

Merial Sponsors Tick Research at CVM



Six Merial representatives were on hand for a formal presentation of an \$815,000 sponsorship to the Dryden Tick Lab on March 14. Presenting the check to Dr. Michael Dryden is Dr. Zack Mills, Merial executive director of veterinary medical affairs. Also present were Dr. M.M. Chengapa, second from left, and K-State Provost Duane Nellis, second from right.

The College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) has received an \$815,000 sponsorship from Merial to fund research on ticks that infest dogs and cats.

On March 14, six representatives from Merial attended a formal presentation of the sponsorship for the research to be conducted by Dr. Michael Dryden, professor of veterinary parasitology.

The sponsorship will be divided into three areas for Dr. Dryden's research. Part of the sponsorship will go to the Rufus Fisher Dog Angel Program. This program is a service that provides homes for the dogs that take part in flea and tick product evaluations. These funds will assist Dr. Dryden in offsetting the costs of spays, neuters, vaccines and socialization.

The sponsorship also includes funds that will help support a new tick research facility at Kansas State University. This facility will be specifically designed and equipped to allow for tick biology and disease vector studies. "This facility not only benefits me, but it will be here for the future and can be utilized by other faculty as well," Dr. Dryden said.

The sponsorship will also help to support tick biology and acaricide resistance studies and a technician who will help coordinate these research activities over the next three years.

"For us to really develop true preventive programs that will keep ticks from transmitting diseases, we have to understand ticks in the same ways we under-

stand fleas," said Zach Mills, executive director of veterinary medical affairs for Merial. "This is why we decided to support Dr. Dryden."

This research will help improve current products or create new ones that fight tick infestations. More importantly, it will map the exact biology of the four most common tick species in North America: the Lone Star, American Dog, Black Legged and Brown Dog ticks. This will further understanding about how ticks feed, live and reproduce. Information this extensive is not currently available to veterinarians.

"Without the help from Merial, we would not be able to conduct this research," Dr. Dryden said. "The state and federal governments just

don't fund projects like this. The information we will be able to generate is going to be very beneficial to pets, pet owners and veterinary medicine as a whole."

Dr. Dryden began researching flea infestations in cats and dogs 20 years ago. This research corrected many misconceptions about fleas and the products used to control them. Last fall his flea research was recognized as the most significant advancement in modern veterinary dermatology by the veterinary dermatology community.

"Dr. Dryden has done a tremendous amount of work in bringing a knowledge base to fleas," Mills said. "We know that with his drive and capabilities, he will do the same thing for the tick market, no doubt."

FACULTY PROFILE



Dr. Bart Carter, ARF director, in Coles Hall.

Dr. Bart Carter is the director of the Animal Resource Facility (ARF). He is responsible for regulatory oversight of several thousand animals on the K-State campus that are used for research or teaching as well as providing care for the animals housed within the Animal Resource Facility.

“We have the ability to house everything from frogs to mice to cattle and horses and everything in between,” Dr. Carter said.

Dr. Carter and his staff give training and guidance to all researchers who are approved to utilize animals in their research.

They also offer support in data collection for the animals housed at the CVM.

Dr. Carter received his DVM from the University of Missouri and worked in private practice for nine years as a large animal veterinarian. He completed a residency in laboratory animal medicine. He is a diplomat of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine and has been at the CVM since 2004.

Dr. Carter’s wife, Mary, is a pathology resident in DM/P. They have an 11-year-old daughter.

CVM Fills Senate Seats for the First Time in Six Years

The CVM now has two seats in the K-State Student Senate and two new CVM representatives in those positions. The college has not had a student representative in the Senate in six years.

After March’s senate elections, two veterinary students were elected to fill those positions. Jim Weemhoff and Shelley Adrian, both from the Class of 2007, won the election by write-in votes.

Traditionally the CVM has had one seat in the senate, however, after a reallocation of seats, one more was added for the CVM. Tyson Moore, Student Senate chair, speculates that there has not been a representative from the CVM in recent years because of the time commitment.

“Six years ago, Student Senate was a very different place,” Moore said. “It was a bigger time commitment then.”

Student Senators vote on bills that decide how fees are allocated for the CVM, therefore Moore says veterinary students should have a say in how that money is spent.

The time commitment for veterinary students is less than that of undergraduate students. Veterinary students do not have to serve on committees and only need to attend Student Senate meetings once a week.

“It’s really important to have those vacancies filled,” Moore said. “Every college needs to be represented when we are governing.”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 1	CE Conference - Progressive Practice Management	April 22-23	CE Conference - Bovine Conference on Health and Production
April 3-14	CE VetBytes Seminars: 24/7 Client Calls	April 22	Annual Dog-N-Jog
April 7	No 1st, 2nd and 3rd year classes after noon for Open House	April 23	CE Conference - 23rd Annual Frank W. Jordan Seminar on Pain Management
April 8	Annual University Open House	April 28	Last day of Spring classes for 3rd year students
April 21	Kind Hearts Caring Hands - * No 1st, 2nd and 3rd year classes * 3rd year White Coat Ceremony * 4th year Honors Banquet	April 29- May 5	Final Exams for 3rd year students
April 10-22	NAVLE Testing		





By Carol Elmore

The second annual Veterinary Medical Library book sale was a success this year. Stefan Yates, who organized the sale, reported that sales exceeded last year with prices ranging from \$1-

Check it Out at the Library

\$4 early in the sale to 50 percent off after a few days. Prices dropped to 75 percent off a week later and then to \$1 a bag. Eventually, remaining items were free for the taking.

All silent auction items had multiple bids with a high bid of \$65.01 on one textbook. Yates said next year's sale will begin on Valentine's Day and donated books will be accepted during the year and stored until the sale

begins.

Because we want to give something back to our library users and book sale purchasers, several new items are on order and will be available through the technology lending program.

On order is a new global positioning system, the GPSMAP 76CSx, providing satellite location tracking that will have extra maps for American cities, lakes and national parks. The unit has

a rugged housing, is waterproof and floats on water.

We are also ordering a Sony DCR-HC46 MiniDV Handycam Camcorder that provides approximately one hour of play time for recorded actions. A 7 inch portable Mustek DVD player and monitor with surround sound output will arrive soon.

We have a variety of equipment and electronic items available for check out. Gina Scott in the Digital Information Services Center is available to demonstrate how to use any of these items.

Astronaut Veterinarian to be Featured Speaker

A NASA astronaut will give this year's all-college convocation during Kind Hearts, Caring Hands Day at the CVM on April 21, and will give the keynote speech at the White Coat Ceremony later that day.

Richard Linnehan, an astronaut and veterinarian, has been with NASA for 14 years and has flown three missions in space aboard the space shuttle Columbia.

His first mission in the summer of 1996 was the first to combine a full microgravity studies agenda and a comprehensive life sciences payload. During Linnehan's second mission two years later, he participated in experiments on the effects of microgravity on the brain and nervous systems. Those studies will be modeled by the International Space Station in the future. On his

most recent mission in 2002 Linnehan and a teammate performed three spacewalks totaling 21 hours to service the Hubble Space Telescope. During the three space missions, Linnehan has logged more than 43 days in space.

In an interview before the Hubble mission Linnehan said, "It will be the most important thing I can see me doing, upgrading this instrument and hopefully making it a better instrument – and



Astronaut Richard Linnehan

allowing us to learn that much more."

Linnehan received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from The Ohio State University in 1985 and has honorary doctorates of science from the University of New

Hampshire and Suffolk University. He is an adjunct assistant professor at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine in Raleigh-Durham, N.C.

Before being selected as a mission specialist by NASA, Linnehan worked in private practice and completed a

two-year joint internship in zoo animal medicine and comparative pathology at the Baltimore Zoo and The John Hopkins University. He was also chief clinical veterinarian for the U.S. Navy's Marine Mammal program at the Navel Ocean Systems Center in San Diego, Calif. There, he initiated research in the areas of cetacean and pinniped anesthesia, orthopedics, drug pharmacokinetics and reproduction.

"Meeting Dr. Linnehan will be a great opportunity for our students, faculty and staff. He is a living example of how veterinary medicine can be a doorway to all sorts of careers," Dean Ralph Richardson said. "Dr. Linnehan's presentations will be a 'must-see' for those interested in veterinary medicine, biology and our country's space program."

CVM Holds Mixed Animal Practice Symposium

The K-State CVM collaborated with the College of Business Administration and Pfizer Animal Health to hold the Opportunities in Mixed Animal Practice Symposium in Manhattan on March 3-4.

Practitioners from four states – Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, and Missouri – were in Manhattan to meet with junior and senior CVM students.

“Participant practitioners are currently looking to hire associates, and they appreciated the opportunity to interact with students who

will be graduating in the near future,” said Dr. Brad White, assistant professor in Clinical Sciences. “Our goal was to help practitioners and students get to know each other a little better so they could find the right match regarding future employment.”

The first evening of the meeting focused on providing interviewing techniques to both students and practitioners. Drs. Mike Apley and Dan Thomson, Clinical Sciences, performed a presentation describing interviewing techniques. Dr.

Bruce Prince, College of Business Administration, provided additional insight regarding improving the quality of interaction between potential employers and employees.

The next morning, Drs. Dave Andrus, Bruce Prince and Kevin Gwinner from College of Business Administration shared some findings from their survey on the demand for food supply veterinarians. Following the presentation, practitioners and students engaged in an innovative

program of “Speed Interviews.”

Each student spent five minutes with each practitioner through a rotation. The students honed their interviewing skills during the rapid networking session.

“The event was a success based on feedback from participants and the fact that several attendees stayed well beyond scheduled meetings to discuss specifics of available job opportunities,” Dr. White said. “We’ve already had requests to schedule this symposium again.”

K-State Faculty Member Named Director of BRI

Kansas State University faculty member and nationally-known scientist James Stack has been chosen to direct K-State’s new \$54 million Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI). The biosecurity facility is scheduled for completion this fall.

Stack, a K-State professor of plant pathology and director of the Great Plains Diagnostic Network, will direct the Biosecurity Research Institute, a food safety and security facility being constructed north of the Veterinary Medical Complex. Stack will report to Dr. David Franz, a veterinarian and former Commander of the U.S. Army’s Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, who is the director of K-State’s National Agricultural Biosecurity Center.

“Jim Stack has been a key figure in K-State’s rise to have the best food safety and security program of any university in America today,”

said K-State President Jon Wefald. “Jim has exceptional leadership and communication skills and will do a brilliant job leading the BRI.”

Wefald said the new Biosecurity Research Institute will be one of a kind in the world today.

“This is a building that by definition is vital to America’s national security interests,” Wefald said. “K-State’s diagnostic capability for threats to the nation’s animal and plant industries enables us to quickly identify organisms that could devastate the nation’s food supply and undermine international trade.”

“Research conducted in our soon-to-be-completed



James Stack, director of the Biosecurity Research Institute

\$54 million Biosecurity Research Institute will examine pathways by which pathogens can spread and look at issues related to counter measure and animal carcass disposal after a potentially catastrophic event.”

Stack was

part of a group of K-State researchers who developed the Plant Diagnosis Information System software that provides a national system of communication between researchers to digitally share their diagnosis.

Stack also designed and authored the Plant Disease Central Web site to assist extension educators and agricultural professionals in the diagnosis and management of

diseases of field crops. In addition, he led the discovery, development and commercial introduction of the biological fungicide, Bio-Save, which is used on oranges, lemons, pears, apples, and to a limited extent, cherries and potatoes.

Prior to coming to K-State, Stack served as a faculty member and extension specialist in the department of pathology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Stack received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Massachusetts and his doctorate from Cornell University in 1984.

“I am very confident that Dr. Stack will provide excellent leadership as director of the BRI as this new facility and its programs serve as a catalyst for K-State’s continued recognition as our nation’s foremost leader in food safety and security,” said M. Duane Nellis, K-State Provost.

A Special Thank You



The class of 2006 showed their appreciation for faculty and staff of the VMTH by organizing a breakfast on Feb. 4. "The graduating class always buys a gift for the hospital, but we've never had a class make breakfast for us. That was so nice," said Bertie Lovett, hospital director's office.

NEW ARRIVALS

Dr. Robert Larson - Coleman Chair in Food Animal Production Medicine
Travis Peters - DM/P

RECENT DEPARTURES

Binod Jacob - DM/P
Laurie Ekart - Development Office

CVM News Ticker

Dr. Peter J. Timoney, director of the Gluck Research Institute at the University of Kentucky gave an ADVANCE Distinguished Lecture on Feb. 2, at the invitation of **Dr. Kristin Patton**, assistant professor in DM/P. Dr. Patton has been invited to give a lecture series sponsored by the Kansas City Dressage Association regarding diseases of horses. The first lecture entitled, "Musculoskeletal Lesions in Horses" is scheduled for May 25. The second, scheduled on July 19, is entitled, "Belly Aches and Wheezes."

Drs. James Carpenter and **Connie Ketz-Riley** presented a two-credit course on exotic animal medicine to 68 veterinary students at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in February and March.

The CVM **rabies lab** was featured in a front page article in the Manhattan Mercury on March 11th. Lab supervisor **Kristin Schweitzer** was quoted and pictured in the article.

The **Christian Veterinary Mission Fellowship's** Fifth Annual Around the World 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will be held on Saturday, April 22, at 10 a.m. in the K-State Chester E. Peters Rec Center. The entry deadline is April 7. Contact Jennifer Turner, Christian Veterinary Mission Fellowship vice president, at jturner@vet.ksu.edu with questions.

Dr. Dan Thomson, assistant professor in agricultural practices, recently coached the MBA Riley County Pride 6th grade girls' basketball team to win the MAYB Hays Shootout Tournament in Hays, Kan.

A Professor With Many Talents



Dr. James Coffman, provost emeritus and professor of clinical sciences, is not only a veterinarian, writer and professor, he is also a talented painter.

In his spare time, Dr. Coffman has been oil painting for 36 years. He started taking classes after seeing a body of work that really resonated with him. "Once I took the first step and pattered around with it, I was hooked," Dr. Coffman said.

He mainly paints works of American Indians, many developed around the 1900's photography of Edward S. Curtis. He also has painted works that have significance to his family history. "I have done a small amount of work that included horses and may expand on that in the future," Dr. Coffman said. "That is also a subject matter I have a lot of passion for."

His work is currently on display in the Change Gallery in Seaton Hall along with works by Tom Rawson, vice president for administration and finance, and Bob Krause, vice president for institutional advancement. This exhibit will run March 13-31.



The MBA Pride 6th Grade girls' basketball team.