### College of Veterinary Medicine



#### August 2012

# lifelines\_\

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www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1208.htm

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Above: Second-year student Hillary Wolfe assists Stephen Fischer, a dolphin trainer, in performing ultrasound on a bottlenose dolphin. Below: Hillary provides surgical assistance to remove a hook, line and sinker from a turtle's GI tract. (Photos courtesty of Gulf World Marine Park photography center.)

A summer vacation at home doesn't necessarily sound exotic, but second-year student Hillary Wolfe can throw water all over that notion. That's because she spent summer on an eight-week internship at the Gulf World Marine Park in Panama City Beach, Fl.

"I grew up in Florida so I've always had an interest in sea life, but it wasn't until I interned at Sea World in 2009 that I decided to pursue aquatic animal medicine," Hillary said. "I've been hooked ever since."

After an internship last summer for the Navy's Marine Mammal Program in San Diego, she learned about the internship opportunity at the marine park in Florida.

"I've learned all the basics of medical care of bottlenose and rough toothed dolphins, California sea lions, birds and many species of reptiles," Hillary said. "Recently I was involved in the rehabilitation of an endangered Kemp's Ridley sea turtle named Captain Hook. I was able to assist in a very delicate surgery led by Dr. Lydia Staggs to

remove a hook, line and sinker from the GI tract of the turtle. Being involved in the recovery of Captain Hook has been such a rewarding experience that I will never forget."

Ultimately, Hillary hopes to make the most of this experience as she

continues her education at K-State.



"My career goal is to work as a marine mammal veterinarian for the Navy," she said. "I also have a special interest in researching kidney stones and respiratory disease in marine mammals. I look forward to applying what I learn during my second year to what I learned through my internship about marine mammals, especially the disease processes. I also plan to pursue continuing education courses next summer, such as SeaVet."

### Dr. Jim Carpenter delivers new addition at Sunset Zoo: colobus monkey

On July 6, the K-State Zoological Medicine Service with its three senior veterinary students made one of its semi-weekly visits to Manhattan's Sunset Zoo. The purpose of the trip was to chemically immobilize Blinkin, a female black and white colobus monkey, for her annual healthy examination and to extract numerous teeth (performed by Dr. Doug Winters, a veterinary dentist from Wichita). However, the visit turned into a more exciting trip than envisioned and became a great learning experience for the students.

Blinkin's examination revealed an unexpected, but surprising finding: Blinkin had a large mass in her abdomen. Each of the fourth-year veterinary students was able to palpate the mass, which was roughly the size and shape of a baseball, and make diagnostic recommendations. Prior to the immobilization, Blinkin appeared to be clinically healthy, and gave no outward signs that she was sick. Hoping for the best, but fearing the worse, the Radiology Service was consulted. Cody Steffey, a radiology technician,

quickly arrived and set up the portable radiographic unit with the help of the students. One quick radiograph revealed what all had been hoping for, a baby!

The gestation period for a colobus monkey is approximately five months, but since there was no record of her breeding, we relied on our Radiology Service to predict the due date. Based on the position of the fetus' head in the birth canal and the fully ossified skeleton, Dr. David Biller predicted that birth would take place very soon. Just weeks later, a little white colobus baby was born.

The keeper staff at the zoo has carefully observed Blinkin and her baby, and reported that she is being a great first-time mom. Both mother and baby are now on exhibit!

The colobus is indigenous to Africa and is a very popular zoo primate, in large part because of its beauty and agility. Interestingly, the word "colobus" means "mutilated one" because this monkey does not have a thumb. This species has black fur with a white beard



Blinkin, a colobus monkey, holds her newborn infant, whose name will be chosen through a contest at the Sunset Zoo.

and a white "U" shape over its shoulders to its lower back. The newborn is covered with white fur, which starts to change color at 2 months of age and gains adult coloration by 3 months.

## Veterinary scholars present results of research program

With temperatures soaring this summer, 12 veterinary students discovered that the laboratory was the cool place to be. On July 31, the students presented the results of research they had completed as part of the Veterinary Research Scholars Program, or VRSP. This program aims to give first and second year students with limited lab experience an introduction to biomedical research.

"This program provides the students with an opportunity to learn what goes into a research project and to generate a manuscript," said Dr. Elizabeth Davis, associate professor in Clinical Sciences. "For some students, that will allow them an opportunity — perhaps a career opportunity — to choose that they may

otherwise would not have selected."

The Veterinary
Research Scholars
Program is an intensive
research-oriented
experience directed
towards attracting
our most talented
professional students
into biomedical research
careers. In particular,
the program exposes
veterinary students
to critical thinking

processes inherent to hypothesis-driven research activities, methodologies involved in design and execution of laboratory experiments and multicenter



Second-year student Michael White checks on a centrifuge, while participating in the Veterinary Research Scholars Program.

clinical trials, and ethical issues pertinent to biomedical research.

Watch the full the video report at: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1208.htm.

# **Record fundraising year for CVM and university**

The College of Veterinary Medicine just celebrated a record year with the university as a whole. Alumni, friends and corporate partners of Kansas State University made philanthropic gifts and commitments totaling \$121 million in the fiscal year that ended June 30. Of that total, a little more than \$8 million was raised just in the veterinary college. These figures set a new record in fundraising activity in the 68-year history of the KSU Foundation, surpassing the previous record of \$107 million in fiscal year 2011.

"We are thankful to all our generous alumni and friends," said Dr. Ralph Richardson, dean of the college. "The gifts that have been made to this college will help to provide scholarships and opportunities for deserving students. In addition, we will be able to enhance and supplement other programs within the college that contribute to the learning environment."

Curt Frasier, chairman of the KSU Foundation Board of Directors, noted that the number of gifts and donors has increased. "This achievement is a testament to the 51,400 donors who contributed this year, which is up from 44,700 donors last year," he said.

Of the \$121 million total, \$76 million was received in outright gifts, and \$45 million was committed through pledges and deferred gifts, which will come to the university at a later date. These figures represent a total increase of \$14 million

from the previous year., including a \$3 million increase in the CVM.

Overall, there were 13 gifts or commitments of \$1 million or more included in the total. Other highlights included the



Professor emeritus Dr. Harish Minocha presents a scholarship to Dr. Lindy Schirado, class of 2012. The Minocha scholarship was created through a philanthropic gift by Dr. Minocha.

establishment of 92 new scholarships and four professorships or chairs.

"This is a new milestone for Kansas State University, and it is an honor to thank the donors who expressed their support of K-State so generously," said Kirk Schulz, president of Kansas State University. "There is no question that this level of support by the K-State family will assist the university in our quest to be recognized among the top 50 public research universities."

## K-State day at the Kansas State Fair planned for Sept. 9

Kansas State University will roll out the purple carpet at the 2012 Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. The first Sunday of the fair, Sept. 9, is designated as K-State Day with the university being recognized as the day's official sponsor. The College of Veterinary Medicine will join several other academic colleges



The CVM helps host the Birthing Center every year at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. This year the CVM will also host a booth for K-State day at the fair.

and units in hosting information booths at the fair.

Special outdoor exhibits set up south of 4-H Centennial Hall will share university information, including K-State's goal to become a top 50 public research university by 2025. Performances on the adjacent Lake Talbott Stage will showcase university musical groups, and pep rallies will feature members of the Kansas State University Bands, Willie the Wildcat and cheerleaders. K-State items also will be given away throughout the day on the fairgrounds.

"Kansas State University has a proud tradition of partnership with the state fair since it began 100 years ago," said K-State President Kirk Schulz. "The university has turned this opportunity into a strong part of our heritage in providing Kansans with knowledge important to them. Integrating research and education with engagement and outreach is one of our strengths as we move forward to become a top 50 public research university by 2025."

During K-State Day, university representatives will be present at fair gates to welcome visitors and hand out maps, including schedules of performances for Sept. 9 and locations of K-State exhibits and booths for the entire 10-day state fair.



### **Janel Koons**

Admissions Administrative Assistant, Dean's Office

Hometown: Manhattan, Kan.



**Pets:** Nym - a rambunctious, yet sweet, 4-month-old calico kitten.

Where is an ideal place to escape the hot summer? For a summer like this, I would head for the cooler temperatures of the Portland, Ore., area. I would spend my time enjoying the beaches, the mountains and the rain.

What's a special talent you have that your co-workers would be surprised to learn about? One of the hobbies I really enjoy, but never seem to make or have the time to do is watercolor painting. It's amazing to me how you can take different amounts of water and a little bit of paint and create vivid images of color and light.

How do you get inspired when you have a project that is very challenging? I usually approach a project one of two ways. Either I dig in and work the kinks out as I go, or I plan and brainstorm before I get started, so that hopefully the project runs smoothly through the whole process. It really depends on the project and the time constraints involved.

### Introducing the new residents



A new group of residents has joined the Veterinary Health Center. Back row (from left): Dr. Rick Lanuza, Dr. Courtney Boysen, Dr. Heather Patterson and Dr. Eric Garcia. Front row: Dr. Patrick Loftin, Dr. David Upchurch, Dr. Lynda Miller and Dr. Christopher Norkus.

### **CVM NEWS TICKER**

Dr. Jürgen Richt and William Wilson of the U.S. Department of Agriculture will lead a research team on a project to develop ways to diagnose and control Schmallenberg virus, an emerging animal disease causing considerable losses in European cattle, goat and sheep herds. The Center of Excellence for



Emerging and Zoonotic Animal Diseases, or CEEZAD, will receive funding of \$868,515 through the Kansas Bioscience Authority.

**Dr. Amy Rankin** was awarded the KVMA K-State Distinguished Service Award for providing exceptional clinical service to our referring veterinarians.

**Drs. David Andrus, Bruce Prince, Kevin Gwinner and Dan Thomson** have received funding from the National Food Animal Veterinary Institute (NFAVI) for five courses, twenty-five modules on a business best-practice sequence for rural food animal veterinarians.

**Dr. David Eshar** will join the exotics section on Aug. 6.

**Dr. Jessica Slack** will start working in the ophthalmology section Aug. 20.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Aug. 22-28: Central Veterinary Conference - Kansas City, Mo.

Sept. 1: Cat Town - K-State vs. Missouri State, 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 8: Cat Town - K-State vs. Miami, 9:00 a.m.

Sept. 9: K-State Day at the Kansas State Fair

Sept. 10-14: Biosafety and Biocontainment Training for BSL-3 Laboratory Workers

More at: http://bri.k-state.edu/news/NBBTP.html

Sept. 15: Cat Town - K-State vs. North Texas, 4:00 p.m.

Oct. 7-8: 10th Annual Samuel Kelsall III Memorial Hunt

Contact Cheri Ubel to register: 785-532-4043

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