



Also inside this issue of *lifelines*:



Students spend their spring break in the deep south. See page 2



New LGVMA club hosts SafeZone training event. See page 2



CVM loses director of development in plane crash. See page 3



Erin Moore goes Under the Microscope. See page 4

Alpacas provide hands-on learning

Increased popularity of camelids spurs interest in teaching herd



Students working with the alpaca teaching herd describe these animals as unique and fun to work with.

As the popularity of llamas and alpacas has grown in recent years, so has the need for veterinarians who know how to treat these unique animals. To help fill this demand, the CVM partnered with the Mid America Alpaca Foundation to create an alpaca teaching herd. The main goal of this herd is to provide students with effective teaching experience through firsthand exposure.

“Hands-on experience is the only way of learning,” said Dr. Maria Ferrer, clinical assistant professor, Veterinary Health Center. “There is an industry for veterinarians trained in these species and that is what we’re trying to do here.”

The teaching herd allows students in the clinic to get experience with physical examinations, restraint techniques, catheterizations and other basic skills. Through an active breeding program, the students also assist with pregnancy diagnosis, parturition and post-partum care. All of these

experiences help familiarize students from all over the country to a uniquely different animal.

“I was always a horse person until I got involved with camelids,” Tiffany Mainini, class of 2015, said. “They are unique in their physiology, but they’re unique in their personalities too. They can be so skittish but they can be so friendly and they’re just really great to work with. They don’t tend to hurt you so you feel comfortable around them and they provide a lot of research and learning opportunities.”

The teaching herd allows for clinically applicable research to be conducted, such as discovering the ways to improve outcomes for high-risk pregnancies. The herd also provides in-depth training opportunities for residents in the Veterinary Health Center at K-State.

Watch the full video about the K-State teaching herd at: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1304.htm.

Student groups busy during the spring

SCAVMA members spend break at national symposium at LSU

Over their spring break, 30 K-State veterinary students traveled to Baton Rouge, La., to participate in the 2013 SCAVMA Symposium hosted by Louisiana State University from March 21-23, 2013. Along with 1,300 other veterinary students from across the country and around the globe, K-State students enjoyed competing both academically and athletically, attending lectures, networking with veterinary professionals at the exhibit hall and partaking in day trips and wet labs.

Hannah Leventhal and Mikaela Veters, the K-State senior and junior SCAVMA delegates respectively, spent two days in delegate and committee meetings, speaking with AVMA executive members and learning about upcoming and current issues facing veterinary students. SCAVMA president Michael Solomon and president-elect Kyle Clymer represented K-State at the president's meeting with members of the national SCAVMA executive board. They learned about chapters at other

U.S. veterinary schools and important issues facing students in order to better serve their own chapter.

Also at the Symposium, Zoetis announced scholarship winners for 2013. Twelve students from K-State received one of these scholarships. These students included second-year students; Andrea Lee, Aaron Schaffer, Rebecca Legere, Kyle Clymer, Allison Ten, Bailey Krostoski, Michelle Pavlick, and Andrea Dugan and third year students; Kayla Conroy, Miles Theurer, Robert Martinez, and Maria F. Martinez (-Perez) de Zeiders.

While there, the group enjoyed attending a wide range of lectures, from communicating with clients to treating prevalent diseases to managing a veterinary business. The wet labs attended included a spay and neuter with cadaver animals and endoscopy. Some students participated in trips outside



Left to right: Front Row: Lacey Robinson, Mikaela Veters, Ellen Heinrich, Megan Haney, Caitlin Sullivan, Hannah Leventhal, Stacey Burdick, Lori Agulian and Bailey Davis. Back row: John Dwyer, Michael Solomon, Nick Henning, Michael Duff, Rebecca Aldoretta, Jennifer Wright, Amanda Brady, Billy Cole, Brice Huelsman and David Hanks.

of the LSU campus to local attractions, such as touring a dairy farm and visiting with Mike the Tiger, LSU's official mascot. At night, the students enjoyed southern culture by attending an LSU Tiger stadium tailgate, a crawfish boil and a farewell gala featuring Dr. Lance Fox, author and motivational speaker, who gave the keynote address.

New LGVMA student chapter focuses on diversity and inclusiveness



The executive members of LGVMA include; (left to right) Michael J. White, development chair; Alexandria Argue, vice president; Marcus Taylor, undergraduate LGBT advocacy center liaison; Justin Jones, president; and Caren Chellgren, secretary.

A few students from the CVM recently formed a Lesbian and Gay Veterinary Medical Association (LGVMA) student chapter here at K-State in hopes of creating a safe and welcoming environment for students who belong to the LGBT community as well as the straight allies. The process required a year of planning to both develop by-laws and gain approval from the SCAVMA board. All students and staff are invited to join and promote the education of issues surrounding the gay and lesbian community within the scope of veterinary medicine and in society as a whole.

The LGVMA chapter is working to host impactful speakers from across

the country, as well as collaborate with the undergraduate campus. Chapter meetings have included presentations by Brandon Haddock, undergraduate campus LGBT coordinator; Dr. Mike Chaddock, LGVMA board member and assistant dean of One Health and Strategic Initiatives, Texas A&M; and Dr. Robert Minor, acclaimed author of Scared Straight. The LGVMA also hosted a bowling social, attracting more than 70 participants, and facilitated a campuswide SafeZone training event. More than 50 participants to be certified as "SafeZone Allies," who can supply assistance to individuals affected by homophobia, hateful acts and sexual violence.

CVM loses director of development in plane crash



Chris Gruber, 1972-2013.

A day trip turned tragic as the CVM lost its director of development, Chris Gruber, in a plane crash April 7 at Collinsville, Okla. Chris was accompanying a family friend, Dr. Ronald Marshall, who was a retired physician. Dr. Marshall owned and piloted the plane.

“Chris Gruber was a wonderful man,” Dean Ralph Richardson said. “He loved life. He loved his family. He will be deeply missed. He was a wonderful face for the College of Veterinary Medicine and Kansas State University.”

Chris joined the KSU Foundation staff in December 2004 as a development officer for the CVM. Prior to that, Chris worked for seven years at The Saint Francis Academy in Salina, where he directed the program for foster care recruitment and training. Chris held a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Kansas Wesleyan University, also in Salina.

In March 2006, Chris was promoted to the position of director of development for the CVM. In this role, he led a team of development professionals who worked with K-State alumni and friends to secure philanthropic contributions for the college. During the period of time Chris served the

university in this role, he was responsible for raising nearly \$25 million for the CVM. Chris also worked to facilitate partnerships between the college and some of the country’s largest animal health and nutrition companies. He was instrumental in the development of a “Grateful Client” program that allows donors to give back to the Veterinary Health Center that they benefited from.

Chris was a friend to many of the donors he worked with. He touched the lives of so many while helping match their passions and philanthropic goals with opportunities at K-State. His love for animals came through in his professional dedication to advancing the CVM. He is survived by his wife, Kai, and three children: Ethan, Aiden and Abigail.

Two memorial funds have been created to honor Chris. Gifts can be made to a fund established by the KSU Foundation by visiting www.found.k-state.edu/memorials/gruber, or by sending checks to the College of Veterinary Medicine, 103 Trotter Hall, Manhattan, KS, 66506, with checks payable to the “KSU Foundation.” Another memorial fund is available at Sunflower Bank (Gruber Family Benefit Fund). Please send checks to 2710 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS, 66502, with these checks payable to “Kai Gruber.”

The date for the funeral service has not been determined yet. More details regarding services will be forthcoming from Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home. For other questions, please contact the Development and Alumni Office at 785-532-4378 or 785-532-4043.

Dr. Chang’s research says ‘no’ to noroviruses

Dr. Kyeong-Ok Chang, associate professor of diagnostic medicine and pathobiology, is leading researchers as they develop an antiviral drug for market use to help combat the spread of norovirus. The team — supported by a five-year \$5.1 million National Institutes of Health grant — has identified and is further testing several protease inhibitors with potential for preventing and treating norovirus infection.

Norovirus is the most common form of viral gastroenteritis. It is often called the stomach bug because it causes vomiting and diarrhea for several days. A new Sydney strain of norovirus emerged last year and has been reported as the strain behind 60 percent of norovirus outbreaks.

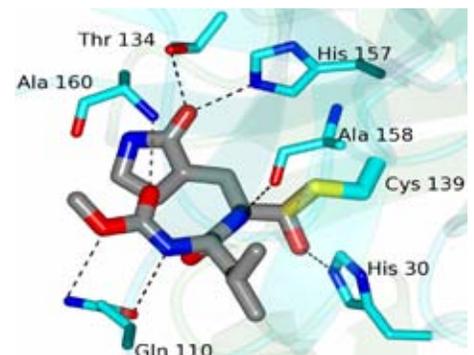
There is currently no vaccine and no antiviral drug to combat norovirus, Dr. Chang said. While several organizations are researching vaccine development, Dr. Chang’s research team is one of the leading groups studying antiviral drugs as a way to treat norovirus.

“The main focus of our research is antiviral drugs because public awareness to norovirus outbreaks is increasing and so is the demand for ways to control norovirus infection,”

Dr. Chang said. “Our team is one of a few groups that have pioneered antiviral drug development in the norovirus field.”

Research collaborators at K-State include Dr. Duy Hua, professor of chemistry, and Dr. Yunjeong

Kim, research assistant professor of diagnostic medicine and pathobiology. Other collaborators include Dr. William Groutas, professor of chemistry at Wichita State University; and Dr. Linda Saif, professor in the department of veterinary preventive medicine’s food animal health research program at Ohio State University.



A diagram of the norovirus protease by way of X-ray crystallography.

Under the microscope



Erin Moore

Public Service Administrator: Anatomy and Physiology

Hometown: Manhattan, Kan.

Family Information: Parents, three siblings, two siblings-in-law, two nieces, one nephew and a boyfriend.

Pets: Two dogs, Ruger and Finn, and one cat, Vanja.

Who is your favorite superhero? My dad and grandmother. Not your typical superhero, but they are my two favorite people.

What is the best restaurant in Manhattan? So Long Saloon and Rock-a-Belly.

Have you ever played a prank on someone for April Fool's Day? I am sure I have in the past but I can't remember what they were. My brothers try to prank me every year.

What is your favorite part of your job? The faculty, staff and students.

Do you have any hobbies? Reading, cooking and being outside. I also like to do "domestic crafting" such as making laundry soap, hard-lotion bars, soap dispensers or repurposing items.

CVM NEWS TICKER



The CVM welcomes **Courtney Marshall** as the new development officer in the Alumni and Development office. She earned a journalism degree with a major in public relations and an emphasis in political science from K-State in 1996. She has worked in alumni relations for nearly 13 years in a variety of roles at Texas Tech, Benedictine College and the University of South Dakota, as well as previously working at the K-State Alumni Association. Prior to working with alumni she worked in advertising and marketing in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Kind Hearts, Caring Hands Day is April 26. This day-long event is designed to encourage students' families, alumni and friends to become better informed about the activities and heritage of the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine. A series of events are planned including the annual Bagel Bonanza breakfast, CVM Tours, a Quiz Bowl sponsored by the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medicine Association, the White Coat Ceremony and Honors Banquet. The schedule of events is posted online at: <http://www.vet.k-state.edu/events/KindHearts/schedule.htm>.

Congratulations to **Dr. Stephen Higgs**, research director for the Biosecurity Research Institute, for being chosen as a University Distinguished Professor this year. This is the highest honor that a faculty member can achieve at Kansas State University.

Dr. H. Morgan Scott receives Zoetis Award



Dean Ralph Richardson and Dr. M.M. Chengappa, head of the Department of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology, congratulate Dr. H. Morgan Scott for his selection as the recipient of the Zoetis Award for Veterinary Research Excellence. A certificate was originally presented to Dr. Scott at Phi Zeta Research Day, as the plaque had not been engraved yet. Dr. Scott's research centers around food safety issues such as pre-harvest ecology and management of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria and foodborne enteric pathogens.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 19: All-CVM Barbecue hosted by SCAVMA at noon on Trotter lawn.
- April 20: SCAVMA One Health Fest including a lecture by Dr. Kate Hodgson at 11:00 a.m. in Frick Auditorium.
- April 20: All-University Open House
- April 26: Kind Hearts, Caring Hands Day.
- May 10: Pet Tribute Ice Cream Social- 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the basement of Trotter Hall.

lifelines is published each month by the Development and Alumni Affairs Office at the College of Veterinary Medicine. The editors are Joe Montgomery, jmontgom@vet.k-state.edu, and Rebecca Martineau, beccamm@vet.k-state.edu. Read online at www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1304.htm

find us on facebook/see us on YouTube
www.facebook.com/ksucvm
www.youtube.com/ksucvm

