



Also inside this issue of *lifelines*:



Leventhal competes.
See page 2



Tick tips for pets.
See page 2



Meet the new interns.
See page 4



Joseph Chapes goes Under the Microscope.
See page 4

A trip to Tanzania

Zoonotic diseases provide focus for student tour in Africa

This past May, Dr. Rose McMurphy, section head in anesthesiology in the Clinical Sciences department, took a small group of veterinary students to Tanzania as part of the International Veterinary Study Tour elective. The goals of the elective were to gain an understanding of the challenges of raising livestock in a developing country, to identify the predominant zoonotic diseases and their impact on a community, to discuss the impact, both positive and negative, of ecotourism and to recognize problems associated with wildlife conservation in a country with limited financial resources. The elective course involved both didactic instruction before the trip and a 10 day tour of northern Tanzania.

“It is difficult to know what the impact of this tour might have on each individual student,” Dr. McMurphy said. “Certainly getting to visit a place as beautiful as the Serengeti cannot be discounted, but I think the greatest impact comes from meeting the people of Tanzania and an appreciation of daily life in a country where over 80 percent of the population lives below the international poverty line.”

During the early days of the tour, the group met with Simon Sandilen, a logistics officer with Heifer International – Tanzania. Sandilen accompanied the students on a visit to four remote farms in the area surrounding Mt. Meru. Heifer International has been working in Tanzania for several decades and has been instrumental in providing instruction in breeding and caring for livestock, including cattle, donkeys (for



Top: The veterinary study tour group stops at a farm being assisted by the Heifer International program. From left, Mark Brunson, Andrea Olson, the farmers, Dr. Rose McMurphy, Allison Ten and Laura Keller. Bottom: Elephants roam at the Ngorongoro Crater.

hauling water), goats, chicken, and fish and in methods of organic farming and biogas production.

The next part of the itinerary included a journey to Karatu, where the students toured a medical clinic and dropped off donations of medical supplies collected at the K-State

See TANZANIA, page 4

Leventhal wins 2nd place at Alltech Young Scientist Competition

Last month, we reported that second-year student Hannah Leventhal was selected as the United States Zone and North America first place winner for the Alltech Young Scientist Award. As a prize, she was invited to compete on a global level at the competition in Lexington Kentucky. Hannah submitted pictures from the competition where she earned a second-place prize. Congratulations, Hannah!



Dr. Inge Russell and Dr. Mark Lyons from Alltech present the second place prize to Hannah Leventhal. The undergraduate division prize also includes a \$3,000 scholarship.



*Hannah presents "The addition of *Megasphaera elsdenii* to in vitro cultures of equine cecal microorganisms fed starch or fructan."*

Animal health corridor seminar at K-State Olathe

The next presentation in Kansas State University's Animal Health Corridor Lecture Series, "The Quality Unit and Its Relationship to Evolving FDA and USDA Regulations," will be at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 19, on the university's Olathe campus, 22201 W. Innovation Drive.

"There are many new and upcoming FDA and USDA regulations that industry professionals in the corridor need to understand in order to effectively manage quality in biologics and pharmaceuticals," said Dr. Jim McCord, a veterinarian and quality director at Ceva Biomune. "This seminar will explore questions and issues surrounding the interface of quality assurance and regulatory affairs, both in these national agencies and in international arenas."

Drs. McCord and Miguel A. de Soto-Perera, director, managing consultant at Beckloff Associates Inc., a Cardinal Health Company, will share their perspectives and expertise on these topics as featured speakers.

Tickets are \$50 per person and cover the seminar and lunch. Group rates are available. For more information or to RSVP, visit <http://www.ageconomics.k-state.edu/outreach> or contact Kara Ross at 785-532-3526 or kross@agecon.k-state.edu.

The Animal Health Corridor Lecture Series is an initiative of the Animal Health Supply Chain Program offered through Kansas State University's department of agricultural



economics in partnership with K-State Olathe. The lecture series contributes toward the greater mission of the Animal Health Supply Chain Program to enhance the competitiveness of the animal health industry and its supply chain through professional development programs and industry-focused economic and strategy research and analysis.

Video report: Protecting pets from ticks this summer



For pet owners in the Midwest, summer can be a great time to enjoy the outdoors with their animals. Unfortunately, it can also mean risking an encounter with a tick. A mild winter and warm spring has contributed to an unparalleled tick population in 2012, as noted by Dr. Michael Dryden, a University Distinguished Professor of Veterinary Parasitology at Kansas State University, who has studied ticks for over 20 years.



“This has really been a remarkable tick season,” Dr. Dryden said. “Typically during a really hard winter, these ticks are really suppressed and you can really have some significant kill of these tick populations. That just did not happen this year. So we saw ticks starting to become a problem in early February. They

kind of roared through March and April and May —and just continued out of control — and many different tick species as well. We were seeing Lone Star ticks; we were seeing American dog ticks; we were seeing Gulf Coast ticks — it was pretty remarkable.”

While tick season in Kansas traditionally lasts from March to June, Dr. Dryden has continued to see ticks in July despite the high temperatures. This unprecedented tick population may continue into the late summer and fall.

The best way to protect pets from these large numbers of ticks is to use an effective tick-prevention product, not only during the traditional tick season but continuously throughout the year.

For more in-depth coverage, check out the video report at: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1207.htm.

Biosafety and biocontainment training for BSL-3 laboratory workers at BRI

The National Biosafety and Biocontainment Training Program and Kansas State University Biosecurity Research Institute are offering a five-day series of courses in biosafety and biocontainment for BSL-3 laboratory workers, Sept. 10-14. These courses are designed for biosafety professionals, researchers and laboratorians to enhance individual knowledge and meet the scientific, regulatory, biocontainment, biosafety and engineering challenges associated with working in a biocontainment facility. Topics include:

- Introduction to microbiology essentials
- Principles of biosafety and biocontainment
- The biological risk assessment process
- Laboratory sterilization and disinfection
- Emergency planning and response
- Laboratory regulations, standards and guidelines
- Biocontainment laboratory security
- Introduction to animal biocontainment
- Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Hazardous Materials
- Hands-on sessions using laboratory equipment

Successful completion of the courses is a prerequisite for completion of a basic level certificate in biosafety and biocontainment, and for participation in advanced and comprehensive level certificate programs.

National Biosafety and Biocontainment Training Program is authorized by IACET to offer 4.0 continuing education units. To receive these units, participants are required to score a minimum of 70 percent on each post-course knowledge assessment. The course also offers certified industrial hygienists the opportunity to earn certification maintenance points.

Get registration information by calling 785-539-7531.



Dr. Richard Oberst, left, leads a tour through the Biosecurity Research Institute in this file photo from 2008.



Joseph Chapes

Technology Coordinator, Computing and
Technology Support, Dean's Office

Hometown: Manhattan, Kan.

Family Information: My dad, Dr. Stephen K. Chapes, mom, Lou Ann, and sister, Angela, all live in Manhattan. My brother, Stephen, works as an architectural engineer in San Jose, Calif.

Pets: We currently have five dogs at my house. From largest to smallest: Chance, a German shepherd mix, Charlie, a white mutt of some sort, Heidi, a dachshund, and Ross and Spice, a pair of Yorkies.

If you could have a superpower, what would it be? I wish I could fly into space like Superman. With this power I could fly to the moon or beyond. That would be pretty awesome.

What kind of collections do you have? I'm a huge science fiction fan and have a large collection of Star Trek books, toys and other collectables. I often enjoy playing board games with friends, including several types of RISK. I have combined these interests to create a version of RISK based on Star Trek, which can be downloaded online. Of course, I also enjoy creating videos.



Tanzania | Veterinary Study Tour

continued from page 1

College of Veterinary Medicine. The clinic is part of a registered charity through the Foundation for African Medicine and Education. Other cultural interactions included a hike at the Olmoti Crater with two local Masai men and a visit to a Masai village, where the group was welcomed with a traditional dance. One of the members of the village gave the group a tour of a Masai hut and the boma (corral made from brush) where the cattle are kept. The milk and blood from the cattle are the predominant food for the Masai people.

The trip finished with several days of game drives in the national parks, including the famed Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater. The list of wildlife species viewed was "endless" but highlights included numerous leopards, lions and elephants, and witnessing thousands of wildebeest and zebras on their annual migration in the Serengeti.

CVM NEWS TICKER

Dr. James W. Carpenter's exotic animal formulary book was "Book of the Day" listed on an Italian conference website.

Dr. Fernando Pierucci-Alves received a \$20,000 Innovative Research Award through the Johnson Cancer Research Center at K-State for his project titled: "TGF-beta signaling in epithelia of the male excurrent system."

Drs. Brad White, David Anderson and Derek Mosier, received a Merck Animal Health award for their project: "Determination of the potential mitigation of inflammatory factors in Bovine Respiratory Disease through use of florfenicol and flunixin meglumine."

New interns arrive on campus



The Veterinary Health Center welcomed new interns in June. Back row, left to right: Dr. Nathan Canada, Dr. Leslie Moore, Dr. Kristen O'Connell and Dr. Autumn Harris Front row: Dr. Jessie Monday, Dr. Drew Humphries and Dr. Katie Delk.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 22-28: Central Veterinary Conference - Kansas City, Mo.
Sept. 1: Cat Town - K-State vs. Missouri State
Sept. 8: Cat Town - K-State vs. Miami
Sept. 15: Cat Town - K-State vs. North Texas

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