Faculty Members Visit Afghanistan Veterinary School

Two faculty members from the College of Veterinary Medicine recently went on a trip to Afghanistan to learn about the state of veterinary medicine there and to explore collaborative opportunities.

Dr. Chris Ross, professor of physiology, and Dr. Walter Renberg, associate professor of small animal surgery, visited the veterinary school at Kabul University in early July.

They said the veterinary school, which once had the best veterinary program in the Middle East, deteriorated after 25 years of war and isolation. “I don’t think you can overestimate how damaging that has been,” Dr. Ross said.

Drs. Ross and Renberg toured the university's teaching facilities and met with administrators and students. They said the school has many needs, the most important being faculty development and clinical training support. “We went over there with the primary intention of better understanding what the situation is, what the specific needs are, and how K-State’s interests and capabilities could apply to those needs,” Dr. Renberg explained. Dr. Ross added that just establishing an internet connection would go a long way to expanding the school’s resources.

Dr. Renberg, who teaches a class on globalization in veterinary medicine, said having good veterinary care in Afghanistan is important. “Veterinary medicine is key to the strength of that country and the country’s strength is important to the global geopolitical situation. Because things are in such disarray, there are major opportunities for individuals to make a big difference there.”

The two reported that the veterinarians in Afghanistan are also in need of basic education on animal husbandry and preventive medicine techniques. Afghanistan has about 300 food animal veterinarians across the entire country, but Dr. Renberg said what they are able to accomplish is minimized due to poor training in the 1980s and 1990s.

Dr. Ross believes if K-State were to trade faculty members with Kabul's veterinary college, K-State researchers could learn about diseases that are present in Afghanistan but don’t exist in the United States. “It would be a chance for our clinicians and diagnosticians to go in and have first-hand contact with diseases that we teach about but never actually see, such as Foot and Mouth Disease,” Dr. Ross said.

Kabul University was heavily damaged during the war with the Taliban, but the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have since financed renovation of the buildings.

Kansas State University is pursuing a campus wide exchange with Kabul University, an effort lead by Yar Ebadi, dean of the College of Business and an Afghan native.
Emeritus Professor Publishes New Edition of Book

Emeritus Professor Dr. John Noordsy recently published the fourth edition of his popular text book entitled “Food Animal Surgery.”

The 84-year-old, who was a professor of large animal surgery at K-State and served as interim dean of the CVM in 1987, published the first edition in 1978. “The book is for treating cattle in a practical manner so you don’t have to take them to a sophisticated hospital,” Dr. Noordsy said.

The original book was developed out of syllabi that he produced for students during 30 years of teaching. When students from other universities began asking for copies Dr. Noordsy decided to publish them. “This book tells how to treat food animals such as cows and pigs in a way that is simple and economical, so that the average producer can afford to pay the veterinarian,” he said.

After the last issue of the field manual went out of print, there was demand for a reprint from countries outside the U.S. that do not have the monetary resources to treat animals with the advanced techniques.

Dr. Noordsy enlisted the help of Dr. Kent Ames, professor of food animal medicine from Michigan State College of Veterinary Medicine, to help with the revision process.

“My intention is to bring these procedures back to where they are serviceable for the individual cow and protect what I feel is the number one food commodity in the world,” Dr. Noordsy said.

Dr. John Noordsy, along with Dr. Kent Ames of Michigan State University, have published a new edition of “Food Animal Surgery.”

Faculty Profile: Dr. David Anderson

Dr. David Anderson, professor of agricultural practices, has returned to Kansas State University to lead the exciting change going on in Agricultural Practices. “What is going on in agricultural practices at K-State right now is unparalleled in history,” Dr. Anderson said. “We have a collation of all the aspects needed for a premier beef program.”

Dr. Anderson completed his residency at K-State in 1995. Because of his expertise in the food animal field and connection with K-State, he was offered the job of section head of the agricultural practices unit. “One of the reasons I came back to K-State was to be a part of a group that is very well integrated,” he said. “Everyone respects and enjoys working with each other and that is absolutely unique.”

This group includes three clinical pharmacologist, four professors whose focus is on beef production medicine, four faculty whose focus is individual food animal medicine and surgery, four clinical instructors, two residents, two and a half technicians, and a growing number of graduate students.

“We have the most comprehensive food animal service in North America right now,” Dr. Anderson said.

With him, he has brought some new ideas and technology. He is one of only three board certified surgeons in the country focusing exclusively on food animal surgery.

Pressure plate technology is one of those new features. The pressure plate is lightweight, portable and can be stored in a brief case and attached to a laptop computer. “It’s very independent of stride unlike force plate. The pressure plate technology gives you a world of information in a standing animal,” Dr. Anderson said. “It’s much more sensitive in detecting subtle variations in strides.”

He also plans to rejuvenate the dual energy X-ray absorptiometry unit. It is currently available for use, but Dr. Anderson believes it is underutilized.

“We are also bringing in new technologies in orthopedics,” Dr. Anderson said. He is helping to set up an aggressive minimally invasive surgical service using laparoscopic cameras to diagnose and selectively treat diseases.

Dr. Anderson is developing new clinical applications for a cutting-edge procedure called thelioscopy. This procedure uses camera and instrument systems that can be inserted into the teat of a cow to perform surgeries. “Standard surgical techniques on the teats and udder were destructive and only had a 30 to 40 percent success rate,” he said. “Now we have a 70 to 80 percent success rate in restoration with thelioscopy.”

Dr. Anderson has a DVM from North Carolina State University and a master’s degree from K-State. He worked for 11 years at The Ohio State University before returning to K-State.

“Most veterinary schools are moving away from agriculture, while K-State is embracing agriculture and the mission of service to the community,” Dr. Anderson said. “K-State will be the elite center for beef veterinary medicine. I have no doubt whatsoever that we will evolve into an international program where veterinary students from around the world will come here to learn about beef.”
Check it Out at the Library

By Carol Elmore

Although the Veterinary Medical Library has many professional veterinary and medical journals, the library also subscribes to several popular animal magazines that will be of interest to animal owners, breeders and animal lovers.

If dogs command your attention and time, the magazines *Dog World* and *Dog Fancy* might be of interest to you since both magazines have numerous articles on dog topics such as breeds, grooming, safety, health care and other dog issues.

A comparable magazine for cat lovers is *Cat Fancy* with equally enticing articles for devoted cat enthusiasts.

Not to be neglected are the fish and horse lovers with the magazines *Horse Illustrated*, *Tropical Fish Hobbyist* and others.

For the farmers or ranchers who come to the library, we have several magazines such as *World Poultry*, *Hoard’s Dairyman*, or *Pork* that might be of interest in rekindling old farm memories or introducing new ideas to your farm operation.

We display new copies of our magazines and journals on the slanted shelves at the front of the library. Back issues are then shelved alphabetically with all of the journals in the library’s journal section.

Otto Zietzschmann Prize Awarded to Dr. Deryl Troyer

The World Association of Veterinary Anatomists (WAVA) recently awarded Dr. Deryl Troyer, professor in the Anatomy and Physiology, the international Otto Zietzschmann Prize for the promotion of research in veterinary embryology in 2004. This award was in recognition of his stem cell research.

Because WAVA holds its meetings every three or four years, Dr. Troyer received his award at a banquet on July 22, 2006 in Messina, Italy.

The objective of the Otto Zietzschmann Prize is to keep alive the memory of Otto Zietzschmann (1879-1957), to promote veterinary embryological investigation, and to stimulate and honor pertinent research.

Dr. Troyer won this award for his paper entitled “Incorporation of Bovine Bone Marrow Stromal Cells into Porcine Foetal Tissues after Xerotransplantation,” along with Drs. Mark Weiss, Kathy Mitchell, P.L. Martin and Duane Davis in the journal Anatomia Histologia Embryologia. This paper describes an animal model for the introduction and integration of stem cells into fetal organs, and provides the potential for ex-vivo gene therapy to enhance the health and well-being of animals and humans.

“I am indebted to my collaborators at K-State, including Dr. Mark Weiss and Dr. Duane Davis,” Dr. Troyer said. “Without them I couldn’t have received this award.”

Portrait of Dr. Jake Mosier to be Placed in VMTH

A new painting will adorn the walls of the Mosier Examination Room in the VMTH.

The portrait is of the late Dr. Jake Mosier, the namesake of both exam room and the building which houses it. Dr. Mosier’s wife, Betty, painted the portrait in 2003.

“I painted it from a picture of him when he was in his late 50’s,” Mrs. Mosier said. “That’s when he looked his best.”

This was the first portrait Mrs. Mosier painted. “I decided to try my hand at a portrait,” she said. This painting was also different for Mrs. Mosier because she used acrylic paint instead of her preferred medium of watercolor.

“I’m pleased the hospital accepted my donation of the painting,” she said. “I am delighted.”

We also have a comprehensive set of the “Dummies” series at http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/library/news/pdf/dummies.pdf. These books deal with dogs, cats and other kinds of animals including fish, birds, reptiles and rabbits. This series has been displayed recently in the library’s glass display case near the new journal shelves.

Remember, if you need any help locating popular animal materials, don’t hesitate to ask for help from any of the library staff.
New Residents

Please welcome the newest residents to the VMTH. From left to right:
- **Dr. Sylvain Nichols**, veterinary practices medicine and surgery;
- **Dr. Abra Wright**, equine internal medicine;
- **Dr. David Jimenez**, radiology;
- **Dr. Kara Schulz**, veterinary practices medicine and surgery;
- **Dr. Kerry Bilicki**, small animal surgery;
- **Dr. Gerald Sargent**, in small animal surgery;
- **Dr. Shane Lyon**, small animal medicine.

New Interns

Please welcome the new interns to the VMTH. From left to right:
- **Dr. Jose Bras**, equine medicine and surgery;
- **Dr. Kimberly Statham**, small animal medicine and surgery;
- **Dr. Michelle Jude**, small animal medicine and surgery;
- **Dr. Kristin Lewis**, small animal medicine and surgery;
- **Dr. Julie Swenson**, small animal medicine and surgery;
- **Dr. Kara Forsee**, small animal medicine and surgery.

NEW ARRIVALS

- **Allison Herrman**, VMTH
- **Kris Silver**, Clinical Sciences
- **Erin Linden**, VMTH
- **Andrea Moran**, ARF
- **Jason Grater**, ARF
- **Kristin George**, DM/P
- **Naveen Kumar**, DM/P
- **Stephanie Ochoa**, DM/P
- **Stephanie Heersink**, DM/P

RECENT DEPARTURES

- **Dario Narvaez**, Clinical Sciences
- **Rebekah Holmes**, VMTH
- **Dana Parvin**, VMTH
- **Leah Franks**, DM/P
- **Renata Gill**, DM/P
- **Russell Gottlob**, DM/P
- **Catherine Eastman**, DM/P

CVM News Ticker

**Dr. Antje Anji**, A&P, received the junior investigator award to attend the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Research Society on Alcoholism in Baltimore, Md. Dr. Anji was also selected to attend the Faculty Horizons workshop at UMBC this summer. The workshop is sponsored by the ADVANCE program at UMBC.

**Drs. Ronette Gehring and Hans Coetzee**, agricultural practices, recently passed the Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology Board exams.

**Dr. Tanya Grondin**, resident in DM/P, and **Dr. Shane Dewitt**, equine clinician, welcomed a new son, Chase Foster Conde, into the world on July 13, 2006.