

\$4.8 million USDA grant benefits Dr. Rowland's lab

K-State takes part in Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Coordinated Agricultural Project

Dr. Bob Rowland sees himself as an administrator of a multidisciplinary project and not as a principal investigator. Nevertheless, his lab is a 'principal' beneficiary of a significant grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture that totals \$4.8 million.

The disease known as Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) costs pig producers an estimated \$700 million a year. In Kansas alone, losses are estimated at \$15 million per year.

That's why researchers at Kansas State University have been collaborating with other regional universities to resolve PRRS and other swine diseases.

Dr. Rowland, K-State professor and virologist, will lead the Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Coordinated Agricultural Project. Under the project, K-State's experts will collaborate with other universities, veterinarians, commodity groups, government agencies and swine producers to get to the bottom of the disease.

K-State has been a player in this initiative since 2004.

"Our first step was to lay out a comprehensive road map for the industry," Dr. Rowland said of the national project's progress to date. "All anyone in the field has to do now is pick a destination and go there."

The mission of the project is to effectively coordinate efforts aimed at

dealing with the disease. That includes research, education and extension.

PRRS is a highly infectious disease that has spread throughout North America, Europe and Asia. The disease is responsible for causing a flu-like condition with high fever, loss of appetite and an overall deterioration of health. In its most severe form, the virus causes "reproductive storms" which result in the death of pregnant females and of newborn pigs.

"By eliminating porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome we can have a significant impact on animal health and welfare and the economic bottom line of producers across the nation and the world," Dr. Rowland said.

The project will support research into new vaccines against the syndrome, Dr. Rowland said, as well as a look into the disease and how things like pig genetics impact treatment. Though researchers have come a long way in the few years since the disease became prevalent in the U.S. pig population,



Dr. Bob Rowland directs students on a research project at his lab in Mosier Hall.

Dr. Rowland said there is also still quite a bit of basic research to be done on the virus. Researchers who take part in the project, he said, will take a broader look at the syndrome and try to map out how the virus works, as well as what effect things like the environment have.

The project at K-State will be funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at \$1.2 million a year for the next four years. Participants at Ohio State University, the University of Minnesota and the National Pork Board are listed as co-directors, and grants from this project will be funded competitively, Dr. Rowland said.



Get more lifelines online!

Additional stories and photos are posted online @ <http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/0806.htm>

- New/departing Interns and residents
- New donor recognition board
- Regents professor Dr. Richt meets the press



Dean Richardson honors employees at luncheon

Employees took the spotlight at the Dean's Staff Luncheon in May for being Employees of the Year and for Classified Years of Service Awards. Pictured at top are those recognized for years of service: Nelwyn Cook, 5 years, senior administrative assistant; Pam Davis, 30 years, research technician; Bob Lynch, 20 years, electronics technician; and Mary Girard, 30 years, library services manager. Pictured below are the CVM Employees of the Year with their respective department heads. Left to right: Department Head Dr. Frank Blecha, Dr. Jun Yang, microbiologist II - Employee of the Year in Anatomy and Physiology; Hospital Administrator Dr. Shirley Arck, Kathy Shike, small animal surgery veterinary technician - Employee of the Year in the VMTH; Department Head Dr. M.M. Chengappa, (employee of the year not pictured for Department of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology); and Katherine Carlgren, senior administrative assistant - Employee of the Year in Clinical Sciences with Department Head Dr. Bonnie Rush. See a full list of employee honors at Lifelines online for those not pictured.



By Carol Elmore

Summer will soon be here and everyone will be looking for interesting activities. Why not plan to spend some time with the animals in our area?

There are activities available in Manhattan such as the Riley County Fair and Kaw Valley Rodeo, July 24-28, where animals and their owners compete in many exciting events. The fair and rodeo's Web site is www.rileycountyfair.com.

Check it Out at the Library

Summer animal-related activities

Many fair events are free, but the rodeo admission is \$10 at the door for adults and \$4.00 for children.

Sunset Zoo in Manhattan also has some upcoming special events such as Father's Day at the Zoo, June 15, with free admission for dad with a paying child, Kids Free Days are June 7 and Aug. 7 and other events and times are listed at www.SunsetZoo.com.

If another animal experience and day trip are appealing, then Rolling Hills

Zoo has 100 plus species of wildlife throughout their 60 acres of beautifully landscaped park near Salina, Kan. Specifics about the zoo, museum, and their special events can be viewed at www.rollinghillswildlife.com with times and admission fees listed for these events.

The T. Russell Reitz Animal Shelter in Manhattan, while not sponsoring any special events, welcomes visits to the shelter with contributions for their animals' needs. A list of

needs is listed at www.geocities.com/manhattananimalshelter, as well as other information for families who might want to adopt an animal from the shelter.

One upcoming event is the Kansas State Horse Show Circuits' Open Horse Show at the Kansas Expo Centre, Domer Arena, in Topeka, Kan., June 7 at 8:30 a.m. Information about this event can be viewed at www.kshsc.org/shows.htm.

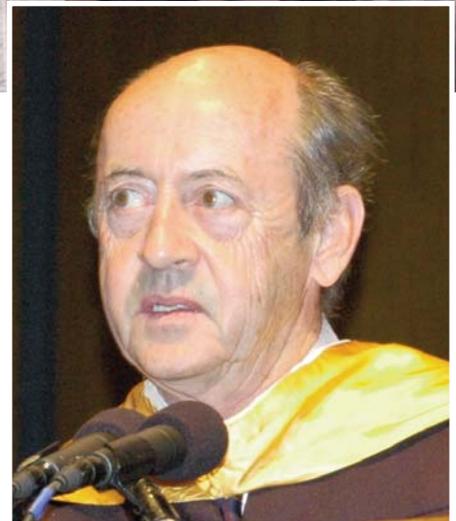
These are just a few of the many opportunities for animal events. If you know of any animal events this summer, please e-mail me at celmore@vet.ksu.edu and I'll keep a list of them for future reference.

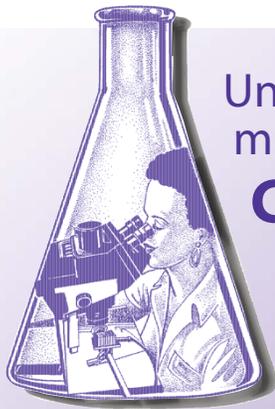
Graduation Day

Commencement 2008 in pictures



Clockwise from top: 2008 graduates take the veterinary oath. Billy Collins, former U.S. Poet Laureate recites one of his poems about animals. Dr. Roger Fingland hoods a student. Dr. Naomi Dean shows her veterinary diploma to members of her family. Dr. Jennifer Kilburn poses for a picture with guests after the ceremony.





Under the microscope:
Cheri Ubel
Alumni
Coordinator



Place of birth: Riley, Kan.

Family: Husband is Delbert. Our oldest is Christopher Patrick and our three girls are Amy Colleen, Megan Mary and Trina Elizabeth. We have nine grandchildren (five boys and four girls).

Pets: We have a Shely, Beetle, and a German Shorthair, Pearl, a Conure, Pickles, and three cats: Mr. Stripes, Cricket and Samantha.

Who is the most inspirational person to you? I have to say that my mother-in-law, Lucile, inspired me a great deal as a wife and mother. She was hard-working, selfless and holy.

What was the first job you ever had? My very first job out of high school was at a grocery retail called Farm House Foods at the end of Ponytz Avenue where the mall is now.

What is one of your hobbies? I love horticulture and like to help people with landscaping ideas. I have many house plants and my dream is to have a greenhouse when I retire.

Which is better, the book or the movie? The book. It lets you inside the heads of the characters. I love words.

Peddireddi wins Sarachek Fellowship



Pictured right to left are: Dr. Don Boggs, associate dean of agriculture; Lalitha Peddireddi; Dr. Roman Ganta, DM/P professor; and John Leslie, plant pathology department head.

Lalitha Peddireddi, Ph.D. student in Dr. Roman Ganta's laboratory in DM/P, recently received the Alvin and RosaLee Sarachek Predoctoral Honors Fellowship in Molecular Biology for 2008. It is a universitywide competition among graduate students whose research involves molecular biology.

"I am honored to receive this award," Peddireddi said. "It is great recognition for my Ph.D. work and for the research in our lab."

CVM News Ticker



Dr. Kenneth Harkin, right, section head for small animal medicine, receives the Norden Award for Teaching Excellence from Dr. Melinda Wilkerson, interim associate dean for academic programs.

Dr. Amy Dixon-Jiminez, left, pet health assistant clinical professor, receives the Pet Tribute Faculty Award from Dean Richardson.



Dr. Laurie Beard, right, equine professor, receives the Mary Reed Award for Compassion in Treating Equine Patients from Dr. Beth Davis, equine section head.

Dr. Matt Miesner, right, agricultural practices professor, receives the Fort Dodge Award for Excellence in Clinical Instruction of 4th year students from Dr. Wilkerson.



Dr. David Hodgson returned to continue work at Kabul University in Afghanistan May 8. He will be there until the end of June. Last year, he was at KU from June to mid November. Dr. Hodgson worked within the Afghan system to create a functioning teaching facility for veterinary students.

Dr. Bob Larson will present at the Evidence Based Veterinary Medical Association in Athens, Ga., on June 9. Topic: What is EBVM? History of EBVM.

Dr. Tracey Jackson will present at the ACVIM forum in San Antonio, Texas, on June 5. Topic: Cellular & Molecular Analysis of Hormone Production and Gene Expression in a Feline Insulinoma.