Twenty-one undergraduate students have been formally accepted into the 2013 class of the Early Admission Scholars program for the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Since it was established in 1999, the Early Admission Scholars program has recruited over 250 academically qualified undergraduate students who want to study veterinary medicine. After acceptance into the program, completion of 64 hours of preprofessional requirements, and completion of 3 years of undergraduate work or completion of a bachelor's degree, the scholars are admitted into the College of Veterinary Medicine.

“This is the top 5 percent of K-State students according to their college acceptance test scores,” said Dr. Ronnie Elmore, associate dean for admissions and diversity programs. “Qualifying for this program is valuable because there are hundreds of applicants each year for a limited number of positions. This program allows these students to know early in their undergraduate programs that they have a place in the veterinary college. Each veterinary class is only 112 students, but more than 1,200 apply each academic year.”

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

Fall teaching awards recognize outstanding CVM professors

Congratulations to the winners of the fall teaching awards. Dr. Dan Thomson, left, won the 2013 Novartis Teaching Excellence Award for third-year instruction. Dr. Steve Stockham, won the 2013 Bayer Animal Health Teaching Excellence Award for Teaching for instruction of second-year students. Dr. Cheryl Herman won the 2013 Merial Teaching Excellence Award for first-year instruction. These awards are voted on by student class members from the previous academic year.

Kansas State Rabies Lab validates assays for new rabies biologic

The global fight to prevent deaths from rabies has received an important contribution from the K-State Rabies Laboratory. The lab has helped to develop and validate two new assays that will be used to help approve a new rabies treatment, building on the lab’s reputation in the field of rabies vaccine production.

To watch the full video visit: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1310.htm

Susan Rose’s artwork continues to capture attention

Since her previous appearance in Lifelines, Susan Rose, facility manager in the Comparative Medicine Group, has watched her passion for painting attract further opportunities. The Strecker-Nelson Art Gallery here in Manhattan has sponsored two shows featuring Susan’s art, “Flint Hills Masters” and “Through Artists Eyes.” The first show, located at the gallery, highlights influential artists of the Flint Hills and will be on display until Nov. 2. The second, located at the Flint Hills Discovery Center, features many of the same artists and will be on display until January. The Discovery Center has even published a book featuring the work from this exhibit. Susan has two pieces at each exhibit, all of birds native to the Flint Hills region.

Susan is excited about the exposure she is getting from these shows, as well as the opportunity to interact with other artists from the area. “My goal is still to be able to continue to produce art that speaks what I want to communicate about my love of nature, and is something others connect to and hopefully want to purchase,” Susan said.

In December, Susan’s work will also be a part of the “Women Painters of the Flint Hills” show at the SouthWind Gallery in Topeka. For more information about Susan and her work, visit her website: www.SusanRoseFineArt.com.

Left: The two paintings that Susan Rose has on display at the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Center: Susan and her husband, Martin, share her work with fellow artist, Yeqiang Wang, and his colleague, Simpson. Right: The Discovery Center highlights the exhibit in an exclusive book about the artwork on display.
Successful showing for K-State students at AABP

K-State veterinary students, research and practicing alumni all made a big splash at the annual AABP conference held in Milwaukee, Wis., in September. Five individuals won awards in different categories, receiving monetary prizes, scholarships and/or travel expenses. These awards, funded by AABP members, AABP partners and the AABP Foundation, were designed to enable recipients to further pursue their careers in bovine medicine.

Fourth-year student Tera Rooney Barnhardt, Satanta, Kan., received a $5,000 AABP Foundation-Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholarship. She was one of 15 students to win this award from veterinary colleges across the United States.

“I applied for the AABP scholarship after discussing it with my mentor, Dr. Dan Thomson,” Tera said. “He and a veterinarian from back home graciously provided a letter on my behalf to the AABP. I have worked hard to get to where I am and this scholarship will help immensely.”

Third-year student Aaron Schaffer, Fairbury, Ill., received a $7,500 AABP Amstutz Scholarship. He was one of nine students to receive this scholarship. He also earned second place in the AABP Research Summaries Graduate Student Awards category for his paper, “Effects of BRD in Holstein dairy calves during the first 120 days of life on subsequent production, longevity, and reproductive performance as cows.”

“Growing up on a dairy farm instilled a passion for agriculture within me, and therefore, my primary interest is food animal medicine,” Aaron said. “I strongly believe in the concept that veterinarians should prevent disease rather than treat disease, and thus, I would like to build my practice around preventative medicine.”

Ph.D. student and K-State DVM (’08) Dr. Sara McReynolds, Stockton, Kan., received third place for her paper, “Impact of uncertainty in foot and mouth disease indirect transmission probability on outbreak duration and herds depopulated.”

“The conference was beneficial to my program because I was able to gain experience presenting my research,” Dr. McReynolds said. “It also allowed me to discuss my research with other veterinarians and to get valuable feedback.”

Tera Rooney Barnhardt (left) and Aaron Schaffer (right) were honored with prestigious scholarships at the annual AABP conference.

Check it out at the Library

Although the Veterinary Medical Library has many print items such as books and journals available for checkout, the library also has many technology items that are available for checkout. The proceeds from our annual used book sale are reinvested into new technology items. We have added items recently that have helped us remain technologically up-to-date.

We have a Dell Latitude 10 laptop in our collection that has a touch screen and Windows 8. We also have a Surface Pro tablet with Window 8 that has a touch keyboard as well as a type keyboard. Either keyboard can be easily attached or removed from the tablet.

We have also added some new recording devices. We have two Sony digital voice recorders with USB cables to allow for the seamless transfer of files to Windows and Macintosh computers. These have up to 96 hours of battery life with 2 x AAA batteries.

For video recording we have a Sony Action Camcorder. This camcorder is a mountable one that can be used with our dog mount, headband mount or handlebar mounts. Now your dog can record a typical day in his life for you.

You could record a daily walk or ride with the headband or handlebar capabilities. They also have a new Canon HF M500 Camcorder that can be used with a power adapter or batteries. This camcorder even has a European adapter plug.

Please come by the VML and check out any of our new or current technology items. Remember to ask for assistance if you need help locating or using any of our equipment or library resources.
Maureen Kerrigan
Microbiologist and Laboratory Manager DM/P

Hometown: I was born and raised in Randall, Kan.

Family Information: I come from a relatively large family; I have three brothers and two sisters and a bunch of nieces and nephews. My kids, twin daughters and a son, are adults now and have blessed us with two grandsons and two granddaughters ranging in age from 7 years to 3 weeks old. In addition, my husband Tom has a step-daughter who has given us two granddaughters.

Pets: Two cats, two dogs, two fish and a frog. Well, the fish are gone now, but it rhymes better when they are included.

What was one of your favorite Halloween costumes?
One year my daughter wanted to dress in a white kimono like Lucy Liu in “Kill Bill.” We used an old bed sheet and a gi belt to make the kimono and a bath towel, a pillowcase, and a length of cord to make the obi.

Of what research discovery are you particularly proud?
We discovered a previously unknown incidence of SCID (severe combined immunodeficiency – like David the Bubble Boy had) in pigs.

Lisa Duer, grants manager and program coordinator for the associate dean for research, has been selected to serve on the Professional Staff Affairs Committee of the faculty senate.

Dr. Justin Kastner, associate professor of diagnostic medicine and pathobiology, received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the University Professional and Continuing Education Association central region.

Two teams from the CVM, one male and one female, competed in the recent Apple to Capital race from Manhattan to Topeka.

Dr. Michael Cates, director of the Master of Public Health Program, was elected to the Kansas Public Health Association Board of Directors at their conference this week.

Donna Springer receives MRB appreciation award

Donna Springer, coordinator of student affairs, is presented with an appreciation award and Army coin from the 5th Medical Recruiting Battalion and the Wichita Medical Recruiting Center for her assistance in arranging scholarship information for 11 students in the college. The award was presented to her by Lt. Col. Bernita Hightower (left) and Staff Sgt. Erica Rough.

You are invited to Cat Town

Join us two hours before home football games to tailgate with the K-State veterinary family. Meals for each game will served by different student groups within the college. Food will be served until kickoff or until it runs out. We hope to see you there.