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# A Distinguished Leader

## K-State names Dr. Chengappa as its Outstanding Department Head

The purple spotlight is shining on the College of Veterinary Medicine this month. Special recognition has been heaped on Dr. M.M Chengappa, who heads the Department of Diagnostic Medicine and Pathobiology. He was recently given Kansas State University's 2011 Presidential Award for Outstanding Department Head. K-State President Kirk Schulz recognized Dr. Chengappa in a special award ceremony on April 29.

"I am honored and humbled by this recognition," Dr. Chengappa said. "I am very thankful to Dr. Ralph Richardson, dean of the college, for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this great College at K-State. It is truly a privilege to be associated with a fine group of highly productive faculty, staff and graduate students in this department. I have an outstanding group of people to work with in the college. This experience that I have gained during the course of my tenure as head has made me a better person. You achieve that only if you are sincere and genuinely concerned for the growth and well-being of the people you serve in the department and the college."

The dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Ralph Richardson, said, "I consider Dr. Chengappa to be an outstanding role model for the head of an academic unit. He has done an amazing job of bringing a diverse group of faculty together in a highly functional manner. He has created an environment that lifts the aspirations and morale of all those associated with the department. Tangible evidence of his success can be measured by the department's growth in research funding and competitive grants. He is doing the sort of thing that will allow us to reach and even surpass our Vision 2025."

As one of seven university distinguished professors in the veterinary college, Dr. Chengappa specialized in microbiology. His research interests include studying and understanding the pathogenesis of infectious diseases and developing strategies to protect animals from these diseases. He also coordinates and teaches a course in veterinary microbiology for sophomore veterinary students.



**Dr. M.M. Chengappa, University Distinguished Professor and Head of the Department of Diagnostic Medicine and Pathobiology.**

Before joining K-State's faculty in 1988, Dr. Chengappa was an associate professor and head of the department of microbiology at Murray State University's Breathitt Veterinary Center. He received his doctor of veterinary medicine and master of veterinary science at Mysore Veterinary College in Bangalore, India. He received his master of science and his Ph.D. from Michigan State University. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiology.

# Kind Hearts, Caring Hands Day celebrates White Coats

The K-State CVM Class of 2012 took an important step in their academic careers during the 11th annual White Coat Ceremony. It was the main event of the Kind Hearts, Caring Hands day on April 8.

“The White Coat Ceremony is the celebration of the completion of the first three years of veterinary college and the transition to the clinical training year, which is the fourth year,” said Dr. Roger Fingland, executive associate dean. “It’s a special time when a student gets to put on the white coat for the first time. It’s a very important thing for them to consider, that is, now they have responsibilities for patient care and they didn’t have that responsibility in the first three years.”

For many veterinary students in the 2012 Class, they considered this the turning point in their academic careers.

“To me, it’s like a transition, you go from more of a student to more of a clinician,” said Julia Roque, third year student. “We’re finally learning applicable things. Then taking what we’ve learned and putting it towards treating patients. It’s a blessing and a privilege to wearing the white coat.”

In honor of the white coat ceremony, the college holds an all day celebration called Kind Hearts, Caring Hands day.

“Kind Hearts, Caring Hands day is a day that we conceived of 11 years ago to celebrate teaching and learning,” said Dean Ralph Richardson. “It’s a day where we can just really focus on the students, on the learning environment and the families that help make that happen.”

Kind Hearts, Caring Hands day started with Bagel Bonanza. The event offered tours of the college and teaching hospital. There were also classroom demonstrations for family and friends. Veterinary students tested their knowledge during the annual quiz bowl.

Dr. Alan Kelly, Dean Emeritus from the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, delivered an all-school convocation about the role of



**Moments after receiving their white coats during the 11th annual White Coat Ceremony, the third-year students are presented to their family and friends.**

veterinary medicine in food security and global health. The day ended with the Senior’s banquet where over \$100,000 were awarded to senior veterinary students.

Even though the white coats bring more challenges for the students, it also signifies the students are closer to becoming a veterinarian.

## Seniors receive awards at annual honors banquet

Every year during the Kind Hearts, Caring Hands celebration, the senior honor’s banquet is held to wrap up the day’s events. During this banquet, over \$100,000 is awarded to the senior veterinary students. More than 50 awards are presented during the event.



**Soichiro James Fukuda receives the Dr. and Mrs. Nelson S. Mayo Memorial Equine Award, presented by Dr. Laurie Beard, clinical associate professor in equine internal medicine.**



**Mary Litton is the recipient of the Dr. Jake and Betty Mosier Award, presented by Dr. Susan Nelson, clinical assistant professor in general medicine.**

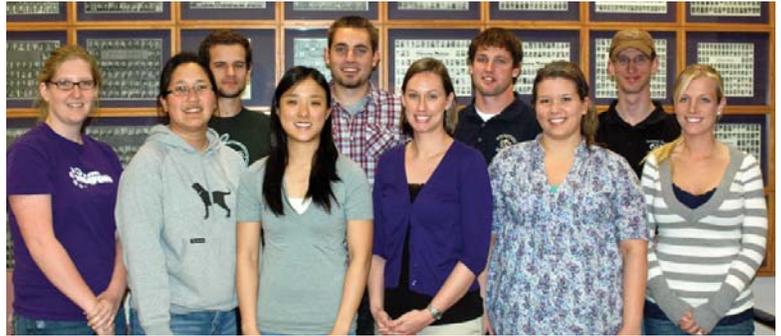


**Kristen Holcomb-Wallace is presented the Radar Mullet Clinical Excellence award, presented by Lavonne Mullet.**

## Lucky 13 receive Pfizer Animal Health Scholarships

Thirteen K-State students are the lucky ones. Pfizer Animal Health selected its second class of Pfizer Animal Health Veterinary Student Scholars. The selection included 300 second- and third-year students representing 28 U.S. and three Caribbean schools of veterinary medicine. The students will cumulatively receive \$750,000 in scholarships.

The scholarship is awarded to veterinary students who are making outstanding contributions to the veterinary profession and to the well-being and medical care of animals. This year's recipients represented more than 30 percent diversity students. About a third of the recipients are studying to become mixed animal practitioners and approximately 35 percent are studying small animal veterinary medicine.



**Front row (left to right): Kellie Allen, Carolyn Yang, Jennifer Gih, Jennifer Darby, Becca Pheasant and Heidi Morey. Second row: Philip Allen, Robert Hainline, Clayton Thorson and Ryan Tollefsrud. Not pictured: Brooks Butler, Jenna Krohn and Ji Hyon Lee.**

## Human-Animal Bond Fair highlights K-State Open House

The Human-Animal Bond Fair was held April 16 during the annual campuswide open house. Five speakers were featured during the event including: Dr. Kipp Van Camp, Dr. Patricia Payne, Dr. Debra Sellers, Dr. Jim Coffman and Dr. Ronnie Elmore.

The event was to celebrate the human animal bond. The speakers shared their own personal stories and experiences with the powerful bond. In between speakers, visitors would look at the many information booths set up in the Mara Conference Center.



**Dr. Kipp Van Camp, author, shared his story about his dog Allie. In his story, Dr. Van Camp shared how Allie was considered a member of his family. Allie's death inspired him to write a book about her life.**



**Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) brought several utility dogs from Kansas City for visitors to see. CCI's mission is to provide highly trained dogs for children and adults with disabilities free of charge.**



**Beth Galligan, veterinary technician, had a booth for Reading Education Assistance Dogs. This program is held at the Manhattan Public Library on Sundays. The program helps children with their reading while using dogs.**

Under the  
microscope



## Dr. Kalidou Ndiaye

Assistant Scientist, A&P

Hometown: Saint-Louis, Senegal



**Family Information:** I live with my wife, Marjolaine, and our 17-month old son, Zachariah. I have two sisters and two brothers living in Senegal.

**Pets:** Two cats, Griquette (French for little gray cat) and Gros minou (French for big cat)

**What place would you like to visit and why?** Cape Town, South Africa for its iconic Table Mountain, and its landscape, which I guess must be inspirational and great for outdoor activities.

**If you could spend a day with any famous person, who would it be and why?** Nelson Mandela. I think his life is a source of inspiration. In his first speech after 27 years in jail, he calmly talked about peace and reconciliation. I believe his life is a good example of courage, determination and achievement.

**What's the most valuable piece of advice you have ever received?** One of my mentors in Senegal once told me, "When you decide to do a job, make sure you take the time to do it right." I'll always remember it.

## Kansas Gov. Brownback visits the CVM



**Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback meets first-year student Brady Luke. He visited the CVM on April 19. One of his goals is to have the CVM be recognized as a "Top 5" college of veterinary medicine. Gov. Brownback visited several classrooms, labs and offices throughout the day. (Photo by Joe Nisil, CVM webmaster)**

## CVM NEWS TICKER

Dr. Annelise Nguyen, assistant professor of toxicology, was chosen to receive this year's Presidential Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring. Congratulations Dr. Nguyen!



K-State Olathe formally opened its doors April 26. Those who are cutting the ribbon are: Dr. Dan Richardson, K-State Olathe CEO; Ed Eilert, chairman of the Johnson County Commission and the Johnson County Education Research Triangle Authority; Provost April Mason; President Kirk Schultz; Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback; Kansas Rep. Kevin Yoder; and Olathe mayor Michael Copeland.



**Register for the 17th Annual  
Scholarship Golf Tournament  
June 6, 2011  
Colbert Hills Golf Course**

[www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/golf/golf.htm](http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/golf/golf.htm)

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