" (two parts). This group is the French equivalent to the American Association of Equine Practitioners.

**Mark Haskins, V'69**, professor of pathology, presented a paper, "Intravenous retroviral gene therapy in dogs with mucopolysaccharidosis VII," at the European Biotechnology Crossroads meeting in Nantes, France in September. In November, he participated in the MPS Symposium, *At the Frontier of MPS Research*, held in Los Angeles. His paper was "Long-term results from the liver-directed, retroviral gene therapy in MPS VII dogs." Also in November, Dr. Haskins traveled to Fulda, Germany to present a paper at the International Symposium on Lysosomal Disorders: "Diseases, treatment, and pathophysiological aspects." He received a five-year renewal of a grant, "Animal Models of Human Genetic Disease," to discover, develop, and define animal models of human genetic disease, held for 14 years by **Dr. Donald Patterson**, Professor Emeritus of Medical Genetics. Dr. Haskins also received a subcontract on a grant held by Dr. Kathy Ponder, Washington University School of Medicine, to investigate gene therapy in MPS I dogs.

**Dr. Robert Poppenga**, associate professor of toxicology, received a Service Award from the

American Board of Veterinary Toxicology for "his service and vision as secretary-treasurer and president of the ABVT."

**Dr. Cynthia Otto**, associate professor of critical care medicine, presented a paper at the 141st AVMA Convention, in Denver in July, entitled "Medical surveillance of dogs deployed to the World Trade Center and the Pentagon." She was a keynote speaker in September at the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Congress, Uppsala, Sweden, and presented "Consequences of sepsis: New concepts in acute lung injury" and "Management of sepsis: What's hot, what's not." Dr. Otto was elected to the John Morgan Society at Penn.

**Amy Shields**, CVT, has been appointed the new associate director of veterinary technician recruitment.

**Dr. Andrei Thomas-Tikhonenko**, assistant professor of pathology, received a four-year grant from the National Cancer Institute to study "Interplay between Pax5 and Myc in B-Lymphomagenesis." **Dr. Michael Atchison**, professor of biochemistry, is a collaborator on the project. Dr. Thomas-Tikhonenko has joined the editorial board of the journal *Cancer Biology & Therapy* and the Advisory Board of the "Myc Cancer Gene" bioinformatics hubsite funded by the National Library of Medicine.

**Margaret M. Sleeper, V'93**, assistant professor of cardiology, is an endurance rider. In March she competed at the World's Most Preferred Endurance Ride in Dubai and placed sixteenth. She was chosen to represent the USA East Endurance Team at the Pan American Endurance Championship Ride in September. At the Argentina National Championship ride in November, she placed seventh. Dr. Sleeper was selected for the National Endurance Squad (for the World Championships next year).

**Dr. Mark Rondeau**, lecturer in medicine, is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine.

**Kristin Budenich, V'06**, has been selected by the Morris Animal Foundation as the Ballard Student at Penn. Ballard students represent the Foundation at their schools and reach their peers through presentations, bulletin boards, and exhibits.

**Lillian Aronson, V'92**, assistant professor of surgery, conducted a seminar for veterinarians and veterinary students at the University of the Republic-School of Veterinary Medicine in Montevideo, Uruguay in August.

A number of faculty and staff have joined the 25-Year Club at Penn: **Christine M. Chapman**; ULAR, **Ronald Funaro**, building services supervisor; **Meryl Littman, V'72**, associate professor of medicine; **Beth A. Miller**,

admissions/New Bolton Center; **Barry Stupine**, vice dean for administration and finance and director, Ryan Veterinary Hospital; **Dr. Corinne Sweeney**, professor of medicine; and **Dr. Robert Whitlock**, associate professor of medicine.

**Dr. Alexander Reiter** was appointed assistant professor of dentistry.

**Mary Beth Callan, V'88**, was promoted to associate professor of medicine.

**Dr. Samuel Chacko**, professor of pathology, and director of the George M. O'Brien Urology Research Center in the Division of Urology, School of Medicine, and his colleagues had a grant renewed and increased by the NIH. The five-year grant of \$4.47 million is for the research program *Remodeling of Urinary Bladder Smooth Muscle in Outlet Obstruction*. The Center is composed of faculty in the School of Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine, and School of Dental Medicine, as well as investigators in Pediatric Urology at CHOP.

**Dr. Shelley Rankin**, assistant professor of pathology, gave a presentation for the Division of Health Quality Promotion at the CDC in November entitled: "Antimicrobial Resistant Bacteria and Companion Animals: Implications for Public Health." In July, Dr. Rankin gave a presentation for the Massachusetts State Department of Public Health.

## Dr. Brinster Honored

**Ralph Brinster, V'60**, Richard King Mellon Professor of Physiology, was inducted into the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Hall of Honor. The ceremony took place on September 22 on the National Institutes of Health campus in Bethesda, Md. Dr. Brinster, the only veterinarian among the 15 Hall of Honor scientists, was honored "For discovering a method for in vitro culture of animal embryos that opened new possibilities in reproductive biology, and pioneering the use of new techniques in developmental biology and molecular genetics to produce transgenic animals, a key technology in advancing the genetic revolution."

The NICHD Hall of Honor recognizes scientists supported by the Institute for exceptional contributions to advancing knowledge and improving maternal and child health. The NICHD celebrates its fortieth anniversary this year.