

Food Scientist Brings Expertise and Web Service to K-State

From tainted spinach to paper towel dispensers, Dr. Doug Powell is changing the way people think about safe food handling

The K-State Student Union bathrooms now have paper towels, and the College of Veterinary Medicine has hired food scientist Dr. Doug Powell. These events may seem completely unrelated, but that's hardly the case.



Dr. Powell, DM/P, is the creator and director of the Food Safety Network, an online repository of food-safety related information. In May, Powell brought the Food Safety Network (FSN) to K-State from the University of Guelph in Canada, where he was a professor for 11 years.

The FSN provides commentary, policy evaluation and public information on food safety issues. Dr. Powell and his team gather, edit and post news articles each day on food safety-related issues through four electronic listservs that are released around the world twice each day. The four listservs are FSNet, AgNet, AnimalNet and Functional FoodNet.

The listserv articles are gleaned from wire services,

as well as scientific and technology-related press releases that are searched and collected daily. Major metropolitan newspapers are searched manually as well. Dr. Powell said the listserv information reaches people from 70 countries in academia, the food industry, government, agriculture and the public at large.

With the recent outbreaks of E. coli in spinach and salmonella in lettuce or tomatoes (not confirmed at press time) Dr. Powell has become a sought-after source on the issue of food safety by the national media. He has been interviewed on reputable television news shows, including those on CNN and MSNBC, and has been quoted in newspapers such as USA Today.

He says the only way to prevent produce-related outbreaks is to practice preventive measures when the produce is grown, such as monitoring irrigation water quality and effective employee sanitation. "The farm is the first line of defense. The farmer has to prevent the bacteria



Food safety expert Dr. Doug Powell, DM/P, right, discusses proper techniques of preparing fresh vegetables with a worker at a K-State dining hall.

from getting on food in the first place," Dr. Powell said. "Because fresh fruits and vegetables are not always cooked, anything that comes into contact is a possible source of contamination."

He says the most effective pressure on the food industry to clean up its act should come from the people who are affected most: consumers.

"It starts from consumers demanding safety from their grocery stores, retailers, suppliers and farms," Dr. Powell said. "It isn't up to the government to solve these problems; it's up to the food industry because it has the responsibility to provide a safe product."

So, what does the recent

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov. 3-4** Veterinary Career Opportunities Workshop
- Nov. 6-17** Vet Bytes Seminar - Utility of the Right Lateral Intercostal Scan Plane in Dogs

- Nov. 13-30** NAVLE Testing
- Nov. 22-24** Thanksgiving break - No classes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students



Teaching Awards go to Four Faculty Members



Left to right: Drs. Hans Coetzee, Howard Erickson, Michael Dryden and David Poole (inset) were recognized by the CVM and students for teaching excellence.

The CVM recognized four of its faculty members for teaching excellence. “These awards were created as an outgrowth of a peer mentoring and faculty development program established through a National Science Foundation grant,” said Ralph Richardson, dean of

the College of Veterinary Medicine. The recipients were chosen by the students.

Dr. David Poole, professor of anatomy and physiology and kinesiology, received the 2006 Meriel Teaching Excellence Award in recognition of outstanding instruction of first-year veterinary medicine students.

Dr. Howard Erickson, professor of physiology, received the 2006 IVX Animal Health Teaching Excellence Award for outstanding instruction of first-year veterinary medicine students.

Dr. Michael Dryden, pro-

fessor of veterinary parasitology, received the 2006 Bayer Animal Health Teaching Excellence Award in recognition of outstanding instruction of second-year veterinary medicine students.

Dr. Hans Coetzee, assistant professor of food animal pharmacology and production medicine, received the 2006 Novartis Teaching Excellence Award for outstanding instruction of third-year veterinary medicine students.

“We are fortunate to have such a supportive culture and outstanding teachers at K-State,” Dean Richardson said.

Award Trip Brings Japanese Bayer Representatives to K-State

Dr. Michael Dryden’s work with fleas and ticks was recently recognized in a special way. A group of 10 sales representatives from the Bayer Pharmaceutical office in Tokyo, Japan, visited the CVM on Oct. 16. The trip was a prize for representatives for selling the most products in their areas.

The representatives were given the option to travel anywhere in the world, and they decided to come to K-State to meet Dr. Dryden, professor of veterinary parasitology. Dr. Lynn Allen, director of veterinary services for Bayer, said they wanted to meet him because he



Dr. Michael Dryden, left, hosted a group of Bayer representatives from Japan on Oct. 16.

helped create some of the products they sell. “It was an opportunity for them to meet Dr. Dryden and hear about his work with fleas and his future research with ticks,” Dr. Allen said.

The group met with Dean Ralph Richardson and Dr.

Dryden for a day of lectures, discussion and tours. “They were fascinated by the size of our facility and impressed with our college,” Dr. Dryden said. “I am honored that the group would want to travel around the world to see K-State and my lab

above anywhere else. I am extremely appreciative of the entire college for making the their trip the best they could have imagined.”

Bayer sponsors Dr. Dryden’s Cat Angel program, which finds homes for cats that are used in product trials.

“This was a great opportunity to further the fantastic relationship between Bayer and the college,” Dr. Dryden said.

Dr. Allen added, “Dr. Dryden is a person who has moved veterinary science forward and we are fortunate to have a great relationship with him and K-State.”

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addition of paper towels in the Union have to do with Dr. Powell?

When Dr. Powell visited K-State last fall, he and K-State President Jon Wefald shared concern over the lack

of hygiene in the all-in-one hand washing/drying units in the Student Union bathrooms.

Dr. Powell says people don’t like to use the units because they don’t



sufficiently dry the hands and noted that more bacteria can be removed by drying with paper towel.

Wefald said he had never liked the units either and was impressed with Dr.

Powell’s comprehensive and consumer-oriented approach. He decided Dr. Powell would be a great addition to the university’s commitment to improving food safety and security.

For more information on Dr. Powell and the FSN visit www.foodsafety.ksu.edu.



By Carol Elmore

As a new school year begins, studying comes to mind. The Veterinary Medical Library has places for group studying or group discussions. We have three tables located near our print journal collection that are good for groups. Specifically,

Check it Out at the Library

we have a rectangular table and a round table that each seat six people and another rectangular table that has room for five people.

At the front of the library near our Animals in Society area, we have two tables that seat four people. Small tent signs have been placed on the tables designated for group study so that everyone knows that they can talk comfortably at these tables without disturbing others.

Room 411 has been designated as a quiet study area during specified hours where talking and cell phone use are not permitted. We have the Scholars' Room that can be reserved for visiting guests, faculty or graduate students for study and reading, and a small conference room (409) that can be reserved for committee meetings. Contact Stefan Yates to reserve any of our rooms. Study carrels and

tables in the back of the library are good for quiet study. We do permit food and drink in the library as long as these are not consumed or placed in our public computer terminals. Drinks should be in spill-proof containers.

Gina Scott in the Digital Information Services Center (DISC) can also accommodate small groups of three or four people when they are receiving instruction on software or equipment in her office.

Remember you don't have to "go it alone" in the library. Have lunch with friends at one of our group tables.

New Gift Option for Students, Clients in Time for the Holidays



Students and clients of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital have a new option when looking for gifts for friends and family.

The KSU-VMTH gift certificates are a perfect holiday gift for anyone who uses the hospital. The certificates can be purchased in increments of \$20, up to \$200, and are good for any service in the hospital.

Faculty, staff and students can also purchase the certificates for clients of the hospital. These can be gifted anonymously if so desired.

The gift certificates are ideal gifts for the holidays, birthdays or for any reason. They can be purchased by contacting Jill Bowman.

Certificates good for:

- Food
- Lab work
- Surgeries
- Exams
- Diagnostics
- Vaccines

Hands-on Learning Available at Teaching Herpetarium

Are you a veterinary student looking for ways to learn more about reptiles? The teaching herpetarium is the place for CVM students to learn more about and gain experience working with exotic animals.

The teaching herpetarium, located on the second floor of Mosier Hall, is home to six different reptile species including two Brazilian Rainbow Boas, a leopard gecko, a Chilean Rose-haired Tarantula, an Ornate Box Turtle, a Blue-Tongued Skink and a Bearded Dragon.

Because the animals are cared for by veterinary students, this hands-on experience gives them the opportunity to practice handling exotic species and learn about proper reptile husbandry. Herpetarium keepers learn how to hold the animals correctly and minimize their stress levels. In the event that one of the animals becomes sick, senior veterinary students are able to conduct physical exams, interact with the necessary specialty services to assess the health of the patient, and develop appropriate treatments.

The teaching herpetarium is a unique asset to the CVM, and the Exotic Animal Medicine Club is working to maintain it at the highest quality. The club has recently gained support from SCAVMA and the Kansas City Herpetological Society — both invaluable resources that provide consistent quality care to the teaching herpetarium residents.

If you would like to visit the teaching herpetarium or want more information, contact Exotic Animal Medicine Club secretary Joy Delamaide at jdelamai@vet.ksu.edu.

Recognition of Service



Seven employees of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital were recently recognized for their years of service. Pictured from the left: Dr. Shirley Arck recognizes employees Linda Rohs, 20 years; Nancy Howse, five years; Kathy Shike, five years. Other employees unable to attend the recognition ceremony were Raunnie Crawford, 15 years; Mark Scott, 10 years; and Angie Marchant, 15 years; and Amy Juracek was recognized as VMTH employee of the year.

An International Gathering



The International Activities committee sponsored an international potluck lunch at the Practice Management Center on Oct. 18.

Dr. Roman Ganta presented a lecture about his recent trip to India. Participants brought Indian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Japanese and Mexican dishes for all to enjoy.

The International Activities committee hopes to host two potlucks a year. The next will be held in March.

DM/P SEMINAR SERIES

- Nov. 2: **Dr. Wolfram R. Zuckert**, KU Medical Center
- Nov. 9: **Dr. Rachel Zufferey**, Dept. of Biochemistry
- Nov. 16: **Dr. Juergen A. Richt**, National Animal Disease Center
- Nov. 30: **Dr. Bradley Johnson**, Animal Sciences

NEW ARRIVALS

Abram Babcock - Clinical Science
James Derrick Beam - VMTH

RECENT DEPARTURES

Shawnalea Frazier - A&P

CVM News Ticker

Dr. James W. Carpenter, clinical sciences, was elected president of the Association of Avian Veterinarians at its annual conference in San Antonio, Texas. He was also invited to present nine lectures on exotic animal medicine at the Central Veterinary Conference held in September in Kansas City. In addition, Dr. Carpenter presented a series of lectures on pharmacotherapeutics in exotic animals at the World Small Animal Veterinary Congress in Prague, Czech Republic in October.

Dr. Greg Grauer, clinical sciences, spoke at the Southwest Veterinary Symposium in Fort Worth, Texas, and in Helsingborg and Stockholm, Sweden in September.

Dr. David Anderson, clinical sciences, presented a paper at the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in Washington D.C., in October.

Congratulations to **Christy Dearden**, DM/P, for winning two K-State-Texas football tickets and a parking pass in the early bird drawing of the campus United Way Campaign.

Drs. Emily Soiderer and Nathan Klocke, clinical sciences, were married on Sept. 9. Emily will now be using her married name.

Dr. Brad White, clinical sciences, and his wife, Chris, welcomed their third son, Benjamin Ryan. He is healthy and happy, at 8 pounds and 21 inches long.



Go Go Mogly CGC, registered AKC Siberian Husky owned by **Amy Brusk**, counseling services, earned first place in Rally Novice Obedience while also earning his

Rally Novice title Oct. 14th at the Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club Obedience Trial. There were more than 750 dogs entered in the competition.