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From Plum Island to NBAF

Dual degree program offers students research opportunity

An East Coast trip has helped a K-State student explore research connections between the university, the Plum Island Animal Disease Center and the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.

Nicholas Crossland is a second-year student in veterinary medicine and a graduate student in biomedical sciences from Overland Park. He recently spent two days touring Plum Island to look at performing a virology graduate project there as part of a dual-degree program with the CVM. The trip was rewarding, Nicholas said, and helped him understand how a high-profile federal laboratory works.

“The livelihood of many people depends on agriculture and raising animals,” Nicholas said. “With proper facilities, training and staff, I believe wholeheartedly that scientists can accomplish their mission with NBAF safely.”

The National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, or NBAF, in Manhattan will replace the aging Plum Island facility as a top federal laboratory for research to combat biological threats in animal and agricultural diseases. Crossland arranged the Plum Island trip with help from his adviser,

Dr. Bob Rowland, virologist and professor of diagnostic medicine and pathobiology, who knows and works with scientists at Plum Island.

“Because NBAF is coming to Manhattan, there are opportunities for veterinary students to gain experience in foreign animal diseases,” Dr. Rowland said.

CVM’s dual-degree program is one such graduate

opportunity. The program allows students like Nicholas to obtain both a doctorate of veterinary medicine and a secondary graduate degree. The program encourages veterinary students to obtain advanced degrees in foreign animal diseases, and it can provide another resource for veterinary students to perform research, Dr. Rowland said.



Nicholas Crossland, second-year student, is a part of the dual-degree program with the CVM. Watch a video report at: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1104.htm.

CVM will host first Human-Animal Bond Fair April 16



“The Human-Animal Bond Fair during our annual open house will be an opportunity to explore how animals enrich our lives on a daily basis. Whether or not you currently own a pet, please plan now to join us in celebrating our relationships with our nonhuman family members at our first annual Human-Animal Bond Fair. We are looking forward to seeing you during Open House.”

– Dr. Ronnie Elmore,
DVM, MS, Associate Dean for
Academic Programs, Admissions
and Diversity

EXHIBITS

*Canine Companions for Independence
Presidents and their Family Pets
Dr. Kipp Van Camp, author
Veterinary Medical Library
Pet Tribute
Kansas Search and Rescue Dogs
Manhattan Kennel Club
All-Star Agility
Canine Freestyle
Reading Education
Assistance Dogs
4-H Dog Care and Training
Action Team
KSDS*

Speakers and Presentations

10:15: *“Always Allie”*

Dr. Kipp A. Van Camp
President and CEO of Midwest
Education and Development, Midway
Radiology Institute and Rejuvenate
Medical Spa in Topeka.

10:35: *“All I wanted was a puppy;
raising puppies for service.”*

Dr. Patricia A. Payne, DVM, Ph.D.
Diagnostic Medicine Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine

10:55: *“The Life and Times of Jeb, the
Facility Dog.”*

Debra M. Sellers, Ph.D.
Asst. Prof. and Extension Specialist
College of Human Ecology

11:15: *“Sam, a horse and a family.”*

Dr. Jim Coffman, DVM, MS
Provost/Professor Emeritus
Clinical Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine

11:45: *“The Human-Animal Bond at
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue:
Presidents and Their Family Pet”*

Dr. Ronnie Elmore, DVM, MS
Assoc. Dean for Academic Programs,
Admissions and Diversity
College of Veterinary Medicine

MPH program recognizes outstanding participants

Kansas State University’s Master of Public Health (MPH) Program celebrated National Public Health Week and recognized significant public health contributions by students, graduates and faculty at the 3rd Annual Excellence in Public Health at K-State Awards Reception held Thursday evening. This year’s honorees included Gina Besenyi, Tyler Kane, Dr. Robert Larson, Julie Pickler and Aaron Boyd.

The 2011 Outstanding MPH Student Award went to Gina Besenyi. Over the past two years, Gina has been involved with all aspects of kinesiology and she was the project manager for the “Development of a Community Stake

Holder Park Audit Tool.”

Tyler Kane was selected as the 2011 Graduate of the MPH Program. Tyler is a community health analyst providing leadership and expertise to public health issues in his local community.

Dr. Robert Larson is this year’s Outstanding MPH Faculty Member. Dr. Larson serves as a professor to many MPH students and serves on the committee for others. He also developed an online course which is now a part of the MPH curriculum.

K-State’s MPH program was approved by the Kansas Board of Regents in



Gina Besenyi



**Dr. Robert
Larson**



Tyler Kane

January 2003 and admitted its first students that fall. Since then 41 students have earned their Master of Public Health degrees and two have received a Graduate Certificate in Public Health Core Concepts. Currently the program has a total of 80 students.

Dog days of spring: Running the annual Dog-N-Jog

A recent event at K-State presented a unique way to raise money for “pet” charity. The College of Veterinary Medicine hosted its 16th annual Dog-N-Jog on April 2. The race brought owners and dogs together while raising money for multiple organizations.

“Dog-N-Jog is a fundraising opportunity for the third-year class to help them pay for graduation fees and board exams,” said Janelle Scott, third-year student and race co-organizer. “Some of the proceeds will go toward KSDS, which is a service dog organization in Washington, Kan. — it helps train guide dogs and service dogs.”

Runners were given a choice between running 5 and 10 K run that followed a

route around and through the K-State campus. Dog-N-Jog also offered a “family fun run” option in which participants were asked to guess how long it would take them to complete the race. The winners were determined by who completed the race closest to their estimated time.

No matter which race people decided to run, the overall response was positive.

“I enjoyed seeing everyone having a good time, and enjoying the time with their dogs,” said Stephanie Oursler, third-year student and race co-organizer.

Watch a video report on Dog-N-Jog, at Lifelines online: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1104.htm



Dog-N-Jog allowed people a chance to run a race with their dogs. This year there were 245 entries before the race started. This number does not include the entries that were turned in on the day of the race.

Dr. Dan Thomson receives alumni award from Texas Tech

Dr. Dan Thomson, native of Clearfield, Iowa, was selected by the Texas Tech University for the Advanced Graduate of Distinction award. Dr. Thomson is the director of the Beef Cattle Institute at the CVM. He received his bachelor’s degree and DVM from Iowa State University. His master’s degree is from South Dakota State and his doctorate is from Texas Tech.

Dr. Thomson was an associate veterinarian with Veterinary Research and Consulting Services in Greeley, Colo. He then served as the director of animal health and well-being for Cactus Feeders in Amarillo, Texas. Dr. Thomson was the veterinary consultant for their 10 commercial feedlots and directed their animal health research at the Cactus research facility. Dr. Thomson still practices feedlot medicine in Nebraska and Texas.

Dr. Thomson is recognized internationally as a leader in beef cattle production and health management. Currently, he is the Jones Professor of Production Medicine and Epidemiology and director of the Beef Cattle Institute at CVM. He serves as the OIE Chair of Beef Cattle Production and Welfare. Dr. Thomson teaches cow/calf, stocker

and feedyard production medicine as well as nutrition. Dr. Thomson has published 44 peer-reviewed papers, five book chapters, 182 abstracts and proceedings at professional meetings and delivered 362 invited talks internationally on his research and field experience on the interactions between production management, environment and nutrition on the health and well-being of beef cattle. Dr. Thomson’s research program has been granted more than \$7.7 million with \$5.2 million of those funds coming with him as the primary investigator. Dr. Thomson has been very active working on advisory boards and committees for the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, American Farm Bureau, American Association of Bovine Practitioners and the North American Food Animal Well-being Committee. Dr. Thomson’s research and outreach has been reported in USA Today,



Dr. Kevin Pond (left), Texas Tech animal science department head, presents Dr. Dan Thomson with the Advanced Graduate of Distinction Award.

Los Angeles Times, New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, St. Louis Dispatch, Des Moines Register, Kansas City Star, Korea Herald, Vancouver Sun, Phoenix Star, Minneapolis Star Tribune and many others.

Under the microscope




Susie Larson
Graphic Design Specialist, Library
Hometown: Lawrence, Kan.

Family Information: My husband Duane (we just celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary, April 3). I have two great sons, Heath and Chancey, and a wonderful daughter-in-law, Katie.

Pets: A Jack Russell Terrier named Jack, and several horses.

What has been your favorite design project at CVM? Every design project (large or small, simple to complicated) is special to me. Designing the posters for the annual conference a few years ago for the seven K-State buildings, athletic track and green commons area named after our veterinarians was the most rewarding. Small prints of them are hung in the Dean's Conference room and it gives me pride to have our veterinarians honored and my work displayed.

What makes you smile and why? The simple little things, a flower first opening up in the spring, a child's laugh or animals playing. A smile of happiness on someone's face is one of the greatest things life can offer.

What is your biggest spring cleaning project? My flower beds and garden.

CVM NEWS TICKER

A quilt made by **Dr. Ronnie Elmore** was selected as a semi-finalist for the AQS Quilt Show and Contest on April 27-30 in Paducah, Ky. The quilt is titled "Christmas in the Cabin" and will be competing with 389 other quilts for cash prizes up to \$20,000.



Dr. Nora Springer, DVM 2008, is the recipient of two grants from the American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology. Her research is titled: "Procoagulant Activity in Horses: Measurement of Platelet-Derived Microparticles and Endogenous Thrombin Potential."

Dr. Springer is a veterinary clinical pathology resident at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Deepthi Uppalapati, Ph.D. student in anatomy and physiology, was selected to receive the Dr. Jane Westfall fellowship for women scholarship. Deepthi will travel to Orlando, Fla., to present her work. Dr. Westfall is an emeritus professor and taught at K-State for 32 years.

The Ad Astra Kansas initiative "Science in Kansas: 150 Years and Counting" named **Dr. T.G. Nagaraja** as one of the state's top 150 scientists, past and present. Dr. Nagaraja was recognized for his work in E. coli. As one of the selected scientists, Dr. Nagaraja was added to the Ad Astra digital trading cards series. The cards are designed for K-12 students to help teach them the importance of science in Kansas, present and past.

Equine Field Service to Equifest



Fourth-year students (left to right) **Chelsie Burden**, **Garrett Stewart** and **Jennifer Brewer** traveled to **Kansas Equifest** with **Dr. Chris Blevins**. Equifest was held in Wichita Feb. 11-13. The event is for horse owners and enthusiasts to meet, be entertained and gain equine knowledge. Dr. Blevins and the students checked in horses and handled equine emergencies at the event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 14 - International Potluck
- April 15 - K-State Spotlight on Intellectual Property
- April 16 - All University Open House
- April 16 - Human-Animal Bond Fair
- June 5-8 - 73rd Annual Conference for Veterinarians*

*For more information on Continuing Education Events, visit:
<http://www.vet.ksu.edu/CE/Conference.htm>

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