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From the Dean

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Second Century Fund Passes the $38,000,000 Mile Post

The Second Century Fund is now into the home stretch! Over the past four months, generous gifts from our many friends helped the School through the last turn, and we are now driving towards the finish line. On August 1, 1988, we passed the $38,000,000 mark with a total of $38,051,092. We are very grateful for the continued support of our capital objectives: endowment goals, research activities, and educational programs.

Building an endowment is an investment for the future. We are particularly blessed that many recent contributions were made to create or enlarge the School's endowment fund accounts. Mrs. Gladys E. Rogenthal honored her husband by establishing the Alfred H. Rogenthal Endowment for Small Animal Medicine. This fund will support the training of veterinarians “truly competent” in “small animal medicine and the development of service oriented facilities capable of providing high quality patient care for a large number of animals.”

We received an additional $150,000 from the Estate of Judith A. Sankey to support a postdoctoral researcher in Molecular Genetics. Mr. and Mrs. Hardie Scott completed their generous contribution to the Dr. Charles W. Raker Chair in Equine Surgery. The Dr. M. Josephine Deubler Student Scholarship Fund received a $15,000 gift from the Kennel Club of Philadelphia, and a contribution from the Maryland Kennel Club. The Estate of Winona Ann Syder and Elizabeth S. Zies also established new student scholarship funds.

The inclusion of these new monies is especially important at this time because the University’s overall endowment performance during the past year was impressive. Even with the calamitous events last October, the University’s Associated Investments Fund still gained a 4.4 percent total return. When compared to other national indices that lost on a total return basis, the University’s performance is even more noteworthy. The School of Veterinary Medicine is proud to report to our many friends that their endowment gifts are managed by some of the best people in the business.

The contributions to support student scholarship endowment were reinforced by other term gifts for student aid. A total of $43,950 was given by: Lisa Hopen, V.M.D.; Mr. Robert Lind; Merck Company Foundation; The New York Farmers; Estate of Pauline O’Rosky; Town of Thomaston, Maine; H. Fred Troutt, V.M.D.; and, The Westminster Kennel Foundation.

Mrs. Anne French Thorington completed her pledge commitment for the construction of the Connelly Intensive Care Unit and the Graham French Neonatal Section. In addition, Mrs. Thorington was instrumental in organizing a symposium on “Serious Problems in Neonates and Adult Horse — Candidates for Intensive Care.” The proceeds from the symposium were used to purchase needed equipment for the ICU. Further contributions for ICU equipment were made by Delaware Equine Center; Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. J. DuPont; Mrs. Kathryn Johnston; John Lee, D.V.M.; Midge Leich, V.M.D.; In Memory of Joseph Manger, and Mr., and Mrs. Elicie McDonald, Jr.

Additional generous gifts were made by the following individuals: Mrs. Jill Cohen; Mr. Richard A. Dorr, Sr.; Mr. Raymond C. Firestone; Estate of David George Jones; Mr. Edward B. Lipkin; J.D. McCullough, V.M.D.; Mrs. Laura Thor; and Mr. Charles Wolf.

These individual contributions were matched by: a grant from the American Kennel Club to support research by Drs. K. Ann Jeglum, Donald Patterson and Robert Washabau; a grant of $125,000 from The Jockey Club to Drs. Larry Soma and Corinne Sweeney to study the effects of LASIK® on race horse; a $113,000 donation from the Island Foundation to support the Aquavet program at Woods Hole, Massachusetts; and a $22,200 award from the Fannie E. Rippel Foundation to Dr. Jules Melbin to study the failure of cardiovascular protheses. Other important donations were made by: Animal Rescue League of Philadelphia; Biery Family Foundation; E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company; Pennsylvania Poultry Foundation; San Diego Cat Fanciers; Tri-Tech Corporation; Universal Veterinary Research Association; and World Health Organization.

We appreciate the generosity of our alumni. Board of Overseers, close friends, corporations, foundations and associations to the Second Century Fund over this past year. In the year since Dean Edwin J. Andrews began his tenure, he has built strongly upon the accomplishments of former Dean Robert R. Marshak. Since July 1, 1987, nearly $6.7 million was added to the Second Century Fund. We thank you for your help and for your commitment and support for our final drive to the finish line. Each and every one of you can make a difference and with your financial muscle behind us, we can cross the wire in a record effort.

Jeffrey P. Roberts
Assistant Dean for Development and Planning

— Edwin J. Andrews, V.M.D., Ph.D.

It is hard to believe that my first year in the Deanship has passed and with it my staff and I have reflected on what has been accomplished. Typically, in the early stages of an administration, there are changes noticeable to outside observers. Not unlike an iceberg, however, the majority of change and achievement lies beneath the surface, beyond the view of a casual observer.

We’ve laid an even firmer foundation for the School’s future by providing a new budget framework and fiscal policy. In place is the necessary staff to deal with a variety of important areas and constituents, ranging from our students, to alumni, to friends, and legislators.

New programs and policies for dealing with the health and safety of our faculty, staff and students will assure that their well-being and working environment are important elements in maintaining their interest, loyalty and productivity. A spirit of collegiality and high morale exist in the School. Yet, we realize that there is still much to be done.

We’ve focused on communications, a “glassnost” of sorts, at all levels; on research, and how to better liaison with interested funding agencies, foundations and industry; on facilities, and the completion of our commitments to donors and our agricultural constituency.

Our greatest strength, however, is the refocusing on ourselves and our educational mission.

With the help of our Board of Overseers and the guidance of senior University administrators, we are poised to set off in new directions. In basic science we’ve focused on molecular biology; in our clinical areas, on health care delivery, especially at the New Bolton Center campus where we have the capability of servicing the needs of the Mid-Atlantic region.

New directions of leadership are expected to flow from the upcoming 10th anniversary celebration of the Center for the Interaction of Animals and Society as well as from our addressing the ethical concerns of students and faculty regarding the use and welfare of animals.

It’s been a fruitful beginning and I look forward to the next several years when we can accomplish much more.

— Edwin J. Andrews, V.M.D., Ph.D.