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In Memoriam: Benjamin Wolf

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Gustavo Aguirre, VMD, PhD, was named to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies. He also received the International Canine Health Award from the Kennel Club Charitable Trust & Metro Bank at the Cruft’s dog show held in Birmingham, England. He also gave a lecture at the Tongji University Medical School in Shanghai, China.

Gary Althouse, DVM, MS, PhD, was reappointed to a five-year term as Chair, Department of Clinical Studies, New Bolton Center.

The Council of the American Association of Immunologists has awarded David Artis, PhD, the 2013 AAI-BD Biosciences Investigator Award for outstanding, early-career research contributions to the field of immunology.

William Beltran, DVM, PhD, received the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology/Merck Innovative Ophthalmology Research Award in the Gene Therapy and Eye Disease category in May at the ARVO Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA. His selection was based on his paper “Gene therapy rescues photoreceptor blindness in dogs and paves the way for treating human X-linked retinitis pigmentosa.”

Darryl Biery, DVM, was awarded Honorary Membership at the 16th International Radiology Association Congress in Bursa, Turkey.

Bernd Driessen, DVM, PhD, was an invited speaker at the World Congress of Veterinary Anesthesia in Cape Town, South Africa in September.

Hannah Galantino-Homer, VMD, PhD, gave a lecture on “Endocrinopathic Laminitis and Equine Metabolic Syndrome” at the California Animal Nutrition Conference in Fresno, CA in May.

Benjamin Wolf, retired professor of microbiology in the Department of Pathobiology, passed away in April 2013 in his beloved Honolulu, Hawaii residence. He is survived by his wife, Sarah, and two sons, Michael and Howard.

Dr. Wolf earned his master’s degree in bacteriology from the University of Michigan in 1949, and his PhD in microbiology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1959. From 1959 to 1962, Dr. Wolf was a Pennsylvania Plan Scholar and an instructor in the School of Veterinary Medicine. He became an Assistant Professor in 1962, Associate Professor in 1968, and Professor of Microbiology in 1973. From 1962 to 1972, he was the recipient of a Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health. He was involved with the graduate groups in immunology, parasitology, and microbiology and taught core and elective courses on immunology to veterinary students. Dr. Wolf’s graduate students praised his creative mind, hands-on pursuit of scientific endeavors, and unselfish encouragement as he groomed them to become scientists on their own. Anyone who observed how much Ben enjoyed his work would feel inspired to pursue a career in science. It was clear that he relished his interactions with students at all levels and was a source of encouragement.

Dr. Wolf was one of the few immunologists on the veterinary faculty, and his presence was the impetus for what continues to be an active research group within the school. He enjoyed his adventures in experimental immunology and pursued his immunologic research with fervor and tenacity. He is remembered as an encouraging mentor, an interested teacher, and a dedicated scientist.