Birthing Center delivers at Kansas State Fair

An annual tradition has received some upgrades in recent years and continues to be one of the most popular exhibition halls at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. It’s called the Birthing Center and this year it has really it has new life — in more ways than one.

“Last year we added the dystocia cow simulator to the Birthing Center,” said Dr. Dave Rethorst, outreach director for the Beef Cattle Institute. “It’s really fun to watch these kids that don’t know what pulling a calf is about. They complain about it being slimy, but they get to put plastic sleeves over their arms, so they’re okay. We have them reach in, find the legs and pull out an artificial calf. The dystocia cow gives us a chance to do some education and talk about the food supply.”

In addition to Dr. Rethorst, other CVM faculty help out at the Birthing Center, such as Drs. Dan Thomson, Bob Larson and Mike Apley. Fourth-year students are sent to help out at the booth and one pair of students is there through the duration of the fair serving as ambassadors. This year the ambassadors were Megan Spencer and Diane Larson.

“Their responsibility is primarily the night duty,” Dr. Rethorst said. “The students did a real nice job of interacting with the public. We usually had one of the day students stationed with the sows, one by the cows and one or two helping with the simulator cow. Their job was to answer questions from the public, and if they didn’t know the answer, they could check with the faculty or me to help come up with an answer.”

Megan Spencer told the Hutchinson News in a local story that being an ambassador was a great learning experience.

This year the Birthing Center featured cows and pigs, but it’s not always the same animals from year to year. Read more about the Birthing Center in Lifelines online.
VIDEO FEATURE: Students Get Code 3 Animal Rescue Training

When there’s an emergency situation and a down horse needs to be moved, first responders and veterinarians will need to know how to safely transport the injured animal. At the start of the fall semester, a group of fourth-year students were introduced to basic technical large animal rescue techniques. Watch the training in action in this month’s Lifelines video report [www.vet.k-state.edu/development/lifelines/1510.html](http://www.vet.k-state.edu/development/lifelines/1510.html)

Meet Dr. Keith Hamilton, Executive Director for International Programs

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University has announced the hiring of Dr. Keith Hamilton as its new executive director for international programs.

Dean Tammy Beckham said, “This is a new position within our college designed to broaden our educational curriculum while also helping to create new opportunities for research growth and international collaboration for our faculty. Dr. Hamilton brings a unique background and skillset that aligns precisely with this position.”

Dr. Hamilton spent the last eight years with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) where he led and developed programs for strengthening preparedness against emerging diseases and pandemics, global biological security and working on global rinderpest post-eradication efforts.

Students grab scholarships; SCAABP sends big group to annual conference in the ‘Big Easy’

Fifteen members of Student Chapter of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners attended the annual conference of the AABP in New Orleans, Sept. 17-19. Four CVM students were chosen to receive three different scholarship awards presented at the conference.

Third-year student Ellen Unruh, Rantoul, Kansas, was selected as one of only seven recipients of an Amstutz Scholarship, worth $7,500.

Two fourth-year veterinary students, Jacob Hagenmaier, Randolph, Kansas, and Lacey Robinson, Oldsburg, Kansas, were selected as recipients of a $5,000 AABP Foundation-Zoetis Scholarships.

Dr. Kaitlynn Abell, Ocala, Florida, a graduate student in pathobiology, received third place in the 2015 AABP Graduate Student Awards, worth $1,500. Her winning presentation, “Effect of vaginal temperature on behavior patterns of Mannheimia haemolytica challenged beef heifer calves,” was one of 55 total presentations in a graduate student competition.

“Attending the AABP convention is only one of many activities the KSU-SCAABP is involved with,” said Dr. Gregg Hanzlicek, assistant professor. “This is an extremely active club. The number and quality of activities have taken off the last few years due to the membership and leadership provided by last year’s club president, John Dwyer (Class of 2016) and his team, and now this year’s president, Bobbi Shanks (Class of 2017) and her team.”
Hackworth discovers new tapeworm parasite in Maned Wolf

A tapeworm parasite more typically found in domestic dogs and cats has been discovered in a Maned Wolf from Manhattan’s Sunset Zoo. The discovery, thought to be the only known incidence of the parasite in a Maned Wolf, was made not by a local scientist or researcher, but by a vigilant registered veterinary technician at Kansas State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine: Christine Hackworth. This class of tapeworm parasites are called Mesocestoides.

Hackworth works in the zoological medicine/dermatology section of the Veterinary Health Center. Her work was notable enough that she wrote up the finding in the latest issue of the Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine.

“I happened to come across it in a fecal sample submitted for testing,” Hackworth said. “I dissected a tapeworm segment that was present on the feces. This is the first reported case in a live captive animal, so it was just by luck that I found it, but I knew it was something worth pursuing.”

Dr. David Eshar, assistant professor in companion exotic pets, wildlife and zoo animal medicine helped review and write up Hackworth’s discovery.

“Veterinary care of zoo animals is becoming more and more sophisticated and requires teamwork and the joined skills of the animals’ keepers, veterinarians and veterinary technicians,” Dr. Eshar said. “Christine is a well-trained and highly experienced veterinary technician who shares the Veterinary Health Care’s responsibility for the welfare of Sunset Zoo animals. In this maned wolf case, her exceptional knowledge of veterinary parasitology played a pivotal role in the identification and treatment of this unusual intestinal infection.”

CVM faculty members earn special honors: Drs. Stockham and Vanlandingham

Dr. Steve Stockham, professor of veterinary clinical pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University, has been named as the recipient of the 2015 ASVCP Educator Award from American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology. The award is recognition of Dr. Stockham’s contributions to clinical pathology education, which were cited as “diverse and far-reaching,” and will be presented at the society’s business meeting in Minneapolis in mid-October.

“I’m extremely fortunate to be recognized for my teaching activities by my colleagues in the ASVCP,” said Dr. Stockham. “There are many very dedicated and talented clinical pathologists in academia and we are privileged to have intelligent and motivated students in our courses and programs.”

Dr. Melinda Wilkerson, director of the Clinical Immunology/Flow Cytometry Laboratory, nominated Dr. Stockham for the educator award.

Dr. Dana Vanlandingham, assistant professor of virology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University, has just been named as a Fellow by the Royal Entomological Society of London. She was nominated by Dr. Anthony A. James, distinguished professor of microbiology and molecular genetics at the University of California, Irvine, and member of the National Academy of Sciences.

“It’s quite an honor to be nominated by Dr. James and an even bigger honor to be accepted as a Fellow of the society,” said Dr. Vanlandingham, who works at Kansas State University’s Department of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology. “This society has been around since 1833 and I saw that Charles Darwin was a member so this is very exciting.”

Department Head Dr. M.M. Chengappa said, “This is an outstanding accomplishment. We’re very lucky to have faculty of such high caliber in our department and college.”
**Dr. Mike Apley joins special White House council**

The U.S. departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture and Defense have appointed the CVM’s Dr. Mike Apley, professor of production medicine and clinical pharmacology, to the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria.

Detecting, preventing, and controlling antibiotic resistance requires a strategic, coordinated and sustained effort. The work of the advisory council complements other federal efforts to preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics, strengthen surveillance, prevent the transmission of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, further new research, and improve international coordination.

Dr. Apley, who holds the Edwin J. Frick Professorship in Veterinary Medicine in the College of Veterinary Medicine, is a nationally recognized expert in antibiotic resistance.

Dr. Apley was also recognized at the annual AABP conference in September with a special alumni recognition award. See more in Lifelines online.

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**CVM News Ticker**

**Dr. Michael Cates**, director of the Master of Public Health program at Kansas State University, has just received the 2015 Special Service Award from the Kansas Public Health Association at its annual conference this month. “Dr. Cates represents a rare combination of specializations with both DVM and MPH degrees,” said Dr. Mark Thompson, KPHA chairperson.

**Susan Rose** has art on display in the Strecker-Nelson Gallery with its Flint Hills Landscape show “Sky Above, Earth Below” that runs through Oct. 31. She also has work in the Flint Hills Discover Center’s Flint Hills Master’s Exhibition that involves two back-to-back art exhibits running until Jan 17, 2016.

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**CVM hosts second annual reunion of U.S.-China Joint DVM Program**

The U.S.-China Center for Animal Health in the CVM welcomed special guests - senior executives of the Consulate General of China in Chicago, AVMA, Zoetis, Banfield Pet Hospital and a representative from the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, as well as deans from five partnering veterinary colleges in the U.S., Europe and China as part of its second annual reunion held Sept. 26 and 27.

The reunion centered around reports from the 16 students in the U.S.-China Joint DVM Program who have all attended or are attending K-State for pre-veterinary studies. Twelve of those of the students are now in the first, second and third years of their DVM programs at three different universities. Six students are at K-State, five are at the University of Minnesota and one is at Iowa State University.

The students have to be here physically to understand the differences between the Eastern and Western culture for veterinary medicine, especially for the North American veterinary system in comparison to the Chinese. The students will experience how much we are behind and what we need to learn in order to build and to improve the veterinary training program in China.”

“‘It is exciting to see that the program has become reality and grown bigger since it was an idea five years ago,” said Dr. Jishu Shi, director of the U.S. China Center. “Our focus on this program is to train future trainers of veterinary medicine for China. We hope that the students will go back to China to become faculty members teaching the next generation of students in China. The program also creates an opportunity for the world’s future most influential leaders in animal health to become colleagues and best friends now’” said Dean Tammy Beckham.

“Dr. Enmin Zhou, dean of Northwest A&F University’s College of Veterinary Medicine, explained why it’s important for Chinese students to study in the United States. “The students have to be here physically to understand the differences between the Eastern and...