



The Gentle

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

WINTER 2004 | VOL. 18 NO. 3

Doctor



Officer Tim Nading and Police Dog Reno
Protecting and Serving the Public

FOCU



Photo/Tracy Ann Raef

On the cover:

Des Moines Police
Department K-9 Unit,
Officer Tim Nading and
Reno. (story on page 4)

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

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This is the 125th anniversary of our College of Veterinary Medicine. It was established in 1879 as the first state-supported veterinary college in the United States. Many of the more than 5,700 graduates have distinguished themselves, collectively, in every aspect of veterinary medicine. This rich tradition and the many noteworthy contributions of our faculty and alumni to improving the health of animals, humans and the environment have built a well-deserved international reputation for our college. It has been stated that the reputation of an academic unit can be perceived beyond its productivity. Frequently, it is taken for granted that successful and productive academic institutions will always stay at the top in spite of budget cuts, aging equipment and inadequate facilities.

Focus. Iowa State University's administration requested that the veterinary college focus on the following: (1) regaining full accreditation, (2) assuring that the renovation and remodeling of the veterinary teaching hospital and veterinary diagnostic laboratory successfully addresses the immediate and future needs of the college, (3) improving the ranking of our college in the *U.S. News & World Report's* ranking of colleges of veterinary medicine, (4) maintaining the highest quality faculty, and (5) strengthening our working relationships with the National Veterinary Services Laboratories and the National Animal Disease Center.



Photo/Bob Elbert

Future. Our college was awarded two years of limited accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Deficiencies in the veterinary teaching hospital were the primary reason for the limited accreditation. Our college and university administrations worked with the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, Iowa Pork Producers Association, Iowa Cattlemen's Association, CVM alumni and Iowa legislators to provide initial bonding funds to start the process of correcting these deficiencies. Dr. Eugene and Mrs. Linda Lloyd have provided a lead donation of \$3.5 million for this project. These are tremendous steps in acquiring the needed funds to meet the present and future needs of our teaching hospital and diagnostic


S on our future

A Message from the Dean



Dean Thomson visits the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Pictured with Dr. Thomson are: Drs. Jim Noxon, professor, and Diana Miller, clinician; and Maksim Ilyukhin, ECFVG participant.

laboratory. The architects have been selected for the project, and we are fortunate to have one of the top veterinary facility architects in the world as our consultant. The college is in the program validation phase of the project. This will clearly define the scope, expectations and budget for the project. Dr. Eldon Uhlenhopp has been assigned as the point person to direct the college's responsibilities for this project, which will have long-term impacts on our future. We have an excellent team of professionals who are totally committed to successfully completing this complicated project. At this time, it is estimated that the budget will need to be expanded.

Growth. Our college has outstanding faculty, staff, students and programs. When compared with peer institutions in the top tier of the *U.S. News & World Report's* ranking, however, it is obvious that our core base funding and faculty numbers need to be increased. We have five potential revenue streams: appropriations, tuition and fees, grants and contracts, sales and services, and donations. The college is preparing a five-year plan to grow our core base funding by \$7 million to \$10 million and increase faculty numbers by 20 over the next four to five years. We are confident that, with the support of Iowa State administration, Iowa legislators, CVM alumni, and the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, our college will retain its reputation as one of the premier veterinary colleges in the world. 



Dr. John U. Thomson
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. John U. Thomson became the 14th dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State in Aug. 16, 2004. He succeeds Dr. Norman Cheville, who retired this year. Dr. Thomson was previously the dean at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine, from 1999 to 2004. He is a 1967 graduate of Iowa State.

The next issue of *The Gentle Doctor* will contain a question and answer session with the new dean.

“It’s one of the strongest bonds imaginable.

Each partner depends on the other in situations that are dangerous, volatile and stressful.

VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL TREATS K-9 OFFICER

*who saves life of
Des Moines Police Officer*



Figure 1.

Preoperative radiograph of the patella taken at ISU’s VTH.



Dr. Dave Mason, clinician

Shortly after midnight on Oct. 20, Des Moines Senior Police Officer Tim Nading and his K-9 partner, Reno, responded to a call for assistance after a citizen reported hearing gunfire. Reno, a 100-pound German Shepherd, was sent ahead to track and find the suspect, who had fled into the woods behind an apartment building after shooting a man. The suspect opened fire on the police, who, in turn, returned fire. Reno was caught in the middle.

K-9 Officer Reno is credited with saving the lives of one, possibly two, police

officers, said Maj. James O’Donnell, Des Moines Police Department. But, in the line of duty, Reno received several gunshot wounds – the result of shots fired from the suspect’s shotgun and friendly fire.

The wounded police dog was taken to Animal Emergency and Referral Center of Central Iowa, where Dr. Karl Bolser (’90) provided initial treatment to stabilize him. “We prepped Reno’s wounds, controlled hemorrhage and gave him fluids and pain medication,” Dr. Bolser said. “The injury that initially concerned us the most was a wound from a bullet that entered and

VALUE

The value in dollars to treat Reno: **\$2,000**

The value of having Officer Reno alive and well to serve and protect Officer Nading, the Des Moines Police Department and the public: **Priceless**

Each partner must be able to respond appropriately, communicate clearly, and work responsibly in an environment that can turn deadly for both.



exited the thorax, passing through the dorsal spinous process of T8. Reno was losing a lot of blood as a result of that wound.”

After staying overnight in the emergency clinic, Reno was referred to Dr. Brian Martz ('86) at the Starch Pet Hospital in Des Moines.

Dr. Martz examined Reno and took radiographs of his leg. “Once I saw the radiograph, I decided that this highly trained, expensive dog needed a specialist,” Dr. Martz said. Reno was transferred to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at Iowa State University.

When Reno arrived at the VTH, he was unable to walk but could stand. During an examination of Reno, Dr. Dave Mason, clinician at the VTH, found six to eight entry and exit wounds in the right thorax area that were the result of bullets fired from a shotgun. Reno had three open wounds over the right stifle, where a bullet had entered and exited, resulting in a comminuted fracture of the right patella (Figure 1). During a 70-minute surgery performed the next day, Dr. Mason placed a transarticular external fixator on Reno's leg (Figure 2). “The external fixator was used to immobilize the stifle joint so the patella can heal,” Dr. Mason explained. Reno will wear the external fixator for at least six to eight weeks. Once the fixator is removed, he will need extensive rehabilitation. At this time, Reno's chances of returning to his previous function are “guarded,” Dr. Mason said.

“Reno's got drive and spirit. If he makes it back into active duty, it wouldn't surprise me,” Dr. Martz said.

Reno was released from the VTH on Oct. 23. Although his stay was short, he captured the hearts of staff and clinicians who took care of him.



Figure 2. Postoperative radiograph showing external fixator.

THE OFFICERS IN BLUE TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME

Reno is one of five police dogs in the Des Moines Police Department, Patrol Services. He's been a member of the force for a year. The police department first started using K-9 officers four years ago. “Depending on the health of the dog, it can serve for seven to nine years,” Officer Nading said.

“The police dogs are considered department employees,” said Maj. O'Donnell. In fact, he said, it is a Class D felony to assault a service dog. If convicted of the charge, the defendant faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison.

Police dogs, such as Reno, are trained to track and find criminals, and chase and apprehend them if they escape. Each K-9 is also trained to search and detect narcotics. Perhaps its most important duty is to guard its handler. Like a Secret Service agent on presidential detail, the K-9 will do everything possible to protect its handler. Likewise, Officer Nading said, he protects Reno as if he were a human partner.

Not surprisingly, a police dog's most valuable asset is its ability to intimidate the most hardened criminal. “When Reno and I pull up to a scene and people see a large, barking dog, they do think twice,” Officer Nading said.

A BREED APART

The job is dangerous, but members of the K-9 unit have been carefully selected and well-trained to protect the citizens of Des Moines, and each other. The police dogs, all German Shepherds, are selected and imported from a breeder in Europe who specializes in police and military dogs. John Haller, Top Dog K-9 Academy, located in Evansville, Ind., travels to Germany with veterinarian Don Cates (PUR '77) to select the puppies. They check the overall

health status of the dogs. "We look for gait abnormalities, cataracts, congenital defects, and check their teeth," Dr. Cates said.

"We take radiographs to check for hip and elbow dysplasia, and lumbar spondylosis."

Dr. Cates also inoculates the dogs they select, except for rabies vaccine, to provide health protection before the dogs are shipped to the United States. Dr. Cates got started working with service dogs when he did some emergency work for John Haller. "I got interested in the

dogs: how they work, their dedication. And, I learned how hard John works and tries to get good healthy dogs," Dr. Cates said.

Not every dog is qualified for police duty; in fact, few make the grade. They must be intelligent, responsive to commands without hesitation, courageous, alert, and able to perform, despite distractions such as gunshots, loud noises, and general chaos.

The human officers are also carefully selected. "A police officer must have a minimum of two years on the police force before he or she can apply for the K-9 patrol. The handlers in the unit interview prospective K-9 officers. Officers who are selected must stay with the dog a minimum of five years. An officer can't decide two years into the program that he doesn't want to be part of a K-9 unit," Officer Nading said.

Above all, the human officer must love dogs and want to work with them. The police dogs live with their police officer handler, creating a close bond between the two.

"This is a great job. It's the best place to be in the department," Officer Nading said.

MORE THAN BOOT CAMP

The puppies begin their training in Europe. Because it's easier to train a human to learn German commands, rather than retrain a dog to learn English commands, the handler continues training the dog with German commands. "We learn about 35 to 40 voice commands," Officer Nading said. "Those commands range from basic obedience to advanced commands specific to the duties they perform, like patrol work and dope tracking."

K-9 Officer Reno and Officer Tim Nading pose by the patrol car after a follow-up examination at ISU's Veterinary Teaching Hospital. The patrol car that Officer Nading drives has been specially modified for carrying a K-9 officer.



Photo/Tracy Ann Raef

When Reno arrived in the United States, he and Officer Nading trained for six weeks at Top Dog K-9 Academy, a 25-acre complex. The K-9 units are trained in conditions that simulate the street environment in which they will work.

The police dogs are certified annually in standards identified by the United States Police Canine Association. The training process doesn't stop there. Every two weeks, Officer Nading and Reno spend an eight-hour day just training on their own. “We also spend a half hour during our shift training, as well.”

One of the training exercises involves releasing the K-9 to chase and apprehend a suspect, but the officer/handler calls the dog off before it reaches the suspect who is still running. The physical and mental control that these dogs need is immense, Dr. Cates said.

Dr. Cates adds that the bond between handler and K-9 is close. “After a long day and evening of training, I watched Officer Nading stay an extra 10 to 15 minutes with Reno, playing ball or Frisbee,” Dr. Cates said. The extra step helped solidify the bond between the two. “It was remarkable.”

So, how do you get a 100-pound, hurling mass of fur and teeth to do what you want? “The dog must have an incentive to work – something that the dog really likes. For Reno, it's rolled-up towels,” Officer Nading said. Reno goes through the drills, knowing that if the drill is done correctly, a towel will be his prize.

themselves in assisting officers in arrests and drug cases, and preventing crime with their presence.

But, most important, police dogs such as Reno pay for themselves in the human lives that they protect and save from harm. “Reno is the reason that I come home safely every night,” Officer Nading said. For this reason alone, the citizens of Des Moines owe a great debt to the dogs that faithfully protect the men and women in blue. **GD**

Contributions to the canine unit help defray the costs of the unit:

Des Moines Police Department Canine Unit
25 East 1st Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

A SOLID INVESTMENT IN BLUE

Police dogs are no small investment (\$8,000 to \$9,000 each), but they more than pay for

Gift Opportunities in the College of Veterinary Medicine

Celebrate your pet's life with a contribution to the Companion Animal Fund. Monies from the fund are used to improve patient facilities in the ISU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, purchase equipment for diagnosis and treatment and enhance efforts by Iowa State veterinarians.

Help an owl or an osprey with support for medical care for ill, injured and orphaned birds and mammals at the Wildlife Care Clinic. The care is administered by veterinarians, work-study students and volunteers. Expenses include medications, diagnostics and surgery.

Provide assistance for the Packer Veterinary Heritage Room for student help, displays, equipment and operation. The Packer Heritage Room commemorates displays and preserves historical memorabilia associated with the veterinary profession and provides a facility for historical research in the college.

Support pet owners who call the Pet Loss Hotline to deal with important decisions and challenging emotions relating to pet illness and death. Veterinary students staff the hotline. Expenses include telephone charges, postage, training, printing and advertising.



For more information about these and other gift opportunities, contact Monica Porter, senior director of development, by telephone at (515) 294-8562 or e-mail mgporter@iastate.edu

2004 COLLEGE RECOGNIZES ITS Distinguished

The Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine honored three of its graduates with the 2004 Stange Award during ceremonies held at the university, October 8 and 9.

This year's recipients are: Drs. Stephen Juelsgaard ('72), Roger Mahr ('71) and James West ('71).

"This year's recipients of the Stange Award for Meritorious Service clearly demonstrate why veterinary medicine is described as the most diversified of all the health professions," said Dr. John U. Thomson, dean of the veterinary college at Iowa State University.



Dr. Juelsgaard is the executive vice president, general counsel and secretary of Genentech, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company, located in South San Francisco, Calif., and a member of the company's seven-member executive committee that oversees the management of the company's business and operations. He has oversight responsibility for the corporate and intellectual property legal

groups, the human resources department, and the security function and strategic facilities planning.

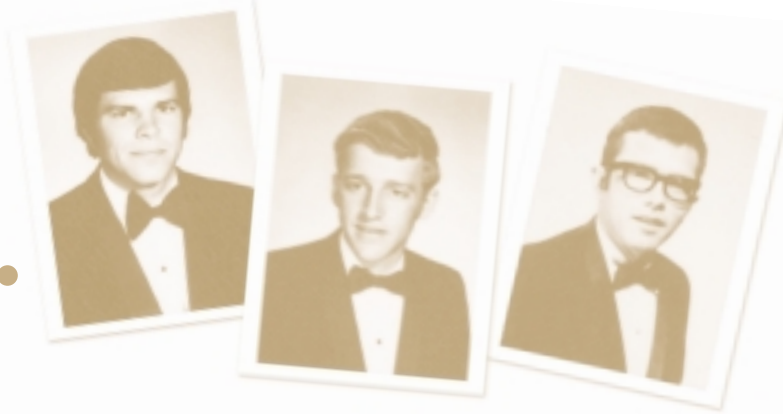
Following graduation from Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1972, Dr. Juelsgaard was an equine practitioner in Norco, Calif., and on the faculty at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, Calif., where he taught in the animal technology program.

In 1979, Dr. Juelsgaard entered Stanford University Law School in Calif., and graduated in 1982 with a juris doctorate. Prior to joining Genentech in 1985, he was an associate in the law firm of Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati in Palo Alto, Calif.

Dr. Juelsgaard is a frequent speaker on legal topics at local and national meetings. He is

"This year's recipients of the Stange Award for Meritorious Service clearly demonstrate why veterinary medicine is described as the most diversified of all the health professions."

From left:
Dr. Juelsgaard,
Dr. Mahr,
Dr. West



Alumni

a member of the California State Bar. Dr. Juelsgaard is a member of the board of directors of the Genentech Endowment for Cystic Fibrosis, a nonprofit corporation that provides support for financially needy cystic fibrosis patients, and of the board of directors of World Learning, a nonprofit corporation involved in international education, training and field projects.



Dr. Mahr, a small animal practitioner, received his veterinary degree in 1971 from Iowa State University. Following graduation,

he practiced in the Chicago suburbs of Morton Grove and Evanston. Since 1974, he has owned and operated the Meadow View Veterinary Clinic in Geneva, Illinois.

For over 30 years, Dr. Mahr has been committed to advancing the veterinary profession at the local, regional and national levels. He is currently the chairman of the board of the American Veterinary Medical Association, a professional association of more than 71,000 member veterinarians. Dr. Mahr has also held leadership positions in the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association and the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association, receiving numerous awards for his dedication and service.

An active community leader, Dr. Mahr is a member of the Delnor Community Hospital Men's Foundation; Geneva Lions Club, serving as president in 1987; the Geneva Chamber of Commerce; and a past president of the St. Charles Community Unit School District. He is a member of the United Methodist Church of Geneva.



Dr. West is the owner of Westwood Embryo Services, an Iowa-based company he and his wife, Mary, established in 1979.

The company provides embryo transfer and dairy herd health services in Iowa and Minnesota. It has helped dairy producers develop foreign and domestic markets for embryos. By 1984, Westwood had initiated export of fresh cattle embryos to Western Europe. Westwood currently exports frozen embryos to more than 15 countries on four continents.

Prior to founding his company, Dr. West was a partner in the Waverly Veterinary Clinic for three years, providing bovine and equine reproduction and herd health services. He is a former assistant professor of theriogenology at Iowa State University. After graduating from Iowa State with a veterinary degree in 1971, he served in the U.S. Army, reaching the rank of captain.

Dr. West is an international lecturer on embryo transfer in several European countries. He has trained veterinarians from Italy, Germany, Holland, China, Mexico, India, Brazil and Russia on the techniques of bovine embryo collection, transfer, freezing, and export.

He is an active member of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, and the American Veterinary Medical Association. In 2002, he was named Distinguished Graduate of the Department of Dairy Science at Iowa State. *GD*

SEEKING NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR STANGE AWARD

The College of Veterinary Medicine invites nominations for the 2005 Stange Award for Meritorious Service. Established in 1970, the award recognizes outstanding professional achievements in the areas of education, government, industry, practice or other endeavors in veterinary medicine. Conferred annually, the Stange Award is named for Dr. Charles Stange, former dean of the college (1909-1936).

Nominations will be accepted until February 1, 2005. Please mail the names of nominees and a brief description of their accomplishments to: CVM Awards Committee, Office of the Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, 2508 Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-1250.



2004 Homecoming

sponsored by the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Veterinary Medical Alumni Association at Iowa State.

Photos/Adam Patridge

Transformation
(Continual process of exceeding expectations)
GOOD TO GREAT
Assessment, Objectives, Planned Direction & Expected Outcomes
Iowa State University
College of Veterinary Medicine



From the desk of the development officer

By Monica G. Porter

Each year we set goals for fundraising in the college. These goals include both dollar amount and the use of those dollars. The challenge for academic year 2004-2005 is raising \$6.5 million in private gift support from alumni and friends of the college. We hope that you'll consider assisting us in reaching that goal.

The priority this year, as it will be for several future years, is the veterinary teaching hospital/veterinary diagnostic laboratory renovation project. Those of you who read college publications know the renovation is needed for several reasons, including accreditation, safety and security, and ventilation, as well as to reconfigure the space for today's uses. The total goal is a lofty one, aided by the assistance of bonding authority from the state of Iowa. This year the goal is to raise at least \$3.5 million for the renovation project from private donors.

A \$2 million goal has been set for faculty endowments. These are the named, endowed professorships and chairs that allow the college to retain or to hire the best faculty. The college currently has two funded chairs, the John G. Salsbury Chair and the Frank Ramsey Chair. The professorships are the W. E. Lloyd Professorship and the Donn E. and Beth M. Bacon Professorship.

No listing of goals is complete without noting scholarships. The scholarship goal this year is \$1 million for the college. Although the college awarded 259 scholarships for a total of more than \$358,000 for this fall, the need continues to grow. Scholarships recognize the academic and leadership achievements of the students and allow for the financial assistance that helps with increasing tuition and debt loads.

There are a variety of ways to make gifts for each of these objectives. I am available to work with you or you and your professional advisors as you do your planning. Please contact me and we'll work together to assist you in reaching your objectives for private giving to the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Monica G. Porter can be reached by e-mail, mgporter@iastate.edu, or by telephone at (515) 294-8562.



The Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine wishes to express its sympathy and condolences to the families and friends of the following alumni:

1930s

Paul R. Granholm ('32),

Melbourne, Fla., died May 30, 2004.

Theodore F. Bartley ('33),

Humboldt, Iowa, died July 19, 2004.

1940s

Richard O. Murphy ('40),

Snohomish, Wash., died Jan. 2, 2004.

Lyle W. Swain ('43),

Dallas Center, Iowa, died July 18, 2004.

George E. Lewis ('46),

Osceola, Iowa, died July 16, 2004.

David R. Bromwell ('49),

Springfield, Ill., died June 1, 2004.

John Siemens ('49),

Steilacoom, Wash., died Sept., 28, 2004.

1950s

Owen W. Nelson ('55),

DeKalb, Ill., died Aug., 22, 2004

Richard Campbell ('57),

Independence, Iowa, died July 27, 2004

1980s

Jamalee Fenimore ('80),

Longview, Wash., died Feb. 23, 2004.

Miyahara Receives AVMA President's Award

The American Veterinary Medical Association recognized Dr. Allen Y. Miyahara ('54) with its President's Award during the 141st Annual Convention of the AVMA in Philadelphia, Penn.

The annual award recognizes individuals and groups inside and outside veterinary medicine who have made a positive impact on animal, human or public health; veterinary organizations; and the profession.

For more than 40 years, Dr. Miyahara has devoted himself to veterinary medicine and contributed to international understanding of the profession. The AVMA recognized him for this service, as well as for his work as AVMA vice president in 1995 to 1997.

Dr. Miyahara believes that a strong, united profession is needed to successfully meet the challenges of the present and

future. He has shared those ideas with colleagues in the Pacific Rim as an officer of the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association and an AVMA delegate since the early 1970s.

In 1980 Dr. Miyahara organized one of the earliest and most comprehensive programs on human-animal interaction. Held in Honolulu, the meeting led to the establishment of strong programs on the subject in Hawaii and Japan. He has presented seminars on human-animal interaction to veterinarians and students in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and China.

In recent years, Dr. Miyahara has participated in biannual meetings of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations to expand ties with the 18-plus member countries and encourage them to attend the 2006 AVMA convention that will be held in Honolulu. **GD**

AAALAC Honors McLaughlin with Cohen



At its annual meeting in September 2004, the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care presented its Bennett J. Cohen Award to Dr. Ronald M. McLaughlin of Fulton, Mo.

"Dr. McLaughlin's contributions to AAALAC are too numerous to list, and too significant to sum up in just a few sentences," said John G. Miller, DVM, executive director of AAALAC. "His knowledge, leadership, and spirit have left an indelible mark on our organization."

Dr. McLaughlin served on AAALAC's Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees from 1995 to 2000, which included a term as chair from 1998 to 2000. He was also a member of the association's Council on Accreditation from

Armbrechts Named ISU Family of the Year

The Armbrecht family of Rockwell City, Iowa, was one of two families honored by the Iowa State University during Family Weekend Sept. 17-19, on the Iowa State campus. They were introduced on the field during the third quarter of the ISU vs. Northern Illinois football game. The family was recognized for their outstanding loyalty and support of Iowa State.

"Our reward was that two of our children, Aaron and Alyssa, conspired to complete an application and did the work on behalf of the family," Dr. Armbrecht said. "It was humbling that the kids felt it was important enough to do the work."

Paul Armbrecht received his DVM degree from Iowa State in 1971, and is a practice owner at the Lake City Veterinary Service, PC. His wife, Marlene, earned a B.S. in home economics education in 1969 and a master's in child development in 1970. All five children have also chosen to attend Iowa State: Eric ('95 animal ecology), Todd ('98 hotel, restaurant and institution management), Amy ('98 textiles and clothing), Alyssa ('02 chemical engineering and food science), and Aaron (a sophomore in civil engineering). **CD**

Award

1981 to 1989, and continues to serve as a Council Member Emeritus, conducting site visits on behalf of AAALAC International.

Dr. McLaughlin was formerly the director of the Office of Laboratory Animal Medicine, and a professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Dr. McLaughlin earned his veterinary degree and a master's degree in veterinary physiology from Iowa State University in 1968. He is board certified in laboratory animal medicine, and is a past president of the American

Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners and the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science.

AAALAC established the Bennett J. Cohen Award to recognize those outstanding individuals who have provided exceptional service and significant contributions to the association. The award was presented by AAALAC Chairman of the Board of Trustees Floyd J. Malveaux, M.D., Ph.D., Dean of the College of Medicine at Howard University, Washington, DC. **CD**



Photo/USDA

USDA Veterinarian Recipient of Switzer Award

Dr. Janice Miller was named recipient of the William P. Switzer Award in Veterinary Medicine. The award was presented during the college's Scholars Research Day, August 13, 2004.

Dr. Janice Miller, USDA, checks cultured cells infected with bovine rhinotracheitis.

Dr. Miller is a scientist at the United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service. She is nationally recognized for her pioneering research in understanding, diagnosing and controlling bovine leukemia, transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and other chronic infectious or zoonotic diseases of ruminants. Dr. Miller discovered the virus that causes bovine leukemia, including practical assays for preclinical diagnosis of the disease.

A 1962 graduate of Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Miller is a past recipient of the USDA's Outstanding Scientist Award. She is a member of the National Academy of Science.

Established in 1998, the Switzer Award recognizes exemplary individuals who have made significant contributions to society and to the College of Veterinary Medicine. It is named for Dr. William Switzer, a former Iowa State University faculty member and administrator at the college from 1948 until retiring as Distinguished Professor in 1990. A nationally recognized researcher, Dr. Switzer is best known for his pioneering contributions to the understanding of swine respiratory diseases. **CD**

RESEARCH
NEWS



Class of 2008 Receives White Coats

ISU College of
Veterinary Medicine
Class of 2008

Photo/Walden Photo

CLASS OF 2008 PROFILE

One hundred and five students from 14 states began classes at the College of Veterinary Medicine in August 2004. These students were chosen from a field of 654 applicants. Additional statistics about the freshman class:

- 74 of the 105 are women
- Average cumulative GPA is 3.51
- Total number of Iowa residents admitted: 66
- Nonresident students come from California, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.
- Average age: 23.6
- Eighty-seven of the 105 students have bachelor degrees, five have master's, and one has a juris doctorate.

The incoming class of Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine was "coated" on August 20, 2004, in a special ceremony.

Each of the 105 students were introduced and presented with a white coat to signify the transition from undergraduate to professional education. This is the first year that the veterinary college has held a White Coat ceremony, a tradition in many colleges of medicine, pharmacy and veterinary medicine.

"The white coat is a universal symbol of medicine and science. Presentation of the white coat marks a first-year student's introduction to the professional curriculum of veterinary medicine," said Dr. Amanda Fales-Williams, assistant professor of veterinary pathology and chair of the event planning committee.


Each incoming student could choose a faculty member or a veterinarian mentor to present the white coat. Several students were coated by a family member who is a veterinarian, Dr. Fales-Williams said.

"The response from parents was tremendous. Some traveled from as far away as Washington (state) to attend," Dr. Fales-Williams said.

Besides the parents, veterinarians, too, voiced their excitement about the ceremony and shared their memories of their first days of veterinary education, said Dr. Fales-Williams.

During the ceremony, Dean John U. Thomson gave welcoming remarks. Michael Pugh, a junior and president of the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association gave the student address. Dr. Rexanne Struve, president of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, introduced students to the Veterinarian's Oath. Recitation of the oath is reserved for graduate veterinarians.

"I was especially grateful to Dr. Tom Johnson, executive director of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association. He was instrumental in lining up members to serve as coaters during the ceremony," Dr. Fales-Williams said. "Sophomore veterinary students were generous in their time by volunteering as greeters, coat distributors, and even photographers," Dr. Fales-Williams added.

A reception for the students, their family and friends was held immediately after the ceremony. 

Creativity and innovation are key to her success

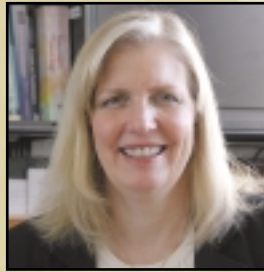
PATHOLOGY PROFESSOR RECOGNIZED FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Candy bars, chips, kitchen strainers, sesame seeds, nail polish remover, jelly beans, and yellow- and green-colored soda are some of the main ingredients to teach clinical pathology – at least they are in one veterinary class at Iowa State University.

While the typical veterinary student spends class time taking lecture notes, writing comments in the margins of their text books, and trying to stay awake, students in Clinical Pathology are learning complex concepts by playing with food. Well, not exactly.

“Bilirubin metabolism is often cited by veterinary and medical students as the most difficult concept to understand in medicine,” said Dr. Holly Bender, associate professor of veterinary pathology at Iowa State. “I use food to demonstrate the complex interaction of body systems. Food metaphors make the processes less abstract when a student role-playing a body organ can pass these products to another student and their classmates can see how these processes affect the various components of blood.” Not surprising, food metaphors that require the generous use of chocolate and jelly beans are generally the most effective, Dr. Bender said.

In class lectures, Dr. Bender also points out how pathology concepts are related to things students encounter every day, making the concepts more tangible, less mysterious. For example, she demonstrates the different proportions of molecules that are filtered by the kidney by using a kitchen colander to strain salt, sugar and nail polish remover – which go through the colander.



Photo/Tracy Ann Raef

Dr. Holly Bender, recipient of the 2004 Student AVMA Teaching Excellence Award in Basic Sciences.

And, sesame seeds (represent albumin), apples (red cells) and grapefruit (white cells) that are too large to go through the colander.

While Dr. Bender is lecturing, she asks students multiple-choice questions. The students respond by holding up flashcards indicating the letter of the correct answer. The use of flashcards helps Dr. Bender understand quickly whether the students are getting her point.

Students have given Dr. Bender feedback on her teaching methods by nominating her for the 2004 Student AVMA Teaching Excellence Award in Basic Sciences.

Dr. Bender was named recipient of the award, which was presented to her at the AVMA conference in July 2004. The award recognizes excellence, innovation and enthusiasm in the field of basic veterinary science and education.

When asked about her success in teaching, Dr. Bender attributes her success to her “brilliant and motivated veterinary students and her fabulous multidisciplinary research team.” **GD**

Photo/Tracy Ann Raef

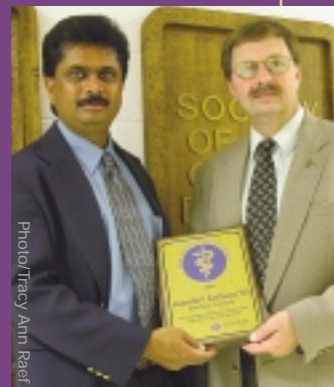


Kanthasamy Receives Pfizer Research Award

Anumantha Kanthasamy, PhD, received the 2004 Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence during the college's Scholars Research Day in August. The award, sponsored by Pfizer, recognizes outstanding research that has or is likely to attain national recognition.

Kanthasamy, professor of biomedical sciences at the College of Veterinary Medicine, focuses his research on cell death mechanisms in neurodegenerative disorders, including Parkinson's disease and prion diseases. Since joining the faculty in 1999, he has published 15 scientific papers and 20 abstracts. He has also edited a book on Antioxidants and Free Radicals in Health and Disease.

Prior to joining the faculty at Iowa State, Kanthasamy was an assistant professor in the department of community and environmental medicine at the University of California, Irvine. He received his PhD degree (biochemistry) in 1989 from the University of Madras, India. Kanthasamy did his postdoctoral training at Purdue University. **GD**



Photo/Tracy Ann Raef

Associate Dean Don Reynolds presents the Pfizer Research Award to Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy (left).

Students indicate the correct answer on a multiple-choice question during Dr. Holly Bender's clinical pathology class.

New DISCOVERIES



A television crew from KCAU-TV in Sioux City, Iowa, came to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital in October 2004, to get footage and interviews for a three-part series on new discoveries in veterinary care for pets. KCAU-TV reporter, Angel Albert, interviews Dr. Al Jergens, associate professor of veterinary clinical sciences.



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