

## Surgeons Perform First-Ever Hip Replacement on Alpaca

On Feb. 14, surgeons at the VMTH made history when they successfully completed the world's first total hip replacement on an alpaca.

No one could predict the fate of the 3-year-old Suri alpaca, Shiloh, when she arrived at the teaching hospital on Feb. 12. However, less than two weeks after her ground-breaking surgery, she would be on her way home.

Dr. Jim Roush, professor of small animal surgery, performed the operation, assisted by Dr. Dave Anderson, professor of agricultural practices.

"My expertise is in the orthopedic procedure while Dr. Anderson's expertise is with the species," Roush said. "We pooled our experience in the surgery room, and this is the result."

Radiographs taken upon Shiloh's admittance to the hospital revealed that she suffered from coxofemoral luxation, a dislocated hip.

Shiloh's owner, Joyce Johnson, noticed Shiloh standing awkwardly near their barn in Defiance, Mo.

"I immediately took her to our veterinarian and they took radiographs," Johnson said. "When we discovered



***Drs. Jim Roush, standing, and David Anderson examine Shiloh after her hip-replacement operation. When Shiloh returned to her stall after surgery, she was welcomed by her four-month-old cria and another alpaca.***

the severity of her condition, I knew that Dr. Anderson was at K-State and that's where we were going."

Dr. Roush, who performs about 20 hip replacements on dogs each year, compared the size of an alpaca to a large breed dog. He noted that while the implant used would be the same, the procedure would require significant modifications.

The catch, he explained, was to select the correct size

of implant and adjust its placement to accommodate the alpaca's curved femur.

No veterinary medical literature existed about this procedure on an alpaca.

Further complicating the case was the fact that Shiloh was three months pregnant.

The 160-pound alpaca was wheeled into a surgical suite with a team of 10 medical specialists and professionals.

At 8:50 a.m., Dr. Roush began the nearly two-hour

procedure. It went flawlessly but some very real post-operative challenges awaited Shiloh.

"Within a couple of hours, she had to stand up and bear weight on her operated leg," Dr. Roush said. "That was the moment of truth."

Shiloh made her first attempt to stand and within moments, her four-month-old cria began to nurse.

Six days post-op, radiographs were taken to assure that the hip remained in place.

"The implants remained in position and showed no loosening," Dr. Roush said. "In addition, Shiloh's baby is doing well."

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**March 14-17** SAVMA Symposium - Raleigh, North Carolina

**March 19-23** Spring Break - No classes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students



## Dr. Roman Ganta Appointed Peer Reviewer for NIH

Dr. Roman Ganta, DM/P, has received the honor of being appointed as a regular member of a peer review panel for the National Institutes of Health. He will serve on the Vector Biology Study Section for the Center for Scientific Review.

The purpose of the study section is to review research grant applications submitted to the NIH, which will ultimately decide which grant proposals receive funding.

The 123 study sections, composed of 18- to 20-member panels each, evaluate about 80,000 grant applications each year. About 10 to 15 percent of the applications are awarded funding.

Members of the study sec-

tions are selected on the basis of their demonstrated competence in their scientific discipline as evidenced by their research accomplishments, publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals and honors.

Dr. Ganta's expertise is in vector-borne pathogens. His study section reviews applications on parasitic, viral and bacterial pathogens. He reviews about eight to 10 proposals per cycle. There are

three cycles per year.

Serving on the study section represents a major commitment of professional time and energy. It's an excellent opportunity to contribute to the national biomedical research development.

"It requires a lot of hard work, but it's a good feeling," Dr.

Ganta said.

He served as an ad-hoc reviewer on the Vector Biology Study Section and three others for four years before receiving permanent

status, an appointment which will last until June 30, 2010.

"This is like a feather in the hat, so I really feel honored. It's not only an honor at the college level, but in the scientific community," he said. "It raises visibility for the research that I do here and the quality of the work that we publish."

Dr. Ganta has been at the CVM since 1998. He researches tick-borne pathogens, specifically *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, the causative agent of human monocytic ehrlichiosis, a potentially fatal emerging disease in people. He studies ticks that carry this disease agent and how it causes infections in humans.



**Dr. Roman Ganta**

## Researchers Conclude Swine Vaccine Trial

A group of researchers from K-State have completed a study showing that a new commercially-developed vaccine is effective against a deadly viral disease that is affecting swine herds.

The disease, most widely known as porcine circovirus associated disease, was first recognized in Kansas swine herds in November 2005. The disease complex is an immunosuppressive condition associated with porcine circovirus type 2 or PCV2.

Clinical signs of the disease in pigs include sudden weight loss, immune suppression, labored breathing, jaundice and diarrhea. More severe cases of the syndrome are characterized by skin lesions, neurological deterioration, kidney failure and eventually death.

Swine producers with infected herds have experienced a death loss of 20 percent to 40 percent in finisher pigs, which are pigs between 10 weeks and 20 weeks of age.

The researchers began a field trial in summer 2006, testing the vaccine in commercial development. Researchers,



**Dr. Dick Hesse, DM/P, works with PCV2 cells in the laboratory.**

all from DM/P, were Drs. Bob Rowland, Dick Hesse, Steve Dritz, Jerome Nietfeld and Kyle Horlen. The field trial was conducted on a swine farm in northeast Kansas and concluded in January with promising results.

"Results from this study suggest that the tested vaccine is effective in controlling the PCV2 associated disease in pigs," said Dr. Rowland, a virologist. "We want to make it clear to swine producers that this vaccine, licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Center for Veterinary Biologics, is safe and effective."

## Hoover's Design Wins Logo Competition

K-State Classified Senate's Campus Affairs Committee announced Mal Hoover, ITC, as the winner of a logo design contest for the organization. The committee displayed entries at the Employee Benefits Fair at the K-State Student Union.



Classified employees voted on the logos. Hoover's design will be used on the Classified Senate Web site and printed materials. She received a basket containing K-State memorabilia at the Classified Senators meeting on Feb. 7 at the Union.



*Hoover's winning logo*



By Carol Elmore

While consumer health issues are very important to people, consumer health issues for pets are also of great interest.

K-State CVM faculty members provide information on pet health through Kansas State University's news service.

News releases on timely topics are sent out through a daily listserv and can be accessed at the Media

# Check it Out at the Library

Relations Web site under the Pet Health News link at the bottom of the page. Some of the current topics covered include pet nutrition, obesity and dangerous dogs.

Another good source of information on pet and animal health is the MedLine Plus Web site provided by the National Library of Medicine at: <http://medlineplus.gov>.

It has "Pets and Pet Health" listed under health topics at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov>

[/medlineplus/petsand-pethealth.html](http://medlineplus/petsand-pethealth.html). The latest news appears at the top of the page.

Topics range from a general overview to more specific subjects such as treatment, prevention/screening and nutrition.

These are all related to pet and animal health, with many of them showing the relationship between human and animal health.

Much of the information comes from organizations such as the AVMA and the

American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA).

All of the information on the MedLinePlus Web site is carefully screened to assure that it is accurate and reliable. Searches can also be entered at the top of the page. For example, entering "Animal Diseases and Your Health" shows specific references about animal diseases that cause human illnesses.

The Veterinary Medical Library has many sources that deal with animal health issues and are geared to the non-professional reader. The online catalog can be viewed at <http://catalog.lib.ksu.edu> for specific titles on pet health.

## SCAVMA Sponsors Talent Show, Prepares for Elections

### Hello All,

In January we held our first SCAVMA Talent Show at Umberger Hall. It was a truly entertaining night with serious talent on display. If you were unable to attend, a few pictures from the event can be found on the SCAVMA home page.

This year we offered four \$250 prizes for best real talent, best group/club, most entertaining and faculty/house officer.

The judges were Ms. Mal Hoover

and Drs. Cash and Coetzee, and one outstanding emcee, Dr. Poole. The judges had a tough night, as everyone did a great job.

Micah Sharp won best real talent with a stunning piano performance. The best group/club winners were Sara McReynolds, Shauna England, Becky Mahar and Amanda Beck for SCURF, a combination of percussion, movement and visual comedy with veterinary medical equipment. The best faculty/house officer award went to Dr. Sanjeev Narayanan and his band mates who played their hit song, Impetigo. The most entertaining winners were Angela Juno and Cory Stamper for serenading Dr. Payne with parasites that they hold and have held near and dear to their hearts.

In February, we highlighted the AVMA's involvement with Pet Dental Health Month by having Dr. Matt Riegel talk to the student body about dental disease.

In March, 121 veterinary students



**Dr. Wally Cash, Mal Hoover and Dr. Hans Coetzee judged the SCAVMA Talent Show.**

will be traveling to the annual SAVMA Symposium at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

At our April 3rd noon meeting, we will accept nominations for president-elect, vice president, treasurer-elect, secretary, mentoring, intramural and fundraising. If you are interested, please let Nikki Dudley, president elect, or myself know. Also, we will have the second annual SCAVMA Kiss-the-Pig fundraiser in mid-April, so stay tuned for more information.

Thanks,

**-Elliot Stevens, SCAVMA President**



**Concentrating on her sheet music, Micah Sharp plays the piano. Sharp won the best real talent category.**

### 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](http://www.vet.k-state.edu) and click on "Continuing Education", then "Conference Information for KSU College of Veterinary Medicine Faculty, Staff, and Students." Register at ITC, 1 Trotter Hall.

**March 3** - Veterinary Technicians Conference

**March 11** - 24th Annual Frank W. Jordan Seminar:  
Zoonoses and Pets Immunocompromised Clinics

**March 31** - Ophthalmology Conference and Wet Lab:  
Preserving Animal Visual Health

## 3rd Annual Dodgeball Tournament Attracts Participants, Spectators



*Team Wrecked 'Em: (back row) Brian Stones, Dylan Lutter, Chris Tedford, Adam Lusk and Brooke Martin; (front row) Shauna Malchow, Sue Barnett and Nadine Tedford.*

On February 3rd, veterinary students and families descended upon the Chester E. Peters Recreation Complex to play, watch and enjoy the third annual K-State CVM Dodgeball Tournament, presented by the Student Chapter of the AVMA (SCAVMA) and Hill's Pet Nutrition.

Fifteen teams, consisting of six to nine players per team, participated. In double elimination, Team Montgomery (Class of 2009) beat Team Wrecked Em' (Class of 2009) to win the championship.

Team Gang Green (Class of 2009) and The Pirates (Class of 2008) were nominated for the best theme/uniform contest.

When a winner couldn't be determined based on audience participation, Shelby Reinstein, representative of Hill's Pet Nutrition, concluded that The Pirates were the winners.

### NEW ARRIVALS

**Eric Herrman** - Dean's Office

**Ryan Moss** - Dean's Office

**Raymond Kassatly** - DM/P

**Mariah Crumbaker** - DM/P

### RECENT DEPARTURES

**Elena Tacheva** - A&P

## CVM News Ticker

**Dr. Hans Coetzee**, Clinical Sciences, spoke at the North American Veterinary Conference (NAVC) in Orlando, Fla., Jan. 15 - 16. He also spoke at the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association meeting in Minneapolis on Feb. 2.

**Dr. Mike Apley**, Clinical Sciences, gave a talk at the Stocker Receiving Management Conference in Enid, Okla., on Jan. 25.

**Dr. Ronnette Gehring**, Clinical Sciences, spoke at the Michigan Veterinary Conference on Jan. 26.

**Dr. Harriet Davidson**, Clinical Sciences, presented at the Midwest Veterinary Ophthalmology in Columbus, Ohio, on Feb. 3.

**Dr. Bob Larson**, Clinical Sciences, spoke at the Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, Nev., on Feb. 19.

**Dr. Laura Armbrust**, Clinical Sciences, presented at the WVC in Las Vegas, Nev., on Feb. 19.

**Dr. David Biller**, Clinical Sciences, spoke at the WVC in Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 19-21.

**Dr. Greg Grauer**, Clinical Sciences, gave several talks at the WVC in Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 19-21. He also spoke at the Midwest Veterinary Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on Feb. 24.

**Dr. James Carpenter**, Clinical Sciences, lectured at Iowa State University on Feb. 24.

**Dr. Dan Thomson**, Clinical Sciences, was awarded the KSU Distinguished Service Award by the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association for his work with veterinarians in Kansas.

**Dr. Pam Davis**, A&P, received the Horseperson of the Year Award at the 22nd Kansas Thoroughbred Convention on Jan. 13.

**Dr. Michael Dryden**, DM/P, was chosen as the recipient of the 2007 North Central Branch of Entomological Society of America Urban Entomology Award.

**Susan Ekstrum**, ITC, was married to George Bernasek in Axtell, Kan., on Feb. 10.