

# *gentle* Doctor

Winter 2008 · Volume 22, No. 1



## Entrepreneurism Prepares Students for Success

Beyond Veterinary Medicine

Q & A with Dr. Kanthasamy

Animal Learning Center

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
College of Veterinary Medicine

*Lauren Zeman with a Cooper's hawk that is housed at the college's Wildlife Care Center. Lauren is a senior, majoring in animal ecology at Iowa State University.*

*Photo/Tracy Ann Raef*



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# Making a Difference

VSMART has positive impact on rural veterinarian shortage

Through VSMART, Veterinary Student Mixed Animal Recruitment Team, veterinary students at Iowa State University are making a difference in the number of students interested in food animal medicine.



VSMART Executive Committee (left to right): Rachel Friedrich, Angela Holbrook, Jon Nielsen, Maggie Aleff, Rik Smith, Sophie Nash, Tyson Dinslage, Christy Hanthorn, Matt Keller, Jen Christensen, Tim Nelson and Pat Hoffmann. Photo/Tracy Ann Raef

VSMART president Rachel Friedrich (VM3) says food animal veterinarians play an integral role in protecting public health because food animals are the sentinels of our food supply. Subsequently, a national shortage of food animal veterinarians would have serious consequences for livestock-dense states like Iowa.

Concerned about the future of their profession, veterinary students at Iowa State formed VSMART in 2004 to encourage students to become veterinarians and practice in rural areas.

Raised on a livestock and grain farm in Pierce, Neb., Rachel knows firsthand the allure of working with livestock and being part of a small community. She wants to share her experiences and assure youngsters that becoming a veterinarian is an attainable goal and a career as rural veterinarian is a great choice.

“At Iowa State we wanted to be part of the solution,” Rachel said. “We wanted to know that in ten years if we want to hire an associate, there’ll be somebody to hire. What drives the VSMART executive

committee is a desire to make a positive change in the future of our profession.”

VSMART students have given presentations to more than 9,000 Iowans at schools, fairs, community events, and 4-H clubs. They explain the educational requirements and describe what happens in each year of the four-year veterinary curriculum. Often they partner with local veterinarians, sharing real-life experiences of the rural practitioner. After three years, VSMART is seeing the impact of its hard work. “Our enrollment in the production animal classes has increased dramatically in the past year,” said Dr. Locke Karriker, assistant professor of food supply veterinary medicine at Iowa State University. “VSMART students are the college’s best ambassadors for recruiting high school and middle school students, and for recruiting fellow classmates to food supply veterinary medicine,” he said.

The impact of VSMART’s efforts were recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association when Jon Nielsen,

VSMART vice president, and Rachel were introduced to the AVMA House of Delegates by AVMA Vice President Charlie Hendrix. “It’s a great feeling to know that our hard work has made an impact,” said Jon Nielsen, third-year veterinary student. “Dr. Hendrix has been a wonderful advocate for VSMART.”

VSMART got a boost this fall from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners. “District directors of the AABP will take VSMART materials to 20 veterinary schools and encourage them to form chapters,” Rachel said. “With the AABP’s help, we hope to establish chapters at other veterinary colleges.”

VSMART is still a young organization,” Rachel said. “There’s a lot of excitement and energy among our membership. One of our members is from New York City and is interested in giving presentations to high school students in that area. The future of VSMART is in good hands.”



**On the cover:** Dr. David R. Trask (third from left) recently funded a professorship in entrepreneurial studies at the college. Standing with him is Dr. Donald Draper, professor and holder of the Trask Professorship, and third-year students Bret Grover, president of the Veterinary Business Management Association at ISU, and Barbara Petersen, vice president of the VBMA. Read more about the newly established professorship and how it will help prepare students for success on page 12. Photo/Gary Clarke

# Message from THE DEAN

## Celebrating the past . . . looking forward to the future!

Our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends produced an abundance of reasons to celebrate in 2007 and to look forward to 2008. It would take several pages to mention everyone and everything that deserve recognition. I'll mention just a few, appreciating that there are countless others equally deserving.

### College Accomplishments

- Regained full accreditation from the AVMA Council on Education.
- Welcomed our first class in the ISU-UNL professional program in veterinary medicine.
- Completed modernization of major classroom and laboratory spaces.
- Increased our extramural research funding by more than 20 percent.
- Significantly increased college diversity with our new VM1 class.
- Increased our base budget by \$7 million over the past three years and are on schedule to reach our goal of \$15 million and surpass the base budget of most peer institutions by 2011. (See chart page 5)

### Record Development Effort!

- Alumni and friends of the college contributed more than \$8 million in support, making 2007 a record year in development history. Thank you!
- Thanks, too, to our development team – Rich Bundy, Jeff Spielman, Shane Jacobson, Teresa Perry, and Pat Pendry! They are effectively helping us address the needs of the college, and can help you find productive ways to help us move forward through *Campaign Iowa State: With Pride and Purpose*, the national campaign described later in this issue.

### Faculty and Staff

- We filled 11 newly created faculty positions. This is real growth that not all schools are enjoying, and it is occurring in all departments.
- We have assumed a leadership role in key new areas of expertise including curricular outcomes assessment, animal welfare and entrepreneurship.
- We continue to strengthen our group of outstanding academic veterinarians in clinical and basic sciences to ensure that our students continue to work with and learn from the best.

### Alumni Entrepreneurs Make Their Mark

- **Dr. David R. Trask**, veterinarian and entrepreneur, is helping students follow in the same path by establishing the college's first professorship in entrepreneurial studies and providing funding that will support the program. **Dr. Donald Draper** was named the first recipient of the Dr. David R. Trask Professorship in Entrepreneurial Studies.
- **The Dr. John G. Salsbury** Veterinary Excellence Fund facilitated completion of the 1226 lecture hall renovation project, a much needed redo of the '70s-era classroom.
- **Dr. Eugene and Linda Lloyd** continue to make an impact with their vision by creating the Dr. W. E. Lloyd Chair in Neurotoxicology. **Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy** is the first holder of that position.
- We are actively recruiting for a newly established endowed chair in entrepreneurial studies.

### Evolving Administrative Team

- **Dr. James Bloedel**, was named biomedical sciences department chair, and executive chair of the college. Former BMS chair Dr. Richard Martin returned to a faculty position.
- **Dr. Lisa Nolan** became associate dean for academic and student affairs, replacing Dr. Donald Draper, who returned to a faculty position. She will continue as chair of veterinary microbiology and preventive medicine until a replacement is selected.
- **Dr. Sally Prickett** joined our teaching hospital as director.

### Student Success Is Key

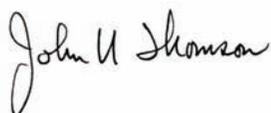
- **Admissions Adds Interviews:** Picking the right students is always a challenge. We are adding personal interviews to the selection process for the class of 2012. All veterinarians participating in the interviews received professional training in behavioral interviewing principles prior to the start of student selection.

- **Office of Curricular Assessment:** Dr. Jared Danielson, a PhD educator, is leading an effort that is evaluating teaching outcomes and providing timely and needed input for program and curricular development. Continuous assessment is a must to retain quality in this rapidly changing profession.
- Ms. Lisa Brinkley is filling the newly created **Coordinator for Student Success** position in the Office of Academic and Student Affairs. She focuses on helping students succeed in their academic efforts.
- **Connecticut Contract Added:** We have negotiated a new contract with the state of Connecticut that will bring five students to Iowa State. We now have contractual arrangements with Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, and New Jersey, as well.
- The college awarded over \$460,000 in **student scholarships**, an all-time high. This greatly relieves increasing concern over student debt, and assists in enrolling the highest-quality students.

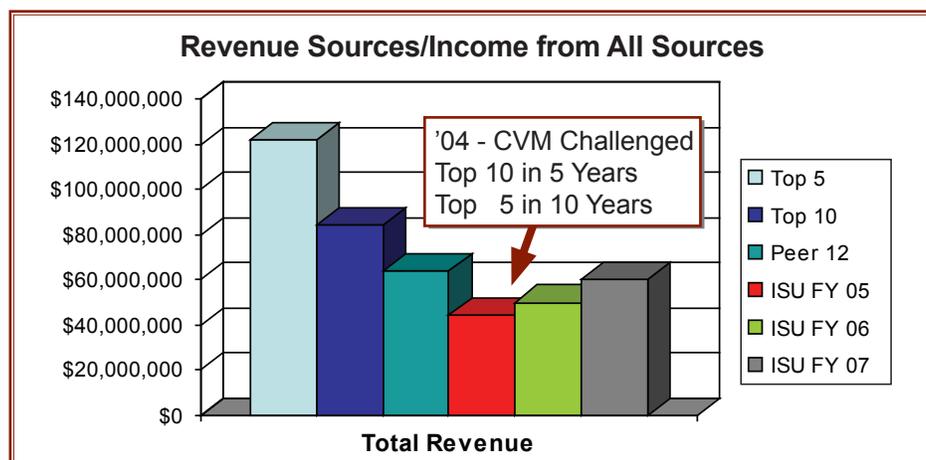
### Looking Ahead: Critical Issues

- **Phase I** of the Dr. W. Eugene and Linda Lloyd Veterinary Teaching Hospital project is on schedule and we are making solid progress toward meeting our related fundraising goals. (We're not there yet, so your help is still appreciated!)
- Moving **Phase II** forward in a timely manner is critical. Our next step is to secure state planning funds for the project that will double the size of the small animal hospital.
- The Iowa Legislature has added \$2 million to the **Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory** base budget with intent to provide an additional \$1 million in each of the next two years. This support is critical and we will work to secure it.
- The university is implementing a new **budget model** that bases allocations on tuition. We will be working to fully understand how best to optimize our economic performance.
- **Teaching Hospital Funding:** Comparisons to peer institutions clearly demonstrate that our hospital has historically been under-supported. Our goal is to significantly bolster this area, and we are making progress.

Last year's accomplishments are a source of pride. The challenges ahead are formidable, but something we can meet with your continued advice and support. Thank you for all that you contribute to the college, and best wishes for a very good new year.



John U. Thomson  
Dean



Photo/Bob Elbert

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**Doctor**

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*ISU President Gregory Geoffroy presents a medallion to Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy who was named holder of the W. E. Lloyd Chair in Neurotoxicology. The ceremony was held during the college's convocation on August 29. Photo/Bob Elbert*

# Q&A with Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy

An interview with Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy, holder of the W. E. Lloyd Chair in Neurotoxicology, director of the Iowa Center for Advanced Neurotoxicology (ICAN) and professor of biomedical sciences at Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. He is also the chair of the interdepartmental toxicology graduate program at ISU.

## About Dr. Kanthasamy

Dr. Kanthasamy has been researching Parkinson's disease for 15 years. Prior to joining the faculty at ISU in 1999, he was on the faculty in the Departments of Neurology and Environmental Medicine at the University of California, Irvine. He received his B.S. in chemistry (1981), M.S. in biochemistry (1984), and Ph.D. in biochemistry (1989) from the University of Madras (India). Dr. Kanthasamy did his postdoctoral training in pharmacology and toxicology at Purdue University from 1989 to 2004.

Since 1998, Dr. Kanthasamy has been serving as a member of various grant review panels (study sections) at the National Institutes of Health. He has published over 100 research papers and abstracts in the neurotoxicology area. In 2007, two research papers from the Iowa Center for Advanced Neurotoxicology were named in the Top 25 Hottest Articles published in *Neurotoxicology*. The ICAN papers were number two and four on the list. Those contributions to the field resulted in his selection to the editorial board of the scientific magazine.

**Q. What is the Iowa Center for Advanced Neurotoxicology?**

A. It is a center established to encourage research on animal and human neurotoxicological problems. Neurotoxicology bridges the scientific fields of toxicology and neuroscience. By researching both human and animal aspects of neurotoxicological diseases, we can build on the strengths and find parallels to help animals and humans.

**Q. How did you become interested in the field of neurosciences and particularly the field of neurotoxicity?**

A. Since I was an undergraduate, majoring in chemistry, I've always been interested in how chemicals affect the nervous system. Although there are a lot of neuroscientists in the world, there are not a lot of neurotoxicologists. It is a unique field.

**Q. What is your primary research focus?**

A. My main focus is Parkinson's disease. I grew up on a farm in India. Back then, we used a lot of chemicals for insecticide control on pineapple and sugar cane without any protection. My grandfather had neurological problems and was later diagnosed with Parkinson's. I'm studying the toxic agents found in the agricultural community and the potential of those agents to induce neuronal injury to specific areas of the brain and the central nervous system. Currently, I'm studying an insecticide called dieldrin, a chemical that was used as a pesticide on farms 20 years ago (now banned), but still present in our environment at high concentrations. I am also studying potential neurotoxic effects on other compounds including metals such as manganese and nanoparticles.

Overall, my research is targeted on understanding the cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying pathogenesis of neurological and neurodegenerative disorders and on identifying mechanism-based therapeutic strategies for these disorders. The two key areas that I'm focusing on are: (1) the role of agrochemicals and other environmental factors in the pathogenesis of dopaminergic degeneration, and (2) the development of neuroprotective agents for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

**Q. What is the most satisfying aspect of your job?**

A. Every day there's something new. A researcher develops a hypothesis, but any aspect of it can take a different direction. I have several graduate students working on different projects. They often ask me to come to the laboratory to take a look at something that they've found. That is exciting. Research is similar to solving a mystery, and then writing your story in the form of a research paper.

**Q. What has been the impact of the Lloyd Chair on your research?**

A. The Lloyd's generous gift is a boost to our efforts. We've purchased new equipment and laboratory reagents; provided assistantship and tuition support to a DVM/PhD student and a graduate student; and have defrayed the costs related to the publication of research papers and travel to scientific meetings.



*Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy, holder of the W. E. Lloyd Chair in Neurotoxicology, with his wife, Dr. Arthi Kanthasamy, assistant professor of biomedical sciences, and Dr. Eugene and Linda Lloyd. Photo/Bob Elbert*



# beyond VETERINARY MEDICINE

Communication is an important aspect of daily veterinary activities. It's a skill that veterinary students need to develop as much as their technical skills to be successful. To give students additional

training in this area, clinicians at the college's Veterinary Teaching Hospital have incorporated communications training into the community practice clinical rotation.

"Just because we have ears and a mouth doesn't mean we can communicate

effectively," says Dr. Kim Langholz, community practice veterinarian at the VTH. "We may overwhelm a client with information or not give enough information, or we may be so scattered in our presentations that it's difficult for them to understand what we are trying to say."

Some of the things that Dr. Langholz observes during client interviews are students focusing too much on the paperwork and not having good eye contact with the client, or not talking to the owner while performing a physical examination and explaining or showing what they find. Dr. Langholz teaches students to introduce themselves and the other students who may be working with them when they enter the exam room, and to acknowledge the family members, even the youngsters, who may be with the pet.

"As veterinarians, we tend to get so focused on finding the clinical problem and fixing it, that we don't always spend as much time developing the rapport with the client," Dr. Langholz said.

"Studies indicate that we interrupt our clients 18 to 20 seconds into their opening remarks. With those interruptions, we lose the potential to identify problems, and miss up to 50 percent of the person's problems and concerns."

*Dr. Amanda Gigler with Clyde, the in-house cat at Anderson Animal Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa, where she works.*

*Photo/Tracy Ann Raef*



Dr. Langholz teaches students to let the client talk and ask open-ended questions. “Clients will usually talk less than two to three minutes; and we can get some pertinent information from them that we otherwise would have lost had we interrupted.”

Part of the learning experience is being videotaped during a client interview. For Dr. Amanda Gigler ('07) the experience was nerve-wracking but helpful. “Reviewing the videotape showed me what I was doing right and things I could do to improve. Sometimes I jumped in too fast before the client finished or I was looking down to write while trying to talk to them.”

During the videotaping, the focus is on the communications skills, not the technical skills. “We focus on ways the students can better establish a relationship with their client,” Dr. Langholz said. Dr. Langholz also encourages students to continue to evaluate and improve their communications skills after they graduate. “One veterinarian I know occasionally audiotapes his examination communications to see if he was really listening to his clients.”

Veterinary students at Iowa State University begin communications training in their third year of the curriculum during the Veterinarian in Society course and through lectures on topics such as euthanasia. There are plans to incorporate more role-playing scenarios using a person who has been trained to portray a client facing issues such as finances or euthanasia. “There are a lot of situations that students aren't ready for unless they've had a lot of interaction with people,” Dr. Langholz said. “We try to prepare them for a variety of situations.”

Dr. Gigler recommends the community practice rotation to students who are going into mixed or large animal



*Dr. Kim Langholz, VTH clinician, gives Junior a treat after examining him.*

*Photo/Macy Ann Raef*

practices. “The rotation mimics private practice and the communications training is a perfect fit in the rotation.”

Since her training, Dr. Gigler says she thinks more about what she is doing when communicating with clients. “I think about little things like the impact of my body language and tone, and keep those things in mind with clients. I also have a structure that I follow when I go into the examination room to meet the client and the patient.”

“Veterinary students need to go into an exam room with an open mind and with no judgments about the client, patient or disease condition,” Dr. Gigler said. She also advises students to not lead clients with certain questions and to be patient when obtaining information from clients.

A former veterinary technician, Dr. Gigler says it was the increased interaction with clients that made her want to be a veterinarian. “The fourth year of veterinary school was the best, and it reminded me how much I enjoy veterinary medicine. The additional training in communications helps me be a better veterinarian for my clients and patients.”

***Funding for the training was provided by a 2006-2007 Miller Faculty Fellowship for “Integration of Experiential Communications Skills Learning into a Veterinary Clinical Rotation in the Senior Year” obtained by Drs. Leslie Fox, Cindy Adams, Kim Langholz and Monica Howard.***



*Third-year veterinary student, Nate Hansen handles a lamb for Natalie Thompson during the Iowa State Fair. Photo/Erin Thompson*

# Animal Learning Center Attracts Fairgoers & Politicians

Supervising the heifer exhibit was Dr. James West, director of food supply veterinary medicine at the college. "This exhibit was a huge success," Dr. West said. "The citizens of Iowa got a chance to see and touch livestock and learn about our role as veterinarians. Our students got experience educating the public and caring for the animals."

The exhibit also gave the veterinary students and veterinarians many opportunities to answer questions about why certain things are done in animal agriculture. "We also stressed the importance of hand-washing after handling the animals, sending fairgoers to the hand-washing stations located in the building," Hansen said.

There's only one event that steals the spotlight in the months preceding the Iowa caucuses, the Iowa State Fair. But Nate Hansen had more on his mind than the hog-calling contest, butter sculptures or presidential candidates. He had chores to do and was worried about the 12 pregnant heifers.

Hansen, third-year veterinary student, was responsible for organizing shifts and providing animal care for the pregnant cows that were part of the Paul R. Knapp Animal Learning Center, a new exhibit at the 2007 Iowa State Fair. The educational exhibit showcased animal agriculture, from live births to animal husbandry.

"It was a round-the-clock commitment," Nate said. Besides the cows that were provided by the College of Veterinary Medicine, the exhibit featured pigs, goats, sheep and chickens. Hansen and classmate Merle Bierman started the day at 6 a.m., milking cows, feeding calves, and providing care to all the animals in the learning center. One of them stayed in the building each night to supervise the animals.

Nate and Merle also had help from veterinarians and students from Iowa State and the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association who were on hand to promote animal agriculture and the role of the veterinarian.

The live births and newborns were the most popular attractions. "The most frequent questions that we were asked were: 'How long before this cow calves?' and 'What's going on with the cows?'" Nate said.

When live births weren't occurring, fairgoers could hear presentations by the commodity groups on farm safety and animal production and care. Fairgoers could also learn about careers in veterinary medicine, particularly in mixed animal practice by the Iowa State student organization, Veterinary Student Mixed Animal Recruitment Team.

With over 400,000 fairgoers visiting the exhibit, there's no doubt the display served as a great stage to share the animal agriculture story. Plans are already underway in preparation for next year's fair. Twenty-eight heifers were bred in November to be ready in time for births during the fair. Twenty ewes and goats will be bred in March 2008.

Nate plans to do a rotation at the 2008 fair with university veterinarian Dr. Bruce Leuschen who is also the Iowa State Fair veterinarian. "In the spring I contacted Dr. Tom Johnson at the IVMA because I wanted a job that would allow me to work and talk to people. The opportunity to work the fair did not disappoint; it was a great experience."



*Third-year veterinary student, Merle Bierman, gives fairgoers a chance to pet a goat kid. Photo/Steve Pendry*

# The Road Less Traveled

Jason wasn't sure what he wanted to do with his life when he finished high school. He was tired of school and wanted to earn his own way so he joined the U.S. Navy. That fateful decision in January 1995, would lead Jason on an unlikely path to veterinary medicine.

When Jason entered the Navy, his aptitude tests got him a choice of specialties. His choice was mess management specialist. He scored top in his class at MS schooling, earning his choice of orders. He chose to serve as an admiral's personal chef.

Cooking was always something that Jason, VM3, enjoyed doing. "My father owned a Sizzler Steakhouse in Nebraska when I was growing up," Jason said. "I worked at the restaurant, starting as a dishwasher and progressing to cook."

Being the chef for an admiral seemed like a perfect fit for Jason. There was only one catch – the admiral's ship was leaving on a six-month deployment in less than a month. The ship was stationed in San Diego and left on a Western Pacific deployment, taking Jason to places like Hong Kong, Singapore and the Middle East. When he returned, he was approached by a ranking officer who asked if he'd consider applying for a cooking job in the White House. After several weeks, Jason reluctantly agreed to apply and was notified he got the job just before he was deployed on another trip – this time to the Persian Gulf.

"I went to the White House in October 1997," Jason said. "The first week was overwhelming. Our kitchen cooked meals for three dining rooms and a carry-out service. We were located directly below the Oval Office and next to the White House Situation Room."

Everyone who cooks in the White House first starts as a server. On his third day on the job, President Clinton came into the kitchen to eat with his secretary. Jason got to meet and talk to the president. "It was one of those surreal experiences. That first month I met the president and later I met former quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers Steve Young," Jason said.

Jason explains that each branch of the military has its own presidential responsibility. The Air Force is responsible for the president's and vice president's planes. The Marines take care of the helicopters, the Army is in charge of vehicles and the Navy is in charge of food.

After a year, Jason was in charge of the kitchen that served approximately 300 meals a day to White House staffers and guests in the West Wing and Old Executive Office Building. "The president has his own kitchen in the residence with civilian chefs who cook for him, the family and their guests. Occasionally the president would dine or get take-out from our kitchen. Although we always had a set menu, the president could order whatever he wanted," Jason added.

The job is primarily hands-on training. But Jason and another Navy officer were sent to the world-renowned Culinary Institute of America in New York for advanced training.

Because food service was the purview of the Navy, the Navy chefs served as the president's personal stewards on trips. "We didn't cook a lot on the road, but we watched all food preparation," Jason



*Second-Class Petty Officer Jason Pieper in the Oval Office with President William Clinton during his last day as White House chef.*

said. At large events, we'd choose the president's plate from several similar plates, and the Navy stewards always provided his beverages."

Jason left the military in September 2000. He worked in a Virginia restaurant for six months. Reading the paper one day, Jason saw an ad for a veterinary technician, applied and got the job. While working as a technician, he decided to become a veterinarian. "I went back to Nebraska and worked for my father for a year because I wanted to be sure that veterinary medicine was the right choice for me."

It was. Jason entered the University of Nebraska, completing his bachelor's degree in three years. In 2005, at the age of 28, Jason began his first year of the veterinary curriculum at Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine.

"By the time I finished college, I knew that I really wanted to be a veterinarian. Had I gone to college right after high school, I might have been an accountant."

Certainly a road to veterinary medicine that not all students experience, nevertheless, it led Jason to a career that he couldn't imagine as a Navy cook in the White House.

*Jason will graduate in 2009 and plans to join a small animal practice with lots of opportunity for exotic animal medicine.*

# Entrepreneurism Prepares

# Students for *Success*

**D**r. David R. Trask ('75) learned early in his career how valuable business and management skills were when the owner of the practice where he worked had a stroke and none of the other veterinarians knew how to run a business.

Dr. Trask grew up in Iowa, the son of a farmer, with an interest in caring for the family's livestock and pets. Through his parents' example, he learned a lot about running a business – skills that weren't emphasized when he went to veterinary school.

After owning and operating seven veterinary practices during his career, Dr. Trask was dismayed to see the continued lack of practical business and management skills in young and seasoned veterinarians. So he decided to do something about it. He funded a professorship in entrepreneurial studies at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.

Dr. Trask explains that veterinarians are small business owners who deal with ambiguity, problems and risk every day. Good business people have learned how to recognize opportunities, implement innovative solutions to problems, leverage resources and mitigate risk.

A longtime entrepreneur, Dr. Trask has bought practices that were struggling and turned them into successful businesses that will be around well into the future to serve their communities.

"Most clients want veterinarians to stay in business and they like the personal touch of a local veterinary hospital," Dr. Trask said. "But veterinarians need to be good business people to be able to continue to provide good medicine." Dr. Trask wants students to realize that they've sacrificed eight years of education to become veterinarians, and once they are in practice, they need to learn how to provide a living for themselves and their families.

The entrepreneurial professorship is a way to get business into the veterinary curriculum. Dr. Trask explains that students who were involved in Scouts, 4-H clubs, or Future Farmers of America learned about business and ownership. He believes that students need to hear that being a good business person is just as important as being a good veterinarian. "You can't prescribe the right drug unless you know how to diagnose," Dr. Trask said. "Students need to approach business the way they approach science."

Dr. Donald D. Draper ('66) has been teaching entrepreneurial skills to veterinary students at Iowa State University for several years through the Veterinary Practice Entrepreneurship course. "Entrepreneurship is a way of thinking and acting," Dr. Draper said. "It involves innovation and creative problem-solving."

Dr. Draper says that the principles of entrepreneurship can be applied every day, and not only for profit. For instance, he explains, many

veterinarians do some pro bono work. If veterinarians apply an entrepreneurial process to this work, they can find individuals in the community who have the interest and resources to help those animals and their owners. "Those individuals could help start a foundation where the veterinarian provides the care and the cost is covered."

Recently named the Dr. David R. Trask Professor in Entrepreneurial Studies, Dr. Draper says the professorship will allow the college to incorporate such studies in the curriculum in different ways. His plans include creating preceptorships and externships for students where they spend time at successful practices to learn about management and finances. "Our students learn about veterinary medicine from outstanding veterinarians, Dr. Draper said. "Why can't they learn good business from veterinarians who are outstanding business people?"

Another facet of the professorship that Dr. Draper would like to develop is to have a visiting professor on campus several times a year to conduct seminars and workshops on entrepreneurship. He's also interested in creating a national faculty that would have extensive entrepreneurial experience and provide distance education in business innovation and implementation.

Currently, veterinary students at Iowa State can opt for a minor in entrepreneurial studies. Lectures



*During an all-college reception, Dr. David Trask was recognized for his generosity in funding the Dr. David R. Trask Professorship in Entrepreneurial Studies at Iowa State University. Dr. Don Draper was named holder of the professorship. Left to right: Drs. Don Draper, David Trask, John Thomson, and Mr. Roger Underwood, chair of Campaign Iowa State.*

*Photo/Tracy Ann Raef*

on business have been sponsored by the Veterinary Business Management Association at Iowa State and entrepreneurial grants from the Kaufman Foundation and the Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship. This summer several CEOs from veterinary practice and allied industries presented a half-day conference where they shared their experiences and the skills necessary

for success. "We plan to invite outside speakers on a monthly basis to visit with students and faculty about entrepreneurship," Dr. Draper said. Bret Grover, VM3, has always been interested in owning his own business. He joined the student chapter of the Veterinary Business Management Association to learn more. As the club's current president, Bret knows that all veterinary students will benefit

from basic business skills. "The Trask professorship will help students learn these basic skills, and the VBMA will help make the professorship that much more successful," Bret said. "I am very happy to see this change at our school and I believe that it will give ISU students one more advantage as we enter the workforce."

# Professional Program Connects Two Universities

By Tom Ligouri

Where there was once only athletic competition, now there is academic cooperation between the nation's two leading livestock producing states. The Iowa State University – University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) professional program in veterinary medicine is off and running.

Twenty-five students joined the class of 2011 and will complete their first two years at UNL and their third and fourth years at ISU, receiving their ISU DVM degrees. The program is the culmination of an intensive effort on both campuses to create and implement a unique one-program/two-campus veterinary education program and bring it to a successful start.

“Veterinary medical education is being challenged as never before to graduate more veterinarians,” said Dr. John U. Thomson, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. “This regional program allows our college to increase our graduate numbers without requiring facility expansion. We are increasing our capacity at Iowa State and expanding the academic opportunities at UNL in a true win-win program that will strengthen veterinary medicine in the region.”

The official kick-off came in June when UNL Chancellor Harvey Perlman, Vice Chancellor John Owens and other administrative leaders and faculty joined ISU President Gregory Geoffroy, Executive Vice President and Provost Elizabeth Hoffman, and ISU administrators and faculty to celebrate the full accreditation of the

College of Veterinary Medicine by the AVMA Council on Education, and the start of the new ISU-UNL program. Since then, numerous face-to-face meetings, frequent e-mails, and regular use of video and telephone conferencing technologies keep people in touch. The two universities have also shared responsibilities on admissions committees.

The ISU-CVM Office of Academic and Student Affairs worked with ISU central offices and UNL counterparts to develop processes ranging from student admissions to financial aid and access to electronic resources on both campuses. The academic program has been coordinated through ISU's Implementation Steering Committee (ISC), a group of nine faculty members representing the college's five academic departments and the college administrative team.

Dr. David L. Hardin, associate dean, has coordinated UNL efforts. An ISC will be formed there and the efforts of the two groups will be coordinated and shared by a program oversight committee, consisting of representatives of the two ISCs. “It is really exciting to welcome the first class into a new program,” said Dr. Hardin. “It has had its challenges, but students and faculty are enthused, excited to be here, and digging into their first experiences in veterinary medical education. The energy I've seen here will make this a successful program that benefits both states and both institutions.”

The Iowa State ISC, co-chaired by Drs. Eldon Uhlenhopp and Ricardo Rosenbusch, has met regularly to coordinate implementation efforts. Special emphasis and oversight have been placed in the areas of administrative structure, student learning and assessment, instruction delivery and learning resources, admissions and transfers, academic standards, preceptorships, collaborative research and student involvement, facilities, budget and finance, student affairs and professional development, and public relations and communications.

Faculty and student groups have exchanged visits, shared information and collaborated in curriculum development and program implementation. Students at UNL participated in orientation activities on both campuses and the ISU white coat ceremony that welcomes new students to veterinary medicine. Program and student integration were high priorities and an ISU-UNL Integration Committee, headed by Jason Pieper (VM3), was created to ensure that student-oriented matters, such as tutoring and student organization participation were addressed. “Considering the circumstances and the distance, the program is moving along well,” Jason said. “We just wish that we would all be able to get together on a more regular basis.” Integration activities continue with club and organization meetings, seminars and presentations being shared through the use of real-time two-way video conferencing technology.

Students and faculty have also utilized the Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center (GPVEC) at Clay Center, one of the largest food animal population learning centers in the country, and the associated U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (MARC).

Twenty-six UNL faculty members, including 11 with DVM degrees, are engaged in teaching program courses. The program is part of the Veterinary and Biomedical Science Department in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

In addition to the expansion and renovation program at ISU, UNL has committed more than \$1.2 million in renovating spaces to accommodate the unique requirements of the professional program, including creating a new gross anatomy lab and lecture hall. State-of-the-art communications equipment on both ends allows students to interact, even though separated geographically.

Implementation efforts have included some fun, too. Nebraska faculty, Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association members, and students hosted a group of 30 ISU students, faculty and administrators at a football tailgate party and facilities tour prior to the ISU-Nebraska football game in Lincoln. The game outcome may not have been the best for the Cyclone fans, but the environment was symbolic of the energy this new program is gaining as students complete their first semester.



*The anatomy laboratory at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.*



*The lecture hall that is used by veterinary students at UNL.*



*Dr. John Thomson, CVM dean, leads administrators from UNL on a tour of the Iowa State veterinary college.*

# Distinguished Alumni

## Distinguished Alumni Honored

On October 19, 2007, the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine honored three of its graduates with the 2007 Stange Award during ceremonies held at the university and college. The 2007 recipients are: Drs. George Beran, Norman Hutton and Eugene Ver Steeg.

“The Stange Award is totally unexpected, and for me, undeserved. I am truly grateful to the college. It is not easy to imagine receiving the award that honors Dr. Stange, who led Iowa State and this nation in veterinary education for nearly 30 years, from 1909 to 1936. He modeled veterinary science with practice, veterinary extension and animal disease eradication and protection of human health from animal-associated disease.”

**Dr. George Beran** ('54) is internationally recognized for his expertise and contributions to public health and regulatory veterinary medicine. For over 50 years, he has focused on research and activities related to epidemiology and control of important public health diseases, food safety, and hazard analysis.

After receiving his veterinary degree, Dr. Beran was an epidemic intelligence officer with the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. He was a professor and researcher at Silliman University in the Philippines for 13 years, where he developed a successful rabies eradication program and was

bestowed the honor of “Adopted Son, Province of Negros Oriental, Philippines.” Dr. Beran joined the faculty at Iowa State in 1973 in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine. He retired from ISU in 1998 as a distinguished professor. He currently serves as director of the college’s Packer Heritage Room.

Dr. Beran has been honored by the American Veterinary Medical Association as a recipient of the 1999 AVMA Public Service Award and the 1996 International Service Award. His work in epidemiology was recognized by the American Veterinary Epidemiology Society’s 1993 Gold-Headed Cane



2007 Stange Award recipient Dr. George Beran with his wife Jan.

Photo/Gary Clarke

Award. In 1995, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Practical Farmers of Iowa.

Dr. Beran is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine and a diplomate of the American College of Epidemiology. He is a 1954 graduate of the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

“It is a great honor and a very humbling experience to receive the Stange Award from my alma mater. This recognition, however, would not be possible without the colleagues and friends who have helped and supported me during my career.”



Dr. Norman Hutton, 2007 Stange Award recipient, with his wife Shirley.

Photo/Gary Clarke

**Dr. Norman Hutton** ('66) was recognized for his professional contributions to enhance veterinary medical education. During his career, he worked diligently to use his computer science background and management skills to enhance veterinary education and the service components of Iowa State University and Oregon State University. He also served as an ambassador for veterinary medicine, recognized for his selfless commitment to service.

Dr. Hutton’s career in academia started at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1966. During

his 10-year tenure, he was an early adopter and implementer of computer technology, leading the college and the profession in the early years of computerizing records systems. As an assistant dean, Dr. Hutton was most noted for establishing a biomedical communications department to support the teaching and research programs at the College of Veterinary Medicine. The department became a leading service provider for the profession when he implemented the Autotutorial Program at the American Veterinary Medical Association’s annual conference and meeting.

# Honored

From 1977 to 1997, Dr. Hutton was an associate dean at Oregon State University. He was instrumental in developing a new cooperative veterinary education among Oregon State University, Washington State University and the University of Idaho. Dr. Hutton played a key role in the college's maturation, retiring in 1997.

Active in organized veterinary medicine, Dr. Hutton was vice president of the American Veterinary Medical Association from 1997 to 1999. During his term, he was especially known for his work with the student chapters of the AVMA, and his genuine interest in helping students to become valued members of the profession.

In the words of a colleague, "Dr. Hutton is a true leader and will be an outstanding member of the Stange Award community."

Dr. Hutton graduated from Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1966.

**Dr. Eugene Ver Steeg** ('66) is recognized for his effective leadership and influential voice in animal agriculture and food supply veterinary medicine. A former mixed animal practitioner, Dr. Ver Steeg is owner and manager of Sunnycrest, Inc., a wean-to-finish operation that markets 18,000 hogs per year. He has used his education as a veterinarian and experience as a highly progressive pork producer and grain farmer to influence

food and trade policy in Iowa, the United States and around the world. Dr. Ver Steeg has served in leadership roles in animal agriculture at the local, regional and national levels. He is the immediate past president of the Iowa Pork Producers Association and has served several years as National Pork Act Delegate from Iowa. He is currently a member of the National Pork Producers Farm Bill Task Force Committee and the Animal Welfare Policy Committee. He also serves on the National Pork Board Food Safety Committee. Dr. Ver Steeg also chairs the Iowa Pork Producers Public Relations Committee, the Public Policy Committee and the Animal Health/Animal Well-Being Committee.

and continues to be instrumental in working at the national and state levels to promote Iowa pork. He was named Iowa Master Pork Producer by the Iowa Pork Producers Association in 1995.

Locally, Dr. Ver Steeg is a member of the Lyon County Pork Producers, having served six years on the board and as president. He is also a member of the local and state Farm Bureau, where is a member of the Iowa Farm Bureau Swine Advisory Committee.

Since 1966, Dr. Ver Steeg has been a member of the Inwood Kiwanis and has served as the organization's vice president and president. He is a former mayor of Inwood, Iowa.

Dr. Ver Steeg is a 1966 graduate of the Iowa State University College of



Photo/Gary Clarke

Dr. Eugene Ver Steeg, 2007 Stange Award recipient, with his wife Beverly.

He was a key leader in Iowa's pseudorabies eradication efforts,

*"I have often read about and admired the Stange Award recipients. The idea that I would be a recipient never crossed my mind as being a possible reality."*



## Nominations Sought

The College of Veterinary Medicine invites nominations for the 2008 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 award is named for Dr. Charles Stange, former dean of the college (1909-1936).

Nominations will be accepted until February 29, 2008. Please use the enclosed card to submit nominations.



Photos/Tracy Ann Raef

**Top:** Veterinary student Amanda Kreuder, recipient of the Dunn Scholarship, with "Howie," the college's mascot that was donated by Mrs. Jacki Sweeney, wife of Dr. Bill Sweeney ('67).

**Center:** Dr. Mark Ackermann, 2001-2007 recipient of the John G. Salsbury Chair in Veterinary Medicine

**Bottom:** Dr. Frank Peak ('49) and his wife Mary at their home in Knoxville, Iowa.



# CAMPAIGN IOWA STATE

## WITH PRIDE AND PURPOSE

Iowa State University recently launched an \$800 million comprehensive fundraising campaign, the largest campaign in university history. Campaign Iowa State: With Pride and Purpose will raise private dollars to address the high-priority opportunities of the entire university.

"The achievements of this campaign will transform Iowa State for many to years to come," Iowa State president Gregory Geoffroy said. "With the support of committed alumni and friends, there is no limit to the possibilities our future holds." Campaign Iowa State: With Pride and Purpose will help provide the "margin of excellence" funding to create opportunities that only private support can achieve, President Geoffroy explained.

Iowa State officially began the advanced gift phase of its campaign on July 1, 2003. The College of Veterinary Medicine's campaign goal is \$41 million. To date, the college has achieved more than half of its goal, \$22.9 million in contributions. Campaign Iowa State will close on Dec. 31, 2010.

The four priority areas for the college are students, faculty, programs and facilities.

### Investing in Students

Scholarships are important to attract the best and brightest students to veterinary medicine. They are also important to make veterinary medicine an affordable career choice for students. In the past two decades, the college has seen a significant increase in scholarship gifting. For the 2007-2008 academic year, over \$460,000 in endowed and annual named scholarships and awards will be made to students. Over 60 percent of veterinary students receive a scholarship, with the average award in excess of \$1,700.

### Campaign Iowa State: With Pride and Purpose

#### College of Veterinary Medicine Goals

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Students .....               | \$8.5 million  |
| Faculty .....                | \$12.0 million |
| Programs .....               | \$11.2 million |
| Facilities .....             | \$9.3 million  |
| <b>Total: \$41.0 million</b> |                |

To attract the most talented students to the field of veterinary medicine, we must offer additional scholarship support. The overall average loan indebtedness for 2006 veterinary students at Iowa State was \$82,158. For many students, scholarships help counter the rising educational debt that new graduates face.

Amanda Kreuder, VM4, has been a recipient of the William T. Dunn Scholarships for four years. The Dunn Scholarships were funded by Mrs. Homozel M. Daniel, who made the endowed gift in the name of Dr. William T. Dunn ('36). Dr. Dunn practiced veterinary medicine in South Carolina for more than 50 years and took care of Mrs. Daniel's dog.

"Receiving the Dunn scholarship as an incoming out-of-state student has helped to relieve some of the monetary stress of veterinary school both during school and in loan repayment after college," said Amanda Kreuder. "I am very thankful to be the recipient of such a generous scholarship, as this has allowed me to focus more on veterinary medicine throughout my schooling. Hopefully veterinary students will continue to benefit from scholarships like this for years to come."

### **Investing in Faculty**

With 28 U.S. colleges of veterinary medicine, the competition for the best veterinary medicine faculty is keen. Additionally, industry and government also compete for that same talent. Faculty endowments are critical to recruit and retain faculty. Because of the generosity of alumni and friends, the college has three donor-funded chairs and four donor-funded professorships that help the college compete with other universities and industry for talented faculty and researchers.

The John G. Salsbury Chair in Veterinary Medicine is one of the donor-funded chairs established to recruit outstanding faculty, recognize current faculty or bring visiting professors to the college. It is named for John G. Salsbury ('40) who

was a leader in veterinary biologics and served as president and chair of Salsbury Laboratories in Charles City, Iowa.

Dr. Mark Ackermann, professor of veterinary pathology and holder of the Salsbury Chair from 2001-2007, is a 1986 graduate of the college. Dr. Ackermann used the funding from the chair to advance the understanding of respiratory diseases in cattle and sheep. "The Salsbury Endowment has been greatly beneficial," Dr. Ackermann said. "We have discovered new therapeutic methods against respiratory syncytial virus and also developed new methodologies to detect gene expression. The chair has also supported research education and training. I am very fortunate to have had the opportunity. I appreciate deeply Dr. Salsbury's foresight and generosity."

Through the campaign, the college hopes to increase the funding levels of faculty with endowed chairs and professorships to meet the challenges of teaching and training a new generation of Iowa State veterinarians.

### **Investing in Programs**

The College of Veterinary Medicine has numerous programs and collaborative centers that combine education, research and outreach. These partnerships extend the college's expertise beyond the walls of the college into the state of Iowa, the region, the United States and around the world. Investments made through the campaign will be used to launch new programs and enhance existing programs that provide services and resources for veterinarians and the public. Endowing these types of programs and centers will

provide a much needed annual source of support well beyond the campaign.

Investments in *Campaign Iowa State* will be used to grow funding levels for our existing areas of national significance, including infectious diseases programs, evidence-based/outcomes-based veterinary medicine, veterinary pathology training, and graduate student and post-doctoral stipends

### **Investing in Facilities**

State-of-the-art facilities are critical to attract top faculty and students, and to provide cutting-edge research and quality care for pets and livestock. As veterinary medicine has advanced over the decades, so has technology and equipment.

Expansion of the Dr. W. Eugene and Linda Lloyd Veterinary Teaching Hospital is a critical priority to keep pace with today's advancements in veterinary medicine. Additional improvements in the future will allow the college to maintain a tradition of excellence.

Dr. Frank ('49) and Mary Peak recently invested in the college's future by naming two areas in the Intensive Care Unit in the VTH addition. Dr. Peak retired in 1979 after a successful career in small animal medicine in Knoxville, Iowa. His career is filled with wonderful memories of practicing in a small town and spending three years in Panama when the Department of Defense needed a veterinarian who spoke Spanish. "I feel fortunate to have been a veterinarian with all the opportunities that I had in my career," Dr. Peak said. "I wanted to give back to the college as a small payment for the opportunities and life that I've enjoyed as a veterinarian."

All gifts, great and small, received through December 31, 2010, will be counted toward *Campaign Iowa State: With Pride and Purpose*.

For more information about investing in the college's future, please contact:

Jeff Spielman, senior director of development, at (515) 294-8562 or [spielman@iastate.edu](mailto:spielman@iastate.edu)

Shane Jacobson, director of development, at (515) 294-4675 or [shanej@iastate.edu](mailto:shanej@iastate.edu)



*Dr. Joe Seng, recipient of the 2007 Switzer Award with (from left) Drs. Don Reynolds, CVM, associate dean for research and graduate studies; William Switzer; and Patrick Halbur, chair of the Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine at the college. Photo/Bob Elbert*

## Seng receives Switzer Award in Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Joe Seng (70) was honored with the William P. Switzer Award in Veterinary Medicine during the College of Veterinary Medicine's 2007 Research Day, August 10.

Established in 1998, the Switzer Award recognizes exemplary individuals who,

through their achievements, have made significant contributions to society or to the enhancement of the veterinary medicine college.

For the past 37 years, Dr. Seng has owned and operated the St. Francis Veterinary Clinic in Davenport, Iowa. As the state senator representing district 43, Dr. Seng serves as a watchful eye and knowledgeable voice for the veterinary profession, both in animal agriculture

and companion animal medicine, in the Iowa Legislature.

An active member in the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, Dr. Seng has served in several leadership roles including as the association's president in 1992. He has also served as president of the Iowa Health Council. Dr. Seng is alderman-at-large for the Quad City community. Prior to his election as a state senator, he served one term in the Iowa House of Representatives.

## FCA Reaches Milestone

The Feral Cat Alliance reached a remarkable milestone in October 2007. Undergoing anesthesia and unknowing of its place in FCA history, a tabby was the 1,000th feral cat to be sterilized.

Established in 2002, the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine's Feral Cat Alliance is a student organization that provides low-cost spay/neuter and vaccinations for feral cats within a three- to four-hour radius of the college. Feral cats are either spayed or neutered and given their basic vaccinations for a voluntary donation of \$15 per cat. Volunteers from the college and practitioners from the Ames area provide this invaluable service that benefits the state of Iowa by humanely managing the overpopulation of feral cats.

Spraying and neutering is critical to controlling and reducing the numbers of unwanted cats. The college's Feral Cat Alliance hosts one clinic every month to do its part in this important endeavor. Approximately 15 clinicians at the college participate in the clinics. First- and second-year veterinary students volunteer their time to assist with the preoperative and post-operative care and vaccinations. Third-year veterinary students also volunteer to perform anesthesia induction/monitoring and surgery.

Although a large number of students are involved in the clinics (approximately 70 first- and second-year students and 40 third- and fourth-year students), the limiting factor for the program is that it is a learning experience for students, so more time is spent on each cat. Presently, there

is a five-year waiting list. The FCA is the only organization in the state that performs this service.

The cats are released to their caretakers later in the same day as surgery, barring any surgical complications.

Cats that have been sterilized are given an ear notch on the left ear, the universal symbol for neutered feral cats. In recent years, there have been several feral cats with ear notches that have been captured, demonstrating that the program is having an impact on the feral cat population in the area. Cats with ear notches are released back into their community.

Since 2002, a total of 1,010 cats have been spay/neutered.



*President George W. Bush stands with the recipients of the 2006 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers on the North Portico of the White House on November 1, 2007. Dr. Ravindra Singh is pictured in the front row, second from the right. Photo/Chris Greenberg*

## Veterinary medicine researcher honored at White House

Ravindra Singh, Ph.D., received the 2006 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers at a special ceremony at the White House on November 1, 2007. The award was presented by John Marburger III, science advisor to the president and director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Dr. Singh joins 57 other health scientists nationwide as recipients of the award.

Dr. Singh was appointed associate professor of biomedical sciences at Iowa State's College of Veterinary Medicine on July 1, 2007. His award-winning research focused on correcting the spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) gene while he was at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Singh will continue his research on SMA at Iowa State University.

"I am extremely delighted to have received this award," said Dr. Singh. "This award is given to young scientists for an original contribution that is different from the mainstream thinking. I am both honored and humbled with this recognition. I am equally excited that this award goes to an ISU scientist, bringing national recognition to our campus at a time when ISU is gearing up to celebrate its 150th birthday."

"Dr. Singh has been recognized as an outstanding researcher, and his

accomplishments, capabilities and contributions to animal and human health are great additions to the college, Iowa State University and the state," said Dr. John Thomson, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. "We look forward to the continuation of his fine work at Iowa State."

Prior to joining the faculty at Iowa State, Dr. Singh was an assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. He earned his Ph.D. from the Institute of Biochemistry and Physiology of Microorganisms from the Russian Academy of Sciences in Pushchino, Russia. He received his M.Sc. (1985) and B.Sc. (1983) from Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, India. He is a member of the American Society for Microbiology and the RNA Society.

The PECASE award, established in 1996, honors the most promising researchers in the country within their fields. Candidates for the award must be nominated by one of nine participating federal agencies. Dr. Singh was nominated by the NIH. Other agencies submitting nominations were the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Education, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Science Foundation, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## Three's a charm

Dr. John Thomson, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, was named 2007 Veterinarian of the Year by the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association during its annual fall conference in September. Iowa is the third state to recognize Dr. Thomson for his contributions to veterinary medicine. But the IVMA award holds a special significance for Dr. Thomson as an Iowa native and graduate of Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

"There is no question that history will mark Dr. Thomson's tenure as dean as a time of dramatic advancement for the college," said Dr. Tom Johnson, executive director of the IVMA. "His dedication to the profession and the college is without rival. It is a pleasure to work with him as the college and IVMA work together to serve Iowa's veterinarians."

The IVMA recognized Dr. Thomson for his efforts as dean of the college, establishing a professional veterinary program with the University of Nebraska and overseeing the college's \$48 million expansion project.

Dr. Thomson earned his veterinary degree from Iowa State University in 1967 and a master's degree from Northwest Missouri State in 1988. After practicing in Clearfield, Iowa, for 20 years, Dr. Thomson joined the faculty at South Dakota State University from 1987 to 1997, serving as extension veterinarian, professor and head of veterinary science and director of the South Dakota Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory. From 1997 to 1999, he was a professor and production animal medicine section leader in the veterinary diagnostic and production animal medicine department at Iowa State University. He served as dean of the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine before returning to Iowa State as dean of the college in 2004.

Dr. Thomson was named Veterinarian of the Year in South Dakota (1993) and Mississippi (2002). In 1993, he received the Governor's Award for Public Service in South Dakota and in 1997 the governor declared June 13, 1997, as Dr. John U. Thomson Day. In 2003, he received the MSU President's Pegasus Outstanding Service Award.

## McEniry, McCurnin receive AVMA Awards

Two Iowa State University graduates were honored by the American Veterinary Medical Association during its July 2007 annual meeting.

### AVMA Award

Dr. William McEniry ('60) received the AVMA Award that recognizes distinguished contributions to the advancement of veterinary medical organizations.

Dr. McEniry owns a mixed animal practice in Ashton, Ill., and currently serves as a trustee on the AVMA Professional Liability Insurance Trust.

For more than 40 years, Dr. McEniry has been active in organized veterinary medicine at the local, state, regional and national levels. He has served as a member of the board and president of the Northern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association. He served two terms on the board of the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association (ISVMA), and also served a term as president of the association.

Dr. McEniry is the recipient of the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine Stange Award for Meritorious Service, the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine Service Award, and the ISVMA President's Award and Service Award.

### AVMA President's Award

Dr. Dennis McCurnin ('66) received the President's Award for having a positive impact on animal, human, or public health, veterinary organizations and the profession.

As the chair of the AVMA Convention Management and Program Committee from 2000 until 2007, Dr. McCurnin oversaw the growth of the AVMA Annual Convention to include more than 1,300 topics, 600 speakers and its development into a premier veterinary meeting.

He served on AVMA's Continuing Education Advisory Committee, Convention Evaluation Task Force, Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities, and four working committees of the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues.

From 1990 until 2006, Dr. McCurnin was the professor of management and hospital director at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine. Prior to that, he was a professor of surgery and director of the veterinary teaching hospital at Colorado State University for 11 years.

Dr. McCurnin owned and operated a small animal practice in Phoenix, Arizona, after graduation. He returned to Iowa State in 1976 as an associate professor of surgery and assistant dean.

He has received numerous awards, including the Stange Award from Iowa State University, Arizona Veterinarian of the Year Award, Western Veterinary Conference Distinguished Service Award, the Distinguished Life Member Award from the American Veterinary Practice Management Consultants Association and the American Animal Hospital Association Award. Dr. McCurnin is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

## Schultz named Master of the Pork Industry by National Hog Farmer Magazine

In its annual report of the swine industry, the *National Hog Farmer* magazine profiled Dr. Roy Schultz ('60) as one of 10 "Masters of the Pork Industry." Masters are chosen because of their leadership in their chosen fields and respect that they have garnered for their expertise.



Photo/Bill Seglar

## Seglar elected to AABP Board of Directors

Dr. Bill Seglar ('77) was elected to the American Association of Bovine Practitioners Board of Directors, representing District 6. He was elected to a three-year term, beginning September 2007. Dr. Seglar is a global nutritional sciences veterinarian for Pioneer Hi-Bred. Prior to joining Pioneer in 1994, he was a mixed animal practitioner in southeastern Minnesota where he developed herd health programs that included reproductive, nutritional, milk quality, and computerized dairy management.

Dr. Seglar currently provides seminars and workshops for veterinary students interested in dairy production medicine to help them better understand the impact of forage quality in dairy nutrition.

For nearly 50 years, Dr. Schultz has devoted his career to helping swine producers. His dedication has earned him numerous awards, including the 2006 Science in Practice award and 1989 Stange Award from Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, and Swine Practitioner of the Year and Howard Dunne Memorial Award from the American Association of Swine Veterinarians. He is a diplomate in swine health management by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (emeritus).

# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

## The Lights Are On, But Nobody's Home... Yet

It looks big from the highway . . . it's even bigger when you get inside." "Awesome!" "Make no mistake, this is a big one!"

Comments like these are becoming more frequent as work on the Dr. W. Eugene and Linda Lloyd Veterinary Teaching Hospital moves into month 16 of its two-year construction life. Taking advantage of excellent weather, construction managers and crews have kept the project on-schedule for completion in August 2008.

If you've been following the progress on the university Web camera, ([www.fpm.iastate.edu/webcam/vetmed/](http://www.fpm.iastate.edu/webcam/vetmed/)), you can see that the outdoor action is winding down. The roof is on, windows are in, heat and lights are on, and crews are filling out the interior of the 108,000-square-foot, \$48-million building that makes up Phase I of the college's first major expansion program since the building was opened in 1976.

Walls, partitions, stalls and utilities are beginning to define the interior spaces that will be the new equine and large animal hospital. "A college doesn't often have the opportunity to design and build a project of this scope and the progress we're seeing is exciting," said Dr. Eldon K. Uhlenhopp, interim associate dean for outreach and operations, and chair of the college building steering committee. "This is a major investment that will impact

veterinary medical education at Iowa State for many years."

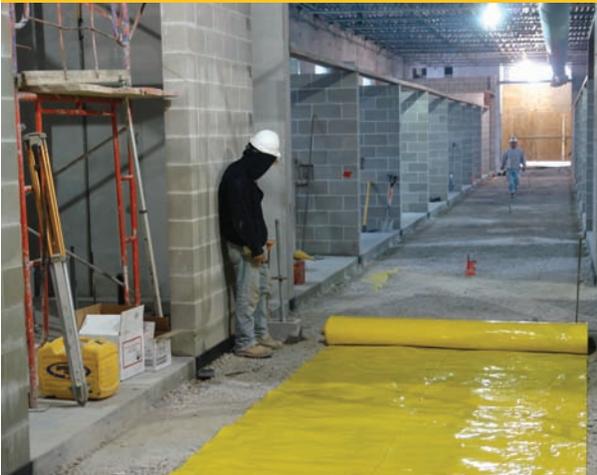
The building will include:

- Advanced Imaging that will house the teaching hospital's new MRI equipment and other imaging services that will serve both large and small animal areas
- Large Animal and Equine surgery and treatment facilities
- Intensive Care Unit
- Equine wards
- Isolation unit
- Faculty offices will be located on the second floor

Overall, the building will increase the college physical size by 25 percent. Also included in Phase 1 is a new BSL-3 (biosecurity level) facility located in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. This project is scheduled for completion in May 2008.

When equine and large animal services move to the new space, the vacated space will be renovated in Phase 2 of the project for expansion of the small animal hospital. This will double the size of the current facilities to accommodate the growing number of students and caseloads.

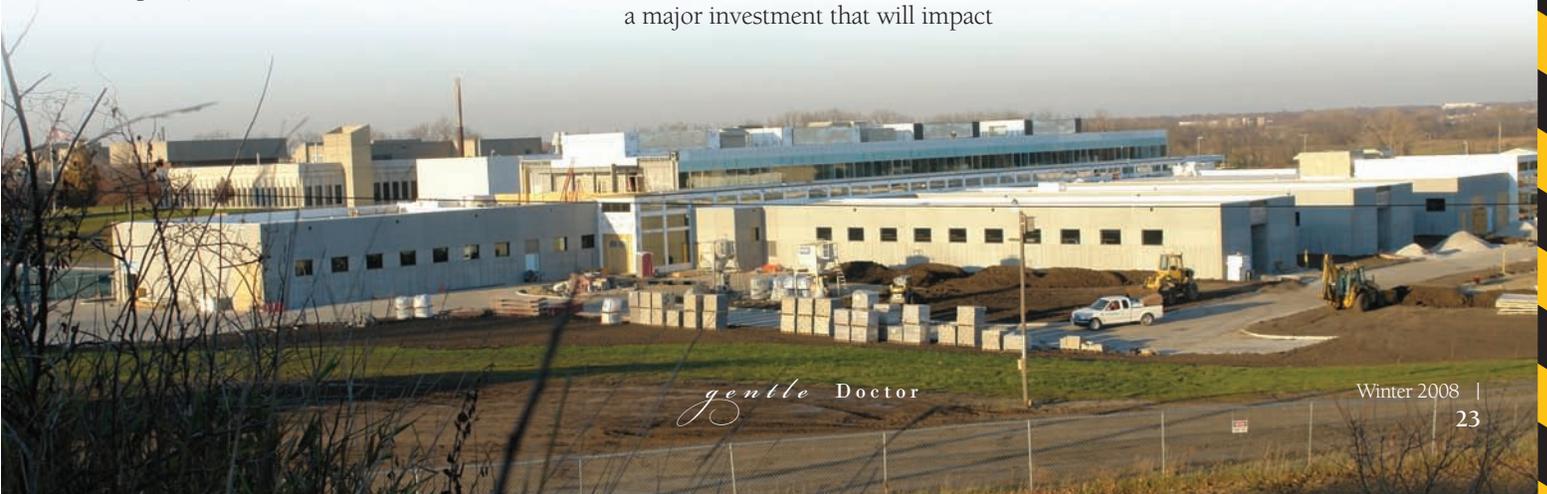
Plans are being made for dedicating the new hospital. Be sure to read the *Gentle Doctor* magazines and check the Web site for details once plans are finalized.

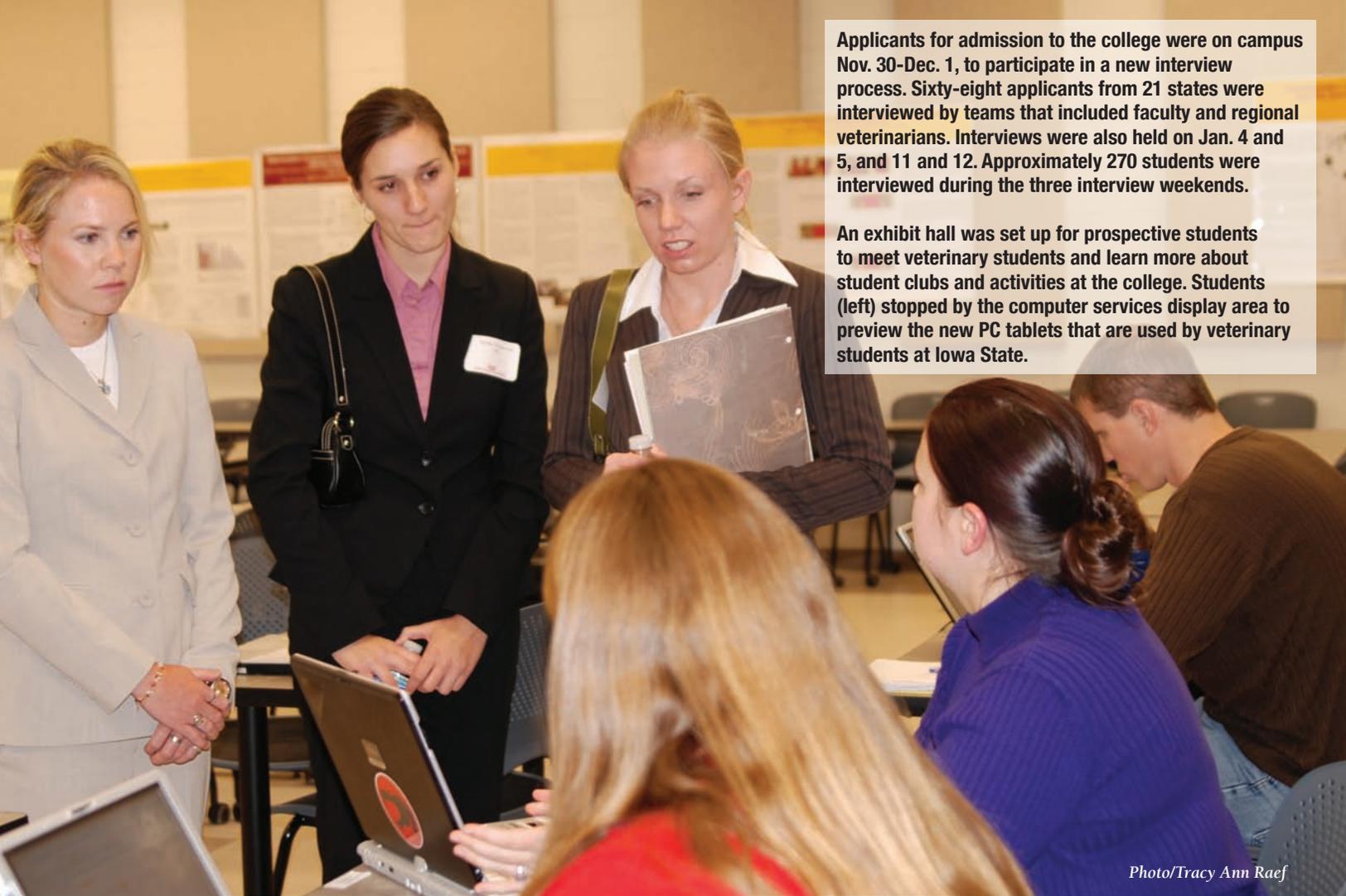


**Top:** Construction management team shows in-progress work to Iowa U.S. Senator Charles Grassley (center) during a June visit. From Left, Mr. Brian Adams, college facilities manager; Mr. Steve Prater, Facilities Planning and Management (FPE&M) project manager; Dr. Eldon Uhlenhopp, interim associate dean for outreach and operations and chair of the College Building Steering Committee; and Mr. Leroy Brown, FPE&M construction manager.

**Center:** View from hallway in equine ward. Stalls are located on each side of the hallway.

**Below:** Overall site facing north from Highway 30.





Applicants for admission to the college were on campus Nov. 30-Dec. 1, to participate in a new interview process. Sixty-eight applicants from 21 states were interviewed by teams that included faculty and regional veterinarians. Interviews were also held on Jan. 4 and 5, and 11 and 12. Approximately 270 students were interviewed during the three interview weekends.

An exhibit hall was set up for prospective students to meet veterinary students and learn more about student clubs and activities at the college. Students (left) stopped by the computer services display area to preview the new PC tablets that are used by veterinary students at Iowa State.

Photo/Tracy Ann Raef



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Veterinary Medicine  
Ames, IA 50011-1250

Return Service Requested