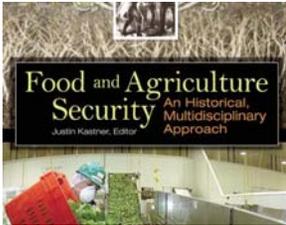




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Dr. Blecha: Veterinary Immunologist of the Year

Despite making what are arguably some of the biggest advancements in research on the animal immune system, Frank Blecha puts his students' success before his own.

Now his former students have helped Dr. Blecha, a Kansas State University distinguished professor of immunophysiology, interim associate dean for research in the College of Veterinary Medicine, and head of the department of anatomy and physiology, earn national recognition for his contributions to veterinary immunology.

On Dec. 6 in Chicago, Ill., Dr. Blecha will be formally recognized by the American Association of Veterinary Immunologists as the 2010 Distinguished Veterinary Immunologist of the Year. His former students nominated him for the honor, one of the highest in the field.

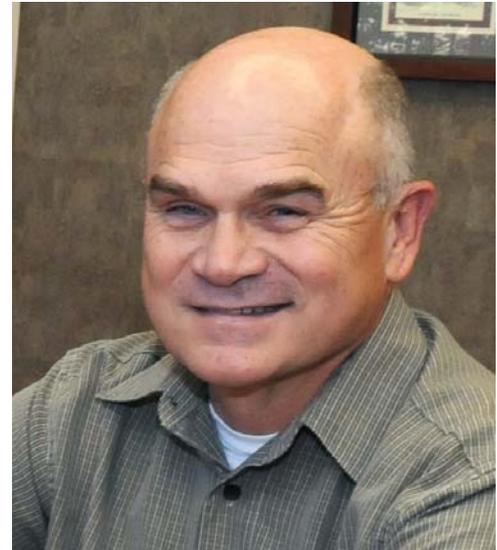
"It's really surprising that he hasn't received this award before now, as, in my mind, he's the most qualified person in his field," said Dr. Jishu Shi, associate professor of anatomy and physiology at K-State. "His work was really some of the first in certain areas, and I think he single-handedly increased our understanding of innate immunology in domestic animals."

Dr. Shi, a former graduate student of Dr. Blecha's, spearheaded the nomination campaign, which consisted of letters of support and a list of Dr. Blecha's achievements.

Since beginning his work in veterinary immunology nearly 36 years ago, Dr. Blecha has authored 139 refereed journals, 24 book chapters and more than 200 abstracts; contributed to four university patents; raised more than \$9 million in funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association, among others; and made more than 100 invited presentations at regional, national and international conferences.

Teaching, and even immunology, weren't areas Dr. Blecha originally considered pursuing.

"Besides serving in the Army, the only thing I



Dr. Frank Blecha has 36 years of experience in veterinary immunology, in addition to being the Department Head for Anatomy & Physiology and Interim Associate Dean for Research in the CVM. He is also a University Distinguished Professor at K-State.

had ever done was rodeo and school. I wasn't sure I would be accepted into graduate school because my grades weren't all that great," he said. "Instead of buckling down, I spent the last two years of school rodeoing and not going to class."

As luck would have it, Dr. Blecha was accepted into grad school, where he became involved in a project on the immune system in animals. This chance study led to him earning a doctorate in the field. Soon after, Dr. Blecha, his wife and sons moved to Manhattan, and he began working at K-State in 1981.

Since then he's investigated the capabilities of cytokines and antimicrobial peptides, and has worked with interferons. His greatest work, though, has been that with his students, he said.

Dr. Kastner authors book on ensuring food and agriculture security

This fall is the “write” time for Dr. Justin Kastner, assistant professor of food safety and security in the veterinary college. He recently authored a book on international trade security issues facing the agriculture and food sector, and he is working on another title to be announced in December.

While technically he is the editor for these two projects, he has done plenty of writing as well. “Food and Agriculture Security: An Historical, Multidisciplinary Approach” (Publishers: ABC-CLIO) examines the food system in its entirety, discusses threats to food and agriculture security in America and abroad, and covers trade policy issues and U.S.-specific regulations affecting the food supply chain security. Emerging models of cross-border cooperation in food and agriculture security are also described.

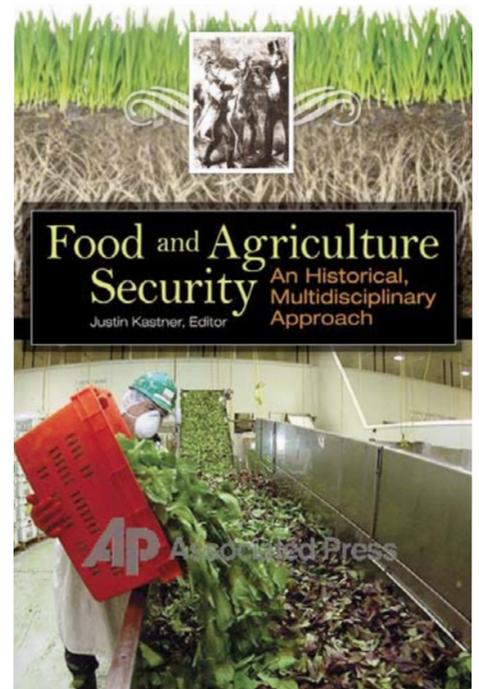
“With our constant concern about threats to homeland security, ensuring the security of our nation’s food supply is a top priority,” Dr. Kastner said. “Food and Agriculture Security — a stated priority research area of the

Department of Homeland Security — concerns the safety, security, and ongoing operation of the agricultural and food system in a global society that values both trade and security.”

The October 2009 issue of Lifelines featured a story about the Frontier program of which Dr. Kastner is co-director. Participants in this program helped author chapters on food security, trade policy and historical studies of border security.

According to the publisher’s website, the book covers an under-published topic that warrants more attention and awareness given current vulnerability and the potentially catastrophic results Dr. Kastner said, “For the Frontier participants, this was an excellent opportunity to research these issues, particularly from a multidisciplinary perspective. As a textbook, we hope to advances students’ appreciation for both public-private partnerships and international collaboration to ensure food and agriculture security.”

“Food and Agriculture Security: An Historical, Multidisciplinary Approach”



is on file in the Veterinary Medical Library and is available for purchase online at www.abc-clio.com.

Trick or Treat? Pets and kids dress up for Halloween

CVM family, friends and pets get into the Halloween spirit with their creative costumes.



Have it your way, Jackson dressed as the “Burger King.” (Submitted by Ashley Talley, third-year student)



Sophia, dressed as a milk cow, is all set for some trick or treating. (Submitted by Morgan Bernal, fourth-year student)



Nothing is bugging Checkers, this feline took on the role as a ladybug for the Halloween season. (Submitted by Rebecca Molina, fourth-year student)

CVM welcomes its newest class of Early Admit Scholars

Since it was established in 1999, the Early Admission Scholars program has recruited the best and brightest undergraduate students who want to study veterinary medicine. After acceptance into the program and completion of 64 hours of preprofessional requirements, the scholars are guaranteed admission into the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Successful candidates in the Early Admission Scholars program must maintain a 3.4 grade point average during completion of the preprofessional requirements.

Each student must also take the GRE test. By their third year of undergraduate studies, the scholars may petition for enrollment in the first year of the DVM degree program.

The College of Veterinary Medicine assigns each scholar a faculty mentor and student mentor to stimulate career and academic development and to provide orientation and access to college activities. The preveterinary students attend regular meetings during the academic year to develop a sense of community and share their progress.



Top row (left to right): Kaitlin Foley, Hillary Henslee, Tanner Slead, Annika Sundby, Hallie Patton. Middle row: Joanna Wilson, Katrina Nieman, Hillary Martin, Shelby Langtry, Stephanie Skinner. Front row: Madeline Anderston, Catalina Perdomo, Erica Hamman, Amber Smith, Marcella Steele. Not Pictured: Hillary Schartz and Amanda Schneider.

Check it out at the Library By Carol Elmore

"PubMed undergoes changes"

PubMed (www.pubmed.gov) has been undergoing some changes within the last year. Recently several of us from the Veterinary Medical Library attended a class in Wichita on PubMed conducted by staff from the National Library of Medicine where we learned about some of the database's enhancements.

The limits page, which is available from a link above the search box on all PubMed pages including the PubMed home page, has undergone some changes. Previously the limit selections were only available on the advanced search page. Also a "Limits Activated" message will now be displayed above the results summary line on search

results and under the search box on the homepage and advanced search page. The limits can be changed or removed by clicking on the change or remove link in the message. The functionality of the limits hasn't changed, but some additional dates and search field tags have been added to provide additional options.

Another change to PubMed is that a link to "clipboard" has been added to the PubMed home page under PubMed Tools. This shows when a user has added items to the PubMed clipboard. Previously this was only shown on the search results page.

Another PubMed enhancement is to add book chapter citations to search

results. Although this is very limited currently, plans are to increase the number of available citations. The related articles link that currently shows related journal articles will be changed to related citations to accommodate the addition of book chapter citations.

Another change to the database is that when sending an e-mail of citations in the abstract format, users can now include or exclude the MeSH headings by checking or unchecking a checkbox that appears when the abstract format is selected in the send options. If the box is not checked the default setting will be in place and no headings will be sent.

Structured abstracts is a



new format for abstract displays that adds section labels such as background, objective, methods, results and conclusions. The purpose of this is to make the abstracts easier and quicker to read. Next month's column will discuss changes to the "My NCBI" option that many of our readers have started using and enjoying. Remember, if you need help in learning more about PubMed options and features, don't hesitate to contact one of the library staff members who will be happy to assist you in your searching needs.

Under the microscope



Dr. Gwi-Moon Seo

Senior Scientist, Anatomy & Physiology

Place of birth: Haenam, South Korea



Family Information: My wife, Heesun; two sons Heesu and Heewon; and one daughter Dahee.

Pets: I had two fish, but unfortunately, they died a week ago.

What do you enjoy most about working at the veterinary college?
I have met a lot of good people.

Where's the farthest you have traveled from Manhattan?
Utah

What's your best Halloween memory? Two years ago, my friends and I got together. We went trick or treating. This was the first time that I had ever been trick or treating with my kids and my friends.

What movie best describes your life and why? "The Shawshank Redemption." Because the main character never gives up on his life. He shows that dreams can really come true.

Who is someone you look up to? My parents: my mom and my dad.

CVM NEWS TICKER

Gina Besenyi, Dr. Andrew T. Kaczynski, Melissa Bopp and Pamela Wittman, from the Master of Public Health program, participated in the Kansas Public Health Association poster contest held in Topeka on Sept. 29 and 30. The group was selected as one of the winners with their poster titled "Gender and Age Differences in Motivators and Barriers for Active Commuting."

Ms. Luella Katz, Everest, Kan., made a generous contribution to the College of Veterinary Medicine to establish a scholarship. She was inspired by Dr. John Andres, DVM 1977, her local veterinarian, and the care her animals received from him.

Dr. Benjamin Wileman, a 2010 doctoral graduate, was the winner of the Bovine Practitioners Conference 2010 Graduate Research competition.

Dr. Hans Coetzee presented at the CanWest Veterinary Meeting in Victoria, British Columbia, on Oct. 3 and 4. Topic: "Evidence-based medicine for the bovine practitioner."



The American Royal presents a check for \$7,500 to K-State for the Veterinary Scholars program in October. From left to right: Rick Norden, American Royal director and Fairbank Scales president, Greg Maday, chairman of the board of directors, Dean Ralph Richardson, and Larry Moore, KMBC-TV news anchor.

Two retirees from CVM Facilities



Left photo is Henry "Hank" Sunnenberg, Hank worked at the CVM for 30 years. Right photo is Sang Yi. Sang worked at CVM for 31 years.

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