Dr. Hammer gets CVM Alumni Fellow award

The last 12 months have been very significant for Dr. Gregory S. Hammer, a veterinary practitioner who earned his DVM at K-State in 1973. In July 2007, he reached a pinnacle in his profession by being named president of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). This month, he was named as a K-State Alumni Fellow.

“As a deserving alumnus, the college and university hosted Dr. Hammer and his family on campus from Feb. 27-29 for a series of lectures, festivities and other activities. The K-State Alumni Fellows program, sponsored by the Dean’s Council, the President’s Office and the Alumni Association, presented its Alumni Fellows awards to Dr. Hammer and recipients from K-State’s eight other academic colleges.

“This is a tremendous honor,” said Dr. Hammer, who grew up in Bonner Springs, Kan. “I was blessed with a loving family and tremendous mentors while I was at K-State. Without Dr. John Noordsy, the late Dr. Russell Frey and my class of 1973, I could never have accomplished what I have. I am humbled to represent the College of Veterinary Medicine as the 2008 Alumni Fellow.”

“Dr. Hammer’s accomplishments are self-evident,” said Dr. Ralph Richardson, dean of the CVM. “His appointment as president of the AVMA demonstrates impressive leadership skills, and it shows the respect he has earned in the profession. We had already recognized Dr. Hammer with an Alumni Recognition Award in 2001 at the AVMA convention, so we now take great pride knowing that the university is recognizing him further with its ultimate alumni award.”

Dr. Hammer is a small animal and equine practitioner in Dover, Del. He is owner and partner of Brenford Animal Hospital, where he has worked for 33 years. While at K-State, Dr. Hammer was inducted into the Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Zeta and Phi Zeta honor societies. With the rank of captain in the U.S. Air Force, Dr. Hammer was a veterinary medical officer from January 1974 to January 1976 and received the Meritorious Service Medal. He was named 1997 Delaware Veterinarian of the Year.

Prior to election as president of the AVMA, Dr. Hammer served six years on the AVMA executive board and 13 years in the House of Delegates. He is active in the Dover community where he and his wife Karen live. They have two children, Scott, a family physician, and Jill, a speech language pathologist.

Get more lifelines online!
Additional stories and photos are posted online @ http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/0802.htm
• 2008 Telefund results • Chili cookoff pictures
• Canine conference pics
Fresh steps taken in bovine orthopedics

Fresh steps are being taken in bovine orthopedics and also by a Jersey cow named Wilhemenia Jolene, thanks to Dr. David Anderson and his team. Dr. Anderson is launching a new cruciate ligament replacement for cattle, called the Wildcat Power Cord.

“I am proud to be able to announce that K-State is able to provide a lifesaving and genetics-saving service to our clients who have valuable cattle suffering from stifling injuries,” Dr. Anderson said. “The Wildcat Power Cord offers a solution to culling valuable genetic stock. The first case has progressed beyond expectations, and we are excited to offer this to our valued clients.”

Wilhemenia had a ruptured cranial cruciate ligament in her right knee. The surgery took place on Jan. 17, and Wilhemenia is doing extremely well.

Dr. Anderson dresses the affected area the day after surgery.

Cattlemen’s Day is this Friday!

Cattlemen's Day 2008, “Consumer Expectations for Beef: Are We Changing the Definition of Value?” will be held March 7 in Weber Hall and Arena. The Commercial Trade Show and Educational Exhibits begins at 8 a.m. in Weber Arena. The morning session begins at 10 a.m. and presenters are Temple Grandin and Dell Allen. Afternoon breakout sessions begin at 1 p.m. You can attend all day or as your schedule allows. The complete program can be found on the Web site.

On-site registration is $25 per person. Registration and schedule can be found online: http://www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday.

Students spend a ‘Day at CDC’

Four hundred students and faculty members from veterinary schools across the U.S. and Canada traveled to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia for a “Day at CDC for Veterinary Students.” With the help of Dr. Freeman’s office, 13 CVM students were able to attend the conference on Jan. 28. Topics included global health, emerging infectious diseases, migration health, environmental health, bioterrorism and career opportunities. The students who attended stressed the value of learning about these topics.

Emily Gaugh, a first-year student, said, “As a future veterinarian in public service, I may choose to pursue a career with an organization such as the CDC. Attending the CDC student day allowed me to get a better feel of future career opportunities and also how these organizations are structured.”

Cameron Duncan, a second-year student, said “No matter where I end up in the field of veterinary medicine, I will be aware and concerned with the health of the public.”

Continuing Education conference dates

March
8: Advanced reproduction for horse breeders

April
6: Frank W. Jordan seminar on fielding a winning team
18-19: Bovine health & production
27: Small animal medicine

May
28-30: International beef cattle welfare

June
1-4: 70th annual conference for veterinarians

Come to the VMCE office, 1 Trotter Hall, for information and to register.
SCAVMA hosts movie night

SCAVMA hosted its second movie night in Frick Auditorium on Feb. 15. The group showed Rush Hour 3 and provided drinks, chips and candy. Movie nights are held to let CVM students, faculty and staff socialize and relax together in a non-academic, comfortable setting. If you missed out, be sure to watch for SCAVMA’s next movie night!

Telefund 2008 Raises more than $75,000 for the CVM

Good call! This past month, CVM students wrapped up another successful session at Telefund 2008, the KSU Foundation’s volunteer calling program to raise support for scholarships and other college funding priorities. The two-day effort resulted in $75,263 being generated from 636 pledges. Telefund 2008 has raised more than $1 million for all colleges at K-State, with final figures to be released in March or April. CVM students earned a variety of prizes for participating this year. They will also be entered in a drawing for the grand prize: a 2008 Nissan Versa. The College of Veterinary Medicine thanks all the students for volunteering and all the alumni and friends who gave generously to support scholarships in the college.

Dr. Hesse teams up to with researchers in China to help pigs with blue ear disease

With the assistance of a CVM virologist and a team of specialists who recently visited the country, Chinese researchers are now a step closer to understanding a disease complex that is killing millions of pigs in China.

Dr. Dick Hesse was part of a team that made a two-week visit to China in December. The team’s goal was to help Chinese scientists diagnose the disease that has stricken the pig population.

Since 2006, China’s pig population has been devastated by Blue Ear/High-Fever Disease. A variant form of porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome was believed to be the cause of the disease. The investigative team worked with prominent scientists from four research centers that have had extensive experience with the disease.

Relationships with Chinese scientists were also established and are expected to lead to exchange opportunities for students and faculty at the CVM.

Trip sponsors were the National Pork Board, American Association of Swine Veterinarians and Tetracore Inc.

Dr. Hesse teams up with Cai Jianping at the Guangdong Academy of Agricultural Sciences.
The team at the International Food Safety Network (IFSN) launched a handwashing promotion called, “Dude, wash your hands!” As a part of the campaign, the IFSN have published a press release, info sheet and YouTube video. The information focuses on when, why and how to wash your hands.

**HOW**
- Wet hands with water.
- Use enough soap to build a good lather.
- Scrub hands vigorously, creating friction and reaching all areas of the fingers and hands for at least 10 seconds to loosen pathogens on the fingers and hands.
- Rinse hands with thorough amounts of water while continuing to rub hands.
- Dry hands with a paper towel.

**WHEN**
- Before handling or preparing food, especially ready-to-eat food
- After using the toilet
- After handling raw food
- After changing diapers
- After playing with or cleaning up after pets
- After handling garbage

**WHY**
People are continuously exposed to various bacteria and viruses because of improper handwashing or lack of handwashing. Proper handwashing can significantly reduce the chance of getting foodborne and other illnesses.

**LINKS**
- http://barfblog.foodsafety.ksu.edu
- http://foodsafetyinfosheets.ksu.edu
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOeQh2-ci3M