

SPRING & SUMMER 2019

PEGASUS PRESS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY • COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



ENDOWMENT PROVIDES FOR
RENOVATION AND FUTURE
GROWTH OF CVM PHARMACY

EARNING RESPECT BY EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

DR. KENT HOBLET

Lots of exciting things have occurred at the CVM since the previous *Pegasus Press* was published. On May 1, the class of 2019—our 39th graduating class of veterinarians—received their DVM degrees. We now have more than 2,300 alumni! Earlier that morning, we hosted an informal breakfast where scholarship donors could meet with their recipients. Scholarships are a top priority for us; we can never offer too many of them. This past year we awarded just over \$962,000 in scholarship assistance to 209 of our 373 veterinary students. Although this is an impressive figure, we can—and must—grow this amount in order to attract the very best students to our College!

The admissions cycle never really stops. On June 21, we conducted the coating ceremony for the 96 members of the entering class of 2023. As always, competition to secure a seat in the class was stiff, with more than 1,400 students applying for entry. As I mentioned, scholarships play a vital role in enrolling top students. The Bardsley Scholarship is one such example. In fact, it might best be described as transformational and is the result of careful estate planning by Dr. Charles and Viola Bardsley from the Mississippi Gulf Coast more than 20 years ago. The effects of their generosity will benefit students, animals, and society in perpetuity. This year's Bardsley Scholars are featured on page 12 of the magazine.

This summer marked our ninth year of hosting Vet Camp. The camp originated at Mississippi State because one of our students (Dr. Victoria "Tori" Hall, class of 2014) had attended a similar camp while in high school and wanted to try it here. I must admit that we were all somewhat skeptical as it was totally student-driven with limited faculty/staff participation. However, the camp has grown beyond our expectations, now enrolling approximately 200 students 10 and older, who have applied from as far away as the west coast!

Ms. Mel Thurlow came to CVM last fall as our director of outreach, following 28 years in a similar role on the human side of medicine.

Mel is leading an effort in collaboration with the MSU Office of Public Affairs to establish an official "brand" for our CVM. Included in this effort will be a whole new look for our brochures, displays, publications, and our new website, which will go live this fall. In addition, customized wall wraps and art further establishing our new brand are slated to be installed throughout the Wise Center and, eventually, at our other facilities and locations. We are currently in the initial stages of this imaging transformation, but thanks to her team's work and the input and involvement of our administration, faculty, alumni, students, dean's council, and other friends of the College, the outcome is most certainly destined to make us proud! Watch for an overview of the branding effort to date in the next issue of *Pegasus Press*.

Endowed chairs and professors are powerful program builders. The first three endowed faculty positions—the Dr. Hugh G. Ward Endowed Chair in Small Animal Veterinary Medicine established in 2000 and held by Dr. Todd Archer, the Marcia Lane Endowed Chair in Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare established in 2006 and held by Dr. Phil Bushby, and the Dr. P. Mikell and Mary Cheek Hall Davis Endowed Professorship in Beef Cattle Herd Health and Reproduction Management established in 2001 and held by Dr. Dave Smith—have led, in a relatively short period of time, to the College's national prominence in small animal medicine, shelter medicine, and beef cattle health and reproduction. In March, Dr. Cate Mochal-King joined this prestigious group when she was named the Terri Nusz Endowed Equine Professor. Dr. Mochal-King is an outstanding teacher and equine surgeon and has great plans to advance the equine program at our CVM. She is featured on page 12 of the magazine.

I have so many positive things to share and so little space to do it. Please read about the other impressive learning opportunities, research activities, and programs going on at our College featured in the subsequent pages of this issue. At the very end of the magazine, be sure to take note of our new tailgating plans, outlined in Jimmy Kight's column. Southeastern Conference football is almost upon us, and we'd love to see you when you're on campus!

Dr. Kent Hoblet

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COVER PHOTOS

FRONT: Thanks to a generous, endowment-level gift from Nutramax Laboratories, Inc., the CVM Animal Health Center Pharmacy was recently upgraded, expanded, and renamed.

BACK: Bailey, a rescued black lab-mix pup from the MSU CVM student-run Homeward Bound Project, is now in Connecticut training with Putnam Service Dogs.

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DEAN'S COUNCIL GATHERS FOR SPRING SESSION

The CVM Dean's Council gathered in Starkville for its spring meeting March 21 and 22. Members were greeted with a reception the evening they arrived and attended a series of informative presentations at the CVM the following day, including an overview of the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies and an update on the interview and admissions process for the incoming DVM first-year class. The Council also toured the CVM Mobile Veterinary Unit and the newly constructed Cattle Research Facility located on South Farm as well as the Veterinary Specialty Center located in west Starkville.

The council will meet again in November in the Jackson area, when they are tentatively scheduled to visit the Mississippi Veterinary Research Diagnostic Laboratory and Mississippi Poultry Research Diagnostic Laboratory in Pearl and the Animal Emergency & Referral Center in Flowood.

The CVM Dean's Council was established in the fall of 2018 by MSU CVM Dean Kent Hoblet to assist in key areas of promotion, growth, and sustainability of the college by providing strategic advice regarding vision, direction, and long-term planning of the college, as well as assisting in acquiring resources from private, corporate, state, and federal levels and assisting with the student recruitment efforts of the college. The Council also serves in an advisory capacity for the marketing and public relations efforts of the college and as an advocate of the college to university administration, the state of Mississippi, and as appropriate, on a national level.

Members are selected by the dean in consultation with the College's senior leadership team. The council meets in the fall and spring each year. For additional information, including a list of current members, visit the CVM website at cvm.msstate.edu.

DEAN'S COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



Dr. P. Mikell Davis currently serves as chair of the Council. He received his bachelor of science at Mississippi State University and completed his DVM degree at Auburn University in 1972. Dr. Davis practiced general veterinary medicine in Bay Springs until 1981, when he joined the faculty at MSU CVM, where he spent most of his tenure in admissions and student affairs until his retirement in 2010.

Dr. Davis is the owner of Little Creek Farm, LLC in Starkville. He received the Dean's Pegasus Award in 1998, the Vice President's Pegasus Award in 2012, and the President's Pegasus Award in 2017. Dr. Davis is a Pegasus Partner. He and his wife established the Dr. P. Mikell and Mary Cheek Hall Endowed Professorship in Beef Cattle Herd Health and Reproductive Management. Dr. Davis also established endowed scholarships in beef cattle health and reproduction, early entry, veterinary medical technology, and feline medicine.



Mr. Mike McCormick is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. He is the president of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation and is a cow/calf and timber farmer in Jefferson County. Mr. McCormick operates one of the oldest farms in the state, which has been in his family since the 1820's. The Mississippi Farm Bureau Young Farmer Scholarship Foundation, Inc., supports the Mississippi Farm Bureau Young Farmer Scholarship/David Waide Scholarship at the CVM. The Mississippi Farm Bureau is a strong supporter of the CVM in the legislative process.



Dr. Betsy Lipscomb received a bachelor of science in animal science from Mississippi State University and her DVM from Auburn University in 1980. From 1980 until 2012, Dr. Lipscomb was in general practice in Port Gibson with her husband, Dr. Eddie Lipscomb. Dr. Lipscomb served on the Mississippi Board of Veterinary Medicine for five years. She is a past president of the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association and currently represents the Mississippi Cattleman's Association on the State Board of Animal Health. Dr. Lipscomb chairs the CVM Shelter Advisory Committee. She was the 2013 recipient of the CVM President's Pegasus Award. The Dr. Betsy Lipscomb Annual Scholarship Fund is available for CVM students.



NUTRAMAX LABORATORIES ENDOWMENT PROVIDES FOR CVM PHARMACY FACELIFT

The MSU CVM Animal Health Center (AHC) Pharmacy recently received a new look and a new name. On April 8, the College unveiled the newly renovated Nutramax Laboratories Veterinary Sciences, Inc., Pharmacy. Made possible by the company's endowment-level gift of \$250,000, the renovation was much needed and brings the aesthetics of the pharmacy area, which had not been updated since the 1981 opening of the Wise Center, up to a level that adequately reflects the advanced services it provides.

MSU CVM alumnus Dr. Todd Henderson leads the Nutramax Family of Companies, which was founded by his father. Since its founding, Nutramax has become an industry leader in setting and adhering to high standards in manufacturing and quality

control as it develops products for both animal and human health.

"A love of veterinary research inspires me to steer Nutramax into a new era, and I want to collaborate and share my knowledge with my alma mater because MSU has an exceptional veterinary college," Henderson said. "Together, our structured missions can lead to even better educational training and promotion of best practices for future graduates, and that preparedness will benefit society."

A Maryland native, Henderson was initially drawn to MSU CVM by the hospitality of the College. He earned his doctor of veterinary medicine in 1992 and currently serves on the CVM

“These individuals are examples of how instructors at MSU invest in the lives of their students, and other instructors would be wise to emulate, as I am one example that faculty can certainly make a difference to shape the future of veterinary medicine.”

– DR. TODD HENDERSON

Dean's Council. Henderson was honored in 2003 as the College's Alumni Fellow and again in 2018 as the College's Alumnus of the Year for his professional accomplishments.

Dr. Henderson credits many CVM faculty as his mentors and role models, but two in particular stand out in his mind. "I wanted to dedicate the Nutramax Laboratories Veterinary Sciences Pharmacy to Dinah Jordan, PharmD, and Lee Tyner, DVM, as they were instrumental in molding my veterinary career as mentors while I was in school and have continued to be valued friends and colleagues since graduation," Henderson said. "These individuals are examples of how instructors at MSU invest in the lives of their students, and other instructors would be wise to emulate, as I am one example that faculty can certainly make a difference to shape the future of veterinary medicine."

Dr. Lee Tyner served as Dr. Henderson's faculty advisor. "Todd was really more mature than most students his age," Dr. Tyner said. "He was focused, and he already knew how to evaluate advice."

Even after graduation, Dr. Henderson would call upon Dr. Tyner for counsel regarding the business side of veterinary medicine. "What is so special about this dedication is that this kind of ongoing relationship and acknowledgment from former students is rare. It means a great deal to receive this kind of 'thank you' and for Todd to come back and do something like this," Dr. Tyner said.

Dr. Dinah Jordan, who served as CVM pharmacy director from 1986 until 2015, loved working with students and was drawn to Dr. Henderson immediately.

"Because Todd's father is a pharmacist, we had an instant connection, and I thoroughly enjoyed working with him while he

Our pharmacy is critical to the treatment and care provided through our teaching hospital, and we are grateful to Nutramax Laboratories and Dr. Todd Henderson for their generosity in ensuring our level of care and treatment are of the highest standard.

— MSU CVM DEAN KENT HOBLET



Dr. Todd Henderson, president of Nutramax Laboratories (center) credits faculty like former MSU CVM Pharmacy Director Dr. Dinah Jordan and MSU CVM Professor and Special Project Coordinator Dr. Lee Tyner with providing guidance and support during his studies and since that has helped him to excel in his career.



was earning his degree—as well as in the time since," Dr. Jordan said. "I was floored when he dedicated the pharmacy to me and Lee. It is such a part of me—even though I'm a Rebel; the dedication means everything to me, because I spent almost 30 years there."

The pharmacy dispenses about 300 prescriptions daily for hospital patients and provides consultations for faculty, staff, and students, as well as veterinary practitioners and community pharmacies. Additionally, it offers clinical clerkships for doctor of pharmacy students and a clinical pharmacy elective for veterinary students.

"Our pharmacy is critical to the treatment and care provided through our teaching hospital, and we are grateful to Nutramax Laboratories and Dr. Todd Henderson for their generosity in ensuring our level of care and treatment are of the highest standard," said MSU CVM Dean Kent Hoblet. "We are also pleased the pharmacy will collaborate with Nutramax Laboratories to educate our students on quality manufacturing procedures."

The Nutramax gift has brought a more functional space and an expanded level of customer service to the pharmacy. A single window for prescriptions was replaced by a spacious area where clients can receive education about patient medications. It also provided for designated workspaces for counting, weighing, and compounding medications—allowing pharmacy personnel to move about the area more comfortably and perform their duties more efficiently.

"Nutramax and Dr. Henderson have been huge CVM supporters over the years," said Dr. Joey Burt, director of the Animal Health Center. "The pharmacy endowment is just one example of their support, and we are glad to honor them with recognition for this phenomenal contribution."

MEET THE STAFF

NEW FACULTY



SARAH LOU-RAE CASTALDO

Clinical Instructor, Department of Clinical Sciences

Dr. Sarah Castaldo officially joined the MSU CVM family as a clinical instructor in small animal surgery in February, after serving as a small animal surgery resident since 2017. She completed her undergraduate degree in zoology at the State University of New York in Oswego, NY, in 2008 and earned her DVM from Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2016. Dr. Castaldo completed a year of clinical training in veterinary medicine and surgery at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO, before coming back to MSU in 2017.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



TINA HAY EICHELBERGER

Tina Hay Eichelberger has been head technician in the virology department at the Mississippi Veterinary Research and Diagnostic Laboratory in Pearl for almost 14 years. Her duties consist of performing a variety of different tests, including ELISA testing, IFA/FA, and cell cultures on mammals. Eichelberger is also responsible for the Lab's Chronic Wasting Disease testing services. Before becoming a member of the CVM family, Eichelberger earned her associate's degree of applied science and her veterinary technology degree from Hinds Community College. She then spent 12 years employed at Crossgates Veterinary Clinic in the Brandon area before deciding to specialize in diagnostic testing. Eichelberger and her husband of four years, Brad, have five dogs and one cat. She loves the outdoors and especially enjoys going hiking with her family. Her favorite thing about her job is helping people's pets. "I enjoy my job, and I am very thankful for the CVM," said Eichelberger. "I have a French bulldog, Cooper, who has visited the AERC numerous times and has always received the best care possible."



KAIN ELINBURG

Kain Elinburg has served as a building maintenance tech in the MSU CVM Facilities Services Department for the past seven years. His job responsibilities include a wide range of functions, based upon need. With a vast list of remodels over the past few years, Elinburg said one minute he may be working on a steam line, and the next minute it could be an electrical issue. After graduating from Sturgis High School, Elinburg joined Merritt Electrical in Atlanta, Georgia, as a journeyman welder and electrician. After a few years there, he and his wife of almost 11 years, Kimberly, were able to return home to job opportunities at MSU. The two share two children, a seven-year-old son, Haiden, and, in Elinburg's own words, "a spoiled rotten 22-month-old daughter," Scarlett. Elinburg, who has completed multiple hours of Johnson Control certificates, says his favorite thing about his job is that there is always something different going on. "Rarely am I ever stuck doing the same thing over and over—at least, not for long," he said. "I learn something new almost every day; you really are never too old to learn!"



PRINCE JOINS CVM AS CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

MSU CVM recently welcomed Dr. Pauline Prince, PhD, ABN, as the College's new clinical psychologist. A board-certified neuropsychologist with nearly 30 years of experience working with students, Dr. Prince provides a wide range of clinical services and is committed to meeting the clinical and learning needs of MSU CVM students.

"I am so excited to be part of the MSU CVM family! My husband, our oldest daughter, Ashley, and I are all State alumni; I am happy to be home," Dr. Prince said. "Dr. Hoblet and Dr. Smith have extended an invitation that allows me to become totally immersed in every aspect of daily activities at CVM. I could not have asked for a more welcoming approach for integrating my services and skills!"

Dr. Prince specializes in providing therapeutic counseling services to students who have been diagnosed with anxiety and depression and can help them develop strategies to meet their individual needs to manage academics, as well as life stressors.

In her work with students and school faculty and staff, Dr. Prince has served on trauma teams and participated in crisis response after student death from suicide, vehicle accidents, and other forms of trauma. She has also coordinated resources and staff to effectively respond to traumatic events.

In addition, Dr. Prince has experience in working with students who self-harm, experience panic attacks, and develop health-related issues as a result of chronic stress.

For the past 28 years, she has grown her expertise in the evaluation of complex diagnostic cases, and she understands the neuropsychological underpinnings of disabilities, functional implications for learning, social/emotional functioning, skill demonstration, and activities of daily living.

According to MSU CVM Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Smith, Dr. Prince is passionate about her work and is a much-needed and welcomed resource for the College. "We are excited to welcome Dr. Prince to the CVM family. The skills, resources and services she brings are a tremendous asset for our students," he said. "Having her here in the CVM building is a vital part of ensuring our students have ready access to help and resources if needed to navigate the challenging experience of attending vet school."

"Transitions are difficult, the training and academic demands can be intense, and the work life of a veterinarian can be extremely stressful. Published data on the mental health of practicing veterinarians is frightening and support the urgent need to develop positive, life-long, self-care skills with veterinary medicine students so that they can carry these skills with them into their chosen workplace," Dr. Prince said. "Dr. Hoblet and Dr. Smith are committed to ensuring that MSU CVM students have the necessary mental health and life skills to live a long and healthy life in this rewarding career field. The faculty and staff of MSU CVM have made it quite clear that they are determined to change those frightening statistics!"

WHY SEE A PSYCHOLOGIST?

PERFORMANCE COACH: You haven't mastered a skill until you can demonstrate that skill under extreme conditions of emotionality!

STRESS MANAGEMENT: user-friendly, immediate application of stress management skills training

YOUR SUPPORT SYSTEM: even if it is "You got this!" confirmation

CHANGES: new setting, unknown circumstances, separation from family and friends, lack of access to known resources

HEALTHY LIVING TIPS: grandma's rules for eating, sleeping, work-life balance and movement.

OPEN-DOOR RESOURCE: great problem-solver, especially when things aren't going as intended

LANGUAGE SKILL DEVELOPMENT: for those tough conversations and emotionally-overwhelming circumstances

OPPORTUNITIES TO TALK: Talking gives shape and organization to your thoughts and ideas.

GOAL SETTING & REFINEMENT: what to do with roadblocks

INDEPENDENT PROBLEM-SOLVING DEVELOPMENT: develop the skills needed for a lifetime

SOLUTION FOCUSED: immediate, ready to use "tool kit" for problem-solving and managing emotionally difficult circumstances

TEACHING: Skills can be taught, including those for emotional well-being and healthy living.

AND . . . if all of this is not sufficient reason to see a psychologist, consider this:

The suicide rate of veterinarians is two to three times higher than for the general population.

The faculty and staff of MSU CVM are committed to ensuring that our graduates are not part of those statistics in the future!



RESCUED PUP TRAINS TO SERVE THOSE IN NEED

Bailey, a rescued black lab mix, has some big shoes to fill and a unique story to tell. When he arrived at the MSU CVM through Homeward Bound Project of Mississippi at just seven weeks old, Terri Snead, a veterinary technician in the CVM Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine, noticed Bailey's ability to retrieve—a trait that can be an early sign of candidacy for service dogs. Bailey was a good-natured, people-oriented puppy as well, and these are also key traits of a service dog.

According to Snead, who volunteers with the veterinary student-run Homeward Bound Project, labs are generally very ball driven. So, when Bailey and his litter arrived, she

took a tennis ball and tossed it to the puppies. She says most of them just looked, but Bailey immediately went to the ball, picked it up, and brought it back to her.

"Many service dog trainers use balls as a reward for the behaviors they are teaching," Snead said. "So, having that drive early puts a dog in a position to be successful in training."

Knowing this, Snead contacted Nancy Teague, founder of Putnam Service Dogs, a nonprofit organization created in 2016 that provides free service dogs and follow-up support to those with physical disabilities other than blindness.

...she took a tennis ball and tossed it to the puppies... Bailey immediately went to the ball, picked it up, and brought it back to her.

“Nancy and her team select most of their puppies from shelters and rescue groups,” Snead said. “The success rate of those selected is only about one-third, but those who don’t make it as service dogs have a greater chance at adoption into loving homes because of the socializing and training they receive from Putnam Service Dogs.”

After receiving a call and a follow-up video recording of Bailey from Snead, Teague knew Bailey was an ideal candidate for service dog training. However, because training classes had already started, Bailey could not wait for the next Homeward Bound transport; therefore, Snead reached out to an animal-loving truck driver who had helped with transport before. Armed with an official health certificate and plenty of toys, Bailey began his service dog journey in an 18-wheeler truck where he rode shotgun most of the three-day journey!

Afterward, Teague met Bailey in Connecticut, and they have been together ever since. Bailey is now 17 months old and hard at work with three other pups, all of whom are in training.

Teague says she started Putnam Service Dogs in response to the long wait time—often as much as two years—for the type of service dog they provide.

“The long wait is mainly because of the amount of time it takes to fully train a dog for this role—after actually locating one who is a candidate for it. It’s incredibly demanding in almost every aspect, and you have to be very diligent, disciplined, self-motivated, and committed,” she said. “But it’s always worth it because you’re helping animals and people every step of the way.”

As for what Bailey does every day, Teague says it’s a mixture of obedience skills and introductory service dog skills—with most of the emphasis on obedience at this point. Emphasis in Bailey’s training will shift to service dog skills as he fully masters obedience skills.

“Bailey is still immature, so he has his issues, but we are constantly working with him. He can now identify and retrieve a credit card, phone, remote, and keys. He can also pull drawers open,” Teague said. “We have high hopes for his future as a service dog. How wonderful is it that a dog can go from being alone and unwanted to being someone in need’s most trusted companion?”



Armed with an official health certificate and plenty of toys, Bailey began his service dog journey in an 18-wheeler truck where he rode shotgun most of the three-day journey!



FISH INNOVATION LAB AWARDS

\$500,000 IN “QUICK START” GRANTS

The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Fish (Fish Innovation Lab), established through a grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in 2018 and directed by MSU College of Veterinary Medicine Professor Mark Lawrence, has made the first round of awards for research, granting \$100,000 each to five projects in four countries.

The Fish Innovation Lab supports sustainable and resilient aquaculture and fisheries systems by initiating and supporting research to enhance food safety and nutrition, improve fish production systems, and increase trade and domestic market opportunities to ultimately improve the nutrition and livelihoods of households and small-scale producers in developing countries. The lab will fund approximately \$7.5 million in research grants from 2018-2023 to researchers working with small-scale producers in Feed the Future focus countries.

Known as “Quick Starts,” these early projects span one year and will provide valuable information to guide lab efforts over the next five years. Leveraging existing knowledge and expertise at MSU, all Quick Starts include at least one MSU researcher. Additional details about the projects are provided below:

- Bangladesh: Use DNA sequencing to inform broodstock selection programs, thereby improving aquaculture production and livelihoods of farming communities using sustainable approaches. Partners: Bangladesh Agricultural University, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, WorldFish
- Kenya: Inventory and market analysis of coastal marine fish for food that maintain ecosystem functioning and address micronutrient deficiencies in vulnerable groups. Partners: Egerton University, Pwani University, University of Rhode Island, Washington University in St. Louis
- Nigeria: Analyze the aquaculture post-harvest chain to better understand the fate of harvested fish from production to consumption. Partners: Washington University in St. Louis, WorldFish
- Zambia: Investigate the effect of partially or totally replacing fishmeal by single-cell protein ingredients in a tilapia commercial feed. Partners: Aller Aqua Zambia, Meridian Biotech, Natural Resources Development College, Texas A&M University, WorldFish,
- Zambia: Increase quality/quantity of fish benefitting nutrition and food security, especially for women and children in the critical first 1,000 days of life. Partners: University of Rhode Island, University of Zambia, WorldFish

“The Fish Innovation Lab is an integral part of USAID’s goal to advance aquaculture and fisheries in Feed the Future countries, and these Quick Start projects are a key to our success because they will give us early results on which to build our larger research agenda,” Lawrence said, noting that results of these studies are expected later this year and will be shared at a global platform meeting the lab will host for stakeholders.

Additional information about the Fish Innovation Lab is available at fishinnovationlab.msstate.edu.



AERC OFFERS CHRONIC AND GERIATRIC DISEASE CARE WORKSHOP



Dr. Andrew Mackin, BVMS, MVS, DVSC, FANZCVSc, DACVIM, discussed chronic renal disease at the AERC CE event



The Animal Emergency and Referral Center (AERC), an affiliate of the MSU CVM located in the Jackson suburb of Flowood, hosted a free continuing education (CE) event for area veterinarians and veterinary technologists the afternoon of April 28. Almost 50 participants representing more than 20 clinics and hospitals in the greater Jackson area attended and heard presentations addressing a variety of common chronic and geriatric issues, including chronic renal disease, geriatric cognitive decline, geriatric anesthesia, and canine and feline oncology updates. There was also a discussion focused on preventive medicine for the geriatric patient. Presenters included numerous AERC and CVM faculty members representing their respective disciplines. The workshop was held at the Mississippi Veterinary Research and Diagnostic Laboratory in Pearl, which is part of the MSU CVM Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine, and lunch was provided by Hill's Pet Nutrition. The AERC's next CE workshop will be held this fall. Watch for details on the MSU CVM website and on social media.

MSU CVM GRAD ELECTED TO PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL



Dr. Locke A. Karriker, DVM, MS, DACVPM, who earned both his DVM from MSU CVM in 1999 and his MS in 2000, was elected to the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (PACCARB), a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), earlier this year.

The Council provides advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary of Health regarding programs and policies intended to support and evaluate the implementation of U.S. government activities related to combating antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Dr. Karriker will serve a four-year term on the 30-member Council as a voting member alongside 14 other voting members that are also special government employees, five non-voting liaison members representing their respective organizations, and 10 regular government employees representing HHS and the departments of defense (DoD) and agriculture (USDA).

"I'm honored to have been elected to this outstanding group of individuals, who are charged with the awesome responsibility of preserving the effectiveness of antibiotics by optimizing their

use," Dr. Karriker said. "Together we must improve antibiotic stewardship for the benefit of humans and animals."

Dr. Karriker serves as the Dr. Douglas and Ann Gustafson Professor for Teaching Excellence in Veterinary Medicine and Director of the Swine Medicine Education Center at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. His position consists of teaching, research and professional practice activities focused on improving and advancing swine medicine and the judicious use of antimicrobial therapy. Dr. Karriker is an editor of the swine medicine reference book, *Diseases of Swine* (10th and 11th editions) and is the lead author of the "Drug Pharmacology, Therapy and Prophylaxis" chapter. His research activities are focused on swine disease diagnosis and treatment especially advancing knowledge on pharmacology and welfare, further characterizing disease conditions, and assessing new intervention strategies. Karriker was selected the MSU CVM Alumnus of the Year in 2012.

According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control, a division of HHS, antibiotic resistant bacteria can cause illnesses that were once easily treatable with antibiotics to become untreatable, leading to dangerous infections. These bacteria are often more difficult to kill and more expensive to treat. In some cases, the antibiotic-resistant infections can lead to serious disability or even death. In fact, statistics indicate that in the U.S. at least two million people become infected with bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics, and at least 23,000 people die annually as a direct result of these infections. Consequently, antibiotic resistance is considered one of the most urgent threats to the Country's health.



LIKE FATHER, LIKE DAUGHTER... AND SON

With dreams of becoming a veterinarian in mind since childhood and the constant support of their veterinarian father Dr. Rob Loper, becoming a veterinarian seemed like it was just meant to be for siblings Sarah DeLee and Robert Loper. And, with Robert's graduation next May, this family's dreams will become a reality.

While earning a DVM from the CVM at Mississippi State University, the senior Loper (Dr. Robert K.) did an externship in Tylertown, MS. Upon graduation in 1985, he joined the practice at Tylertown Animal Clinic and is now part owner of the practice. Growing up around the practice gave both daughter, Sarah, and son, Robert, a unique perspective on veterinary medicine.

"When I was young, I used to beg my dad to take me with him to the office or on calls," recalled Sarah. "It started as me just wanting to see the animals or watch surgeries, but as I got older, I began working more, and I saw the ins and outs of both owning a small business and being a veterinarian. The more my dad brought me along and the more involved I was at the clinic,

the more I became inspired and ultimately fell in love with this profession."

"My dad obviously had a major influence on both my sister and me growing up," said Robert, now a fourth-year MSU CVM student. "And, while my sister was always very sure she wanted to live the vet life, growing up, I wasn't always so sure, and I frequently changed my plans. Fortunately, my dad wanted us to figure our career goals out for ourselves and would always say, 'Don't be a veterinarian just because I'm a veterinarian. If you want to do something else, do it.'"

Robert has always admired that about his father, and even though he was accepted for the CVM's early entry program in high school, he continued to explore other career avenues, including engineering. Once in his undergraduate studies though, he realized what an exceptional opportunity the early entry program was and decided veterinary medicine was, in fact, the right path for him.

It started as me just wanting to see the animals or watch surgeries... The more my dad brought me along and the more involved I was at the clinic, the more I became inspired and ultimately fell in love with this profession.

— DR. SARAH DELEE LOPER



“Getting into the early entry program was a turning point for me because it was a really big opportunity that not a lot of people get,” he said. “I knew I should take advantage of it, and that’s exactly what I’m doing.”

As Robert noted, his sister Sarah knew early on that she wanted to follow in her father’s footsteps. After receiving her undergraduate degree at MSU and then earning her DVM from the CVM in 2015, Sarah married and moved to Tennessee. She worked there while her husband was stationed at Fort Campbell with the Army, then briefly moved to Virginia. They are currently stationed at Fort Polk, LA. This close proximity enables Sarah to commute every other week to work in her father’s practice.

At this point, Robert is unsure of his plans following graduation. He can, however, foresee the possibility of joining his father’s practice and working alongside him and his sister.

“There’s definitely something to be said for working with people you know and trust. The environment is naturally nurturing,” he said. “Being family, we understand that we are all in this together, and we are all working toward a common goal.”

“It can be easy to get stressed out when working with family, too, though; there are good days and bad days for sure,” he continued. “But family is what really matters, and making a daily difference in the lives of animals and people just makes it even more worthwhile. Whether I ultimately work in the same clinic with my family or not, we will always share this common bond.”

“...family is what really matters, and making a daily difference in the lives of animals and people just makes it even more worthwhile.”

— ROBERT LOPER

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TWELVE FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS NAMED 2019 BARDSLEY SCHOLARS

This spring, MSU CVM awarded prestigious Bardsley Scholarships to 12 members of the in-coming, 96-member doctor of veterinary medicine (DVM) class of 2023.

Receiving Bardsley Scholarships are Cassandra Barber and Kylie Fisher of West Virginia, Kristin Miller and Julie Robinson of South Carolina, Brady Brown of Tennessee, Rachel Claus of Ohio, Grace Shields of Michigan, and Caroline Coussens, Anabel De Bruhl, Caleb Glover, Hannah Kruse, and Emily Vowell of Mississippi.

Bardsley Scholars must have demonstrated high academic performance by achieving at least a 3.75 GPA on a four-point scale in their undergraduate studies. In addition, they must apply and are selected by a further in-depth, second review of their application conducted by a committee of MSU CVM Faculty, who review students' extracurricular activities and evaluate their demonstrated leadership potential before making final recommendations for who is to receive the scholarships.

The scholarships are made possible by a gift from the estate of Dr. Charles and Mrs. Viola Bardsley, who lived on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and took a special interest in the MSU CVM. They are awarded to eight to twelve students entering the College and meeting the requirements each year. Mississippi residents and students from West Virginia and South Carolina, who receive in-state tuition rates



(front) Kristin Miller, Grace Shields, Anabel DeBruhl, Rachel Claus, Cassandra Barber, and Kylie Fisher; (back) Brady Brown, Caleb Grover, Emily Vowell, Caroline Coussens, Hannah Kruse, and Julie Robinson

as a result of contract arrangements through their respective state legislatures, qualify for \$25,000 scholarships, and those from other states, who pay out-of-state-tuition, qualify for \$50,000 scholarships.

To retain their scholarship, each Bardsley Scholar must maintain at least a 3.5 GPA in their studies while in the CVM. In addition to the scholarship monies, they are given preferential scheduling of courses, externships, research experiences and clinical rotations, as well as additional leadership training, during their time at MSU CVM.

CVM EQUINE CHIEF RECEIVES HONORS



Dr. Cathleen Mochal-King, DVM, MS, a board-certified equine surgeon, associate clinical professor, and equine service chief at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine (MSU CVM), was recently named the College's first Terri Nusz Endowed Equine Professor. In addition, Dr. Mochal-King was also recently honored as the North American Veterinary Conference VMX 2019 Equine Speaker of the Year.

A Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons, Dr. Mochal-King earned both her bachelor and doctor of veterinary medicine degrees at Iowa State University and completed an internship and surgical residency at MSU in equine surgery before joining the faculty in 2010. Her special interests include equine ophthalmology, teaching and research, as well as equine lameness and surgery, and her primary area of expertise is equine sports medicine with clinical diagnostic ultrasound.

The Terri Nusz Endowed Equine Professorship will support Dr. Mochal-King's efforts to educate MSU CVM students, interns and

residents; serve the clinical needs of horse owners and referring veterinarians; and represent MSU at a national level.

As the NAVC VMX 2019 Equine Speaker of the Year, Dr. Mochal-King was recognized for being the equine conference speaker with the most votes and greatest attendance and was asked to return as a speaker for the 2020 conference.

"Dr. Mochal-King is recognized as an outstanding equine surgeon by horse owners and referring veterinarians throughout our region," MSU CVM Dean Kent Hoblet, DVM, said. "She is also an outstanding professor, role model for aspiring veterinarians and speaker. We are fortunate to have her as a member of our CVM faculty and family."

The MSU CVM's Equine Medicine and Surgery Service provides advanced care to horses in the region, offering 24-hour, seven-days-per week emergency and intensive care services, in addition to specialty diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical services. Equine health maintenance services such as sports medicine, nutritional counseling, disease surveillance, parasite control, dentistry and vaccination programs are also provided. All horses are managed by a team who works closely with the referring veterinarian.

CVM CEHS RESEARCHERS HONORED BY UNIVERSITY



The Mississippi State University Office of Research recently recognized two members of the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine Center for Environmental Health Sciences (CEHS) for their outstanding efforts and contributions to research.

Prior to receiving her PhD in May, CVM graduate student Navatha Alugubelly was presented with the 2019 CVM Graduate Student Research Award by the MSU Office of Research. She was also recognized as a 2019 Graduate School Hall of Fame Scholar.

The Graduate Student Research Award is presented to graduate students who contribute significantly to the University's mission of research; to recognize and reward students for their accomplishments in research and creative endeavors; and to increase awareness of MSU research programs and capabilities. Graduate School Hall of Fame Scholar designation is for those individuals who have made a significant contribution to the growth of MSU through their exemplary leadership abilities and research or teaching skills in their chosen field of study.

Qualifications to be considered for both awards include publications, presentations, and other awards and recognition.

"During my PhD, I have had a chance to share my work with my peers in the toxicology field by presenting my research at several national and regional meetings," said Alugubelly. "In addition, I have served as a co-author on 12 peer-reviewed publications."

Alugubelly received her undergraduate degree in pharmacy from Osmania University and her master's degree in pharmacy from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, both in India. She recently earned her PhD in environmental toxicology through the MSU CVM Department of Basic Sciences.

Alugubelly's mentor, MSU CVM Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator of Environmental Toxicology Dr. Russell L. Carr, said after joining his lab in 2015 when her initial advisor moved, Alugubelly demonstrated herself to be a quick learner, team player, and extremely valuable asset.

"Navatha was one of the best students I ever had," said Carr. "I am very pleased she received this recognition. I do not know any student that is more deserving."

Dr. Carr noted that Alugubelly was not only an outstanding student and researcher, but more importantly, a genuinely a good person; a sentiment, which according to Alugubelly, is mutual.

"Joining Dr. Carr's laboratory to finish my PhD is one of the best decisions I ever made," said Alugubelly. "Dr. Carr proved to be a wonderful advisor and mentor to me, not only advising me in the laboratory and classroom, but also helping me become a good toxicologist. Without his guidance, I couldn't have accomplished these things."

Dr. Carr was also formally recognized for his efforts, being presented with the 2019 Outstanding Graduate Advisor Award by the MSU Graduate Student Association.

With a research background in toxicology and PhD in animal physiology, Dr. Carr oversees a laboratory in the CEHS that is engaged in developmental neurotoxicology research with an emphasis on how developmental exposure to low levels of organophosphorus (OP) insecticides induce long-term changes in neurochemistry and behavior.

"I was honored to win this award since multiple students—many of whom are not my students—wrote letters of support," Dr. Carr said. "I can actually say that it means much more to me than recognition directly related to any research-related efforts or accomplishments. I guess it means that maybe I have helped some students along the way, which is one of the most important roles I have."

ZORNOW COMMISSIONED

MSU CVM now second-year student Katie Zornow was selected as the 2019 first-year CVM student to be commissioned into the Army. Katie's official commissioning ceremony took place on Friday, January 18 and was attended by members of her family, friends, MSU CVM leaders, and representatives of the U.S. Army.

As the recipient of the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship, she receives three years of tuition paid by the U.S. Army and a monthly stipend in exchange for her commitment to serve as an officer in the Army Veterinary Corps upon completion of her DVM degree.

Pictured to the right, Katie is flanked by Captain Chris Magee (DVM class of 2013) and Staff Sergeant William J. Prescott at her commissioning ceremony.



NOT THE “GREATEST OF ALL TIME” BUT A STORY WORTH TELLING

Little Buddy, a spirited, loving goat owned by Shelia Collins of Montrose, MS was brought to the MSU CVM Animal Health Center (AHC) on November 3, 2018, after a week of being lethargic and experiencing neurological symptoms, including incoordination, circling, and head-pressing, that had become progressively worse over the previous several days.

Unable to stand on his own at arrival, Little Buddy was given a thorough physical and neurological exam by AHC intern Dr. Katelyn Waters, who soon brought MSU CVM Assistant Clinical Professor of Pathobiology and Production Medicine Dr. Gretchen Grissett and fourth-year veterinary student Amy Wilcosky in to consult on the case. A thorough neurological work up indicated multiple cranial nerve deficits and a variety of other issues, making Little Buddy’s case fit the textbook signs of Listeriosis, a brain infection caused by the bacteria *Listeria monocytogenes* commonly found in the environment, according to Dr. Grissett.

“Once the inability to stand occurs, as in Little Buddy’s case, the prognosis is often grave,” Dr. Waters said. “We began appropriate



antibiotic and steroid therapy, hoping for the best possible outcome, yet knowing full recovery was unlikely for this little guy.”

Wilcosky said Little Buddy would seem to get slightly better one day, but then decline the next. However, because Collins was committed to seeing Little Buddy receive the best possible chance of recovery, he remained under the care of the AHC team for about two weeks. The team continued antimicrobial and steroidal therapy, and although he experienced some seizure activity and his neurological symptoms continued to wax and wane early on, he gradually began improving. Eventually on November 17, after many ups and downs, Little Buddy was finally deemed well enough to go home.

“Little Buddy’s neurological status had noticeably improved, so he was discharged with instructions to continue antibiotics and return for a recheck in two weeks,” Wilcosky said. “At the time of his follow-up, he had some minor deficits that remained but improved dramatically from presentation.”

Wilcosky said working on Little Buddy’s case as a student was a good learning experience and an inspiration to her. “Little Buddy taught me to never give up on a case even if the outcome looks bleak,” she said. “Although his prognosis was poor, and everything in the literature indicated his chances of survival were slim to none, with his owner’s commitment to seeing him better and our best efforts on his behalf, Little Buddy fought hard and pulled through.”

Little Buddy has more-or-less made a full recovery. He is back home living the good life, and, other than a slight head tilt—which most just assume is an inquisitive look—one would never know what a mountain this little goat had climbed!

SMITH 2019 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR



The MSU College of Veterinary Medicine is proud to recognize Dr. Kevin Smith of Picayune, MS, as 2019 Alumnus of the Year.

Dr. Smith attended Pearl River Community College before receiving his doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Mississippi State University in 1984. Dr. Smith's class was only the fourth to graduate from MSU's then very new veterinary medicine program.

"We started our first year meeting classes in the dairy science building, and the upperclassmen were meeting in the Scales building. Our freshmen anatomy labs met in a meat science lab behind the dairy science buildings," Dr. Smith said, noting the actual college of veterinary medicine building (Wise Center) was still under construction at the time.

After graduation, Dr. Smith joined a practice in his hometown of Picayune, where he has now served his community as an advocate for large and small animals for 33 years. Dr. Smith currently owns two clinics - Animal Health Clinic in Picayune and Hancock Animal Clinic in Kiln - that are part of the South Mississippi Veterinary Clinics Corporation. He urges new graduates and current students alike to pursue veterinary practice ownership.

"I cannot overstate the importance of buying into a large practice or buying an entire practice," Dr. Smith said. "Financing a practice as a young veterinary associate is possible even with the burden of school loans, using a third-party veterinary appraisal service. The income generated by practice ownership can help immensely in paying down student debt."

Smith holds membership in the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association, and the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association, of which he is a past president. He also shares his time and talents with MSU CVM, presently serving as a member of the Dean's Council.

"I was shocked when Dr. Hoblet called to inform me of this award," Dr. Smith said. "I am humbled to be named the CVM's 2019 Alumnus of the Year."

Dr. Smith and other MSU college alumni of the year were recognized on March 1. They attended a roundtable event at Lee Hall prior to a reception in the home of President Mark Keenum and First Lady Rhonda Keenum. That evening, they were honored at an awards banquet at The Mill, followed by a reception at Hunter Henry Center hosted by the MSU Alumni Association.



VET MED TECH PINNING CEREMONY 2019

The MSU CVM Veterinary Technology Program graduated 27 students this year—its largest class yet!

The pinning and awards ceremony for the class of 2019 was held Thursday, May 2 at 2 p.m. at the Bost Extension Center Theatre on the MSU campus.

Class members represented seven different states with graduates pursuing careers in five different states following graduation and nine graduates remaining at the CVM, six of whom are joining the CVM staff and three are entering the DVM program.

Congrats and best wishes to the grads!



(back) Asha Bolton, Skylar Miller, Caleigh Greene, Brittany Ortiz, Blake Moore, Brandon Myers, Caitlin Wonnacott, Rebecca Smith, Rebecca Fairbank, Danelle Moffett, Gloria Cleveland; (middle) Haley Cliburn, Mallory Keasler, Taylor Patton, Bailee Pipkin, Keely Beasley, Shelby Cudmore, Caroline Richardson, Anabel Debruhl, Alana Daum, Hope Buckley; (front) Sharon Byas, Princess Jenkins, Anna Beth Hendrix, Harley Chase, Katie Jones

34TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE: Animals in Wonderland



On April 5 and 6, MSU CVM hosted our 34th annual Open House, which as with tradition, was organized by the second-year DVM class. This year's theme was "Animals in Wonderland." On Friday, we saw more than 30 school groups, with roughly 1,200 students attending. Saturday's event was open to all. Exhibits included a petting zoo, exotic animal presentations, large animal exhibits and animal hospital tours. The event was once again a big success and served as a great opportunity for members of the Starkville and MSU community, as well as scores of school children from throughout the region, to visit the CVM!



THE BUSINESS OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

It's safe to say that most veterinarians don't pursue their career paths because they want to manage a business, negotiate contracts, hire and fire employees, conduct inventory or do many of the other responsibilities and duties associated with running a practice. Most veterinarians are veterinarians because they enjoy science and love caring for animals. Reality is, however, there are a number of business-related skills required to operate a successful veterinary practice and excel in most other career paths in the field of veterinary medicine.

To help MSU CVM graduates not only be prepared to handle the business side of their careers, but to excel in them, MSU CVM offers CVM 5692—Veterinary Medicine: The Art of Practice and Business Management. Led by Associate Clinical Professor and Animal Health Center Director Dr. Joey Burt for almost a decade, this two-week, elective course for third- and fourth-year DVM students is conducted each January and is designed specifically to teach new graduates to be comfortable handling subjects outside of the academics and science of veterinary medicine.

"Multiple studies conducted by the American Veterinary Medical Association and Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges have illustrated the need for non-technical skills to be taught in vet school. Future employers of newly graduated veterinarians expect them to have these skills," Dr. Burt said. "This course helps address that need for our DVM students here at MSU. It is one component of an overall effort to ensure our graduates enter the profession as 'day-one-ready' practitioners."

Dr. Burt noted that additional research has also shown that graduates with a higher business acumen have higher starting salaries, are more satisfied with their jobs and have better control over their long-term debt.

Topics addressed in the course cover everything from employment economics, communications and profitable pricing to inventory control, contract negotiation and conflict management. Class assignments include preparing a budget, creating a resume and cover letter and evaluating a job contract.

"These are just a few of the many things our graduates need to have command of outside of the realm of actual patient care," Dr. Burt said. "Our goal through this course is to help them have the skills they need to successfully navigate the transition from training to be a veterinarian to actually practicing as a veterinarian."



The course features speakers with diverse backgrounds from several different companies and organizations, providing a variety of approaches and perspectives for students.

According to Mark Opperman with Veterinary Management Consultation, Inc., who presents a lecture addressing veterinary business management and client perception of value to the class each year, a number of veterinary colleges offer a business course; however, MSU CVM's class is very comprehensive and practical thanks to Dr. Burt. "Since Dr. Burt previously owned a very successful private practice, he is able to help guide the students to what is most important and has developed an excellent course in veterinary business management. I am proud to be a part of this program," he said.

Dr. Eric Linn, who works for Nutramax Laboratories, and is another of the class's regular presenters, said the class is a vital part of ensuring successful entry into 'the real world.' "The segment I present covers alternative career paths in veterinary medicine. This is such an important consideration, not only because there are a wealth of opportunities in the field outside of traditional practice, but also because very few people stay in the exact same job for their entire career," he said. "It's important to know what your options are so you can pursue the type role that is the best fit for you."

According to Dr. Burt, MSU CVM would not be able to offer a business course of this caliber without the support of sponsors such as Nutramax Laboratories, Purina, Zoetis, CareCredit, AVMA and numerous others.

"We are very grateful for the sponsorships we receive to help defer the expense of offering this course. Bringing in quality lecturers and providing the materials and other components of the course would be cost prohibitive without their support," he said. "Organizing a schedule to accommodate so many different people and topics within a two-week time frame can be challenging, but the positive feedback we routinely receive from the speakers and the students makes it well worth it."



ALL EYES ON REGGIE

MSU CVM Veterinary Ophthalmologist Caroline Betbeze, DVM, MS, DACVO, who practices at the College's Veterinary Specialty Center (VSC) in west Starkville, has treated a variety of species in her 15-plus year career; however, when MSU CVM veterinary pathology resident Ryan Taylor sought her care for his fantail fancy goldfish Reginald, III, (a.k.a. Reggie), it was a first-time experience for her and her team!

"We've examined a few fish over the years, mostly related to research, but having someone's pet goldfish as a patient was a first," Dr. Betbeze said. "We, of course, welcomed the opportunity; that's why we're here—improving the vision and overall eye health of animals is what we're trained to do!"

According to Dr. Taylor, two-year-old Reggie just had not been himself for a few days when he noticed Reggie's cloudy left eye earlier this spring. "Reggie lives in a large tank with several other fish. I've had him about a year and a half and he tends to greet me at the top of the tank during feedings, so when he was spending

more time at the bottom, I knew something was wrong," Dr. Taylor said. "Reggie isn't the typical 'furry' pet, but he's a part of our family just the same. It was important to me to find out what was wrong and to make sure he wasn't in pain, and I knew if anybody would know what to do, it would be the folks at VSC."

So, Dr. Taylor transferred Reggie into a small tank with an aerator for transport. Upon arrival at the VSC, Reggie was initially evaluated by Dr. Lindsay Seyer, an ophthalmology intern, and a visiting instructor, Dr. Renee Carter, both of whom were working with Dr. Betbeze.

"Drs. Seyer and Carter examined Reggie very gently, carefully lifting him from the tank and keeping his eyes above water and his gills below water," Dr. Taylor said. "They gave him frequent breaks to swim around during the exam to limit his stress level. The exam showed Reggie's left cornea to be opaque with a large corneal ulceration with evidence of possible infection, which was not something I wanted to hear, but they assured me if testing

“We’ve examined a few fish over the years, mostly related to research, but having someone’s pet goldfish as a patient was a first.”

— DR. CAROLINE BETBEZE, VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGIST



“Those who think veterinary ophthalmic care is for only our furry or feathered friends need to know about cases like Reggie.”

– DR. RYAN TAYLOR,
REGGIE'S OWNER

did show infection, they would consult Dr. Betbeze and have Reggie feeling better in no time!”

According to Dr. Betbeze, to confirm the corneal ulcer and determine if there was an infection, a fluorescein stain test and corneal cytology test, using a brush to collect cells and look at them under a microscope, were done. These tests weren't painful to Reggie, and because they were positive, a corneal culture was also performed.

“With Reggie's test results showing inflammation and bacterial infection, I elected to treat him with an antibiotic, administered as a drop into the eye,” Dr. Betbeze explained. “This required Dr. Taylor to gently lift him out of the water enough to put a drop in his eye and allow one minute for it to absorb, while keeping his gills below the water three times each day.”

“Reggie wasn't too fond of this process,” Dr. Taylor said, “but we managed to get it done! And after only a few days, I could tell he was feeling better.”

Dr. Betbeze noted that because Reggie's tank mates all seemed fine, her recommendation was to keep Reggie in his separate tank during the treatment process and, in the meantime, sterilize the main tank and evaluate its contents, paying close attention to remove anything that could potentially cause ocular trauma.

“Dr. Seyer and I rechecked Reggie after one week, and the cloudiness was much better. The ulcer had healed, leaving only a small scar,” she said. “Reggie was back to normal, so he was returned to the larger tank with his friends. Fortunately, he has not had a problem since!”

“Those who think veterinary ophthalmic care is for only our furry or feathered friends need to know about cases like Reggie,” Dr. Taylor said. “The care he received from Dr. Betbeze and her team definitely improved his quality of life, and as pet owners, making sure our pets are healthy and happy should be priority one!”



MEET VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGIST CAROLINE BETBEZE, DVM, MS, DACVO



Dr. Betbeze received her DVM at MSU CVM and completed her master of science degree and residency in comparative veterinary ophthalmology at Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine.

She has more than 15 years experience and expertise to offer the highest level of eye care for all species. Dr. Betbeze and her team treat dry eye, glaucoma, cataracts and corneal disease, and as a board-certified ophthalmic surgeon, she routinely performs cataract, eyelid, and corneal surgeries.

CVM'S ROSSER PRESENTED 2019 ASHTON CUCKLER NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD



The American Society of Parasitologists (ASP) is an organization comprised of a diverse group of around 700 scientists from academia, industry, and government involved in the study and teaching of the scientific discipline of parasitology. Within this group, a number of awards are presented to hard-working and passionate individuals who show a desire to improve the understanding of parasites, parasitic diseases, and parasitism

on a global basis, and to distribute this knowledge worldwide.

One such award is the Ashton Cuckler New Investigator Award, which is bestowed upon a new investigator who has, within the last two years, been awarded a masters or doctoral degree in the area of parasitology. This year, Dr. Graham Rosser, who serves as an assistant research professor in the MSU CVM Department of Basic Sciences, received the award.

"I feel tremendously honored to have been named the 2019 recipient of the Ashton Cuckler New Investigator Award," Dr. Rosser said. "When I received the notification, I was beyond words! To be recognized for something that you love doing is truly rewarding, and it is the best motivation for moving my research program forward."

According to MSU CVM Interim Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies Dr. Stephen Pruet, selection for this award is based on the body of research accomplished during the candidate's

graduate studies, peer-reviewed journal or book publications directly related to research conducted in pursuit of and contained in the accepted graduate student thesis or dissertation, papers/posters presented at scientific meetings as a graduate student, and any outside recognition of research excellence.

"Dr. Rosser is most deserving of this recognition, which includes travel and accommodation expenses up to \$1,000, a \$1,000 cash award, and a plaque presented during ASP's annual meeting. He was one of the most productive graduate students in terms of peer-reviewed publications that we have had here at CVM," Dr. Pruet said. "Dr. Hoblet (MSU CVM Dean) recognized Dr. Rosser's potential, and I am very pleased we were able to retain him as a faculty member. It's easy to see that over the course of his career, he is destined to have significant and meaningful impact in the field of parasitology."

According to Dr. Rosser, the ASP has been—and continues to be—a big part of his venture into parasitology research.

"It was, in fact, at one of the ASP's regional meetings—my very first scientific conference—that I gained a broader view of parasitology. The opportunities ASP offers students is outstanding," he said.

Dr. Rosser added that the lasting impact faculty members have on student success should not be underestimated. He credits the late Dr. Linda Pote for offering a piece of advice he believes helped him get where he is today.

"One of the last things I remember discussing with Dr. Pote before her passing was the importance of academic success and mentorship," Dr. Rosser said. "She told me, 'Research accomplishments are important, but don't ever underestimate yourself and the impact you have on others, especially your students.'"

WVC AWARD RECIPIENTS



One MSU CVM fourth-year student and one postgraduate student were recognized for their merit and efforts in the field of veterinary medicine at the Western Veterinary Conference (WVC) earlier this year. Dr. Nancy Gavron, who is now an associate veterinarian at Birch Island Veterinary Center in Jacksonville, FL, was selected to represent MSU CVM for the honor of the Dr. Jack Walther Leadership Award, which is presented for overall leadership skills and service to the veterinary profession. MSU CVM Animal Health Center Population Medicine Resident Dr. Isaac Jumper was among five postgraduates to be honored with the Dr. W. Bruce Wren Food Animal Incentive Award. This award is designed to promote WVC's goal of educating new graduates to continue their interest in food animal clinical practice or related careers and is presented to those who have shown excellence in this area of veterinary medicine.

CVM LEADERS HONORED WITH PATRIOT AWARDS

Juggling the responsibility of serving in the National Guard and Reserve with other responsibilities such as school, work, and family can be extremely demanding. Recent MSU CVM doctor of veterinary medicine program graduate Kyle Johnson understands these demands all too well. A captain and company commander with the Army Reserve, Johnson managed to complete the arduous veterinary medicine program while not only fulfilling his routine reservist responsibilities, but also serving an eight-month stint of active duty in Iraq where he served as a public affairs officer for special operations forces. Because he feels this feat would not have been achievable without the support of three individuals at the CVM, he chose to nominate each of them for the Patriot Award.

"I know I would not have been able to successfully manage my duties as a reservist and simultaneously earn my DVM without the support of MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet, MSU CVM Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Jack Smith, and Academic Affairs Manager Jenny Burns," Johnson said. "These three people were so good to me during this challenging time."

The Patriot Award was established to recognize individuals and organizations exhibiting a strong commitment to supporting the needs of those who serve. It is one of a series of awards bestowed by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program offered through the U.S. Office of the Secretary of Defense.

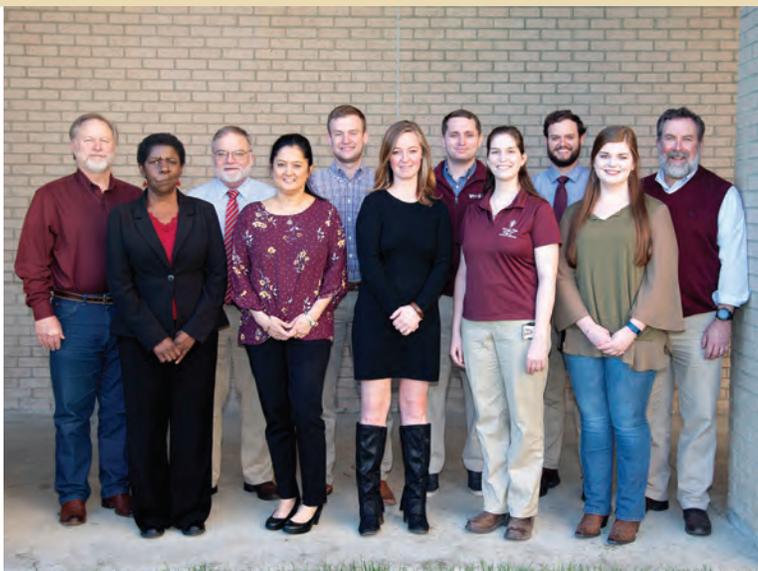
Johnson said Hoblet, Smith, and Burns deserve the honor because throughout his time at the CVM, they made the accommodations needed for him to succeed.



"As a reservist, I had regular obligations outside of veterinary school, but Dr. Smith and Jenny were always very accommodating of these with regard to exams, rotations, etcetera. When I was a third-year student, my Army Reserve unit was actually mobilized for a deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve," he said. "They were extremely helpful with getting my academic affairs in order prior to, during, and after my deployment. In addition, Dean Hoblet has also been a tremendous ally to me with regard to my military service, and he fosters an environment of acceptance and accommodation within the college."

"The support provided by Dean Hoblet, Dr. Smith, and Jenny truly made a difference in my life," Johnson continued. "My hope was that by nominating them, they would gain just some of the recognition they so deserve."

RISK PROJECT



The Risk Project is an affiliation of MSU CVM faculty interested in applying risk-based strategies to solve everyday problems in animal populations. Risk project faculty have expertise in many animal populations including cattle, swine, poultry, aquaculture, and companion animal shelters. The research interests of Risk Project faculty include developing methods of husbandry that improve the health and well-being of animals, improving medical and surgical efficiency, minimizing diagnostic errors, enhancing the safety of foods of animal origin, reducing the incidence of common animal diseases, and decreasing selection for antimicrobial resistant bacteria in animal populations. Team members include (back row, left to right) Drs. Hart Bailey, Robert Wills, Isaac Jumper, Matt Scott, Cooper Brookshire, and David Smith, as well as (front row) Drs. Margaret Khaita, Carla Houston, Kimberly Woodruff, Alexis Thompson, and master of science student Cassie Cain.



TEN YEARS AND TWO THOUSAND MILES

Building a life in Canada was likely the furthest thing from the minds of two high school sweethearts in Pontotoc, MS almost a decade ago. However, just weeks after MSU CVM class of 2019 graduates Tommy and Peyton Ware earned their doctor of veterinary medicine degrees, that's exactly where the newlyweds wound up!

Luckily, big decisions are nothing new to this couple. Peyton and Tommy met in 2009 through the band program at their high school. Tommy graduated in 2010 and continued his studies at Itawamba Community College, while Peyton finished high school. Despite distance, they maintained their relationship. In 2012, the two were reunited when they both began their undergraduate studies in Starkville at Mississippi State.

Peyton knew from early childhood that she wanted to be a veterinarian. During her senior year of high school, she was accepted into MSU CVM's early entry program. She was able to enter veterinary school one year sooner than the traditional route thanks to MSU's three-plus-one biochemistry program. In May 2016, she graduated with her bachelor of science in biochemistry as a Stephen D. Lee Scholar, while simultaneously finishing her first year of veterinary school.

Tommy, whose family always had a hand in agriculture, has always had an interest in food animal medicine. After his family sold out of the cattle business, he began working at 5K Cowbell Ranch in Pontotoc, which led to him gaining more interest in cattle health and veterinary medicine and solidified his desire to attend veterinary school.

“The two, who had been in that state of Mississippi for their entire lives, decided that for their first jobs as young veterinarians, they would step out in faith; geography did not matter.”



The two worked hard to complete the DVM curriculum and maintain not only their sanity, but also their relationship in the process. “Tommy proposed to me on October 21, 2017, and we were married on December 1, 2018, just 15 days after taking our NAVLE exam. So, we were planning a wedding in the midst of studying for the national board exam. Some may say we were crazy, but hey, it all worked out in the end,” Peyton said.

During his studies, Tommy had become fascinated with ambulatory medicine and began to follow Dr. Cody Creelman on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube. Dr. Creelman’s day-to-day life as a beef cattle-only ambulatory veterinarian piqued Tommy’s interest.

“In March 2018, Tommy completed an externship with Vet Agri-Health Services in Airdrie, Alberta, Canada. Little did either of us know that this externship would eventually become a potential job offer for him,” Peyton said, noting not long after Tommy returned from his externship, a job posting was available at Vet Agri-Health Services. “Tommy jokingly asked me one day, ‘Would you move to Canada?’ and my response was, ‘If you apply for that job and get it, I will move to Canada.’ I was thinking this was a pretty safe deal because, after all, what Canadian veterinary practice would want to hire a brand new graduate from all the way in Mississippi?”

Tommy decided to put off applying for the job until one day when Dr. Creelman reached out to him. With Tommy’s primary interest in food animals, more specifically beef cattle, and Peyton’s primary interest in small animals, they knew his prospective job opportunities would be more limited than hers. The two, who had been in the state of Mississippi for their entire lives, decided that for their first jobs as young veterinarians, they would step out in faith; geography did not matter.

“Our decision to move to Airdrie (2,200 miles away from home) was not one we made lightly, and it was not for lack of having other offers much closer to home. We decided to take a leap of faith because this experience would allow us to both practice the type of medicine we wanted to, and it would allow us to grow as doctors, individuals, and in our marriage. Plus, it would give us an adventure of a lifetime,” Peyton said.

The couple made the move shortly after graduation. Tommy is currently working as an associate veterinarian at Vet Agri-Health Services, an all ambulatory, all beef cattle practice. Peyton is currently working as an associate veterinarian at Airdrie Animal Health Centre, a high-quality small animal exclusive practice. They smile when they think back to all the trials and tribulations they overcame to get where they are today. Earning a DVM is not easy—and neither is marriage; both take hard work and commitment, but this couple seems to have both of those requirements down pat!

Earning a DVM is not easy—and neither is marriage; both take hard work and commitment, but this couple seems to have both of those requirements down pat!



VOI WET LAB HOSTED BY MSU CVM

Approximately two dozen veterinarians from throughout the country gathered in Starkville at the MSU CVM the weekend of March 2 to participate in a fracture repair wet lab sponsored by Veterinary Orthopedic Implants (VOI). The two-day course included lectures and hands-on learning experience, providing participants with a fundamental knowledge of bone healing and the favorable impact internal fixation of fractures can have on it.

The course was instructed by Dr. Steven Jones, MVB, MS, Dipl. ACVS-SA, who serves as assistant professor of small animal orthopedics at The Ohio State University, and Dr. Jason Syrcle, DVM, DACVS-SA, who at the time served as associate clinical professor and chief of small animal surgery at MSU CVM.

According to Dr. Syrcle, the course familiarized participants with fracture fixation techniques with emphasis on bone plate fixation. This was achieved through lecture and clinical case presentations before allowing participants to repair fractures on cadavers and plastic bone models. "We were able to pack a large amount of practical experience into this two-day lab. I

think reinforcing the principles discussed in lecture with eight laboratories really helped maximize the participants' learning experience," he said.

Dr. Seth Jenkins (MSU DVM 2014) of Lecanto Vet Hospital in Lecanto, Florida, said the hands-on component of the course was of great value to him. "I attended the VOI fracture lab to gain more experience repairing common fractures in general practice. Having the ability to learn about hardware placement in the classroom, and then apply that knowledge directly to the wet lab was very beneficial," he said. "I look forward to taking more of these courses in the future."

"I would like to thank the great folks at VOI for their partnership to host this course. I think everyone that attended enjoyed themselves and learned a great deal," Dr. Syrcle said. "I feel like all the participants left the course with the info and experience needed to successfully apply these techniques in the repair and management of fractures we commonly encounter in small animals."



VSC OPHTHALMOLOGIST PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL SERVICE ANIMAL EYE EXAM EVENT



Trixie, a 5-year-old registered therapy dog belonging to Jackie Cunningham of Jackson, MS, was one of several service animals who received a complimentary eye exam conducted by MSU CVM Veterinary Specialty Center (VSC) Ophthalmologist Caroline Betbeze, DVM, MS, DACVO, in recognition of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology/Stokes Rx Service Animal Eye Exam Event held throughout the country annually each May. Dr. Lindsay Seyer, ophthalmology intern, is assisting with the exam. Dr. Betbeze has conducted hundreds of these exams, having participated in the event since its inception in 2008.

MSU CVM ASSISTS WITH TRAINING COURSES FOR WORKING K9 HANDLERS AND MEDICS

Earlier this spring, MSU CVM partnered with the Mississippi Board of Animal Health (MBAH), Mississippi State Fire Academy (MSFA) and University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) to offer free medical training for law enforcement personnel who handle K9 officers and for medics who may treat K9 officers in the field. The training was offered April 17 -18 at the Mississippi State Fire Academy in Pearl.

According to Carla Huston, DVM, PhD, ACVPM, who serves as MSU CVM Professor of Pathobiology and Population Medicine and helped coordinate the training, this was the third time the course has been offered for Mississippi law enforcement officers, and the first time the class was expanded to include training staff and medics from MSFA and UMMC.

“The objective of the one-day law enforcement course is to train officers to provide basic care and first aid to their canine partners, as well as to perform life-saving techniques until more advanced veterinary care can be accessed,” Dr. Huston said. “Topics addressed include basic health care of law enforcement canines; triage, handling and medical evacuation of injured canines; first-aid and emergency care; treatment of traumatic injuries and emergency conditions; intoxications, and emergency planning and jump kits.”

Mississippi State University Police Officer and Canine Handler Mikey Burks participated in the course in Pearl. He said he felt better prepared to handle situations in the field as a result of what he learned. “I would absolutely encourage other handlers to participate in this course. It was an excellent source of information and hands-on training,” he said. “Coda is a canine, but he is my partner, and just like with a human partner, it is vital for me to know how to respond and render life-saving care in the field in the event a medical incident occurs.”

“I have been trained in routine first-aid for many years, but I really had no idea how to care for a canine in an emergency situation,” Burks continued. “This course provided me with the skills needed to help stabilize Coda and ensure the best possible outcome for him until reaching a veterinary hospital. I hope I never have to use this training, but I’m thankful to have it in the event that I do!”

According to Dr. Huston, MSU CVM faculty and staff members developed the new course for medics with consideration of equipment and medications normally carried on an ambulance or accompanying a tactical medic team. She said because this course not only includes the topics covered in the handler course, but also several additional ones, it requires an additional day of training.

“The medic course also covers advanced CPR, fluid administration, IV catheterization and tracheostomy,” Dr. Huston said. “And, both classes offer a combination of lectures and hands-on instruction. At this particular session, all law enforcement participants received a tactical K9 first aid kit, and medics received additional equipment necessary to care for canines, including oxygen masks donated by the Invisible Fence Company’s Project Breathe program.”

Participating instructors from MSU CVM, in addition to Dr. Huston, included Drs. Simone Hinz and Betsy Swanson, along with veterinary technicians Andi Hannigan, Christina Loftin and Lisa Pritchard. MSU CVM alumni and Mississippi Animal Response Team members Drs. Tom Borum (MSU DVM class of 1985) and Shannon Vawter (MSU DVM class of 2010) also assisted with instruction for the program, which was funded by the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security.

According to Dr. Huston, these courses are a great example of the community service and outreach provided by MSU CVM. “These courses are about more than just taking care of the dogs. They ultimately ensure that our first responders are trained and protected, and our communities are protected,” she said. “It is our pleasure to work with these amazing animals, their handlers and medics who care for them, and it’s our hope that the information provided and the skills learned help improve the care provided K9 officers in the field.”





MEMBERS DVM CLASS OF 2019 HONORED AT SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST AND AWARDS PROGRAM

Students, including those pictured above, benefitted from 209 scholarships, totaling \$962,495, thanks to the generous contributions of MSU CVM alumni and friends. Donors and recipients were celebrated at a breakfast hosted the morning of the College's 2019 commencement festivities. For a complete listing of these scholarships, see pages 36-37.

Prior to commencement ceremonies, members of the DVM class of 2019 gathered for events slated to recognize scholarship recipients and honor donors and for awards to be presented for outstanding grades and performance.

The Annual Scholarship Breakfast was hosted at 8:30 a.m. in the Mize Pavilion at Humphrey Coliseum and provided an opportunity for CVM scholarship donors and recipients to meet and become acquainted over a continental breakfast. Afterwards, members of the DVM class of 2019 were welcomed to the Annual Awards Program by MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Smith, where more than two dozen different awards were presented to outstanding and deserving graduates by CVM faculty members. Recognition

was awarded for excellence in specific areas of practice as well as for excellence in certain specialty areas of veterinary medicine.

Dr. Keith Davis (DVM class of 1983), CVM Alumni Association President, greeted students and provided an informative and entertaining speech, and Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) President Dr. Patricia Hidalgo (MSU DVM class of 1991) was on hand to present MVMA awards. In addition to students being recognized, Dr. Kent Hoblet presented the 2019 Zoetis Teaching Award, selected annually by the student body. The program concluded with the traditional White Coat Ceremony, which symbolizes the transition the graduates are making from being students into the actual profession of veterinary medicine.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING AWARDS RECIPIENTS



Associate Dean's Award presented to Kelly McCormick by Dr. Ron McLaughlin



The Charles E. and Viola G. Bardsley Scholarship presented to Elizabeth Gregory by Dr. Kent Hoblet



Dean's Award presented to LaDarrius Battee' by Dr. Kent Hoblet

Giles Scholars – 3.8 GPA or higher:

- Kayla Alexander • Taylor James • Andrea Seitz
- Caroline Andrews • Rachel Mann • Anna Walker
- Alexandra Brown • Alicia Pownall • Jessica Peyton Williams Ware
- Elizabeth Gregory • Nicole Rowbotham

Wise Scholars – GPAs between 3.5 and 3.8:

- Stephanie D’Alaisio • Amanda Kline • Elizabeth Moyer
- Emily Beaty • Olivia Mann • Kendra Palmer
- Rheanna Foley • Emily May • Brandon Pate
- Nancy Gavron • Kelly McCormick • Eryn Reznicek
- Courtney Group • Hannah McCurdy • Amanda Rigney-Alden
- Katherine Housen • Kaylin McNulty • Avery Smith
- Madeleine Hendrix • Sarah Middlebrooks • Robert Stenger
- Julie Holdridge • Sadie Mills • Olivia Thornton
- Veronica Kiely • Wil Moorhead • Sadie Wood

The Veterinary Business Management Association Business Certificate comprises 16 credit hours of tangible business education, with 4 hours required in each of the Business Certificate Program categories:

- Sara Anderson • Shelly Kennerly • Sarah Middlebrooks
- Caroline Andrews • Veronica Kiely • Alicia Pownall
- LaDarrius Battee’ • Amanda Kline • Jennifer Riffle
- Shannon Bieber • Olivia Mann • Robert Stenger
- Jolie Buchanan • Shelby Mathieu • Meghan Villers
- Melissa Dent • Kelly McCormick • William Ware
- Mica Hardwick • Scott McMullin • Jessica Williams
- Kelsey Hart

The Veterinary Business Management Association Business Certificate with Honors requires a minimum of 32 hours of education credit as well as completion of an Honors Portfolio:

- Lauren Cain • Sarah Dunaway • Elizabeth Gregory
- Stephanie D’Alaisio • Cari Foley • Nicholas Kohn

MVMA Awards presented by MVMA President Dr. Patricia Hidalgo

- **Companion Animal Award** presented to Katie Larson
- **Economic & Performance Animal Award** presented to Kyle Johnson
- **Large Animal Award** presented to Kate Card

American College of Veterinary Surgeons Awards

- **Large Animal Award** presented to Katie Larson by Dr. Robin Fontenot
- **Small Animal Award** presented to LaDarrius Battee’ by Dr. Jason Syrcle

Excellence in Veterinary Pathology Award presented to Kaylin McNulty by Dr. Alicia Olivier

VECCS Award for Proficiency in Emergency & Critical Care presented to Erin Reznicek by Dr. John Thomason

American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Awards

- **Small Animal Excellence** presented to Elizabeth Gregory by Dr. Alyssa Sullivant
- **Neurology Excellence** presented to LaDarrius Battee’ by Dr. Michaela Beasley
- **Large Animal Excellence** presented to Katie Larson by Dr. Sherrill Fleming

Veterinary Cancer Society Award presented to Olivia Mann by Dr. Taya Marquardt Ezell

Clinical Pathological Conference Awards presented by Dr. Christine Bryan

- Overall Award presented to Laken Russell
- Attendance Award presented to Nick Kohn

SAVMA Award presented to Kelly McCormick by Dr. Gretchen Grissett

American Association of Feline Practitioners Award presented to Amanda Rigney-Alder by Dr. Ashley Coll

American College of Veterinary Radiology Award presented to Anna Tremblay by Dr. Erin Brinkman

American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists Award presented to Olivia Mann by Dr. Caroline Betzebe

Merck Animal Health Veterinary Student Innovation Award presented to Alexis Thompson by Dr. Jack Smith

AAHA Award for Proficiency in Primary Care presented to Anna Walker by Dr. Diana Eubanks

Proficiency in Theriogenology Award presented to Matty May by Dr. Kevin Walters

Tonya Graham Memorial Award presented to LaDarrius Batee’ by Dr. Robert Meyer.

Zoetis Teaching Award Nominees: Drs. Sherill Fleming, Robert Linford, Cate Mochal, & Talisha Moore



Zoetis Teaching Award presented to Dr. Talisha Moore by Dr. Kent Hoblet



The Poco and Clio Gentle Doctor Award presented to Avery Boone by the class of 2019



REHAB PATIENT **JACK MOORE** PASSES AWAY AFTER ROLLING HIS WAY THROUGH OUR HALLS AND INTO OUR HEARTS

When Caren Madden and her stepdaughter drove to Natchez, MS, to pick out a black lab puppy for her husband Bill's Father's Day gift in 2007, they never imagined the strong and active eight-week-old they brought home would one day roll into the hearts of everyone at MSU CVM.

According to Madden, Jack remained big, strong, and active as he grew. One of his favorite activities was to play ball. "It didn't matter how late we got home from work, we had to go outside and kick his soccer ball to him for a little while," she said.

However, everything changed on December 31, 2010. After a long day at work, Bill took Jack outside to play ball. Shortly after they came back inside, Jack could no longer stand up. They rushed him to the Animal Emergency and Referral Center (AERC) in Flowood, where the AERC staff immediately began evaluating Jack and determined he had most likely suffered a fibrocartilagenous embolism (FCE), which is essentially a stroke to the spinal cord, that left him with only partial use of his legs.

"We had never even heard of FCE, but it didn't sound good," Madden said. "The next day – New Year's Day – we picked Jack up

“Jack got me through one of my toughest first clinical rotations. He will always hold a special place in my heart. Seeing his joy and happiness daily pushed me to never give up.”

– AVERY BOONE, MSU CVM CLASS OF 2019

Jack had such a large personality & love for life...Every Friday when I picked him up, he always had extra energy as he trotted down the hall to see me and give me lots of kisses. And every Monday when we turned into the CVM parking lot, he would start happily barking as if to say, 'Hey everybody, I'm back!' Those little things always gave me a warm feeling and will always make me smile.

– CAREN MADDEN, JACK'S OWNER



from the AERC and drove him to the MSU CVM in Starkville. It was almost 8 p.m. on a holiday, but the emergency team was there; they took Jack back and got to work.”

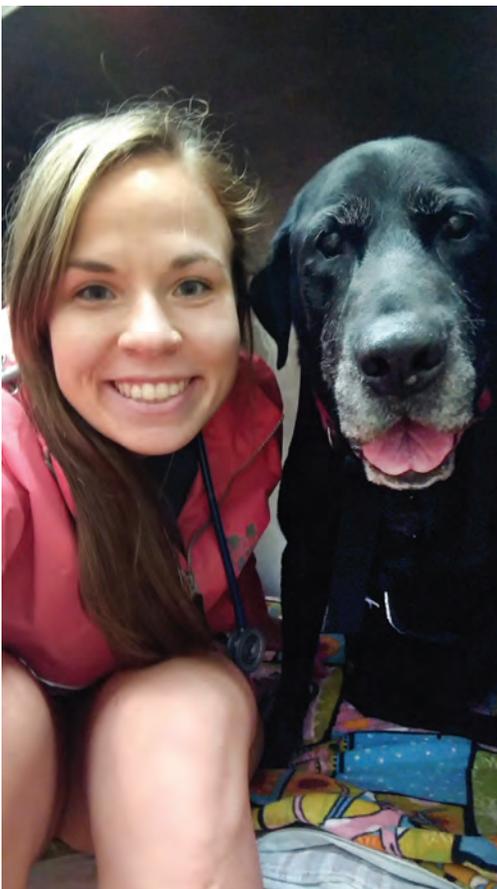
Unfortunately, a battery of tests showed Jack's condition wasn't reversible, but that didn't stop the CVM team or Jack's family from doing everything they could to ensure he had every opportunity to improve and have the best possible quality of life. He was soon fitted for a wheelchair and began physical rehabilitation sessions with MSU CVM certified canine rehabilitation practitioner Ruby Lynn Carter.

Over the next eight years, Jack became part of CVM family, rolling in every Monday and staying through Friday, other than during holidays. During the week, he received numerous types of therapy, including electrical stimulation, underwater treadmill and pool sessions, cold laser, and, of course, a ton of love and attention.

“We really missed Jack when he was at the Vet School but knowing he was in good hands and with people who loved him as much as we did was such a comfort. While I missed him, I never worried about him, his safety or his happiness; I truly believe he was happiest there,” Madden said. “He enjoyed coming home to see his dad and me, but he definitely had much more fun at ‘school!’”

“Ruby Lynn became his ‘other mom’ and his ‘second family’ became ours as well,” Madden continued. “He was truly cared for there, not just as a patient, but as a beloved family pet.”

Jack passed away on March 14, after rolling his way through our halls and into our hearts. “We all learned something from this big ol’, sweet black dog,” Carter said. “Through the years there were many life-lessons and memories made.”





MSU CVM GRADUATES 91 IN DVM CLASS OF 2019



Ninety-one new doctors of veterinary medicine earned their diplomas from the MSU CVM at the College's 2019 commencement ceremonies held at 2 p.m. in The Humphrey Coliseum on May 1. Following the invocation offered by class member Avery Boone, MSU Women's Basketball Coach Vic Schaeffer delivered the commencement address, and MSU CVM Assistant Professor of Clinical Sciences Dr. Alyssa Sullivant provided class member introductions. Hooding was conducted by MSU President Dr. Mark Keenum and MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet. MSU Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Judith Bonner and MSU Interim Vice President Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine Dr. Reuben Moore presented diplomas, and MSU Professor of Pathobiology and Population Medicine Dr. Jim Brett and MSU Associate Clinical Professor and Animal Health Center Director Dr. Joey Burt pinned graduates with MSU Alumni pins. Afterwards, Class of 2019 President Wil Moorhead addressed the class, and MSU CVM Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Smith administered the Veterinarian's Oath, prior to Dr. Mark Keenum officially conferring the degrees. A reception for the graduates, their family members and friends was held immediately following the ceremonies in the Mize Pavilion.



Congrats to all the graduates and best of luck in all your future endeavors!





MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

COLLEGE OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE



Members of the MSU CVM DVM class of 2023 were presented an MSU cowbell compliments of Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association along with their official lab coats, which were donated by MSU CVM supporter Rona Johnson-Belser, at the College's annual coating ceremony held on June 21 at the conclusion of freshman orientation.

DVM CLASS OF 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

96	22	3.6	DEGREES ATTAINED	BS: 91	MS: 3	PhD: 1
STUDENTS	AVERAGE AGE	AVERAGE GPA				
15	21	10%				
EARLY ENTRY STUDENTS	STATES & PUERTO RICO REPRESENTED	MINORITY REPRESENTATION				

VETERINARY STUDENT OATH

As a student of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University, I solemnly pledge:

To consecrate my life to the service of both animals and humanity;

To give my teachers, staff, and classmates the respect that is their due;

To conduct myself at all times with conscience and dignity;

To always provide comfort and compassion to teaching and client animals left in my care;

To maintain the honor and noble traditions of the veterinary medical profession;

To avoid considerations of religion, nationality, race, politics, or social standing to influence my relationships with teachers, staff, classmates, or clients;

To never use my veterinary knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity.

I make these promises sincerely, freely, and upon my honor.



AERC'S GOOD WORK LEADS REBEL TO JUMP ON BULLDOG BANDWAGON



Early morning December 16, 2018, University of Mississippi graduate David McDowell brought his five-year-old, self-described “Calhoun County mutt,” Polo, to the Animal Emergency & Referral Center (AERC) in Flowood, which is an affiliated unit of the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine, for complications with his digestive system. Polo’s obsession with finding and swallowing socks whole had finally caught up with him; he had a sock lodged in his intestines and was in need of immediate surgical intervention.

“When Polo and I walked into the clinic so scared so early that morning, one of my first consolations was seeing a framed note from another pet owner—who just so happened to be syndicated cartoonist Marshall Ramsey—saying, ‘Thank you for helping Banjo.’ I’ve never met Banjo or Mr. Ramsey, yet somehow, the words brought comfort as if coming from a friend,” McDowell said. “I thought about these words and the drawing that accompanied them many times over the course of the next several hours, as I anxiously awaited the AERC staff’s always timely and much-appreciated updates.”

Polo pulled through, but ultimately about 18 inches of intestine was removed along with numerous painstaking repairs to damaged areas, before all was sutured back together during the intricate surgery. While Polo got the care he needed to survive and begin his recovery, McDowell saw first-hand just how dedicated the AERC veterinary team was with his beloved pet.

“It was how the doctors and staff treated both of us following surgery that really defined ‘quality care’ to me,” he said. “I never had to wonder how Polo was doing; there were updates about everything from his eating and potty habits to walks outside and

favorite toys. It was so obvious that they gave him plenty of love and attention while I wasn’t around.”

“And, when I was around, the staff made Polo readily accessible to me and was always willing to answer my questions. It was obvious that they were beyond busy,” McDowell continued. “But never once was I made to feel like I was a burden or an inconvenience.”

McDowell said this was so important to him because about five years ago, during a time that he was struggling with his own health issues, Polo gave him a reason to recover. “Five years ago, when I found myself at the depths of depression, Polo became my reason to be. He taught me to love unconditionally and to believe in better, brighter days. He truly ‘saved’ me when I brought him home from the animal shelter,” he said.

According to AERC Hospital Administrator Dr. Darrell Phillips, the bond McDowell has with Polo is understandable to all who love animals, and making patients and owners as at ease as possible during stressful situations is just part of the job. “Caring for Polo—and for David—was a privilege,” he said.

McDowell said the care the AERC team provided Polo was much appreciated and will never be forgotten. “Polo saved me, and the AERC saved him. I couldn’t be more grateful,” McDowell said, noting that a couple things had changed as a result of this experience.

“To be honest, I don’t even wear socks these days if I don’t have to! And I’m not sure if I’ll ever bring myself to love the sound of a cowbell, but you won’t find me howling about the rivalry—at least for a long time. Each of our amazing public universities serve their purpose in different ways, but I know my dog’s life was saved because of the amazing work that is done training veterinarians and providing veterinary medicine at Mississippi State.”

2019 VET CAMPS SEE RECORD ATTENDANCE



MSU CVM Vet Camp has been well attended since its inaugural session in the summer of 2011; however, due to its increased popularity, camp age categories were expanded and sessions were added to accommodate 2019's record registration. This year's campers—aged 10 to 17—came from as far away as the west coast and represented 13 different states! While visiting the CVM for a one-day camp or a week-long session, campers had the opportunity to experience a variety of hands-on veterinary activities, including canine and equine physical exams, parasitology, and critical care procedures. While all campers received one-on-one instruction in key areas, one camper, 10-year-old Zachary Hoblet from North Carolina (pictured middle center), had a special visitor: MSU CVM Dean Kent Hoblet (aka Grandpa) during his aquaculture lab experience.



A TRIBUTE TO LIL' BILL: THE TINY BULL THAT STOLE HEARTS AROUND THE WORLD

On November 1, 2018, the world's smallest bull arrived at the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine's Animal Health Center fighting for his life. The 7.9 pound Simmental calf had been born about six weeks premature and with a host of medical problems. Thanks to a huge team effort led by Dr. Gretchen Grissett, with the help of other CVM bovine experts and CVM students and staff, in the following hours and subsequent days, Lil' Bill, as he came to be known, was stabilized and began what became an amazing, one-of-a-kind journey for both he and his caregivers over the course of the next seven months, until he ultimately succumbed to complications from his prematurity on Monday, May 27.

"As with most preemies, Lil' Bill faced significant developmental issues, and in the end, his underdeveloped gastrointestinal system and immature lungs contributed significantly to his death," Dr. Grissett said. "However, through all the ups and downs he experienced, his will to survive motivated and amazed us. We did everything in our power to not only save him but give him a good quality of life, and the fact that he lived seven months is a testament to everyone that was involved with his care; I'm so proud of our team."

According to MSU CVM Marketing and Events Coordinator Claire Wilson, who manages the College's social media presence, during his short time with us, Lil' Bill touched scores of lives. His initial social media post reached more than three million people, and he was featured on FOX News, The Sun, and several other national media



outlets. The announcement of his passing was seen by 50,000-plus people within the first hour of being posted and has since received hundreds of thousands of additional views, comments, and shares. However, the lives he touched most were, undoubtedly, those who cared for him day-in and day-out while he was with us. The comments below are a sample of the sentiments expressed about this tiny bull who taught us so much. Lil' Bill challenged and inspired us, and he will definitely be missed!



"Seeing Lil' Bill run, buck, and kick up his heels while playing in the grass felt like such an accomplishment considering all he was up against. He had a little rubber ball he loved and would push around with his nose, acting more like a dog than a cow. I remember

"I was Little Bill's first student when he presented to the AHC. I remember weighing him for the first time and our subsequent daily trips to small animal to use their scale. I also remember sitting with him through parts of the first few nights and days along



when he was first given his own little hutch with a pasture. The other calves there were three times his size, but half his age! He was fascinated by them. After his first day there, at his evening feeding time, he looked up at me and made his first little moo! For me, Lil' Bill is a reminder that we can all overcome great odds with perseverance and graciously accepting help from others. It was my privilege to be one of many who took care of him. He is a patient I will never forget." -ELISSA EYRICH, CLASS OF 2020

with my rotation mates. He needed so much care in those first few days, and I remember thinking he would never make it, but he surprised all of us. He was such a lovable little bull, and nothing was cuter than when he would bounce around and nudge my legs for milk while I was preparing his bottle. He was a happy little guy, and that is how I will remember the time I spent caring for him. I will remember the lessons he taught me about neonatal care and use them to help my future patients after graduation." -REBECCA LEACH, CLASS OF 2020

MATCH DAY RESULTS 2019

MSU CVM graduates received the results of the 2019 American Association of Veterinary Clinician's Veterinary Internship and Residency Matching Program in March. Students were matched with programs based on their mutual field of interest, and the MSU CVM class of 2019 has been paired with a variety of successful, competitive programs.

2019 CVM GRADUATES MATCHED FOR INTERNSHIPS

Dr. Kayla Alexander, **lab animal medicine residency program**, Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, GA

Dr. Caroline Andrews, **small animal rotating internship**, University of Tennessee

Dr. Matthew Gilene, **small animal rotating internship**, Auburn University

Dr. Elizabeth Gregory, **small animal medicine and surgery rotating internship**, The Animal Medical Center, New York, NY

Dr. Julie Holdridge, **laboratory animal medicine residency**, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Mallory Horridge, **small animal rotating internship**, University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Kyle Johnson, **large animal rotating internship**, University of Tennessee

Dr. Elizabeth Moyer, **equine rotating internship**, North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Eryn Reznicek, **small animal medicine and surgery internship**, Angell Animal Medical Center, Boston, MA

Dr. Laken Russell, **exotic/wildlife clinical internship**, Wasatch Exotic Pet Care, Cottonwood Heights, UT

Dr. Roman Torres, **small animal rotating internship**, VCA Arboretum View Animal Hospital, Downers Grove, IL

Dr. Ashley Varley, **lab animal medicine training program**, Penn State University College of Medicine Hershey Laboratory

Dr. Anna Walker, **small animal medicine and surgery rotating internship**, Veterinary Specialty Center of Seattle

CVM ALUMNI MATCHED FOR INTERNSHIPS AND RESIDENCIES

Dr. Colleen Embersics (DVM 2018), **residency in neurology/neurosurgery**, University of California

Dr. Bethany Fackler (DVM 2012), **residency in anesthesia**, University of Florida Veterinary Hospitals

Dr. Seth Kettleman (DVM 2018), **residency in small animal surgery**, MSU CVM

Dr. Jennifer Merkle (DVM 2017), **residency in radiation oncology**, Louisiana State University

Dr. Taylor Poppell (DVM 2018), **internship in small animal surgery**, Memphis Veterinary Specialists, LLC

Dr. Pearce Sloan (DVM 2018), **residency in equine surgery**, Kansas State University

Dr. Rebecca Stokes (DVM 2018), **sports medicine surgical internship**, Veterinary Orthopedic Sports Medicine Group, Annapolis Junction, MD

CVM INTERNS MATCHED FOR SPECIALTY INTERNSHIPS AND RESIDENCIES

Dr. Danielle Daw, **neurology/neurosurgery residency**, University of Georgia

Dr. Javier Anendaño, **surgical internship**, VCA Hollywood Animal Hospital, Hollywood, FL

Dr. Leah Hixon, **surgical internship**, Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists, Houston, TX

Dr. Christy Buckley, **diagnostic imaging internship**, MSU CVM

Dr. Kristina Pascutti, **internal medicine residency**, University of Florida

Dr. Tien Tien, **oncology residency**, Washington State University

Dr. Katelyn Waters, **theriogenology resident**, Auburn University

MSU CVM 2019

SCHOLARSHIPS & RECIPIENTS

Dr. Sam Adams Memorial Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Kara Cobun

Addie Foundation Annual Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine

Recipients:

Kayla Alexander	Kaylin McNulty	Avery Smith
LaDarius Battee	Hannah McCurdy	Liz Moyer
Veronica Kiely	Caroline Andrews	Nicole Rowbothan
Alexandra Brown	Michelle Riehm	Katie Larson
Rheanna Foley	William Alexander	Kate Card
Christopher Campbell	Anne Elise Hertl	Madison Jarrell
Chelsie Abston	Kaitlyn Hennessey	Kellen Choate
Juliana Santiago	Rachel Wilson	Skyler Hensarling
Whitney Maloney	Hannah Urig	Erin Close
Megan Violand	Harlie Barkley	Ashley Stephens
Aumbriel Schwirian	Casey Durfey	Teresa Chapman
Leslie Reed-Jones	Kaitlyn Junkin	Tobi Ku
Gunnar Dunnam	Marguerite Yelverton	Shawn Kurtz
Mary Lawrence	Taylor Sheley	Audrey Anne Estess
Kimberly Klunk	Amy Wallace	Savannah Matthews
Tyler McMurray	Meagan Johnson	Kayla Lewis
Victoria Fields	Hannah Carter	Heather Daw
Rebekah Roberts	Lauren Glenn	Mary Kerby
Amelia Anderson	Leah Burns	Mimi Pelanne
Jennifer Barnett	Carter Arnold	Sophia Polnow

Drs. Mark and Carol Akin Equine Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Nicole Blankenship

Dr. Carol Akin Feline Medicine Scholarship

Recipient: Mekayla Mekara

Hugh M. & Kathryn C. Arant, Sr. Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine

Recipient: Andrew Cox

Arthur, Sammy, and Lulabelle Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Audrey Pugh

Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association Annual Scholarship

Recipients: Whitney Maloney, Brandon Dailey, and Kody Griffin

Auxiliary to the Arkansas VMA Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Lensey Watson

Charles E. & Viola G. Bardsley Annual Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine

Recipient: Elizabeth Gregory

Paul Bass Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Alicia Pownall

Rona & Dan Belser Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Sara Amport

Briarwood Animal Hospital/Campbell G. Dale Memorial Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Deanna Thead

William Tyler Brady Endowed Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Rheanna Foley

James D. & Kay B. Bryan Endowed Scholarship

Recipients: Hannah Simmons and MaryAnna McClure

Buddy the Elf Scholarship

Recipient: Acacia Cooper

Dr. Robert Cooper Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Robert Stenger

C. Edward Couvillion, DVM, PhD, Endowed Graduate Scholarship

Recipient: Dr. Sherry Blackmon

Dr. Leon and Mrs. Sherrill Dale Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Lindsey Schmeiser

Dr. P. Mikell & Mary Cheek Hall Davis Beef Cattle Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Rachel Wilson

Dr. P. Mikell & Mary Cheek Hall Davis Beef Cattle-Early Entry Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Emily Vowell

Dr. P. Mikell & Mary Cheek Hall Davis Feline Medicine Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Maria Schwartz

Dr. P. Mikell & Mary Cheek Hall Davis Veterinary Technology Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Rebecca Smith

Isabel M. Devine Endowed Scholarship

Recipients: Meisha Mychajlonka and Rachel McKinnery

Emergency and Critical Care Proficiency Scholarship

Recipients: Abigail Willey and Brian McCoy

Dr. Elizabeth B. Ezelle and Mr. Robert Ezelle Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Nancy Davis

Morgan Freeman Endowment for Veterinary Medicine

Recipient: Teresa Chapman

Drs. Karen G. and Jeff D. Grady Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Kelly McCormick

Greenville Animal Clinic and Hospital/Dr. Thomas E. Royal Memorial Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Taylor Sheley

Dr. Tip Hailey Scholarship

Recipient: Andrew Cox

Greenville Mississippi Kennel Club Annual Scholarship

Recipient: LaDarrius Battee'

Dr. A. Wayne Groce Alumni Society Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Katelynn Nelson

Haynes-Carpenter Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Danielle Overton

Mac, Stephen, and Dava Imes Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Reid Pearlman

Clarice C. Jackson Memorial Scholarship

Recipients: Rebecca Flinchbaugh and Kelly McCormick

H. Kelly Jones SCAV Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Jordan Ziegler

Dr. Margaret R. Kern Memorial Scholarship

Recipient: Whitney Maloney

George B. Kerr Memorial Scholarship

Recipients: Samantha Sanders and Megan Wood

The "Dempsey" & "Ruby" Lazar Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Ashley Stephens

Lehman Food Animal Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Nicole Irizarry-Larriuz

Dr. Betsy Lipscomb Scholarship

Recipient: Gabrielle Ruble

Mary Ann Long Endowed Scholarship

Recipients: Michelle Riehm and Lauren Bonee

Dr. Michael J. Lee Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Kasey Rito

Karen J. & John G. McCord Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Katherine Larson

Hortense & Bill McClain Endowed Scholarship

Recipients: Natalie Daniel and Morgan Currin

James Miller & First Class 1981 Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Alexander Shealy

Dr. Craig & Jennifer Mohaghegh Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Sydney Hayter

Mississippi Farm Bureau Young Farmer Scholarship/David Waide Scholarship

Recipients: Jessica Cowley and Thad Skinner

Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association Year 1 Scholarship

Recipient: Kayla Lewis

Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association Year 2 Scholarship

Recipient: Casey Durfey

Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association Year 3 Scholarship

Recipient: Kaitlyn Hennessey

Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association Dr. Harvey F. McCrory Memorial Scholarship

Recipients: Skylar Henserling and Andrea Seitz

Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association Veterinary Technician Scholarship

Recipients: Bailee Pipkin and Brooke Quick

Billy C. Mullican Endowed Scholarship

Recipients: Jordan Ziegler and Alexandra Frankovich

Nestle' Purina Award for Excellence in Companion Animal Nutrition

Recipient: Ethan Sutherland

Recycled Pets Are Best

Recipients: Alicia Pownall and Andrea Seitz

Robert and Kathy Olsen Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Robert Stenger

PetSmart Charities Scholarship Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4

Recipients: Meagen Johnson, Hannah Finney, Kim Simpson, Avery Smith

Poco & Clio Gentle Doctor Award

Recipient: Avery Boone

Dr. James F. Perkins Annual Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine

Recipient: Blanton Coleman

Thomas A. Plein Endowed Scholarship

Recipients: Mimi Pelanne and Elizabeth Czapor

Thomas C. Randolph, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Recipients: Kellen Choate and Kody Griffin

Jean & Walter W. Rotchild, Jr. Endowed Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine

Recipients: Kirstie Harris and Lindsey Elswick

Kathleen and Cornelius Albert Ryan Endowed Fund

Recipient: Dr. Darcie Sidelinger

Linda "Big Lou" Schuerer Memorial Annual Scholarship

Recipient: William Alexander

Greta Somerville Endowed Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine

Recipient: Bethany Foust

Simmons and Associates Educational Scholarship

Recipient: Rachel Wilson

South Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Veronica Kiely

Dr. Clyde E. Taylor Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Carter Arnold

Tupelo Small Animal Hospital Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Leslie Reed-Jones

Vicksburg Kennel Club of Mississippi, Inc. Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Shawn Kurtz

West Virginia Veterinary Medical Association Annual Scholarship

Recipients: Erin Close and Gabrielle Ruble

Dr. Alexander Lane "Bam" Williams Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Monica Peebles

Robert O. Williams Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Recipient: Dallas Riley

Travel Fund Awards: To date in 2019, \$27,300 has been awarded to fund student international travel.

Paul Eggert International Education Travel Fund

Recipient: Elizabeth Czapor

Dr. Paul Farmer Memorial and Nutramax Laboratories Student Travel Support Fund

Recipient: Leah Burns

International Veterinary Humanitarian Endowed Fund

Recipient: Elizabeth Mitchell

Pegasus Partners Fund

Recipients: Leah Burns, Elizabeth Czapor, Chelsea Geyer, Peter McGinn, Virginia Huston, Casey Durfey, Lindsey Elswick, Noah Gregory, Haley Reichenbach

Rural Practice Externship Travel Grant

Recipient: Emerald Ford

Cynthia Lee and Carl Turner Annual Scholarship

Recipient: Dallas Riley

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fall 2019



Ready for a little Hail State Gridiron action?

We have exciting news in that we've revamped our traditional tailgate plan for a new-and-improved one. Be sure to read MSU CVM Director of Development Jimmy Kight's column on the next page for details.

Special thanks to Vicki Burnett of Burnett Art, Cowbells & Calligraphy in Starkville for sharing this beautiful depiction of MSU tailgating.

September 13-14

MSU CVM Fall Alumni Weekend

Join us for free continuing education courses, a mix & mingle event, tailgating, and the MSU vs Kansas State football game! Visit cvm.msstate.edu/outreach/alumni-friends for details and to register to attend.

October TBD

MSU CVM All College Day

Join us as we honor exemplary alums, faculty and staff during our annual fall awards and recognition day.

November 7-8

MSU CVM Dean's Council Fall Meeting

November 14-16

MSU Alumni Fellows Recognition Weekend

Contact Claire Wilson at cwilson@cvm.msstate.edu for more info.

GRANTS & CONTRACTS

AWARDED TO CVM FACULTY

EXTERNAL GRANTS

Brittany Moore-Henderson (PI). Purdue University. This is How We Role: Inspiring Future Researchers Through Veterinary Medicine. \$5,000

Xiufeng (Henry) Wan (PI). National Institutes of Health. Risk Assessment of Influenza A Virus – Year 2 funding. \$218,250

Amelia Woolums (PI), Elmer Heath King (CoPI), Alicia Kathleen Olivier (CoPI). Georgia Institute of Technology. Intravaginal delivery of mRNA, mechanism and challenge study. \$24,446

Cyprianna Swiderski (PI). Boehringer Ingelheim. Quantifying immediate and prolonged bronchodilatory effects of nebulized glycopyrrolate. \$15,000

Christine Calder (PI). Fear Free Pets. Use of Trazodone and Gabapentin in Combination to Reduce Fear, Anxiety, and Stress during Veterinary visits in Client Owned Dogs. \$2,500

INTERNAL GRANTS

Attila Karsi (PI). CVM ORGS MAFES. Construction and Characterization of virulent aeromonas hydrophila mutants. \$10,000

LiFang Yan (PI). CVM ORGS MAFES. Comparison of Oxford Nanopore Sequencing with Conventional PCR Sequencing in Avian Infectious Bronchitis Virus and Avian Reovirus. \$10,000

Carla Huston (PI). Mississippi Office of Homeland Security. Homeland Security Grant Program: Veterinary Medical Training Course. \$20,000

Janice Chambers (PI). Defender Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Drug Development Studies of Novel Oximes. \$9,994

Lora Petrie-Hanson (PI). CVM ORGS. Characterization of Ick expressing cytotoxic cells in rag 1-/- mutant zebrafish. \$10,000

Andrea Varela-Stokes (PI). Institute for Systems Biology (NIH). Proteogenomic Resource for the Development of Novel Markers for Lyme Disease. \$31,512



CVM OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT NEWS

2019 CVM TAILGATE PLANS

MSU football season is right around the corner, and the gameday atmosphere will, as always, be an exciting experience! For the last several years, the CVM has hosted a tailgate in the amphitheater area for alumni, students, donors, friends and corporate partners. It has proven a wonderful place to congregate and visit about the College— past, present, and future. In fact, we have had such significant interest and attendance, that we need to expand. This year we will partner with the MSU Alumni Association and other departments on campus to host a central tailgate at the Hunter Henry Center, which serves as the home of both the alumni association and MSU Foundation. The tailgate will be hosted inside with the comforts of air conditioning and heat as well as convenient access to restrooms. It will be a relaxed, comfortable environment, and we hope that you will make

plans to join us for food, drinks and fellowship! The College is designated a set number of tickets per game, and we will make them available on a first come, first-served basis. Please email Melissa Montgomery at mmontgomery@cvm.msstate.edu or call at 662-325-5170 to reserve your spot today. As always, please let us know if we can ever do anything for you here at MSU and in the College of Veterinary Medicine. We look forward to seeing you this fall! Go, Dawgs!

Jimmy Kight
Director of Development

CVM NOTES & NEWS

ALUMNI NEWS

Blair Snively (DVM 2016) and husband Bryan welcomed their first child, son Wakem Ryker, August 10, 2018. Dr. Snively and family recently moved back to Starkville, and she has opened a mobile mixed-animal practice, Twelve Oaks Veterinary Services.

Tamara Loeffler Cohen (DVM 2016) married Raphael Cohen in March.

Lindsey Smith (DVM 2016) opened a private practice, Smith Animal Clinic, in Red Bay, AL in 2018.

Mark Lee (DVM 2016) was recently promoted to managing veterinarian at Southpoint Pet Hospital in Belmont, NC. He and wife Amanda are expecting their second child in November.

Locke Karriker (DVM 1999, MS 2000) was elected to a four-year term on the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (PACCARB), a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), earlier this year. The Council provides advice, information, and recommendations to the U.S. Secretary of Health for the benefit of the president.

NOTE TO ALUMNI:

Please send us your news! We want to hear about and share new jobs and titles, marriages, births, and awards and recognition. Please direct to the attention of CVM Outreach Director Mel Thurlow at mel.thurlow@msstate.edu. You can also keep up with your fellow MSU CVM graduates on Facebook at facebook.com/alumnimsucvm.

Alan Rutter (DVM class of 2003) passed away in November 2018.

Rebekah Edens Brady (DVM class of 2012) passed away in June.

Bob Hancock (DVM class of 2001) passed away in June.

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Dr. John Thomason, associate professor of small animal internal medicine in the department of clinical sciences, and wife Emilia welcomed their second child, Virginia Grace, on January 7.

Dr. Cathleen Mochal-King, associate clinical professor and equine service chief, was recently named the College's first Terri Nusz Endowed Equine Professor. In addition, Dr. Mochal-King was also recently honored as the North American Veterinary Conference VMX 2019 Equine Speaker of the Year.

Dr. Graham Rosser, assistant research professor in the department of basic sciences, was named the 2019 recipient of the Ashton Cuckler New Investigator Award presented by the American Society of Pathologists.



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VETERINARY MEDICINE



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