The Iverson Bell Award sounds for Dr. Elmore

AAVMC presents award to Dr. Elmore for his commitment to diversity

Dr. Ronnie G. Elmore is being awarded the Association of American Veterinary Medical College's (AAVMC) 2013 Iverson Bell Recognition Award for his extraordinary contributions to advancing inclusion and diversity in academic veterinary medicine.

His achievements were celebrated on Friday, March 8, during the AAVMC’s 2013 Annual Conference in Alexandria, Va., as part of the biennial Iverson Bell Symposium, the oldest symposium dedicated to promoting ethnic, gender and racial diversity in the veterinary medical profession.

In nominating Dr. Elmore for the award, Dean Ralph Richardson wrote that, “There has never been a time in the history of this college when the number of underrepresented students is as large as what we are currently experiencing. This is due almost exclusively to Dr. Elmore’s faithful and extensive travels to historically black colleges and universities throughout the United States. Dr. Elmore's devotion and dedication to a more integrated and culturally aware veterinary profession is inspiring to all of us who share his vision.”

Dr. Elmore is a prolific writer, having published more than 250 journal and magazine articles, abstracts and book chapters. He has written a weekly column for Copley News Service for more than 30 years. He created an elective course at KSU, “Practicing Veterinary Medicine in a Multicultural Society,” which is designed to help students develop an awareness and appreciation of diversity in all of its dimensions in order to communicate effectively with those from cultures that are different from their own. Dr. Elmore is also an in-demand speaker on diversity topics, and many credit him with raising awareness of the need to address a lack of diversity in the veterinary profession.

Dr. Elmore has served as the associate dean for academic affairs, admissions and diversity programs for more than 20 years.

The AAVMC's award is named in honor of Iverson Bell, DVM, who left an outstanding legacy of leadership and contributions in the promotion of opportunities for minorities in veterinary medical education. Dr. Bell spent more than 30 years working as a veterinarian and civic leader in Terre Haute, Ind., and was a vice president of the AVMA.
Snow greets the CVM’s Alumni Fellow

Dr. Terry McElwain, Pullman, Wash., has been selected as the 2013 Alumni Fellow for the K-State CVM. His campus visit was impacted by the recent snowstorm, postponing the seminar he was scheduled to deliver.

Dr. McElwain received a bachelor’s degree in 1978 and a D.V.M. degree in 1980, both from Kansas State University. He completed a residency and NIH postdoctoral fellowship in Pathology from 1981 to 1986, and then a Ph.D. in infectious diseases and immunology in 1986, all at Washington State University. He was named a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists in 1985. Since 1993, Dr. McElwain has been director and executive director of the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, a state, regional and national diagnostic facility for animal and zoonotic diseases and core reference laboratory in the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) and Laboratory Response Network for Bioterrorism (LRN) at Washington State University. Dr. McElwain holds an academic appointment as professor and serves as associate director of the Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health.

“I am honored to be selected as the 2013 Alumni Fellow for the College of Veterinary Medicine,” Dr. McElwain said. “Over 30 years ago, I completed my DVM degree – the second of two degrees from Kansas State University. To be recognized by the institution that provided the foundation for a career that has rewarded me many times over is humbling. My heartfelt thanks are extended to the KSU community for this honor.”

“Dr. McElwain’s passion for science and research has put him at the top of his profession,” said Dr. Ralph C. Richardson, dean of the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine. “His work on preventing infectious diseases and protecting the nation’s food supply is having a global impact on both animal and human health. As a highly respected leader, he is a tremendous representative for the College of Veterinary Medicine and Kansas State University.”

Dr. McElwain sat down for an interview to talk about his career and accomplishments. To watch the full video visit: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1303.htm

K-State begins sesquicentennial celebration

Kansas State University celebrated its sesquicentennial on Feb. 14 with a kickoff event looking back at 150 years of colleges, academic departments and other facets of university life. The CVM was proud to be a part of this momentous occasion by hosting a display during the event at Ahearn Field House and participating in the “Wildcat March” statue exhibit.

Dr. Justin Kastner speaks to students about CVM accomplishments.

Left: Dr. Jane Brunt, DVM class of 1980, and Mal Hoover, the CVM’s medical illustrator stand next to the CVM Wildcat March statue that Dr. Brunt donated to the college and Mal decorated.

A collection of displays in Ahearn Field House celebrates the history of K-State.
Kelly Foster, graduate student in biomedical sciences, was recently named the KansasBio winner for her research presentation at the annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit. Kelly’s poster was titled “Bovine viral diarrhea virus transmissions from persistently infected cattle to non-persistently infected cattle when commingled: An evaluation of serum neutralizing antibody titers.” Her faculty mentor is Dr. Daniel Thomson, Jones professor of epidemiology and production medicine and professor of clinical sciences.

Two other CVM graduate students of Dr. Thomson’s, Tera Rooney and Tanner Miller, were also finalists representing K-State in the Capital Graduate Research Summit. The summit provides an opportunity for the students to present their research and to demonstrate to legislators how their work is making a difference.

Kelly’s research focuses on understanding how bovine viral diarrhea virus is passed from persistently infected cattle to naive cattle on farms where these animals are commingled. Nearly 1 percent of all cattle are born persistently infected with the virus and serve as a virus reservoir in cow herds and feedlots in the U.S. Kelly conducted a 28-day trial to collect and analyze samples for the virus presence. She found that animals with high starting titers had shorter viremia and a decreased virus load. Additionally, naive cattle picked up the virus from the persistently infected cattle within 24 hours of exposure. Kelly’s research indicates the importance of proper immunization of cattle before entering the feedlot.

“Bovine viral diarrhea virus is a biologically and economically important disease that impacts cattle in Kansas,” Foster said. “The virus causes compromising of the immune system, leading to other diseases, such as bovine respiratory disease complex. These diseases cause economic losses because of decreased cattle performance and mortality losses in the beef industry. Our research will provide insight on bovine viral diarrhea virus prevention and biosecurity management to improve cattle health and producer profitability.”
Hometown: Syracuse, N.Y.

Family: My wife DeAnn. We have two children. Our son, Nathan, is a junior at MHS, and our daughter, Andie, is a freshman at MHS.

Pets: We have two dogs and three snakes.

Where is the coolest place you have been on for spring break? Spending the week enjoying the sun and ocean at Coco Beach, Fla.

What is your favorite spring time activity? Being outside walking, camping and/or fishing.

How did you first become interested in working with computers? I’m not sure of the first time but growing up I was always fascinated by computers and knew I that’s what I wanted to do.

How has the use of computers allowed the college to advance? Computers and the Internet have improved the colleges ability to communicate, share data and conduct research with others around the world.

CVM faculty earn promotions

Congratulations to CVM faculty members on their recent promotions. From left to right: Dr. Maria Ferrer was promoted to clinical associate professor; Dr. Laura Armbrust and Dr. Jishu Shi were promoted to full professor; Dr. Amy Rank earned tenure and was promoted to associated professor; Dr. Elizabeth Davis was promoted to full professor; and Dr. Matt Miesner was promoted to clinical associate professor.

Upcoming Events

March 13: Meet the authors of ‘Zoobiquity,’ Dr. Barbara Natterson-Horowitz and Kathryn Bowers, at 12:00 p.m. in Frick and at 1:30 in the Mara Conference Center. (Schedule subject to change.)

CVM NEWS TICKER

The CVM welcomes Andrew Dame as the new associate director of development, working in the Alumni and Development Office with Director of Development Chris Gruber. Andrew graduated from Emporia State University in 2003 and received his MBA from Emporia in 2005. He’s spent his career working in the field of higher education fundraising, beginning in the annual giving department at Emporia State University. Andrew has also worked for the University of Northern Colorado Foundation and most recently the University of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kan., where he worked as both the director of annual giving and the director of development.

Lindy Singular, student worker in Ward Services, was just crowned Miss Rodeo K-State at the College Rodeo. As Miss Rodeo K-State, she will represent the University at a variety events in the upcoming year.

Dr. Thu Annelise Nguyen has been chosen by the director of the NIH to be on the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) for a four year term. Congratulations!

Dr. Kate KuKanich, assistant professor of clinical sciences; Ramandeep Kaur, graduate student in diagnostic medicine and pathobiology; Dr. Lisa Freeman, adjunct professor in anatomy and physiology; and Dr. Doug Powell, professor of food safety, published “Evaluation of a hand hygiene campaign in outpatient health care clinics” in the American Journal of Nursing.