CVM Helps Break Telefund Donation Record

Left: Chris Gruber, acting director of development, checks over donation forms while volunteers call alumni during Telefund.
Inset: The third floor of the KSU Foundation was filled with callers for this year’s fundraising extravaganza.

Thanks in part to College of Veterinary Medicine students, a record-breaking $72,966 was raised in one whirlwind evening at the K-State Telefund on Sunday, Feb. 12.

Students from the CVM and the College of Engineering came together to break the one night all-time record of $140,000. Combined, the two colleges raised a total $155,277 that night.

The CVM alone raised a total of $95,202 from 819 pledges during its two nights of calling. These funds will go towards scholarships to current and future students. “It was a big night because we had a lot of callers and a lot of big pledges,” said Gordon Dowell, director of annual giving. “The energy was really high and remained high because of the constant $1,000 pledges.”

CVM students have a unique opportunity to build relationships with veterinarians while on the phone with alumni they call. Because veterinary students and CVM alumni share so much in common, this comradery has resulted in students receiving externships. “A key to the veterinary students’ success is their maturity,” Dowell said. “They are focused, dedicated, diligent, stay on task and don’t mess around.”

Telefund is made possible by countless other volunteers, not just the callers. One special person who volunteered her time this year was Mrs. Betty Mosier, wife of the late Dr. Jake Mosier. Mrs. Mosier handed out home-baked cookies and drinks to the volunteers Sunday evening.

Telefund, which runs every spring at K-State, is the world’s largest all volunteer telephone campaign for higher education. This year’s Telefund raised a record $1.41 million.

Approximately 1,450 students volunteered their time to call during the entire month of Telefund. Telefund has been an event at K-State for 27 years and has raised more than $21.1 million.

More than 100 grand prizes are given out annually to volunteer callers. Most notably is the Nissan Frontier extended cab truck. All callers who volunteered an entire night will be entered into the drawing for the truck and scholarships.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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<th>Mar. 4</th>
<th>A &amp; P Seminar: Stephanie Young</th>
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<td>Mar. 4</td>
<td>Veterinary Technicians Conference</td>
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<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>Phi Zeta Day - No 1st, 2nd, 3rd year classes after noon</td>
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<td>Mar. 6-17</td>
<td>CE Seminar Series: Vet Bytes seminar - “Updates in Ocular Therapeutics”</td>
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<td>Mar. 9-11</td>
<td>SCAVMA Symposium - Minnesota</td>
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<td>Mar. 20-24</td>
<td>Spring Break - No classes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year students</td>
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Dr. Jennifer Akers, veterinarian in the Pet Health Center, is the newest faculty member at the VMTH.

Dr. Akers received her DVM from Iowa State University in 2001. She has worked in practices in Iowa, California and Kansas.

She works in the Pet Health Center on Mondays and Fridays.

“I am excited for the opportunity to be in a teaching environment, especially one that promotes and practices at such a high quality,” Dr. Akers said.

Her husband is Dr. Brian Lubbers, a clinical instructor in agricultural practices at the CVM.

Her new position is Dr. Akers’ first teaching appointment, and she is enthusiastic to be at the teaching hospital.

“I really enjoy working with the students,” Dr. Akers said. “I am hoping to offer a perspective that will prepare them for careers and provide the best quality medicine for our patients and clients.”

Dr. Jennifer Akers, Pet Health Center, with patient “Jax” at the VMTH.

**CVM Alumni Fellow**

Dr. David Franz, the CVM’s 2006 Alumni Fellow, gave a lecture entitled, “Veterinary Medicine: A World of Opportunities” on Feb. 27.

Dr. Franz is director of the National Agricultural Biosecurity Center at K-State. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command and as commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases. In the 1990s, he was chief inspector for United Nations biological warfare inspection missions to Iraq and a member of the first team to visit closed cities in Russia where secret biological warfare facilities were located.

Dr. Franz said collaboration with other countries will be crucial in preventing disease outbreak. “The rest of the world is learning that we’ve got to work together across the species,” he said.

He advised students to volunteer for things they wouldn’t normally. “I think that is something that has done more for me than anything,” Dr. Franz said.

David Burnham, Paleontologist at KU, and Dr. David Biller discuss features of a dinosaur fossil.

The VMTH recently radiographed two early cretaceous fossils from China.

Paleontologist David Burnham from the University of Kansas brought the fossils of a bird-like dinosaur and a bird thought to be 110 to 128 million years old to the VMTH. Dr. David Biller, associate professor of radiology, took the radiographs.

Burnham’s objective was to be able to look in and around the bones of the animals.

“The radiograph gives us a road map of the skeleton as it lays in the rock,” Burnham said. “It allows us to uncover more about bones that might be hidden or drifted away from the skeleton.”

One fossil is a bird whose species is undetermined. Burnham said it had yet to be determined whether the fossil is a new species or one that has already been discovered. The other fossil is similar to a bird-like dinosaur that is described as a Microraptor, a dinosaur with four wings.

“It is too early to tell what the species are,” Burnham said. “They are extremely significant because we are learning more about the environment that these creatures lived and/or died in.”

The fossils were found in Liaoning, China in the Jehol group, a formation of rocks that have a large grouping of dinosaur fossils.

They were brought to KU for preparation and study because KU is the only place using a method of embedding one side of the fossil in an acrylic base and cleaning the other side.

“This method allows us to view the skeleton from both sides, and to view the depositional history of the rock that the fossil is embedded in,” Burnham said. “I really enjoyed doing this and feel especially privileged to look at these fossils using the high-tech equipment at K-State.”

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Check it Out at the Library

By Carol Elmore

If a long drive or some quiet time is anticipated during the upcoming spring break and some entertainment ideas are needed, the DVD/video/recorded books collection at the Veterinary Medical Library might help. Most items in our collection have an animal connection but cover a wide range of topics dealing with the animal kingdom. We have children’s fiction classics such as “101 Dalmations,” “Black Beauty,” and “Dr. Doolittle.” More recent productions include “Brother Bear,” “Jumanji” and “Madagascar.” Classic movies like “The Bird Man of Alcatraz,” “The Thin Man” or “The Birds” are also available to check out. We also have many nature films including the new “March of the Penguins.”

We have a portable DVD player, three laptops with wide screens and car adapters to check out. Audio books might be the perfect option for a trip because everyone in the car can enjoy the story.

I recently enjoyed “Encounters with Animals” by Gerald Durrell and his accounts of animals from Argentina, Africa, Greece and Guiana. Fiction such as John Erickson’s “Hank the Cow Dog” series or Beverly Cleary’s “Henry Huggins” are available along with other titles.

We also have a Belkin Mobile FM Transmitter that turns a car’s cassette, CD player, or iPod into a full sound experience.

Contact Gina Scott in the Digital Information Services Center with questions about library equipment available for check out at the VML.

CVM Student Wins NAVC College Challenge

A K-State CVM student won the Nestle Purina College Challenge competition in January at the North American Veterinary Conference (NAVC) in Orlando, Fla. The champion, Shelly Adrian, Class of 2007, won $3,000 in prize money and a $3,000 matching donation to K-State’s Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association (SCAVMA).

Adrian competed against 25 student delegates from each of the veterinary colleges who were chosen by their deans to attend the conference.

The Challenge format was similar to a quiz bowl with competitors amassing as many points as possible through four rounds of questions until two contestants faced off for the championship in the fifth round. Questions ranged from topics on small and large animals to anatomy and critical care, and incorporated material covered in all four years of veterinary school.

Adrian, who competed last year, attributes her win to the knowledge she has gained during the past year. “Between your second and third year, you learn so much and it all becomes relevant,” she said. “Some of the questions were easy, but the majority of them were really tough.”

Adrian said she enjoyed the good-natured competitive spirit of the challenge among delegates who became good friends during the conference. “It was a lot of fun. All the representatives knew each other from last year, and we just had fun cheering each other on,” Adrian said. “But the money was nice too.”

Along with the competition, the student delegates worked a booth at the NAVC and promoted the NAVC at their respective schools throughout the school year.

First and second runners up in the challenge receive cash prizes of $2,000 and $1,000 plus a matching donation to their colleges.
Scholarship Winner

Congratulations to Dr. Kelli Almes, DM/P, for receiving the Donald M. and Marilyn B. Trotter Scholarship. The scholarship is given to a graduating senior who plans on teaching in anatomy or morphologic pathology after completing graduate studies.

Phi Zeta Day Preview

Dr. Elaine Ostrander

This year’s Kenneth D. Olsen Phi Zeta lecture will be given by Dr. Elaine Ostrander at 12:15 p.m., March 7, in Frick Auditorium. Her lecture is entitled, “Genetic Mapping of Complex Traits in the Domestic Dog.” Preceding the lecture, Dr. Ostrander will give a research seminar entitled, “Finding Prostate Cancer Susceptibility Loci,” at 10 a.m. in 301 Trotter Hall.

Dr. Ostrander is chief of the cancer genetics branch at the National Human Genome Research Institute of NIH. She also heads the section of comparative genetics. Her current research interests are in the area of genetic mapping and genomics. Her lab at NIH works in both human and canine genetics and focuses on the genetics of complex diseases such as cancer, Addison’s disease, and hip dysplasia.

NEW ARRIVALS

Melanie Austin - VMTH
Sandra Donker - VMTH
Dr. Jennifer Akers - VMTH
Milton G. Bird-Valdez - A&P
M. Jahangin Alam - DM/P
Gwi Mon Seo - DM/P
Sara Maiten - DM/P
Gerald Minham - ARF
Dr. Renee Rankin - VMTH
Dr. Maria Ferrer - VMTH

RECENT DEPARTURES

Sanjay Kapil - DM/P

CVM News Ticker

Dr. Ken Harkin, VMTH, received a KSU distinguished service award from the KVMA at the annual KVMA Conference in January.

Dr. Dan Upson, emeritus professor, was awarded the Lifetime Service Award from the KVMA at the annual KVMA Conference in January. He was also featured on the cover of a recent issue of Bovine Veterinarian Magazine.

Dr. Roger Fedde, emeritus professor of physiology, was quoted in an article in “Audubon” Magazine. The article was about bar-headed geese who migrate over the Himalayan Mountains.

Dr. Gayle Willard, Veterinary Medical Library, has received membership in the Academy of Health Information Professionals.

Kim Rainwater, junior, was named Veterinary Student of the Year for 2005 by Wildlife Safari, a wildlife park in Winston, Ore.

Megan Dorn, junior, is this year’s recipient of the Simmons Educational Foundation Award. She will receive an engraved plaque and check at the awards banquet in April.

Shannon Kneuper, overnight emergency desk administrative assistant, is the proud mother of Gabriella Bernadette, born on Feb. 6.

Patti Thompson, large animal administrative assistant, welcomed a new daughter, Taylor Grace, into the world on Feb. 28.