BCI creates system for educating feedyard workers

Three young men from Southwest Kansas are making contributions to the beef industry while learning firsthand what it takes to produce multimedia educational modules. Jose Valles, from Liberal, is a Bridges student and aspiring pre-veterinary student. He is working on an undergraduate research project on the effects of teaching equine health to agricultural workers, both Spanish and English speaking, through a multimedia format. Alfredo Juarez from Plains has been working diligently on developing modules to help teach beef quality assurance programs to the same audiences. Jose Uriel Estrada from Liberal has been working on both projects. These three young men are completing these projects within the new Beef Cattle Institute at K-State.

These projects have been conducted through direct supervision of Wrenn Pacheco, project coordinator, Han Coleman, assistant project coordinator, and Kent Nelson, multimedia expert of the Beef Cattle Institute. Han Coleman authored five equine health modules for feedyard employees. Valles has contributed to the projects by translating the information, gathering images to illustrate what the information is stating and organizing the recording of the information of both English and Spanish. He plans to take the modules to the field to test the effectiveness of the multimedia tools to train feedyard employees.

Valles said, “The modules will help many Latino feedlot workers that lack education of these animals.” He also realizes he is gaining valuable experience.

Estrada has specifically assisted Valles by being the Spanish audio voice for the modules and helping with the translation. “One of my future goals is to work with Latinos, so I feel this is preparing me for bigger and better things,” Estrada said.

Juarez comes to K-State with many years of feedlot experience. These prior experiences have made him an important person for translating the English transcripts to a workable Spanish version to train employees in the importance of beef quality assurance. Juarez also leads the efforts in putting the material into a multimedia format. He said, “The experience of putting the modules together has been rewarding, and I know that this will help me in the future.”

The multimedia modules in Spanish and English are supported by the Beef Cattle Institute at Kansas State University. These modules will be offered on the BCI Web site at www.beefcattleinstitute.org.

Story by Wrenn Pacheco

Kent Nelson and Alfredo Juarez collaborate on the translation project.
Dr. Marco Margiocco, assistant professor of cardiology, recently presented a Cardiology Wet Lab at K-State’s Veterinary Technicians Conference, offered via Veterinary Medical Continuing Education. The lab included a presentation on theory and practice of cardiac auscultation in small and large animals. Following the presentation, participants had the opportunity to rotate through four stations where they were able to practice on live dogs and cats. At one station, Dr. Margiocco used a multiuser stethoscope to walk the participants through an assisted auscultation.

“This is a very useful tool because it allows up to five students to hear exactly what the instructor is describing, in real time,” Dr. Margiocco said.

Participants said the cardiology lab was extremely useful, and many said they would like to attend it again if offered.

Dr. Margiocco is organizing a series of continuing education seminars on the diagnosis and management of congenital heart defects in veterinary patients in collaboration with local veterinary associations.

“The goal of the seminar series will be to increase the awareness of practitioners on the importance of investigating the cause of cardiac murmurs in young dogs,” Dr. Margiocco said. “In many instances, congenital heart defects can be treated or managed, which can bring great improvements in the quality and quantity of life for our patients.”
Two get honored

K-State selects CVM's Drs. Nagaraja and Wangemann as university distinguished professors

CVM professors Drs. T.G. Nagaraja and Philine Wangemann were selected as university distinguished professors, the highest honor K-State can bestow on its faculty.

"These faculty members are remarkable for their expertise and achievements," said M. Duane Nellis, provost and senior vice president. "With their significant contributions to their individual disciplines, they have enhanced K-State's reputation as an outstanding research and teaching university."

Dr. Nagaraja joined K-State's animal sciences faculty in 1980 and transferred to the CVM in 1998. He received his master's in veterinary microbiology in 1975 and his bachelor's in veterinary science in 1970, both from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India. He earned a doctorate in microbiology from K-State's Division of Biology in 1979.

Dr. Wangemann received her degree in biology in 1985 from Justus-Liebig University in Giessen, Germany. She received her doctorate in 1987 from the Albert-Ludwigs University in Freiburg, Germany. She joined K-State in 1998.

Pet Trust changes name

Members of the Pet Trust executive board voted unanimously at a recent meeting to change the name of the Pet Trust Program to "Pet Tribute" to better define the program and eliminate confusion between this program and pet trusts, legal arrangements animal owners make for the long-term care of their animals.

Board members also believed that the change to "Pet Tribute" allows people to pay tribute to animals that are deceased or living.

The Pet Trust was established in 1985 and has served our college, practicing veterinarians and grieving animal owners well. Its extraordinary success and long-term growth rests squarely with those within the college who created the program and those visionaries who revamped and strengthened it over the years. Each year the program supports various initiatives within the college ranging from needs at the teaching hospital, scholarships and support for research.

For more information, contact Chris Gruber or Sharon Greene in the development office.

Check it Out at the Library

New law affects researchers

A law has been passed and now enforced that will directly impact researchers who receive funding from the National Institutes of Health. The law requires that all investigators who are funded by NIH submit or have submitted for them to the National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central (NLM's open access journal database) an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts upon acceptance of the manuscripts by a publisher. Published articles must be publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication.

Two upcoming deadline dates are very important for researchers to observe in the implementation of this new law. On or by April 7, 2008, all articles written from NIH funded research must be deposited into PubMed Central, the NLM journal article repository, and on or by May 25, 2008, the PubMed Central reference number must be used when referring to these publications in all NIH reports. Failure to follow this new law will result in delay or loss of NIH funding.

Authors can publish in journals that comply with these policies automatically or will need to inform the journal that will publish the article that it is subject to the public access requirement. In the past authors haven't had to worry about who retained copyright and would often sign whatever agreement that publishers presented to them. Now these agreements must be rewritten or have an addendum added to assure that the publishers comply with the new NIH requirement for public access.

For more information about the new law, visit the following Web sites:
http://publicaccess.nih.gov
http://www.arl.org/sparc/advocacy/nihs/copyright.html.
Dr. Beth Davis has been elected to serve in the Faculty Senate for the next three years.

Second-year student Holly Beck was recently chosen to receive an American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners’ annual veterinary student award. Holly is also a recipient of one of the Cornell University Laboratory Animal Medicine externships this summer.

Dr. Doug Powell presented Jan. 31 at the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association annual meetings in Toronto. He also presented Feb. 15 at the Southern California Food Protection Association in Los Angeles.

Under the microscope: Janet Crisler
Research Assistant
Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Place of birth: Fort Scott, Kan.
Family: Husband, Drew Crisler, first-year veterinary student
Pets: Dog, Ohse
Favorite thing about spring: Warmer weather to enjoy the outdoors (walking, fishing, riding, etc.)
Favorite subjects in school: Animal behavior, science related classes
Favorite thing about your job: Co-workers
What one store would you like to go on a shopping spree at? Tractor Supply
Do you have any hidden talents? I can’t tell because then it wouldn’t be hidden.

Ahlvers retires after 27 years

A retirement celebration honoring Dennis Ahlvers, CVM facilities manager, was held Feb. 29. Dennis shared several stories from his 27 years of service with the CVM faculty and staff in attendance. He was presented with a CVM purple concrete garden bench and commemorative plaque.

new arrivals welcome
Leah Hanzlicek - DM/P-VDL
Kevin Hahn - Clinical Sciences
Dale Claassen - DM/P-VDL

recent departures thanks
Chasity McDonough - VDL
Merla Brookman - A&P

White Coat Ceremony FRIDAY!

The 2008 White Coat Ceremony will be held this Friday, April 11, at 2 p.m. in the Student Union Grand Ballroom.

There is no parking available at the Union, but shuttle service is available at Edwards Hall and at the bus stop between the recreation complex and east stadium. Return service is available every 10 minutes from the Union.

The College Awards Banquet will be held at 6:30 in the Union. See more information online: www.vet.k-state.edu/events/KindHearts/