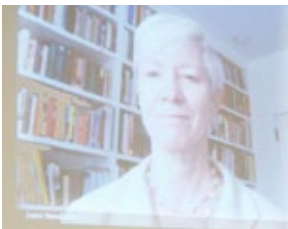




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Students 'fly in' for AVMA event. See page 2



Phi Zeta holds research day. See page 3



Getting deep into an externship. See page 3



Pet Health Center now Tweets pets. See page 4

Pair flies high on scholarships

K-Staters only students chosen this year for Air Force program

Two Kansas State University veterinary students recently earned their "wings." First-year students Erica Hamman, and Megan Guyan have been sworn in as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force. The students were officially commissioned by being the recipients of the Air Force's scholarship for public health officers in its Biomedical Sciences Corps. Their oaths were administered by second-year student Ashley Kelican who won the same scholarship last year.

Air Force Master Sgt. Brett Diaz, a recruiter from Oklahoma City, stopped in Manhattan to officially present this year's scholarships.

"These were the only two scholarship recipients selected out of the entire nation this year," Master Sgt. Diaz said. "Out of 14 applicants who qualified, these two stood out mostly because of leadership ability and community service. We're looking at future leaders. Public health officers are our front line of defense. They go in to make sure it's a safe environment before we send out troops."

"At first I was nervous to apply since there would be no clinical work with animals," Erica said. "This opportunity also allows me to step outside of my comfort zone and travel the world without the worry of paying off my student debts. At this point in time I believe I will make a lifelong career out of being a public health officer and look forward to this new beginning."

"This program is an excellent fit for me because it is an opportunity to serve my country with the skill set I will attain at the College of Veterinary Medicine," Megan said. "I feel I thrive in leadership positions and as



Second-year student Ashley Kelican administers the Air Force oath to first-year students Megan Guyan (left) and Erica Hamman. They were commissioned as first lieutenants on receiving a public health officer scholarship.

a public health officer, I will have the ability to positively impact the health of airmen by being an effective leader."

The scholarship pays tuition for the second, third and fourth year of veterinary school. Each student receives a monthly stipend of \$2,200 for books and fees. During summer breaks, the students are on active-duty orders for 30 days. Upon earning a DVM, the students will be commissioned as captains at the O-3 level, and receive commissioned officer training at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. They are obligated to serve three years of active duty and will be stationed according to preference and need.

"The selection of Erica and Megan for these scholarships reminds us again of the quality of our students and the veterinary educational experience we offer here at Kansas State University," said Dr. Ronnie Elmore, associate dean of admissions, academic programs and diversity programs.

From the Nation's Capitol to the State Capitol K-Staters participate in AVMA's legislative 'Fly-in'



First-year student Kelsey Sparrow meets Brittany Koether, a third-year veterinary student at Oklahoma State, outside the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Two days in the nation's capital will have a lasting impact on two students from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University. On a break from learning how to treat animals, first-year student Kelsey Sparrow and second-year student Penelope Burchfiel, received lessons on how to work with people — in this case U.S. senators and representatives.

In all, 71 veterinary students from different universities and 29 veterinarians participated in the American Veterinary Medical Association's (AVMA) Legislative Fly-in held Feb. 10-11. During the two-day event, students learned about current bills related to veterinary medicine under consideration in the House and Senate, and how to lobby on behalf of their profession.

"I believe a keen awareness and understanding of the implications of public policy and participation in the process of

policy-making is an inherent requirement to truly fulfill the obligations we take on in the veterinarian's oath," Kelsey said. "Changing legislation affects how we care for our patients in a variety of ways that may be unapparent to those who are actually making and voting on legislation. We have the power to bring awareness to elected officials of the negative or positive implications of policy change."

After discussing these issues with fellow Fly-in attendees and AVMA governmental relations leaders, the participants met at their respective Senate and House offices to explain the AVMA's positions and ask for co-sponsorship of several bills including the Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act, Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program Enhancement Act, Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act and the Horse Transportation Safety Act.

Noll takes honors at Capitol Graduate Research Summit

Congratulations to Lance Noll, master's student under Dr. T.G. Nagaraja. Lance was one of two Kansas State University graduate students who received statewide recognition at the 11th annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit on Feb. 13.

Lance and Joseph Holste, doctoral student in civil engineering, were the two Kansas State University winners. Lance received a \$500 scholarship from BioKansas and Holste received a \$500 scholarship from the university's Graduate School.

"Lance joined our research group last year because of his desire to work on an animal-related research project for his MS degree," said Dr. Nagaraja, who is a University Distinguished Professor of microbiology in the Department of Diagnostic Medicine/ Pathobiology. "Lance has developed and validated a novel molecular technique, in collaboration with Dr. Jianfa Bai in

the KSVDL, to quantify *E. coli* O157:H7 in cattle feces. This has significant food safety implication because the extent of carcass contamination in a slaughter plant is directly related to the concentration of the pathogen in the feces."

Lance's poster was "A four-plex real-time PCR assay for the detection and quantification of *Escherichia coli* O157 in cattle feces."

Lance is studying preharvest food safety in beef cattle, specifically on developing techniques for detecting pathogenic *E. coli*. He has developed and validated a molecular assay that can detect and quantify four major *E. coli* genes. The assay is novel, rapid and less labor-intensive than existing detection methods and has the potential for automation, Lance said. The research



Lance Noll presents his award-winning poster at the State Capitol in Topeka.

is funded by a USDA Coordinated Agriculture Project grant.

"Beef cattle production is a major industry in Kansas and Kansas State University has a rich tradition in the research on beef cattle production and beef safety," Lance said. "As a graduate student in veterinary biomedical sciences, I am proud to be a member of a multidisciplinary team in the College of Veterinary Medicine that aims to make beef a safe product for the consumers."

Video Feature: Phi Zeta Research Day 2014



Phi Zeta vice president Rosemary Bayless, fourth-year, introduces Penn Vet Dean Joan Hendricks via web conferencing. Weather complications hindered Dr. Hendricks' ability to attend the lecture in person.

Phi Zeta Research Day shines a spotlight on the research efforts of graduate students working towards DVM, MS, MPH and/or Ph.D. degrees at the College of Veterinary Medicine. The annual event is organized by the Sigma Chapter of Phi Zeta, a professional society whose name is based on the Latin word PHILOZOI, which means "love for animals."

Held March 4, the day's events included

oral and poster presentations describing basic or clinical research as well as clinical veterinary case reports.

"Phi Zeta Research Day is a great way for the College of Veterinary Medicine to recognize the valuable research contributions by our students and faculty," said Dr. Kate KuKanich, president of the Kansas State University Sigma Chapter of Phi Zeta and assistant professor of small animal internal medicine. "The research presentations by our students this year were of excellent quality and reflected the variety, depth, and value of research emerging from the college. We encourage students to get directly involved in research programs with our faculty, and we hope these experiences will inspire them to incorporate research in their future veterinary careers. The combination of a veterinary degree and hands-on research training makes our students uniquely qualified to be highly successful and valuable researchers able to provide ongoing advancement of veterinary, human and public health."

Watch this month's video feature, which follows two students participating in Phi Zeta Research Day, at Lifelines online: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1403.htm

Fourth-year student digs deep for externship opportunity

Fourth-year student Taylor Tungseth just finished up a two-week externship at Veterinary Business Advisors Inc. (VBA) in Whitehouse Station, N.J. During the externship, Taylor was immersed in and subjected to the 'trenches of veterinary medicine' according to Dr. Charlotte Lacroix, owner and CEO of VBA.

"Essentially I sat in on conference calls with clients to listen and take detailed notes on legal and human resources advice from Dr. Lacroix," Taylor explained. "I also spent those two weeks drafting a paper and Powerpoint presentation on the legal aspects of veterinarians and wildlife – or more specifically, what veterinarians are allowed to do with nondomestic wildlife at their clinic. Dr. Lacroix speaks to veterinarians across the country, and it is my understanding she will be using what I have drafted as the framework for upcoming CE talks and lectures to student as well."

Taylor also participated in some nonveterinary activities, such as helping to shovel the walk as seen in the accompanying photograph, but he found the overall experience of the internship to be very rewarding.

"I highly recommend this externship for any fourth-year student at K-State, regardless of whether or not they are considering owning a practice someday," Taylor said. "The legal nuggets and contacts I have gained, even in two weeks, have been amazing."

Dr. Lacroix encourages other K-State veterinary students to contact VBA about externship opportunities. "We would love to have other students from Kansas extern with us," she said.



Taylor Tungseth clears snow while on a two-week externship.

Illinois CVM honors Dr. Ronnie Elmore

This past September, Dr. Ronnie Elmore, associate dean for Academic Programs, Admissions and Diversity programs was recognized by his veterinary alma mater as a recipient of the Dr. Erwin Small Distinguished Alumni Award, named for a professor and associate dean of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Elmore, who earned his DVM from Illinois in 1972 was recognized for being a leader and mentor for more than 4,500 veterinary students. He has also become an ambassador for diversity within the veterinary field, challenging students to appreciate the differences among cultures. Dr. Elmore was cited for creating an elective course while at K-State, "Practicing Veterinary Medicine in a Multicultural Society," that continues to serve as a model for other colleges.



Dr. Ronnie Elmore accepts an award from Illinois' alumni president, Dr. J.B. Bruederle, and the dean, Dr. Herb Whitley.

CVM NEWS TICKER

Congratulations to **Dr. Tim Musch**, whose was recognized with this year's Zoetis Animal Health Award for Research Excellence. He holds a faculty appointment in the Department of Anatomy and Physiology and he is a professor of Kinesiology and the Interim Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship in the College of Human Ecology. He co-directs the Clarenburg Cardiorespiratory Research Laboratory with Dr. David Poole and his fields of research include chronic (congestive) heart failure and how this disease affects skeletal muscle blood flow, oxygen delivery and function.



The KSU Foundation has appointed **Andrew Dame** as the interim director of development for the College of Veterinary Medicine. Andrew has been the associate director of development for the CVM a year. He replaces Darin Russell, who is now the senior director of development in the College of Business Administration.



Pet Health Center starts Tweeting educational information and pictures



The Pet Health Center announces a new Twitter account, @KSUPetVets, where they share educational information for clients and success stories about unique and interesting clinical cases (only with prior permission from the client), such as this dog with a fish hook stuck in its mouth. The clinicians were able to successfully extract the hook, and posted several pictures. To follow the Pet Health Center Twitter account, go to: <https://twitter.com/KSUPetVets>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Instructional Technology and Design workshops:

Offered for CVM faculty and staff in the Mara Conference Center.

March 12: Microsoft Office 2013, presented by Gina Scott, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., Wednesday

Frank W. Jordan Seminar, Feeding Your Practice: A Focus on Nutrition. March 30. Frick Auditorium

All-University Open House, April 5

19th Annual Dog N Jog, April 12
www.vet.k-state.edu/events/dognjog

lifelines is published monthly by the Development Office in the College of Veterinary Medicine. The editor is Joe Montgomery, jmontgom@vet.k-state.edu. Read online at www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/lifelines/1403.htm

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