

# The Gentle Doctor

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
College of Veterinary Medicine

WINTER 2005 • VOL. 19 NO. 3



**STAT!**  
**Emergency Care**  
**at the VTH**

# Veterinary Medicine *endowment* a unique form of support



In 1976, through a \$500,000 challenge gift from the J.E. Salsbury Foundation, the Veterinary Medicine Endowment Fund was created, and the college's first organized fund drive was underway. This fund was designed to provide a margin of excellence through scholarships, equipment, faculty development and welfare, and enrichment programs. Now, the college is re-emphasizing efforts to increase the Veterinary Medicine Endowment Fund, with the continued understanding that building a strong endowment fund provides long-lasting benefits for the college.

The Veterinary Medicine Endowment Fund is an important form of college support, because it allows the dean funding flexibility for innovative projects and other opportunities that are often not covered in annual budgets. Only a percentage of the interest earned on the endowment will be used to assure an annual resource to enhance the college.

Over the years, many college alumni and friends have joined the challenge and contributed to the Veterinary Medicine Endowment Fund. Memberships in the Society of the Gentle Doctor and the Sustaining Members of the Veterinary Quadrangle grew in size. Today, over 1,500 alumni and friends are included in these recognition levels.

## New Giving Opportunities

Three new giving levels for supporting the College of Veterinary Medicine Endowment Fund have been established to recognize alumni and friends who qualify. Each of these new levels encourages a commitment to the college through annual gifts payable as pledges over five years or less. Gifts of cash, stocks and real estate may be contributed toward pledge commitments.

Donors who prefer to designate their gifts other than to the Veterinary Medicine Endowment Fund may do so. Gifts and pledges added to existing funds or designated to establish a new fund also qualify for recognition in these gifting levels. The Iowa State University Foundation will work with benefactors to make sure their wishes are realized.

## Benefits of Giving

Just as the foresight and understanding of Dr. John Salsbury made it possible for the college to begin the first organized fund drive, you are asked to step forward with your gift to qualify for one of the new giving levels. In this way, you will know that you are helping to support future generations of students, faculty and staff in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State. Endowment fund donors will be invited to an annual dinner hosted by the dean, and be given a special framed print. Benefactors will also be eligible for membership in the ISU Foundation's most prestigious giving club—Order of the Knoll.

### Three New Giving Levels

- CVM Colleagues – \$25,000 gift – \$5,000 per year for five years
- CVM Associates – \$50,000 gift – \$10,000 per year for five years
- CVM Partners – \$100,000 gift – \$20,000 per year for five years

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Photo/Dani Ausen

### On the Cover:

Fritz with Dr. Steve Leshem, surgical resident, and Megan Peavey (VM-4) in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital's Intensive Care Unit. *Story on page 8*

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# The Gentle Doctor

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# FOCUS

## *on our future*

“*Knowing is not enough, we must apply;  
willing is not enough, we must do.*”  
[Goethe]

Knowing and doing, science with practice—this is a long-established tradition of Iowa State University. The future of our college rests on maintaining and building public trust through the quality of our contributions—locally, nationally, and globally. We must be able to communicate with those we serve, determine what they need, and develop strategies for how we are going to meet their needs. We must constantly be vigilant, evaluating how well we provide resources and expertise and how we compare with our contemporaries.

### **Securing public support:**

We are working diligently to secure public funding to ensure that our college contributions to the state of Iowa will, at minimum, match the contributions of veterinary institutions in other states. Iowa represents one of the largest animal agricultural industries in the country; yet, comparatively, other states continue to invest more resources and dollars in their veterinary institutions through state appropriations. If for no other reason, we call upon you, our colleagues in the field—the alumni, the practitioners, the producers, our faculty, and our students—to continue to build a closely connected community that actively supports and promotes animal agriculture interests.

### **Conducting research that promotes human and animal health:**

The college is increasing the rigor and scope of its research and public engagement programs by investigating various animal diseases, their diagnosis, treatment, control, prevention and eradication. It is critical that our college conducts investigations, especially of problems of comparative medicine and be an active contributor for the betterment of public health with a focus on zoonotic diseases. We must move increasingly toward improving the protocols on which evidence is collected and collated in practice. To be successful in this endeavor, we must establish an effective partnership to close the gap between the academic/public service and private sector. This will result in the continuous improvement and establishment of best practices. We



must assist in continually improving animal health and well-being through establishment of best practices in disease management, animal and environmental welfare while appropriately considering wholesomeness, and profitability.

### **Leveraging our most important resource—our academic community:**

One of the original founders of the college, Professor Charles Stange, had the wisdom to make the following statement: “The most vital part of any educational institution is its faculty. The faculty is the college.” Therefore, the character and personality of the members of the staff determine the kind of a college we have. Our most significant resource is the community of outstanding faculty, staff and students. Our goal is to create an engaging environment where creativity is encouraged and where we can increase productivity while leveraging resources. Attracting, retaining, supporting and developing the highest quality faculty will remain the top priority for our college.



Photo/Tracy Raef

**Increasing resources for programs and research:**

To successfully enhance the quality of veterinary contributions to the state of Iowa, we must generate and solicit additional resources for faculty, staff, facilities and programs. I am confident that our college can successfully advance to national pre-eminence by:

- enhancing programming,
- increasing funding through state appropriation for our diagnostic laboratory,
- generating revenue for salary increases,
- increasing the scope and breadth of clinic and diagnostic services and thus revenue,
- increasing tuition dollars by increasing the numbers of students,
- expanding and building upon grant and contract success by increasing research program support, modernizing and appropriately staffing services, and
- building upon our efforts in distance education.

“The most vital part of any educational institution is its faculty. The faculty is the college.”  
[Stange]

The Nebraska proposal is part of the funding and college enhancement plan. It provides qualified students supported by an agriculture-dependent state that will assist in containing educational debt and increase the probability of students interested in food-supply veterinary medicine. We are in the process of exploring and launching new programs, regionalizing teaching programs, improving food animal production facilities for teaching and research, and expanding disciplines such as a program for board-certified laboratory animal veterinarians.

**Moving forward—building upon our strengths:**

All these initiatives rely heavily upon our college’s ability to maximize the utility of the present and future facilities expansion and remodeling. The capital campaign project proposing the modernization of our facilities for teaching, research, and service is intimately linked with our capacity to match the contributions of our peer institutions, to increase our ranking, to generate future federal and state research funding, and to achieve accreditation. Many of you confer with our faculty and staff, and utilize our services and facilities for the continued success of your work. We ask now that you join us, not only as clients, but also as active partners in our work—building a college that will continue to serve all of us for many years to come. **D**

*John U. Thomson*  
John U. Thomson, DVM, MS  
Dean

# Recognized

The Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine honored three of its graduates with the 2005 Stange Award during ceremonies held at the university and the college on October 21. This year's recipients are: Drs. Susan Chadima, Jerry Hardisty, and Ron McLaughlin.

*"While I was in high school, my father told me that I could attend any college I wanted, as long as it was Iowa State University," Dr. Chadima said. "At the time I did not fully appreciate the wisdom of his words. Receiving the Stange Award is a great honor and a humbling experience. I am proud of my education and profession, and the contributions the Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine makes in improving animal health and the quality of peoples' lives."*

## Dr. Susan Chadima,



Photo/Tracy Raef

a small animal practitioner, received her veterinary degree in 1979 from Iowa State University. Following graduation, she practiced in Brunswick, Maine. Since 1985, she has owned and operated the Androscoggin Animal Hospital, a four-veterinarian, full-service, small animal practice in Topsham, Maine.

A leader in organized veterinary medicine, Dr. Chadima distinguished herself as the first female to be elected president of the Maine Veterinary Medical Association. She has gone on to serve as a gubernatorial appointment to the Board of Veterinary Medicine in Maine. On the national level, Dr. Chadima is the alternate delegate from Maine to the American Veterinary Medical Association House of Delegates.

Besides her involvement in organized veterinary medicine at the state level, Dr. Chadima is a member of the New England Association of Veterinary State Boards. Nationally, she was recently selected to be one of the founding members of the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Educational Equivalence. She is widely recognized for her intellect, work ethic and commitment to advancing veterinary medicine.

Dr. Chadima is an active community leader, volunteering at a local elementary school and church, where she served as chair of a \$2.5 million restoration project. She is a member of Rotary International, and currently serves as the Maine liaison for an El Salvadorian rural health care organization.

In November 2005, Dr. Chadima will lend her expertise in Kabul, Afghanistan, working with the Kabul University Veterinary Faculty Teaching Clinic. Currently, the Kabul students do not receive any clinical training. The clinic has been established to provide small animal care to the foreign and native population and provide clinical experience and teaching to the Afghani veterinary students.

### Nominations Sought for Stange Award

The College of Veterinary Medicine invites nominations for the 2006 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 January 30, 2006. 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.

*“Receiving the Stange Award is the highest professional honor that I have received,” Dr. Hardisty said. “My nomination was completely unexpected and I only hope that I am deserving of this prestigious honor. The College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State has one of the leading undergraduate and graduate programs in the world. Wherever I travel, I continuously meet graduates who are leaders in their fields. I would like to thank Dr. John U. Thomson, dean of the veterinary college, the university, and all of the ISU graduates that I have had the opportunity to work with during my career.”*

## Dr. Jerry Hardisty



Photo/Tracy Raef

is the president of Experimental Pathology Laboratories, Inc., the largest independent pathology contract laboratory in the world. EPL provides hazard identification services to governmental agencies and pharmaceutical and chemical companies in support of their human risk assessment programs. Established in 1971, EPL has grown from a small company of six employees to over 120 employees in 2005, with clients based throughout the United States, Europe and Japan.

Dr. Hardisty is considered the expert in the conduct of pathology peer reviews. Most pharmaceutical companies use these reviews to assure the quality of the histopathology used on their toxicity and carcinogenicity studies. He routinely advises the scientists in the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration and conducts pathology seminars and courses for both government agencies. After graduating from Iowa State University in 1971 with a degree in veterinary medicine, Dr. Hardisty entered the U.S. Army's Veterinary Corps. His first job was as the attending veterinarian for the army's BioSensor Research "Super Dog" program at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

Dr. Hardisty is an adjunct professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University. He is active in several veterinary and other professional organizations, including a term as president of the Society of Toxicologic Pathologists in 2000. He is a board-certified diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and Fellow of International Academy of Toxicologic Pathologists.

*“I am profoundly honored to receive the Stange Award for my efforts in veterinary medicine,” Dr. McLaughlin said. “I must confess to being slightly embarrassed at accepting an award for work that has provided so much professional and personal satisfaction, and that has been so much fun.”*

## Dr. Ron McLaughlin



Photo/Tracy Raef

is a nationally recognized leader in assuring the health and welfare of animals used in biomedical science. While he was the director of the laboratory animal medicine training program at the University of Missouri, McLaughlin trained over 80 veterinarians as specialists in laboratory animal medicine, many of whom are leaders in the field.

Dr. McLaughlin has played a vital leadership role in laboratory animal medicine and science organizations. In 2001, he was the recipient of the highest award of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International, presented McLaughlin with its highest award in 2004.

For almost forty years, his dedication to research has contributed to the current knowledge of laboratory animal resource management, animal research methods, and veterinary medical ethics. He currently serves as a private consultant in laboratory animal medicine and science.

Dr. McLaughlin received his veterinary degree and his master's degree in veterinary physiology from Iowa State University in 1968. He served in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps from 1969 to 1972, and served in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1976 to 1991, retiring with the rank of colonel. [g](#)



# ISU's Veterinary *expands* Teaching Hospital

Fritz, a four-year-old castrated male miniature schnauzer (cover), was brought to Iowa State's Veterinary Teaching Hospital as an emergency patient after several days of weight loss, lethargy and diarrhea. A barium study showed an intestinal foreign body completely obstructing his intestines. He was taken to emergency surgery when an acorn was found in his jejunum. A resection and anastomosis of the jejunum was done. Fritz recovered and was discharged.

Jenny Belle, a five-month-old pug, was admitted to the VTH after being referred for a suspected portosystemic shunt. The next day she went to surgery for abdominal exploratory. A single shunt was isolated and an ameroid constricture placed. She recovered and returned home.

## EMERGENCY CARE SERVICE

*The Veterinary Teaching Hospital at Iowa State University has expanded its emergency and critical care service to provide a veterinarian on premises at all times to give emergency care for small animal patients. The emergency unit's goal is to evaluate, treat and monitor small animal patients and offer state-of-the-art care for critically ill small animals. Veterinarians can refer emergency patients or owners can bring in their pet emergency cases without referrals.*

The 24/7 service offers after-hours blood testing (including blood gas analysis), emergency surgery and anesthesia, advanced monitoring and diagnostic capabilities, and treatments such as endoscopy, cardiac telemetry, radiology services, mechanical ventilation and blood transfusion and component therapy.

"The patients we see vary," said Dr. Beth Streeter, head of the emergency unit at the hospital. "They range from local, routine emergencies—such as wounds, lacerations and vomiting—to patients requiring more advanced care as a result of severe respiratory distress, acute renal failure, neurological disorders and multisystem trauma."

### VITAL STATS EMERGENCY CARE UNIT

**Average Number of  
Emergency Cases Per Day** 5 Patients

**Total Capacity** 21 Cages

**Staff** 1 Full-Time DVM  
3 DVM Interns  
4 Full-Time Technicians  
4 Technician Assistants  
3 Veterinary Students

A 1999 graduate of Iowa State's College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Streeter joined the faculty at Iowa State in December 2003. She completed a residency in emergency and critical care medicine at Tufts University in 2003 and received board certification in this specialty in September 2004.

"My research interest focuses on trauma," Dr. Streeter said. "Prior to attending veterinary school, I was a technician in an emergency clinic in Miami. I remember my first shift well. The chaos and panic suited me well, and I knew that emergency care was the field for me." 

**[Opposite]** Jessica Heuss, veterinary technician assistant, with patient Jenny Belle  
*Photo/Tracy Raef*

# Veterinary Community Comes to the Aid of



Photo/Tracy Raef

## KATRINA'S VICTIMS

It will come as no surprise that veterinarians and students answered the call to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina which hit the Gulf Coast region in August 2005. And, Iowa State University's veterinary community was no different in its willingness to lend a hand.



### Alumnus Travels to Bay St. Louis

After collecting donations for the relief efforts for K-9 police officers, Dr. Dennis Drager ('85) and Marshalltown police officer Randy Kessler decided to deliver the items personally. Giving up his football tickets for the Iowa State vs. Iowa football game, Dr. Drager and Officer Kessler left the morning of September 10 for the 18-hour drive to Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

"Before we left, we got donations from Bulter Animal Health, Merial, Schering-Plough, and ISU Veterinary Teaching Hospital," Dr. Drager said. The Marshalltown police department loaned us a vehicle and a local business loaned us a 20-foot trailer. We received additional donations from local businesses and the Iowa State Patrol; money for the trip and supplies came from my clients and the citizens of Marshalltown.

We were able to take uniforms, boots, baby clothes, dog kennels and crates, dog and cat food, generators, two gas caddies, freezers, and a supply of veterinary products. We delivered the supplies to the Bay St. Louis police department, which was also the base of operations for several K-9 search and rescue teams. Many of the supplies we left were distributed to other police agencies in the area."

Besides ferrying all the supplies to the city, Dr. Drager examined and treated some of the search and rescue dogs for abrasions and cuts. He also treated several animals that rescuers from Florida and Maryland had found. "Mostly, I treated skin conditions and wounds. The strays ended up at the Humane Society where they were microchipped and sent to shelters 90-120 miles away.

With the help of the rescue volunteers from Florida, we set up a "veterinary clinic" in a Kmart parking lot. I spent the next three days treating mostly pets owners brought in once they learned I was there. I vaccinated animals, treated wounds, skin conditions, and gastrointestinal problems.

"One dog I treated for an abscess had been left behind in a house. This 12-year-old Maltese mix was blind and had CHF. It survived for five days in a house that had several feet of water in it.

"We slept under a canopy in the Kmart lot for a couple of nights. There was an 8 p.m. curfew, so by that time there wasn't any traffic. By 9 p.m., there were police and military helicopters flying overhead with search lights on for most of the night. The lot that we were in also had a mobile hospital, dental clinic, vaccination clinic, and was a distribution point for supplies for the public.

"Many people came by because they heard we had stray animals. They wanted to know if I had seen their particular pet. I could only refer them to the local humane society which was collecting strays and putting them in shelters miles away.

"In retrospect, I would do a similar rescue mission again. I believe we were able to make a difference for so many people and their pets. It was well worth the time and effort," Dr. Drager said.



**[Far left]** Dr. Dennis Drager takes a break from loading the trailer to pose by the police vehicle loaned to him and police officer Randy Kessler by the Marshalltown Police Department. **[Center]** The “veterinary clinic” Dr. Drager set up and worked out of in a Bay St. Louis, Mississippi Kmart lot. The canopied tent also served as his sleeping quarters at night. **[Right]** Dr. Christine Petersen holds an IV in place for a rescued dog in New Orleans.

## Rescuing Animals in New Orleans

“Animals dying that we did not find soon enough, the horror stories of owners, and the hard decisions made were distressing,” said Dr. Christine Petersen, assistant professor in the Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine’s department of pathology. “But, seeing animals reunited with their owners after a month of separation was a moment filled with joy on all parts.”

Dr. Petersen went to New Orleans under the auspices of the American Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals. She spent some of her time at the LSU Parker Coliseum taking care of animals brought to Baton Rouge by their owners when they evacuated. Some days were spent at the triage center set up at Delgado Community College near city park in New Orleans or in the ASPCA mobile van. She also went out with rescue teams into New Orleans neighborhoods. The days were long and the nights too short in an air-conditioned FEMA tent.

“The instincts I learned while I was a small animal practitioner were invaluable during animal rescues,” Dr. Petersen said. “I was the ‘go to’ person to determine what were the human health risks posed by these animals.”

Dr. Petersen used her training from Harvard University’s School of Public Health where she earned a PhD in immunology and infectious diseases. Her experience as a small animal veterinarian and volunteer veterinarian at the Animal Rescue League in Worcester, Mass., were priceless.

“Shelter medicine is the area of veterinary medicine where public health and prevention of infectious diseases, particularly those transmitted from animals to humans, are most important,” Dr. Petersen said. Affiliated with Iowa State’s Center for Food Security and Public Health, Dr. Petersen represented the center at a national CDC conference on public health preparedness. “We spent most of our time determining how to prevent the spread of infectious diseases during multi-hazard situations. Going to New Orleans allowed me to practice what I preach.”

Her advice to veterinarians who are interested in volunteering for future disasters is: “Contact the American Veterinary Medical Association about becoming part of a Veterinary Medical Assistance Team, or volunteer with the American Humane Association for its Red Star Emergency Services now, before the next disaster. Those two teams are very professional and organized.” Above all, she advises future volunteers to be persistent during a disaster. “Your help is needed regardless of your background.”

## Support from the Veterinary College at ISU

When Dr. Tom Johnson, executive director of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, called for veterinarians to assist in Des Moines, clinicians and students jumped at the chance to help animal victims of Katrina who were sent to Des Moines with their owners.

“We performed physical exams and vaccinated the three animals that came in that day,” said Dr. Kim Langholz, community practice veterinarian at Iowa State. “We also treated one dog’s paw. It had chemical irritation, so we tried to rinse it and started the dog on oral antibiotics. Students bathed the two dogs.”

When Cheryl Zimmerman, president of Iowa State’s Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association, got word that her counterpart at Mississippi State University needed help, she didn’t hesitate.

The college’s student chapter of the AVMA quickly voted to donate \$2,000 from the chapter’s emergency fund. The chapter then asked the college’s faculty and staff to match the sum. They did, giving more than \$2,100 of personal donations. In an extraordinary act of giving, the veterinary students wanted to match the sum raised by faculty and staff. Through personal donations the students raised an additional \$1,700.

“That’s pretty extraordinary,” said Ms. Zimmerman (VM-3) of the amount raised. “The money for the relief efforts came from our hearts.” 



Photo/Dani Ausen

# Learning *without* BOUNDARIES

by Karen Piconi

Educational technologies have redefined the architecture of the traditional classroom. Mounted plasma projection screens replace chalkboards, laptops and tablet computers replace paper and pen, computer simulations and PowerPoint presentations complement textbooks and lectures, and realistic mannequin doggies serve as models that allow students to practice resuscitating and anesthetizing animals.

Electronic media and technology generate the infrastructure for extending learning beyond the doors, walls, and windows of Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. Classrooms are geared for wireless access and cable networks through which faculty and students can access massive amounts of information through the internet, internationally renowned experts through distance learning, and an immense body of case studies through digitized images and videotape.

Students are strongly encouraged to have a laptop computer. The college recommends Gateway's Tablet PC. The computer works like a traditional laptop computer,

but it also has a writable screen. Students can use a stylus directly on the screen, take handwritten notes and convert the notes to typed text that can be stored in folders and shared with others. Notes can then be searched by key words. The PC also allows students to use a "virtual microscope" to review histology slides—anywhere, anytime. Students are no longer tied to the laboratory and microscopes to view slides.

By the same token, the additional focus on teaching technology requires students to be technically literate. This puts additional responsibilities on students and teachers alike as they attempt to keep up with the evolution of new learning tools. Between patients, a fourth-year student at the College's Veterinary Teaching Hospital emphasizes this point. "I recognize the value in saving time. By saving time, you do more for your patient. The teaching hospital uses digital radiology, for example. It's a great tool. But, when you're not familiar with new technology, it can be incredibly frustrating to try to figure it out as you try to keep up with your work."

**[Above]**  
Daniel Liebsch (VM-2) uses his laptop while studying in the library. Classmates Katie Lukas and Kerri Ritland (left) join him.

“My constant struggle: I still don’t know the best way to teach,” said Dr. Etsuro Uemura, professor of biomedical sciences. “My main concern is what do students need to know and how much information and help should I give them?” As he talks about the opportunities and challenges posed by the use of technology in teaching, Dr. Uemura demonstrates the computer-simulated “virtual dog” he developed as a teaching tool.

Dr. Uemura’s combined background in veterinary medicine and computer programming helps him to engineer innovative teaching tools that inspire a new generation of techno-savvy students. His “virtual dog” provides students with hands-on experience examining and diagnosing neurological disorders. To use the program, students click on various icons—a hand to lift an eyelid and examine the eye, a box that generates specific symptoms of damage to the nerves or brain. Other models used in the college provide an animated stethoscope that transmits the sounds of a virtual animal’s healthy or damaged heart and lungs. These simulated models provide students the opportunity to practice their examination skills, create a safe learning environment, and provide teachers with good assessment tools as they prepare students to work with live animals.

Traditionally, student assessment occurs through tests, quizzes, and direct observation of specific techniques. The lag time between delivery of instruction and assessment of student understanding imposes a great burden on the learning process. Imagine the impact on learning if teachers received immediate feedback about how well students are understanding materials covered in lectures and discussions.

There is no need to imagine. The college recently outfitted targeted classrooms with Personal Response Systems—infra-red systems where receivers are mounted on the walls and students are provided transmitters that are “clicked” in response to multiple choice questions integrated into lectures. Student responses are then tabulated and posted so the lecturer can determine how much time to spend in review of specific material.

Though technology has been instrumental in changing the structure of curricula, it has its pitfalls, Dr. Uemura warns, “I love technology. But technology is not education.

“Technology sometimes tempts us to give too much information. And sometimes machines put up barriers between you and the student. Personal contact is still the most important aspect of being a good teacher. But, if I want to show clinical cases and use the best tools available to teach, then I have to use visual technology and relational models. Chalk and a blackboard are insufficient. In many cases, a digital image is worth a thousand—even a million—words.”

The Veterinary Education and Technology Services unit is working to develop a series of real-life computer simulation models of

“In many cases, a digital image is worth a thousand—even a million—words.”

diseases and virtual patients using Clinic Soft, a computer program first developed at the University of Iowa Medical School that has been adapted to veterinary patients. As they review the case, students learn about pharmacology, pathology, anatomy and use that information to solve problems.

College faculty are also developing more responsive systems for tracking and monitoring patient care so that clinicians, students, referring veterinarians, owners, and producers can access records online to determine patient status. In the VTH, this means putting records into computer format so they can be easily retrieved to avoid delays, especially in critical care.

Dr. Larry Booth, associate professor and director of Veterinary Education and Technology Services, discusses the impact of technology for teaching students and providing better service to owners, producers and referring veterinary practitioners. “Where are we going? Quality information, anytime, anywhere, means converting things into useable form and making information available quickly.” The use of interactive digital video has had a profound impact not only on

teaching and service but also on reducing the number of live animals used in courses.

Dr. Booth notes that the use of digital video and digitized images has revolutionized teaching. “A lot of the cases we see are seasonal and fall outside student rotation schedules. Student often don’t get a chance to see routine and major cases. For example, students aren’t always in the clinic during foaling season. Our goal is to work with faculty to develop a database of digitized video cases to provide students with opportunities to review cases they might otherwise miss during their rotations.”

Digitized video is incorporated as a teaching tool in a variety of different applications. Teachers use video-endoscopes to demonstrate procedures such as examinations of colons, ears, and joints. A tiny camera projects images for a classroom of up to a hundred students. The images can then be saved and recorded as a digital movie for future teaching purposes. This approach eliminates the cumbersome process of having each student look through the scope and decreases the anxiety of the animal being examined.

Dr. Booth identifies the next teaching tool on the horizon. “Our goal is to set up a skills laboratory where students could use realistic mannequins using tutorials. It’s an ideal model for student learning. It allows them to practice and develop a variety of critical skills: intubation, IV access, splinting, bandaging, CPR, inserting urinary catheters, giving injections. Some students are so worried about the animal that they have trouble paying attention to technique. If students practice on a model, they have much more confidence when they work with live animals.”

Though students seem engaged by the technology, they are clear about the real focus and objectives of their education which is to care for and promote the health and welfare of animals. A fourth-year veterinary student comments: “Being a good doctor is based on who you are and what you put into it. I started my training working with teachers who used chalkboards, lecture, and discussion. Technology can enhance but not compensate for natural ability.” 

# COLLEGE

## NEWS

### Johnson Receives Switzer Award in Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Tom Johnson was named recipient of the 2005 William P. Switzer Award in Veterinary Medicine. The award recognizes exemplary individuals who have made significant contributions to society and to the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. It was presented at the college's annual Scholars Research Day, August 12.

at Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, and an assistant professor of medicine at Colorado State University's veterinary college. In Iowa, he taught laboratory technique at the Spencer (Iowa) School of Business. In the mid-1990s, Dr. Johnson taught pathobiology and bacteriology at Northwest Community College in Sheldon, Iowa.



Dr. Tom Johnson is the executive director of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, based in Ankeny, Iowa. He is a recognized leader in organized veterinary medicine in Iowa and the United States.

"The veterinary profession respects the work of Dr. Switzer. His contribution to veterinary medicine and society is world renowned. I am humbled to receive an award named for this well-respected veterinarian," said Dr. Johnson.

Throughout his career, Dr. Johnson has exemplified the highest standards of clinical practice, having owned and operated a small animal practice for 24 years in Spencer, Iowa. While a practitioner in Spencer, Dr. Johnson hosted a call-in radio program for 10 years, and authored a monthly newspaper article on working dogs. His dedication to his clients and patients is well known.

Dr. Johnson's commitment to education is presented by his interest in teaching. Early in his career, he was an instructor

His support of the College of Veterinary Medicine is demonstrated through his participation on the college and veterinary diagnostic laboratory advisory boards. He continues to establish and enhance communications between the practitioners of Iowa and the college's faculty, students, and administration.

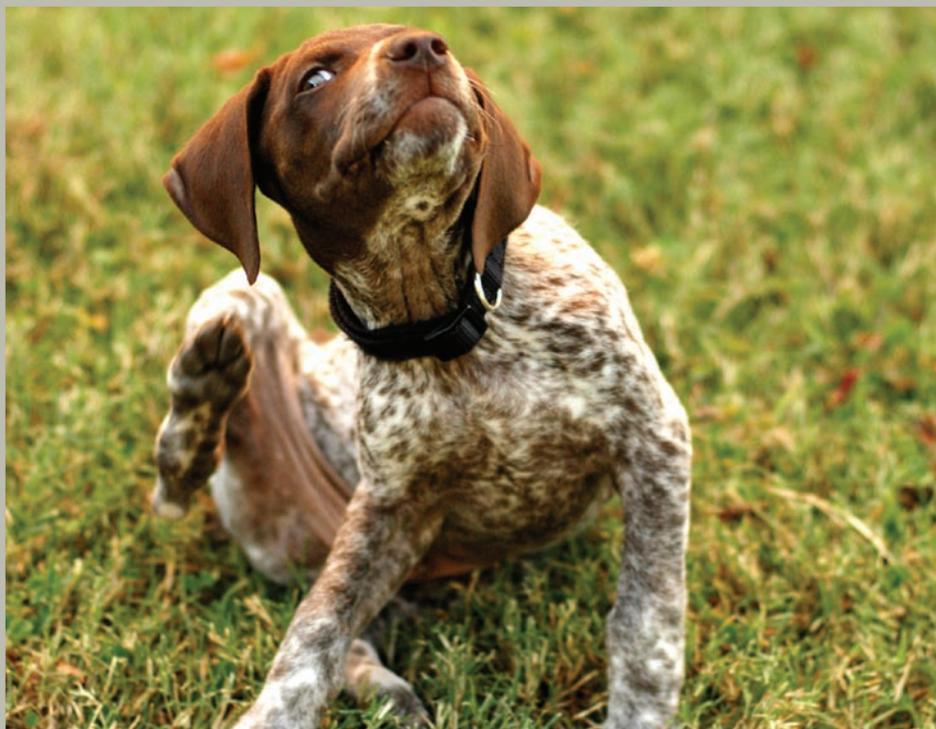
In 2003, Dr. Johnson was the recipient of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association's President's Award. He has served in a number of leadership roles with the association prior to his appointment as executive director in 2002. He is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives, and the American Veterinary Medical Law Association.

An active community leader, Dr. Johnson served on the board of directors for the Spencer Family YMCA Swim Team and the Spencer Area Association of Business and Industry. Currently, he is a member of the advisory board for the Des Moines Area Community College technician program.

Dr. Johnson and his wife, Debra, have four children. Since 2002, they have resided in Ames, Iowa. 

The William P. Switzer Award honors an Iowa State University researcher who made major contributions to the understanding of swine respiratory diseases. Dr. William Switzer served as a faculty member and administrator in the College of Veterinary Medicine from 1948 until retiring as Distinguished Professor Emeritus in 1990.

# Dermatology Section Increases Availability and Services



Wait no more! The dermatology service at Iowa State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital has increased its number of available appointment slots, dramatically reducing the delay in scheduling appointments for referral patients.

On average, the dermatology service treats approximately 100 patients per month. "The most common types of skin problems that we treat include allergic skin disease, acute and chronic ear disease, as well as secondary bacterial and yeast infections," Dr. Elizabeth May says.

From March to September, doctors in dermatology see a large number of allergic patients exposed to tree, grass, and weed pollens, and house dust mites and mold allergens. "We've seen some cases of

autoimmune disease and adverse drug reactions, and some unusual cases of parasitic skin disease that have caught our interest," Dr. May adds.

In the past decade, the field of dermatology has made significant strides toward discovering the causes of allergies in dogs and cats. "New technologies available for identifying both adverse reactions to food and environmental allergies in dogs and cats allows us to more definitively diagnose those conditions," Dr. May says.

"New innovations in the development of flea control products has revolutionized the way we eliminate or reduce flea exposure in allergic and non-allergic patients," Dr. May said. "The availability of new medications provides us with multiple options to manage allergic animals."

Dr. May suggests that practitioners should consider referring patients that do not respond to standard therapies for allergic disease, resistant pyodermas, and yeast infections, or patients whose owners want advanced diagnostics. "We are enthusiastic about any patient that comes our way!"

"Our service and clinical rotation is functioning full time and is available to provide telephone consultations for referring veterinarians year round," said Dr. May. "We find that establishing a relationship with a referring veterinarian for the case and obtaining a well-summarized medical history proves extremely helpful during the initial workup and long-term management of the patient," says Dr. May. "We prefer a team approach with the referring veterinarian. In the long run, it's the best situation for the patient's care."

Besides working with clients, patients and veterinarians, the dermatology faculty are responsible for teaching veterinary students throughout the professional curriculum. "We try to encourage students to approach each case from the beginning and to look for the things that occur commonly. Students should complete the clinical rotation with the confidence and ability to interpret findings from basic dermatology diagnostic tests such as skin scrapings and cytologies."

The Iowa State University's veterinary dermatology service consists of one board-certified dermatologist (Dr. Elizabeth May), one board-certified internist with over 20 years of experience in the field of dermatology (Dr. James Noxon), and a veterinary clinician, Dr. Diana Miller, who has provided diagnostic support and client contact for the service for the past 5 years. 

# FACULTY

## NEWS

### Phillips Named 2005 Recipient of Pfizer Research Award

Dr. Greg Phillips received the 2005 Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence during the college's Veterinary Scholars Research Day on August 12, 2005. The award, sponsored by Pfizer, recognizes outstanding research that has or is likely to attain national recognition.

Dr. Phillips, associate professor of veterinary microbiology and preventive medicine at the College of Veterinary Medicine, focuses his research on answering questions about bacterial gene function, protein localization to the bacterial membrane, bacterial persistence in the environment, bacterial resistance to the action of antimicrobial drugs, and vaccine development.

"I consider this award to be a significant honor," Dr. Phillips said. "It was also a big surprise—even my wife knew about it before I did! The award reinforces my belief that research is never done in isolation and I am grateful for the colleagues that I have at the College of Veterinary Medicine."

He is the author or co-author of 31 scientific papers, two book chapters, and is the co-editor of *Plasmid Biology* published by the American Society for Microbiology. Dr. Phillips holds a patent for *Rhodobacter* strain for odor remediation of anaerobic livestock waste lagoons and biomass production.

Prior to joining the faculty at Iowa State University, Dr. Phillips was an assistant professor in the biology department at the College of William and Mary in Virginia. He received his PhD in genetics from the University of Georgia-Athens in 1987.

He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and American Society for Microbiology, and serves on the editorial board for the *Journal of Bacteriology*. 



Photo/Bob Elbert

Dr. Greg Phillips (center) accepts the Pfizer Research Award from Dr. John Thomson (right), dean of the college, and Dr. John Aslakson, Pfizer Animal Health.

# ISU Associate Professor Named Nation's Outstanding Veterinary Educator

**Dr. Holly Bender**, associate professor of veterinary pathology at Iowa State University, received the 2004 National Carl J. Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award from the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges. The award was presented on July 17, 2005, at the AAVMC's summer meeting in Minneapolis.

The award recognizes outstanding instructors who contribute significantly to the advancement of veterinary medicine. The recognition includes a \$2,500 cash award.

"Dr. Bender is most deserving of this prestigious honor, which designates her as the top veterinary medicine educator of the year. She is nationally recognized for her work to improve methods for teaching diagnostic problem-solving skills in veterinary medicine. Most importantly, she is profoundly impacting the lives of 120 students each year," said Dr. John Thomson, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.

Dr. Bender led the development of the Diagnostic Pathfinder, an innovative clinical instructional software tool. The software teaches students a methodology for diagnostic reasoning and instructs them to gather and analyze laboratory data before arriving at a diagnosis. It has repeatedly demonstrated improved student learning

using several assessment instruments. The learning tool has been used at four veterinary colleges in addition to Iowa State and for continuing education for practicing veterinarians on the Veterinary Information Network.

"I appreciate the vote of confidence, but I want to credit my accomplishments in teaching to the brilliant, exceptionally motivated students who I teach, to the talented and creative research group who were essential to the development of the Pathfinder, and finally to the faculty colleagues and administrators who believe the teacher-student relationship is precious beyond measure," Dr. Bender said.

Dr. Bender teaches clinical pathology and is the director of Iowa State's Biomedical Informatics Research Group. Since 1983, she has received 21 teaching awards.

She received her veterinary degree from Michigan State University in 1979 and her doctoral degree in 1987 from Virginia Tech University. She is a board-certified pathologist.

Dr. Bender joined the faculty at Iowa State in 2002. 



## ALUMINI NEWS

### Golden Anniversary

Graduates of the Class of 1955 at the College of Veterinary Medicine held their 50-year reunion in Ames, Iowa, July 27-28, 2005. During the dinner banquet, Dr. John U. Thomson, dean of the veterinary college, presented each class member with a Gold Medal, signifying the milestone. The event was organized by Drs. Wayne Brown, Duane Strom, and Jim Yoder. *Photo/Kim Adams*



# OUTREACH

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## NEWS

## ISU Veterinarian ... Transcends Borders

Leland Meyer and his son, Russ, with Drs. Dejan Lausevic, Predrag Stojovic, and Branko Zivkovic at the Meyer Feedlot. *Photo/Dr. Eldon Uhlenhopp*



At first glance, there are limited similarities between Iowa and Montenegro. But finding similarities between Iowa and countries or regions outside the United States is all part of the job for Dr. Eldon Uhlenhopp, associate professor of veterinary diagnostic and production animal medicine. Recently, Dr. Uhlenhopp hosted three veterinarians from the country of Montenegro in

Eastern Europe. The veterinarians visited Iowa in conjunction with their attendance at the World Veterinary Congress and American Veterinary Medical Association meeting held in Minneapolis in July 2005.

“Like Iowa, Montenegro has a significant rural population, livestock are prevalent, and animal health is important,” said Dr. Uhlenhopp. “Until a few months ago, veterinary services in Montenegro were controlled by the government. With the opportunity for private practice in their countries, Drs. Dejan Lausevic, Predrag Stojovic, and Branko Zivkovic needed to learn how to integrate the broad range of veterinary services into their community.”

During the trip to Iowa, the Montenegro veterinarians visited agriculture facilities and veterinary practices. The veterinarians visited Meyer Feedlot in Aplington to see first-hand the management of a beef feedlot in Iowa. “They were very interested in the processing of incoming cattle and the purchasing and marketing practices used by the feedlot,” Dr. Uhlenhopp said.

The experience would not have been complete without visiting a couple of veterinary practices. “We visited with Dr. Tom Pollock at the Highview Animal Hospital, a mixed animal practice in Aplington, and Dr. Terry Riordan at the Ankeny Veterinary Clinic, a companion animal practice,” Dr. Uhlenhopp said. “We also spent a lot of time at the Iowa State University Diagnostic Laboratory discussing its personnel, case load, and capabilities, leading the way for future collaborative research and training experiences in infectious diseases such as West Nile Virus,” Dr. Uhlenhopp added. **D**



# in memoriam

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

**Henry G. Voetberg ('31)**

Garner, Iowa, died June 1, 1989

**Carl F. Stephan ('34)**

Manitowish Waters, Wisc., died May 8, 2005

**Warren R. Marks ('38)**

Emmetsburg, Iowa, died July 25, 2005

**D. W. Rawson ('43)**

Cora, Wyo., died Apr. 21, 2005

**Milton R. Flickinger ('43)**

Washington, Iowa, died Nov. 13, 2004

**Edgar P. Alexander ('45)**

Omaha, Neb., died Aug. 11, 2005

## 1940s

**Robert K. Fisher ('40)**

Mesa, Ariz., died Aug. 20, 2003

**A. Rex Puterbaugh ('40)**

Los Gatos, Calif., died Aug. 13, 2003

**Robert J. Lenz, Sr. ('42)**

Strawberry Point, Iowa, died June 25, 2005

## 1950s

**Alden O. Droivold ('63)**

Faribault, Minn., died July 22, 2005

## 1960s

**Conrad W. Laursen ('65)**

Mitchell, S.D., died Apr. 13, 2005

# CORRECTION



The summer 2005 issue of *Gentle Doctor* magazine incorrectly listed Dr. Robert Freese ('87) as deceased. We're pleased to report that Dr. Freese is alive and well, and continues to practice in Indianola. The editor of *Gentle Doctor* regrets the error.

Dr. Robert Freese with staff members at the Indianola Veterinary Clinic.

Photo/Tracy Raef

# DEVELOPMENTS

## NEWS

### An Owner's Love for her Pet Leads to Endowed Fund

Over the years, clients of Iowa State's Veterinary Teaching Hospital have been particularly generous. Among those is a grateful client who recently made a thoughtful commitment to assist future clients.

In 1999, Vicki Hudachek of West Liberty, Iowa, brought her German shepherd, Koko, to be treated at Iowa State's Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Koko had an ear problem that, if not corrected, would likely have caused Koko to be put down due to aggressiveness related to pain. Koko was seen by Dr. Ronald Grier at the VTH. Koko underwent treatment for the problem and lived to be nearly 13 years old.



Ms. Hudachek wanted to help owners whose dogs may be in jeopardy due to pain-related aggressiveness, and who may not be able to afford the cost of treatment. Working with her attorney, she made a provision in her will establishing an endowed fund at the college. The Koko and Vicki Hudachek Endowment Fund will partially cover the costs for treatment (including surgery and drugs) of family dogs less than 10 years old, when the dog is showing aggressiveness related to pain associated with illness or injury and whose owners are on limited incomes, social security or disability.

According to Veterinary Teaching Hospital Director Dr. Mary Ann Nieves, "Veterinary teaching hospitals around the country have similar endowments. We are pleased that Ms. Hudachek's gifting will allow us to have this kind of financial support available for our clients in the future."

The endowment will be funded with the gift of a third-generation farm in Muscatine County, Iowa, including an 1879 vintage Greek Revival house that Ms. Hudachek has restored on the property. Her family has lived in the home since 1909. Since 1980, the land has been rented for soybean and corn production. 



## Farewell Monica Porter!

On November 4, 2005, Monica Porter left her position as senior director of development in the College of Veterinary Medicine to pursue another opportunity with the ISU Foundation. Monica joined the college in April 2002. She was instrumental in raising more than \$10,159,000 to support key funding initiatives in veterinary medicine, including the \$3.5 million lead gift for the

Veterinary Teaching Hospital renovation from Dr. Gene and Linda Lloyd.

A search is underway to hire her replacement. Alumni, donors, and potential donors who have questions about gifting opportunities at the college, can contact Rich Bundy, assistant vice president of development, at [rbundy@iastate.edu](mailto:rbundy@iastate.edu) or (515) 294-9088. 

## VTH Renovation Project by Monica Porter

College of Veterinary Medicine alumni and friends have a long history of giving generously to the college. For the first time, the college is raising private gift support for a significant capital project. The project is the \$51,800,000 first phase of veterinary teaching hospital construction/renovation project. The project is the highest priority for fundraising in the college.

Previous issues of the *Gentle Doctor* magazine have recognized Dr. and Mrs. W. Eugene Lloyd ('49), for making the \$3.5 million lead gift to the project. Recently other alumni and friends have joined Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd in support of the project. Each of these donors has thoughtfully and generously made commitments to the veterinary teaching hospital project.

**Dr. Stephen Juelsgaard ('72), San Francisco, Calif.** Dr. Juelsgaard is the executive vice president and general counsel for San Francisco-based Genentech. He realizes the importance of such projects as he has responsibility for Genentech's strategic planning. He has pledged \$500,000 to the College of Veterinary Medicine's efforts to renovate the veterinary teaching hospital.

**Wesley and Irene Mansfield Charitable Foundation, Belle Plaine, Iowa.** The Mansfield Foundation has given \$250,000 in support of a bovine surgery suite. The Mansfield Foundation stepped forward in the early stages of the project's planning. Irene and Wesley Mansfield had business and beef production interests in Iowa and Nebraska.

**Dr. Robert Flickinger ('49).** In 1998, Dr. Flickinger made a provision in his will for the imaging area in the veterinary teaching hospital. When he died, \$250,000 was received from his estate for the project. Dr. Flickinger was chairman of the board of Midwest Veterinary Supply in Burnsville, Minn.

**Tammy and Dr. James Stein ('74), Muscatine, Iowa.** A member of the board of the Iowa State University Foundation, an ISU Foundation Governor, and member of the College of Veterinary Medicine Endowment Committee, Dr. Stein, has been interested in the project since its inception. He and his wife have committed \$125,000 to the project.

**Louise and Dr. J. Kenneth Roach ('61), Sioux City, Iowa.** "The subject of veterinary medicine is a very near and dear topic for my family because it has impacted all of us in so many positive ways for the past forty-four years. Nothing gives me a greater sense of pride or accomplishment than to review all of the great times we have known in this wonderful profession," said Dr. Roach. The Roach's have committed \$100,000 to the project.

**Isabel and Joseph H. Krichel, Jr. ('57), Naples, Fla.** In 2004, Dr. and Mrs. Krichel planned a charitable gift to the College of Veterinary Medicine. From among the many projects they support in the college, the couple chose to designate their 2004 gift of appreciated securities to the renovation project.

We thank each donor for their strategic investments which will enable the college to move toward completion of fundraising for the project. If you would like to talk about what you can invest in the project, please contact Rich Bundy at [rbundy@iastate.edu](mailto:rbundy@iastate.edu) or (515) 294-9088. 

# STUDENT

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# NEWS

## Welcome Class of 2009!

Dr. Donna Rizzo ('89) and Tiffany McAllister (right) backstage at C. Y. Stephens Auditorium before the White Coat Ceremony



Photo/Walden Photo

*“It was definitely a special time for all involved.”*

One hundred and twenty veterinary students started their veterinary education with the traditional “coating” ceremony on Aug. 19, 2005, at C. Y. Stephens Auditorium. The presentation of the white coat marks a first-year student’s introduction into the professional veterinary curriculum.

“This year is the second year the college has held the special ceremony,” said Dr. Amanda Fales-Williams, assistant professor of veterinary pathology and chair of the event’s planning committee. “Over half of the incoming class brought a family member or mentor to participate in the ceremony, a big increase over last year.”

“A large number of second-year veterinary students helped with the event planning,” Dr. Fales-Williams said. “Jamie Clark and Amanda Chamberlain, VM-2s, took the lead in organizing the ceremony and Erica Peterman, VM-3, kept things running smoothly on stage during the event.”

“The ceremony was a wonderful way to commemorate our entry into the veterinary profession,” said Tiffany McAllister (VM-1) from Granger, Iowa. “I spoke to my coater, Dr. Donna Rizzo ('89), backstage before the ceremony and she told me how honored she was that I asked her to present my coat. It was definitely a special time for all involved.”

During the ceremony, Dean John U. Thomson gave the welcoming remarks. Dr. James Kenyon, president of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, introduced the students to the Veterinarian’s Oath.

Recitation of the oath is reserved for graduation. Cheryl Zimmerman (VM-3), president of the student chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association also addressed the incoming class.

“We didn’t have a coating ceremony when I graduated from veterinary college,” said Dr. John Waddell, who “coated” first-year student Rik Smith. “I was honored that Rik choose me to present his coat, and it was a privilege to be part of the ceremony.”

Following the ceremony, a reception was held for the students and their family and friends. 

# Experiences in the U.S. Army by Captain Todd Bell **Veterinary Corps**



Immediately following graduation in 2002 from the stellar institution known as Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, I began my career in the U.S. Army as a captain in the Veterinary Corps. To say it has been a fulfilling, exciting and challenging three years would be an understatement!

I began my career as the branch chief at Andrews Air Force Base just outside of Washington D.C. While there I was given responsibility for three veterinary clinics, two installation food missions, and responsibility for the care of over 60 military working dogs and 40 military horses. For four months, I was also the acting chief at the Fort Myer Branch in Washington, D.C., where the Caisson Horses are housed. Those horses have the distinct honor of escorting our fallen comrades to their final burial place in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

Some of the highlights of my time in Washington included working with the Secret Service, the Capital Police, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the Transportation Security Administration with their dogs, in an effort to promote national security. I received a VIP tour of Air Force One while at Andrews AFB. The Secret Service even let me sit in the president's limousine. I thought that was pretty amazing for a farm boy from Iowa.

My second assignment was a one-year tour in the Middle East. I was stationed in Bahrain, a small island country off the coast of Saudi Arabia, in support of the Naval Support Activity, Bahrain. This was truly an amazing experience because I traveled to ten different Middle Eastern countries to check on the health and welfare of military working dogs and to inspect food-producing facilities that wanted to sell to the U.S. Department of Defense.

*"I will proudly continue to serve my country as a humble veterinarian with roots in Iowa."*

The highlights of my tour in Bahrain are so numerous. Every day was truly something new and amazing. I interacted with business owners from almost every country in the Middle East and was able to soak up culture and scenery from all those countries. I visited many of the tourist spots in those countries during my time off. It was a chance of a lifetime. In Egypt I gazed upon the pyramids and the sphinx. In Jordan I was awed by Mt. Nebo, the Dead Sea, the River Jordan and the spot where John baptized Jesus. The great stone city of Petra, where the movie *Indiana Jones Three* was filmed, was a site to behold.

In Oman I wandered through the local city market known as the "souq." In the United Arab Emirates I was fascinated by the world's only seven-star hotel! I also had to coordinate a "Flying Noah's Ark" to repatriate over 200 pets back to the United States following a Secretary of Defense warning to evacuate all military families and pets from Bahrain. I escorted 60 pets and pet owners on a 17-hour, C-130 flight over the Atlantic Ocean that included an emergency landing in New Hampshire and a last-minute landing diversion at Langley, Virginia. I also escorted a sick military working dog from the desert of UAE to a treatment facility in Germany on a trip that covered six countries in six days. All these experiences proved to be action-packed and fun-filled.

I am currently assigned as the veterinarian for the 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group; otherwise known as the Green Berets, at Fort Carson, Colo. As a veterinarian, I am an advisor on veterinary, medical, and preventive medicine issues. I also participate in a lot of fun activities that I would not otherwise be able to do, like jump out of airplanes.

The military has been a great career choice for me, and I can only hope I have helped the military half as much as it has helped me. I look forward to future adventures, and I will proudly continue to serve my country as a humble veterinarian with roots in Iowa. **D**

# BVDV Screening Project Underway

Researchers at the College of Veterinary Medicine are conducting an IVMA-sponsored research project, The Voluntary Iowa BVDV Screening Project, which will be of interest to veterinarians with cow-calf clients. For the first 400 herds enrolling in VIBSP, the laboratory fees for testing of the 2006 calf crop will be waived and paid by the project. The project is evaluating RT-PCR technology to test for the presence of the BVDV in pooled samples. If the RT-PCR detects the virus in the pooled sample, the individual animal tubes are then tested to identify the positive sample. Once identified, the animal is then traced back to the farm and re-tested to ensure it is positive.

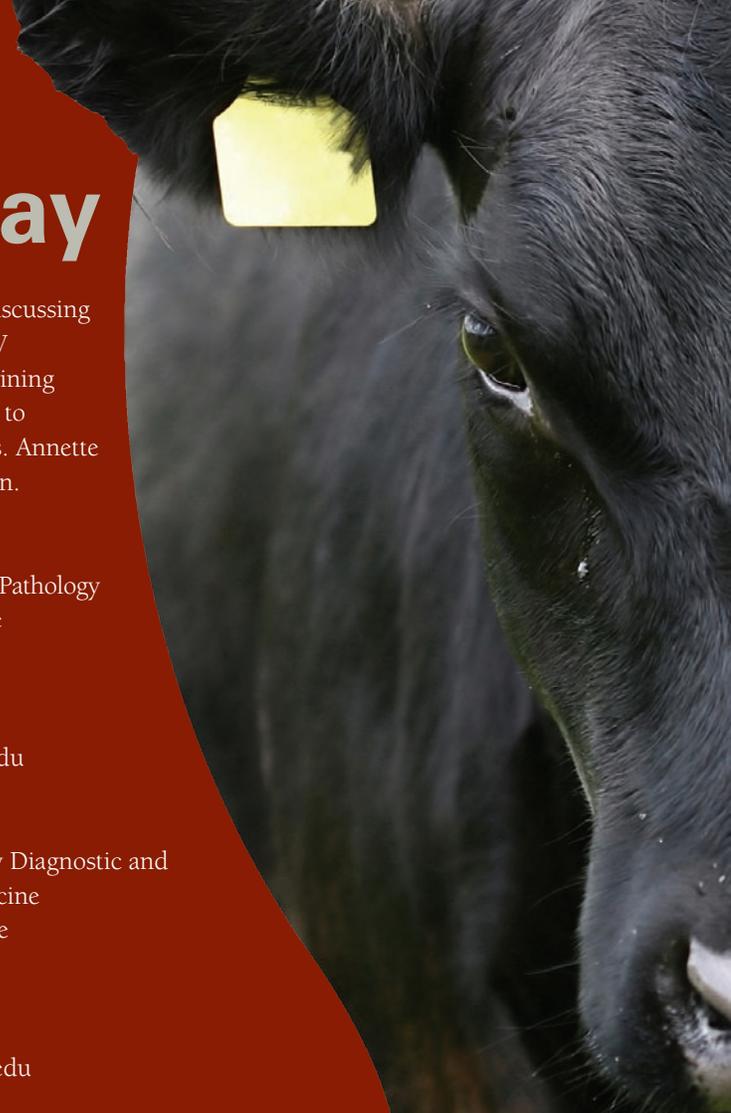
The goals of the Voluntary Iowa BVDV Screening Project are to:

1. Evaluate the efficacy of RT-PCR testing as a screening tool for BVDV
2. Determine the scale of BVDV infection across Iowa

If you are interested in discussing the Voluntary Iowa BVDV Screening Project or obtaining materials for your clients to enroll, please contact Drs. Annette O'Connor or Steve Sorden.

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Season's  
**Greetings**

From the  
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of Veterinary  
Medicine**

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Ames, IA 50011-1250

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