

K-State Now Central to Swine Research Project

Below: A reception for swine veterinarians, producers and advisory board for the PRRS Coordinated Agricultural Project was held at the K-State Alumni Center on Sept. 20. Pictured are Drs. Carol Wyatt, DM/P; Jay Calvert, Pfizer; Udeni Balasuryia, Univ. of Kentucky; and Bob Rowland, DM/P.



Above: Drs. Steve Dritz, DM/P; Jim Nelssen, Animal Sciences; Sharon Schwartz, swine producer; Mike Tokach, Animal Sciences; and Lisa Tokach, Abilene Animal Hospital.

In late September, the CVM hosted a gathering of experts associated with research on the most significant disease facing the pig industry today, Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS).

The experts who traveled to K-State are members of an external advisory board that oversees a PRRS Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP). The CAP is a four-year program funded by the USDA involving scientists from multiple institutions who research PRRS.

Worldwide, PRRS is the most problematic infectious disease in swine herds, costing producers \$550,000 million in losses each year, with

a yearly estimated loss of \$12 million in Kansas alone.

Management of the CAP will shift from the University of Minnesota to K-State, with Dr. Bob Rowland, DM/P, as its project director. Dr. Rowland is a nationally known molecular virologist who has studied PRRS for 12 years. Dr. Steve Henry, a CVM alumnus and practicing Kansas swine veterinarian, is a member of the advisory board. Dr. Henry has been instrumental in bringing PRRS solutions to producers.

The external advisory board was invited to K-State to prepare for the renewal of the CAP which will continue the research for another four years at \$4.8 million. Dr.

Rowland said the advisory board is integral to the project. The board will decide its long and short-term goals, areas of research and what areas receive funding. "What is very unique about the CAP is that it is driven by producer and industry needs," he said. "This is enhanced by an advisory board composed of producers, swine practitioners, scientists and people involved in public policy and outreach."

Kansas swine producers, K-State scientists who study porcine issues and university administrators met informally with members of the advisory board at a reception at the Alumni Center on Sept. 20. The reception and

advisory board meeting were sponsored by Dr. Lisa Freeman, associate dean for research, and other K-State research administrators.

PRRS is caused by a virus that was first isolated and classified in 1991. The clinical signs of PRRS are characterized by flu-like symptoms in adult pigs. There is also an increase in abortions, stillbirths and weak-born piglets, which results in an increase of the pre-weaning mortality.

Dr. Rowland said the CAP research will have an emphasis on vaccines, immunology and epidemiology. "We, as scientists, are trying to develop the technology and the tools that the producers need to solve this problem."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 2** Fall Break - No classes for 1st, 2nd or 3rd year students
- Oct. 6** Junior enrollment for senior rotations

- Oct. 9-20** Vet Bytes Seminar - "Proper Submission of Diagnostic Specimens to Ensure Shipping Compliance and Maximal Results"



Veterinary Career Networking Opportunity to be Offered

The K-State colleges of Veterinary Medicine and Business Administration invite practitioners and students to attend the Veterinary Career Opportunities Workshop, Nov. 3-4, 2006 at the Clarion Hotel in Manhattan Kan. Registration starts at 8 a.m. on Nov. 3 and ends after lunch on Nov. 4.

The goal of this meeting is to help busy practicing veterinarians learn to recruit and hire the right new associate to join their mixed animal practice.

Education includes skills

related to finding new associates, graduating student expectations, fair benefits packages and reasonable job descriptions.

In addition to the ten hours of continuing education credit, practitioners will meet and interact with veterinary students. Veterinary students will attend a portion of the workshop where they will engage in five-minute round-robin speed interviews with practitioners. This allows prospective employers and new associates to discuss expectations related to the specific job.

The workshop is free to students. If they include a resume with their registration, 25 copies will be provided at the workshop.

For practitioners, the cost for the workshop is \$300 for pre-registration, which is due by Oct. 10. Registration fee includes lectures, proceedings, Friday lunch, reception/dinner, breaks, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Registration after Oct. 10 is \$350.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Clarion Hotel at a rate of \$71 per night, plus tax. To get the

conference rate for rooms, register before Oct. 10.

To print a registration form visit: <http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/ClinicalSciences/agpract/production/vcow.htm>

To register, send payment to Veterinary Career Opportunities Workshop, Division of Continuing Education, 141 College Courts Bldg., Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6015.

Students can register with Erin Thomas at 785-532-4281, or email her at ethomas@vet.k-state.edu.

Unusual Cases Occur at State Fair Birthing Center

The College of Veterinary Medicine's birthing center at the Kansas State Fair is an opportunity for veterinary students and the public to experience calving first hand.

Faculty from the VMTH and the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association host two birthing centers each year, one at the Kansas State Fair and one at the American Royal. These events allow attendees to see how a veterinarian delivers a calf. It's also a learning opportunity for students.

"Many times when students see a calving in the field or at the CVM, it's because there is something abnormal or wrong," said Dr. Meredyth Jones, clinical assistant professor of agricultural practices. "At the birthing center, they get the opportunity to see what a normal birth is like, though my night was a bit unusual."

During Dr. Jones' rotation, three calves were born in unique circumstances. One dairy cow delivered twins

and another cow's calf was situated upside down in the birth canal.

Twin births in cattle are not typical. However, they are more common in dairy cattle than in beef cattle.

To add to the unusual occurrence of twins, the three calves presented abnormally. In the cow that had twins, one calf was backwards, coming out hind feet first, and the other had twisted its head back in the opposite direction during birth. Both twins were delivered successfully. The second cow's calf was upside down and had to be rotated before delivery. Dr. Jones, the students and a private practitioner worked all evening to deliver the three calves successfully.

"These are problems practitioners see in the field," Dr. Jones said. "Specialists usually aren't called into the field to help unless there is a bigger, more serious problem."

K-State works with dairy producers from the



In addition to the calving area at K-State's birthing center, there was also a sow with a new litter of piglets.

Hutchinson area to plan for the cows to calve during the fair. "If all goes according to plan, we have a calf born every day of the fair," Dr. Jones said. There was a different group of four students and a professor each day who worked the center.

Half of the senior class participates in the birthing center at the state fair and the other half at the American Royal in November. "It doesn't matter what clinical rotation they are on, the students take part

in the birthing centers when the time comes," Dr. Jones said. This year there were 12 calves born at the state fair and all were healthy.

"This is great for the students because it forces them to learn to think on their feet," Dr. Jones said. "There are people constantly asking questions and distractions are everywhere. The students need to be ready to answer them and still concentrate on the task at hand. It's a valuable learning experience."

CVM Joins Campaign to Benefit Local Organizations



Donna Rogers, Brennan Engle, Dean Ralph Richardson, Cindy Logan, Bonnie Thompson and Joanna Berg are this year's United Way representatives.

Veterinary Medicine faculty and staff will soon be involved in a campuswide effort to give to the United Way of Riley County.

The month-long annual campaign kicks off on Oct. 1, and donation packets will be distributed to faculty and staff at the beginning of the

month. The packets can be returned to the United Way representatives of each department or placed in campus mail.

Those who donate before Oct. 16 will be entered in a drawing for prizes including a day off with pay, two tickets to a K-State football

game, golf for two at Colbert Hills, tickets to the Nutcracker at McCain Auditorium and a five-month pass to the Chester E. Peters Recreation Center and the Natatorium.

Donations help support 16 organizations including the Sunflower Casa Project, Manhattan Emergency Center, Girl Scouts of Kaw Valley, American Red Cross, Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan, Salvation Army, Crisis Center, Manhattan Day Care and Learning Center, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Kansas Legal Services.

Ninety-Nine cents of every dollar donated to the United Way stays in the area.

The United Way volunteers review requests from local agencies in the community to determine where the donations are needed most.

Former K-State Football Coach Bill Snyder spoke at this year's campaign kick-off. He said the United Way is important to him because of people it benefits, especially the local youth. "The opportunity to help others is more rewarding (to me) than any football games we may have won," Snyder said.

Your United Way representatives are Cindy Logan and Brennan Engle, dean's area; Donna Rogers, DM/P; Bonnie Thompson, A&P; Joanna Berg and Audrey Fritz, VMTH.

Dr. Jane Westfall and Fellowship Recipients Recognized

Professor Emeritus Dr. Jane Westfall, Anatomy and Physiology, was recently recognized for her contributions to the CVM and its students.

The college honored Dr. Westfall with a reception on Sept. 13 to thank her for her contributions to veterinary medicine. Also recognized was the most recent recipient of the Jane A. Westfall Graduate Student Fellowship for Women, Rebecca Quesnell.

The fellowship, established in 1999, provides financial assistance for female students in Anatomy and Physiology to present research at the national level. The recipients must possess a bachelor's degree or DVM degree and have demonstrated an exceptional academic capability in the field of research.



Left to right: Rebecca Quesnell, Robin Craig, Dana Townsend and Dr. Jane Westfall. Quesnell, Craig and Townsend have all received the fellowship established by Dr. Westfall.

Raised in Lafayette, Calif., Dr. Westfall's first interest in science was in the field of marine biology, however, over time her interest shifted to zoology. She has a bachelor's degree, master's degree and a PhD in zoology from three universities.

Dr. Westfall came to K-State in 1967 as an assis-

tant professor. After two years she was promoted to associate professor. In 1976, she became the first woman to earn a full professorship at the CVM.

After many years at K-State, Dr. Westfall started a fellowship. "I wanted to help other women network," She said. "The best way to net-

work is at symposiums and national meetings, so I set up the fellowship."

She remembers experiencing discrimination against women while she was in school. Although gender distribution in veterinary schools has changed dramatically, the competition for support is still strong.

"Attending national meetings was important to me in both my schooling and teaching careers," Dr. Westfall said. "I am pleased that there are more women graduate students going to meetings these days. I am delighted to help them get there."

A plaque commemorating Dr. Westfall's career, fellowship and the most recent recipient of the fellowship has been placed in the corridor near 228 Coles Hall.

Bring Your Own Bicycle and Bottle



The sixth Bring Your Own Bicycle and Bottle (BYOBB) event of the fall. Left to right: Jeremy Abel, second year; Lisa Gerber, third year; Christa Linsenmeyer, a CVM spouse; Dr. Elmore; and Eric Loeb, friend of the college. Five to eight riders usually attend the Wednesday bicycle rides. Twenty-five individuals have participated this year. The rides are approximately 15 to 20 miles long. Participants have ridden to Keats, Zeandale, across the dam and on the Linear Trail. Some of the participants have ridden to Wamego and back on weekends.



Happy Birthday to Dean Richardson!

Dean Ralph Richardson's 60th birthday was celebrated early at the CVM with cake and punch on Sept. 21. CVM students, faculty and staff signed cards and wished him well. Dean Richardson's birthday was Sept. 26.

NEW ARRIVALS

Carly Shumaker - DM/P

RECENT DEPARTURES

Funda Chowdhury - DM/P

Ofelia Luz Zegarra - DM/P

Alisha Oelke - A&P

Jennifer Klingele - VMTH

Eric Moore - VMTH

Naveen Kumar - DM/P

Catherine Eastman - DM/P

CVM News Ticker

The 20th Meeting of the American Society for Rickettsiology in conjunction with the 5th International Conference on Bartonella as Emerging Pathogens was held September 2-7, in Pacific Grove, Calif. **Dr. Roman Ganta**, DM/P, serves as the secretary/treasurer for the society. He and **Dr. Kamesh Sirigreddy**, DM/P, gave presentations. ITC/CE staff **Marci Ritter**, **Kent Nelson** and **Linda Johnson** coordinated the meeting and handled all AV equipment.

At this year's American Association for Bovine Practitioners (AABP) Conference, K-State received many awards. Fourth-year student **Robert Rust's** paper placed third in the research competition. **Becky Funk**, fourth-year student, was awarded the AABP Assistantship Award for her research proposal on BVD and economic impact. **Keith Dedonder**, graduate student, and **Matt Bartlett**, third-year student, were named Amstutz Scholars. **Drs. David Anderson**, **Dan Thomson** and **Brian Lubbers** all presented papers.

Drs. Tammi Epp and **Howard Erickson**, A&P, presented three papers at the 7th International Conference on Equine Exercise Physiology in Fontainebleau, France, August 26-31. Dr. Erickson also served as co-chair of the section on respiratory response to exercise and training, and met with the editorial board of the journal Equine and Comparative Exercise Physiology.

Dr. William Fortney, DM/P, presented eight hours of small animal geriatric lectures at the American Veterinary Medical Association's annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, in July.

Congratulations to **Dr. Ronnie Elmore**, associate dean for academic affairs, on the birth of his first grandchild, Ruby Evangeline Elmore, born Sept. 13.

Chelsea West, veterinary technician in radiology, married Paul Allen on Sept. 9. She will now be using her married name, Chelsea Allen.

DM/P SEMINAR SERIES

Oct. 5: Dr. Jonathan Fry, Univ. of Georgia

Oct. 12: Dr. Meena Kumari, A&P

Oct. 19: Dr. Mark Weiss, A&P

Oct. 26: Dr. David Renter, DM/P