Sowing Seeds in China
Dr. Jishu Shi lays groundwork for Animal Health Partnership

It starts with an idea and grows with time and effort. For Dr. Jishu Shi, the idea he developed with his department head, Dr. Frank Blecha, and the dean, Dr. Ralph Richardson, is starting to take root.

He visited China in late March and early April with help from a $1,500 International Incentive Grant provided by K-State’s Office of International Programs. Dr. Shi, an associate professor in the Department of Anatomy and Physiology, is working to develop the U.S.-China Center for Animal Health. This will be a K-State-based training center for the improvement of Chinese animal health education, research, government and industrial workforce. Having this center will create more jobs in Kansas and expand opportunities for U.S. animal health businesses to have greater access to the Chinese market.

“We are trying to capitalize on our expertise in DVM training here at the College of Veterinary Medicine and also our connections with the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor,” Dr. Shi said. “There’s a need in China for improving veterinary education. We can bring veterinary students here or go to China to teach workshops and generate educational opportunities as well as business development opportunities.”

Dr. Shi said the first step is to have two or three students from China enroll at K-State, while the overall goal is to help improve the Chinese DVM training system and meet American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) accreditation standards.

“In China, they have 55 colleges that can graduate students and then call them veterinarians, but only two have full colleges of veterinary medicine like K-State,” Dr. Shi said. “It’s believed there are anywhere from 300,000 to a million veterinarians in China. Now they’re trying to board certify their veterinarians and learn from the AVMA system. They just started in December, so they really want to learn how colleges are accredited. They have invited Dean Richardson to China in October to talk about how to prepare for AVMA accreditation as a veterinary school.”

Dr. Shi said he would like to eventually have K-State DVM students work or study in China for a semester, which could allow them to learn traditional Chinese veterinary medicine techniques such as acupuncture.

“This is really a development opportunity that could help increase our reputation,” he said. “If we can get the best students from China to come to K-State for veterinary training and then return to China, we increase our reputation as an international training university. It’s really a win-win-win for everybody.”

Dr. Shi makes connections with Dr. Yongsheng Wang, director of public relations at Pfizer Animal Health Asia Pacific area; Dr. Zhongqiu Zhang, general secretary of the CVMA, deputy director general of the Veterinary Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture of China; and Dr. Hua Wu, professor at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

Get more lifelines online at http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1005.htm
BCI to host International Beef Cattle Welfare Symposium

Amid consumers’ growing interest in how their food is produced, K-State’s Beef Cattle Institute (BCI) will host the 2010 International Symposium on Beef Cattle Welfare May 19-21 on campus.

“This symposium will provide everyone who is involved in the beef cattle industry – from producer to veterinarian to feedyard manager and transport specialist to processor – the opportunity to have constructive discussion on well-being issues facing our industry,” said Dr. Dan Thomson, K-State associate professor and director of the BCI. “The speakers we have lined up for this are the leading experts in the field. Their depth, range and unique focus will provide all attendees with networking and problem solving opportunities.”

Featured speaker at the symposium, Dr. Temple Grandin, professor of animal science at Colorado State University, will present “How to Set Up and Implement an Auditing System.”

When it comes to auditing animal welfare, Dr. Grandin says any system designed to get the job done has to be simple and has to be measurable. The livestock behavior specialist is known internationally for her work in developing animal handling systems and audit guidelines for meat packing plants, transport companies and other livestock-related enterprises.

Other speakers include: Dr. Joseph Stookey, an applied ethologist and sustainable beef systems research expert from the University of Saskatchewan; Dr. Mike Siemens, leader of animal welfare and husbandry for Cargill Animal Protein; Dr. Janice Swanson, director of animal welfare at Michigan State University; Dr. Glynn Tonsor, assistant professor of agricultural economics at Michigan State; Dr. Ron Gill, professor and extension livestock specialist for Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Dr. Tom Noffsinger a cattle handling expert and beef cattle veterinarian; and others.

For those who are unable to attend in person, a live webcast option is available. More information, including online registration, is available on the web: www.isbcw.beefcattleinstitute.org

Banquet honors seniors and teachers

The College of Veterinary Medicine held its annual Senior Honors Banquet on the evening of Kind Hearts Caring Hands Day, April 16. A total of more than 80 scholarships, teaching and special awards are presented each year, with some scholarships going to multiple recipients. Pictured here are just a few of the distinguished awards. A full list of honors will be posted online soon at: www.vet.ksu.edu/events/index.htm.

Dr. Harish Minocha and his wife, Ved, present the Dr. Bishan Das and Ram Bai Minocha Memorial Award to Rebecca Kryzak.

Dr. Bonnie Rush congratulates Dr. Elizabeth Davis for receiving the Mary J. Reed Equine Compassion Award.
White Coat Ceremony celebrates its 10th

Dr. Ron de Haven, executive vice president of the AVMA, issues a challenge to the class of 2011.

Hannah Kim, class of 2011, receives her White Coat from Dr. David Anderson.

Gail Eyestone and Staci Murray welcome you to the Bagel Bonanza!

The class of 2011 takes the Pledge of Professionalism upon receiving their White Coats.

Participants in the Quiz Bowl mull over a question about movies.
Dr. Michael Dryden, DVM 1984, was recognized at the April 2010 meeting of the American Academy of Veterinary Dermatology in Portland, Ore. A professor of veterinary parasitology in the Department of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology, he was presented with an Excellence in Teaching Award for his contributions to the education of future veterinary dermatologists.

Dr. William Fortney received the Western Veterinary Conference’s Distinguished Service Award in February. This is the organization’s highest award and is presented to those individuals who support the Western Veterinary Conference with their time and talent and who demonstrate selfless dedication to veterinary education and the advancement of veterinary medicine.

Dr. Ben Wileman earned honors at the seventh annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit, March 25, at the Docking State Office Building in Topeka. He is a doctoral student in pathobiology and earned a $500 scholarship from KansasBio for his research posters.

Dr. Walter Renberg was appointed as director of international programs in the CVM in April. Under his chairmanship and with the enthusiastic support of many others in the CVM who have an interest in international programs, the International Activities Committee has been very active, creating more and more opportunities for the CVM to be engaged in international programs.

The Alumni and Development Office for the CVM says farewell to Chris Stephens, development officer, who has taken a new job as director of operations for EE Ranches Inc. in Dallas. EE Ranches is owned by the Ellard family, and includes a number of cattle ranches and horse operations in three states.