

AVMA Vice President Visits K-State SCAVMA



Vice President of the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association and third year student Joan Talbott introduces American Veterinary Medical Association Vice President Dr. Charles Hendrix to a group of SCAVMA students in Frick Auditorium on Dec. 3.

A well-rounded education and perseverance are two vital qualities new veterinary graduates need to succeed in the 21st century, said the vice president of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) to K-State veterinary students in December.

Dr. Charles Hendrix, professor of pathobiology at Auburn University, visited the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association (SCAVMA) on Dec. 3. As vice president, Dr. Hendrix visits approximately one fourth of the veterinary schools in the United States and Canada each year.

“The 21st century is for

you,” he said to the SCAVMA students who attended the lecture. “I am a veterinarian of the 20th century, things are different and you must be ready for them.”

He also said that students need to help change public perception about veterinary medicine. “The popular show ‘Grey’s Anatomy’ stat-

ed veterinarians are not real doctors, but we need to show the world how interdependent human and animal medicines are,” Dr. Hendrix said. “In today’s world both professions need to work closer together in terms of public health and biosecurity.”

Dr. Hendrix also intro-

duced the students to the platform that AVMA President Dr. Richard Mahr is trying to spread. His “One World, One Health, One Medicine” initiative is important, Dr. Hendrix said, because it helps spread the idea that human and veterinary medicine need each other to stay on the cutting-edge in the 21st century.

In addition to the lecture, Dr. Hendrix met with Drs. Ronnie Elmore, associate dean for academic affairs, and Pat Payne, assistant professor of parasitology. He also met with Dr. Dan Thomson, assistant professor of production medicine and SCAVMA advisor, and toured the CVM complex.



SCAVMA members were treated to a pizza lunch during Dr. Hendrix’s lecture.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 4** Classes begin for 3rd year students
- Jan. 11** Classes begin for 1st and 2nd year students
- Jan. 15** Martin Luther King Jr. Day - no classes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd year students
- Jan. 19-21** KVMA Convention at the Airport Hilton in Topeka
- Jan. 27** CE Seminar - Canine Care Workshop



Diagnostic Lab Leads in Molecular Diagnostic Technology



These Diagnostic Lab personnel participated in the NAHLN proficiency training/testing. From left to right: Mike Hays, Joe Anderson, Dr. Dick Hesse, Jessica Jewel, Dr. Su-Ann Murdock, Heather Wisdom and Dr. Richard Oberst.

Molecular diagnostics — or the ability to detect specific bacterial, viral or parasitic nucleic acid (i.e., DNA or RNA) — is one of the fastest growing technologies in biological sciences. Most often molecular diagnostics involves Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technologies and automated PCR systems,

frequently called real-time PCR systems. The molecular diagnostic section is the newest section in the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (KSVDL) and its goal is to offer clients a wide variety of molecular diagnostic tests and to respond rapidly to those requests by

completing services in a timely manner. The section is also currently involved in reorganizing and remodeling labs to further enhance molecular diagnostic capabilities and capacity to better serve those needs.

A recent example of the increasing importance that molecular diagnostics is playing in its KSVDL is the involvement in the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

A major focus of NAHLN is to fund infrastructure that allows facilities to rapidly perform standardized real-time PCR assays as screening tests to rapidly detect high risk foreign animal disease agents. NAHLN also helps KSVDL network with other federal and state facilities to initiate emergency

response measures. This year, personnel from the KSVDL have undergone NAHLN proficiency training/testing to be qualified to perform real-time PCR assays to detect Foot & Mouth Disease Virus, Classical Swine Fever Virus, Avian Influenza, and Exotic Newcastle Disease Virus.

“Veterinary practitioners will benefit from our involvement with NAHLN in several ways,” said Dr. Oberst, professor in diagnostic medicine and pathobiology. “First, from the bigger picture of the protection against foreign animal disease risks and from KSVDL being able to offer unique testing capabilities which are economical and timely for the day-to-day practice requirements.”

Gingerbread House Competition 2006



Second Place: Equine



First Place: ITC



Third Place: Ag Practices

The third annual gingerbread house competition was held on Dec. 20 in Mosier Hall.

Ten groups from around the college spent the last week creating wondrous

wintery candy scenes. Friendly, competitive jabs were e-mailed throughout the week between the competitors. There was even a gingerbread man called FMD (foot and mouth disease) that tried

to sabotage some of the entries. Michelle Conrad, alumni and development; Dr. Derek Mosier, DM/P; and Brianna Barnes, dispensary; judged the competition, voting for

ITC's project for the top prize. Creations by equine and agriculture practices took second and third place. An anonymous donor gave \$100 to a charity of the winning group's choice.



By Carol Elmore

Winter and the holiday season are here. From October through February many holidays and celebrations occur such as Chinese New Year, Christmas, Diwali, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Ramadan and Winter Solstice.

With the end of the semester, classes are ending and vacation time is arriving. Animals are often included

in our celebrations and family gatherings, and children especially are fascinated with their own animals as well as all in the animal kingdom.

The Veterinary Medical Library has items that feature animals and the winter season. For checkout in the VML are books such as "What Do Animals Do in Winter?" by Melvin and Gilda Berger, which discusses migration and hibernation in the animal kingdom, and "In the Snow: Who's Been Here?" by Lindsay Barrett

George, which discusses the signs that animals leave in the snow and forest.

The library also has videos and DVDs that feature animals and winter such as the Disney films "Snow Dogs" and "White Fang."

Crafts are always popular during our free time so the books "Cat Crafts" by Dawn Cusick or "Dog Crafts" by Bobbe Needham might inspire creative work. If quilting is of interest, "Making Animal Quilts: Patterns and Projects" by

Willow Ann Soltow might be inspiring for you.

Photographing animals is something that animal enthusiasts enjoy and the Veterinary Medical Library has several books on this topic such as "How to Take Great Animal Pictures" by Ron Nicols, for example, that can help improve pet photography skills.

Remember that the Veterinary Medical Library has other books, DVDs, CDs and audio-visual items that may be of interest during your holiday and vacation time, and we are always willing to assist you in finding what you need at the library.

Stem Cell Research Receives Donation From Parkinson's Group



The board of directors for the Northeast Kansas Parkinson's Association present Dr. Mark Weiss with a check for \$50,000.

Dr. Mark Weiss, professor of Anatomy & Physiology, received a \$50,000 donation for his research on Parkinson's disease from the Northeast Kansas Parkinson's Association.

Five of the association's eight board members attended the official check presentation at the WIBW-TV station on Dec. 12. Dr. Weiss

was then interviewed live on the 4 p.m. news broadcast by anchor Ralph Hipp.

Lenore Olson, president of the association, said board members were intrigued when an Internet search yielded fascinating information about research being conducted by Dr. Weiss. They invited him to their monthly board meeting

in November where he discussed the discovery of umbilical cord matrix stem cells and his promising research. Rats implanted with the matrix stem cells harvested from umbilical cords experienced a significant reduction in Parkinson's symptoms without side effects such as tumor growth, a problem associat-

ed with other stem cell research projects.

The board voted to donate the funds bequeathed to them through an estate gift.

Parkinson's disease is the most common major movement disorder and affects one million Americans.



Dr. Mark Weiss and newscaster Ralph Hipp pose for a picture before Hipp interviewed Dr. Weiss for the news.

An Exotic Lecture



The Exotic Animal Club recently heard a lecture from Dr. Cobus Raath, managing director of the South African branch of Wildlife Pharmaceuticals and a premier exotic animal veterinarian from Africa. He spoke to club members during a lunch in Frick Auditorium on Oct. 18. Dr. Raath (center) is pictured with Exotic Club Vice President Dustin Staab, left, and President Jeff Applegate, right.

Dedicated Service Recognized



Sherry Gehrt, animal science technician in Animal Resource Facility (ARF), was recently recognized for her 20 years of service to the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Bart Carter, director of ARF, left, and Dean Ralph Richardson presented Gehrt with a pin.

Continuing Education Line-up

Don't miss the fantastic line-up of continuing education conferences this spring! Remember, K-State Faculty, Staff and Students receive discounted registration. For a K-State registration form go to www.vet.k-state.edu, click on "Continuing Education", click on "Conference Information for KSU College of Veterinary Medicine Faculty, Staff, and Students." Register at ITC, 1 Trotter Hall.

NEW ARRIVALS

Debra Ritchie - ARF
Peter Sultana - DM/P

RECENT DEPARTURES

Jessica Green - DM/P
Rita Dole - VMTH
Glenda Riffel - VMTH

CVM News Ticker

Dr. Robert Larson, agricultural practices, spoke at the Australian Cattle Veterinarians meeting in Port Macquarie, Australia in November. He discussed the United States' methods for educating veterinarians about bovine viral diarrhea.

Dr. David Anderson, Clinical Sciences, was elected to the board of regents for the American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ACVS) in October. He was also elected to the board of directors for the ACVS Foundation. Dr. Anderson gave four hours of seminars and hands-on labs on bovine lameness at the American Association of Bovine Practitioners meeting in St. Paul, Minn., in September. He also participated in a state-of-the-art panel on bovine male reproductive surgery at the AVCS annual symposium in Washington, D.C.

Melanie Austin, ARF, passed her American Association of Laboratory Animal Science exam at the assistant laboratory animal technician level. She is now a registered assistant laboratory animal technician.

Dr. David Hodgson, Clinical Sciences, was featured in an article on the recovery pillow he designed for the December 2006 issue of Equus Magazine. Dr. Hodgson's inflatable cushion aids horses recovering from anesthesia and rapidly deflates once the horse is able to stand.

Scott Toerber, research assistant, and his wife, Sarah, had a daughter named Anne Christine on Nov. 20.

Dr. Kristin Patton, DM/P, and her husband, David, welcomed a baby girl, Emily, on Dec. 8.

Make sure to attend and/or participate in the upcoming **SCAVMA Talent Show**. It will be held on Jan. 26, 2007, at 8 p.m. in 105 Umberger Hall. There will be prizes awarded for best real talent, most entertaining, best group/club act and the best faculty/house act. Each category winner will receive \$250 and door prizes will be given.