

SPRING & SUMMER 2023

PEGASUS PRESS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY • COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

ANIMAL EMERGENCY &
REFERRAL CENTER

COLLEGE'S ANIMAL
EMERGENCY &
REFERRAL CENTER
RENOVATED AND
EXPANDED


MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY.
COLLEGE OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE



EARNING RESPECT BY EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

DR. KENT HOBLET

Shortly after I came to MSU, the Mississippi Legislature's Speaker of the House commented to me that "most people do not realize our College of Veterinary Medicine does many things for the people of Mississippi in addition to teaching veterinary students." He was referring to programs such as the animal disease diagnostic laboratory, research into problems faced by Mississippi farmers and veterinarians, and the outreach of our on-campus teaching and referral hospital. What this legislator described is the embodiment of the land grant mission. I believe that statement still describes our MSU College of Veterinary Medicine 17 years later.

Yet, even with their other obligations, our faculty have no higher responsibility than teaching students, and they do a great job of it! In May, as the class of 2025 entered the clinic, the final stage of curricular review and change that began in 2018, (i.e., the Enhanced Clinical Practicums) was implemented. ECP requires that every student complete two, four-week clinical rotations of mentored learning in selected private practices (currently 62 practices in 12 states) with one of these rotations being either in a large-animal or mixed-animal practice. The key word in the

new program is "enhanced." In the new curriculum, students still complete all regular- and some additional-required clinical rotations. The ECPs are designed to essentially add finishing touches to a curriculum designed to even better meet the needs of the animal-owning public.

Veterinary practice today is almost unrecognizable when compared to what was considered state of the art in 1971 when I entered private practice! Our own CVM faculty continue to conduct research aimed at advancing the health of food-producing and aquatic animals, horses, and pets. Without faculty, part of whose mission is research—and who are hired because of their intellectual curiosity to address health issues they may first encounter when managing cases in teaching hospitals and other academic clinical services—it is likely that many of these advances would not have occurred.

Our overall CVM research program is reflective of the power of the land grant university to better humankind worldwide. One such example is our aquatic animal health program. The College's aquatic research and diagnostic program was started in the 1980s to support the Mississippi catfish industry. Farm-raised fish remains an economically important agricultural industry in Mississippi.

Furthermore, fish are a fundamental source of animal protein in much of the developing world. Since 2012, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the USAID Feed the Future Program, as well as several federal and state granting agencies, have recognized the expertise of our aquatic faculty numerous times and with numerous grants. Currently, members of the aquatic health faculty in CVM have more than \$30M in active grants. Engaging in international and other federal projects enables the CVM to maintain the critical mass of scientists necessary to also meet the needs of our Mississippi fish farmers.

We recently held a ribbon cutting at our expansion of the Animal Emergency and Referral Center in Flowood. The AERC began when CVM was invited by Jackson-area practitioners to enter into a partnership agreement. All fourth-year DVM and senior veterinary technology students are required to complete a rotation at AERC. Since the beginning of the program, in addition to meeting emergency care and specialty needs of Jackson-area pet owners, more than 1,000 DVM students have received an excellent clinical-learning experience that is inherent in a large metropolitan environment.

The land-grant university system began with the passage of the Morrill Act in 1862. This system created a remarkable education system that includes research and extension, tying the university to the people that continues to transform the world while directly impacting lives. Our CVM faculty, staff, and students continue to demonstrate a special relationship with the people of Mississippi, the southeastern region, the US, and internationally. For that, I am very thankful—and proud!

Dr. Kent Hoblet

Dean & Professor | CVM Office of the Dean | (662) 325-1131



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Pegasus Press is published twice a year by the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine.
A digital version of this publication is available online at vetmed.msstate.edu/alumni-friends.

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COVER PHOTOS

FRONT: *The ribbon was cut for CVM's newly renovated and expanded Animal Emergency & Referral Center in Flowood, Mississippi, August 17.*
(left to right) CVM Assistant Dean for Clinical Services Dr. Joey Burt, Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine Vice President Dr. Keith Coble,
CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet, MSU President Dr. Mark Keenum, and Associate Dean Dr. Ron McLaughlin led the much-anticipated ceremony.

BACK: *MSU CVM Mascot Bully XXII, Dak, receives VIP treatment at the college's Animal Health Center. His attending veterinarian, associate clinical professor*
Dr. Christine Bryan, has been taking care of "the bullies" since she was a student working on her DVM degree!

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DR. NICK FRANK NAMED MSU CVM DEAN



Dr. Nicholas Frank, DVM, Ph.D., DACVIM, has been named MSU's new dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine; he assumed the post on September 1. A graduate of Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine and a large animal internal medicine specialist, Dr. Frank comes to MSU CVM after serving as a department chair and then associate dean for academic affairs for 12 years at Tufts University's Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in North Grafton, Massachusetts.

Watch for a feature about Dr. Frank and his vision for the College in the next issue of *Pegasus Press*!

DEAN'S COUNCIL GATHERS FOR SPRING SESSION

The CVM Dean's Council gathered in Starkville for their semi-annual meeting on May 17 and 18. Thursday evening, council members were invited to a reception at Properties at 4300, where they heard from class of 2025 DVM students Reid Alley and Anna Katherine Mitchell regarding their experiences at the College and career goals.

Friday's meeting began with a continental breakfast and an update on the College from MSU CVM Dean Kent Hoblet. Before lunch, council members heard from CVM Director of Outreach Mel Thurlow and Marketing and Events Coordinator Claire Wilson, who presented a recap of and update on the College's videography project, which is aimed at enhancing student recruitment, development of social media advertising campaigns, and other outreach efforts. Jimmy Kight, director of development, then brought the council up to speed on the College's development efforts and opportunities, before MSU CVM Alumnus of the Year Dr. Victoria Hall addressed the group. Afterwards, Dr. Brittany Moore-Henderson, director of admissions, provided a report on the incoming class. The morning concluded with a presentation from CVM professor and Global Center for Aquatic Health and Food Security (GCAHFS) Director Dr. Mark Lawrence, who discussed accomplishments within the center, including the university's recent designation as an FAO Reference Center for Antimicrobial Resistance and Aquaculture Biosecurity, which is to be managed by GCAHFS.

After lunch, three additional DVM students addressed the council, offering insight into their reasons for choosing MSU CVM and experiences thus far in the DVM program. They included class of 2026 members Patrick Farias, Matthew Tennin, and Alex Jones. Afterwards, CVM Associate Clinical Professor Dr. Kimberly Woodruff of the pathobiology and population medicine department shared details about the population medicine residency program and student clinical rotation, and Dr. Barbara Kaplan, an associate professor in the CVM Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, discussed her research and work with the Vet Med Research Scholars program available to second-year veterinary students from across the country. Dr. Justin Stilwell, an anatomic pathologist and assistant clinical professor, was the final presenter and provided the council with an overview of the development of an aquatic animal health certificate program.

At the meeting's conclusion, Dean Hoblet thanked Council members for their time and service and asked them to watch for correspondence regarding the arrival of the College's new dean, Dr. Nicholas Frank, and his plans for future Dean's Council meetings.





RIBBON CUT for Newly Renovated & Expanded AERC

On August 17 at 1 p.m., the ribbon was officially cut for the newly renovated and expanded Animal Emergency & Referral Center in Flowood, Mississippi, further strengthening the College's commitment to its students, patients, and clients.

The AERC now offers 4,929 square feet of renovated space along with a 14,156-square-foot addition to the previous facility, enabling all services rendered by the clinic to be located under one roof. The new facilities provide additional patient examination and treatment areas, expanded surgery suites, and in-house physical rehabilitation services, as well as improved reception area and more parking for clients.

The project has also allowed for the expansion of surgical care with a full-time veterinary surgeon now located at AERC. Dr. Seth Kettleman, who earned his DVM from MSU and then completed a small animal rotating internship at the University of Missouri before returning to MSU CVM where he completed a small animal surgery residency, began providing surgical consultations, procedures, and follow-up care for referred patients earlier this spring.

The remaining portion of the expansion project—the second floor of the new addition which is slated to be completed this fall—will provide housing for DVM students during their fourth-year clinical rotation at the clinic and meeting space for various outreach programs and events.

The AERC was established in 2007 as a result of a group of Jackson-area veterinarians reaching out to the college. A subsequent partnership between the college and nine practitioners led to the construction of the original 5,200-square-foot facility at the current location in 2010. The AERC has since become an integral part of teaching students and serving referring veterinarians and pet owners in central Mississippi and beyond.

MSU President Mark E. Keenum said this new and improved Animal Emergency & Referral Center is “a wonderful asset to the veterinarians and pet owners of Central Mississippi.”

“It strengthens the College of Veterinary Medicine and Mississippi State University's commitment to educating and preparing the next generation of veterinary professionals our state needs,” Keenum said. “This facility, the remarkable work that takes place here, and the special people who get this work done are excellent examples of how Mississippi State University is taking care of what matters.”

The AERC serves as an extension of the primary care veterinarian, with faculty, students, and staff on location and at the College's main campus in Starkville working as a team to provide the most comprehensive and advanced care possible. The clinic currently handles a sizeable portion of the CVM's caseload, providing its veterinary and veterinary medical technology students hands-on, experiential learning in a



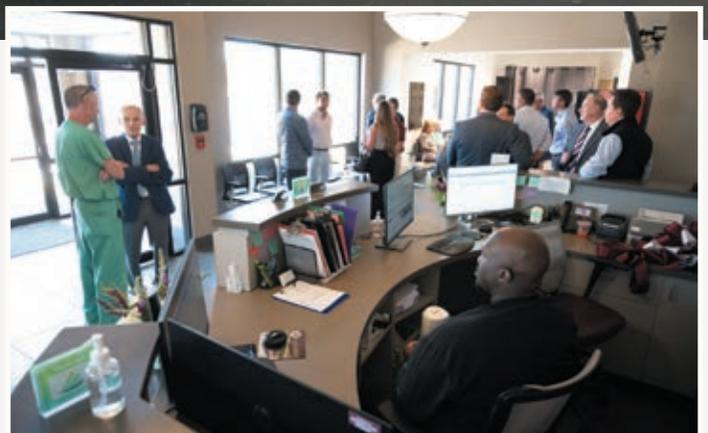
busy, urban, small-animal clinic, representative of what they might encounter following graduation. Area practitioners and their clients benefit from access to 24/7 emergency care as well as access to services provided by board-certified CVM veterinary specialists in surgery, ophthalmology, and dermatology who would otherwise only be available on the college's main campus in Starkville.

CVM Assistant Clinical Professor and AERC Chief of Staff Dr. Clay Ivey said the renovations and expanded spaces are already making a significant impact on patient care, client experience, and student learning.

"I think we have always provided outstanding care to our patients, and we've done our best to comfortably accommodate our clients, but this project is allowing us to do these things even better," Dr. Ivey said. "The added space enables us to be so much more efficient, and it has improved the learning environment for our students. Clients are impressed with the beautiful new facilities and are really enjoying them and the amenities."

With completion of the project, the AERC's physical rehabilitation services—which were previously provided at a location a few blocks away—are now onsite. Therapy is provided by Dr. Wendy Byrd, a veterinarian and certified animal rehabilitation therapist, and her staff with treatment regimens professionally designed to meet the specific needs of each patient. The team's goal is to improve mobility, manage pain, increase strength, and ultimately improve quality of life.

"Canine rehab can help promote rapid recovery from neurological or orthopedic disorders and surgery which helps avoid complications associated with prolonged rest. It can also help prevent obesity and improve physical and cardiovascular fitness," Dr. Byrd said. "Many of the treatments we provide are simply adapted techniques and modalities used by physical therapists for human patients. And most of our patients really enjoy them."



This facility, the remarkable work that takes place here, and the special people who get this work done are excellent examples of how Mississippi State University is taking care of what matters.

MARK E. KEENUM,
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT



According to Dr. Joey Burt, assistant dean for clinical services, Machado Patano Design Group from the Mississippi Gulf Coast served as the architectural firm for the project, which began in May 2021 with ArCon Group handling construction and project management. And while the new facilities turned out even better than expected, it wasn't without a great deal of hard work and cooperation from numerous entities.

"Bids for this project went out in the fall of 2020; the project was awarded to ArCon in early 2021, and initial construction began in May; however, progress was soon impacted by supply chain delays resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Structural steel components were delayed almost six months, putting construction on hold," Dr. Burt said. "This was disappointing and challenging but led to everyone involved working more closely together to navigate the process and see the project through to completion as quickly as possible. I honestly think we have better facilities because of it."

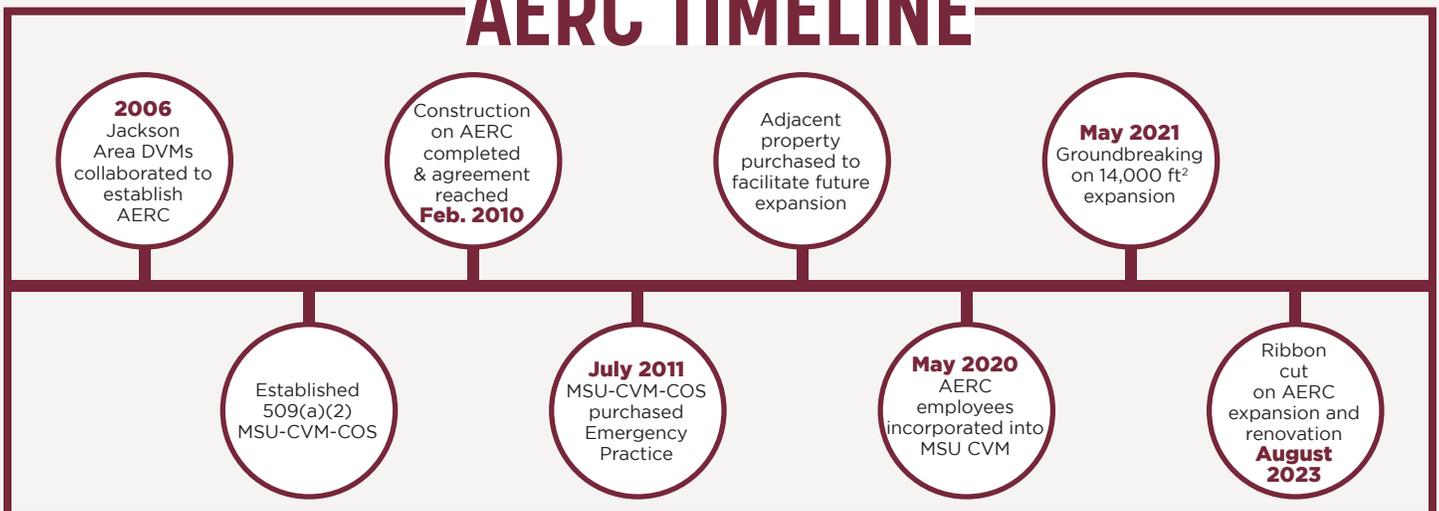
MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet said the CVM is deeply indebted to the group of veterinarians in the Jackson area,

who were in large part led by Dr. Jim Anderson and longtime CVM faculty members including Dr. Lee Tyner, who had the vision and came together to initiate establishment of the AERC and without whom the AERC's current success would not be possible.

"These veterinarians understood the need for accessible emergency and referral-level care for their patients and clients as well as the value of our students receiving hands-on experience in a small-animal clinic located in a metropolitan area," Dr. Hoblet said. "Without their vision and commitment to making this happen, the AERC would not exist, so we will be forever grateful to them."

"Today we are celebrating completion of a project that will have a profound and lasting impact. It means everything we do here will be done better: Better patient care. Better service. Better teaching of our students," Dr. Hoblet continued. "These improved AERC facilities strengthen our commitment to all we serve."

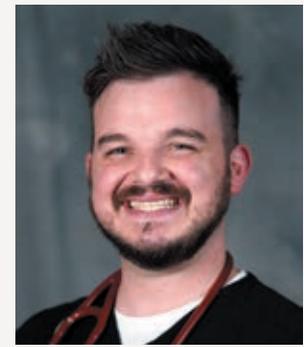
AERC TIMELINE



MEET THE AERC TEAM



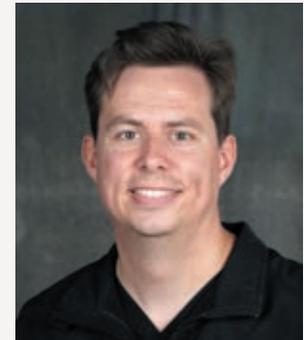
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Emergency Service
Associate Clinical Professor
Hospital Director



CLAY IVEY, DVM
Emergency Service
Assistant Clinical Professor
Medical Chief of Staff



MIKE GOWAN, DVM
Emergency Service
Assistant Clinical Professor
Hospital Administrator



SETH KETTLEMAN, DVM, MS, DACVS
Surgery Service
Assistant Clinical Professor



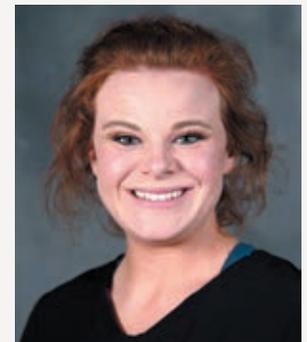
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Robert Christian Thames

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Lisa Hill Micah Whitehead

OFFICE MANAGER: Tanya Reed

In addition to the full-time clinicians listed above, MSU CVM Ophthalmologist Caroline Betbeze, DVM, MS, DACVO, and Dermatologist Juli Gunter, DVM, MS, DACVD, also see patients at the AERC. For additional information or appointment availability, call (601) 939-8999. Referral by one's primary veterinarian is required for all non-emergent services.



AERC PROVIDES SPECIALTY CARE to Referred Patients in Greater Jackson-Metro Area

Whether your pet is suffering an emergency medical situation, needs surgery, requires specialty services such as ophthalmology or dermatology, or could use some help with mobility thanks to old age, the veterinarians and staff at MSU CVM's Animal Emergency & Referral Center (AERC) in Flowood, Mississippi, stand ready to help.

EMERGENCY



When Minnie Stroud, a three-year-old Boston terrier, was attacked by a roaming neighborhood dog on February 22, her owners rushed to the AERC to receive expert emergency care for their beloved dog.

Minnie had sustained wounds to her thorax including broken ribs, subcutaneous emphysema, and pulmonary contusions and was admitted to the hospital for a week-long stay. During her stay, it became apparent that her chest wall was malformed due to the trauma on her right side. At first, Minnie didn't require any extra oxygen to keep her going; however, she developed pleural effusion during her stay and needed multiple procedures to remove the fluid that continued to accumulate in her chest—and she became oxygen dependent during this time.

While there were moments during Minnie's hospital stay in which the AERC team was unsure if she would pull through, with ongoing care, her breathing began gradually improving, and her pleural effusion began dissipating. On March 3, Minnie was able to go home with her family. At her recheck on March 10, Minnie's owners were incredibly pleased with her recovery, and her doctors were thrilled to see that the wound on her chest had improved, and she was having no difficulty breathing!

SURGERY



When 12-year-old black lab Moe Malouf developed a mass on his lip in February, it became difficult for the overtly friendly dog to greet and readily receive pets from every person he met.

Moe was referred to the AERC small-animal surgery service by All Creatures Animal Care Center in Madison, Mississippi, in April for a labial mass located on his right upper lip. Moe had received a course of antibiotics at first notice of the mass; however, it kept growing and became ulcerated with hemorrhagic discharge over the next few months.

Thankfully, board-certified surgeon Dr. Seth Kettleman was at the AERC and able to get the sweet lab fixed up. After biopsy, it

was determined that the mass was a sebaceous epithelioma—a relatively common tumor in dogs, and even more luckily, Moe’s tumor had a low grade of malignancy. The mass had become infected, explaining the size increase and discharge, so a course of antibiotics was prescribed before surgery.

Roughly a week later, Moe returned to the AERC for his surgery. Dr. Kettleman and his team anesthetized Moe and completely excised the mass before reconstructing his upper lip margin. At his two-week recheck, the incision was completely healed, and Moe was cleared to return to normal activity—including giving lots of kisses and receiving pets from strangers!

REHAB



Sophie Parrish, a 14-year-old mixed breed dog, was brought in to see Dr. Wendy Byrd and the AERC rehab team in March 2022 when the arthritis in her elbows and hips began affecting her mobility. Upon presentation, Sophie was placed on a pain-management program and officially enrolled in formal rehabilitation with Dr. Byrd and her team.

Fast forward to today and Sophie’s mobility has improved greatly. Her family got their happy, spunky dog back from the one that had resorted to simply lounging in her favorite chair.

Sophie’s ongoing underwater treadmill regimen has allowed her to build strength and improve her joint function in a pain-free environment, while laser therapy has helped improve circulation and decrease pain in her joints. The addition of soft tissue and joint mobilization techniques has helped make her joints more comfortable, allowing her to more easily get up and move around the house.

Over the last year, Sophie’s arthritis has seen some progression, but she is still able to do all her daily routines with independence. However, without continued exercise with the rehab team, Sophie would likely no longer be able to walk and do these things. Thanks to Dr. Byrd, Sophie is enjoying the best quality of life possible with her family well into her golden years!

DERMATOLOGY



After almost four years of constant itching, Betty Oberhausen sought specialty dermatologic care for her cat, Tickles, by visiting MSU CVM’s Animal Health Center in Starkville and dermatologist Dr. Juli Gunter.

Tickles had been receiving antibiotic and steroid injections to help ease her itchiness and scabbing since her family found and adopted her when she was roughly a year old, but nothing was giving her full relief. At their first appointment in September 2021, Dr. Gunter performed several tests, including

skin cytology, deep skin scrapings, and a ringworm test to help determine what was causing Tickles’ discomfort. Dr. Gunter also prescribed Atopica and a dermatologic prescription diet to reduce the itchiness.

As Tickles’ treatment plan was established, Dr. Gunter determined that the consistent itching and discomfort was caused by allergic dermatitis and was able to move her follow-up appointments to the AERC for Oberhausen’s convenience. At their March 2022 appointment, Dr. Gunter prescribed prednisone as a daily steroid and collected bloodwork for a serum allergy test, with hopes to find allergens to put into therapeutic injections to help Tickles long-term.

Just a few weeks later in May, Tickles was officially prescribed allergen-specific immunotherapy injections every 10 days, and by August, her skin had improved dramatically. Fast forward to present, and Tickles is now on a lower prednisone dose thanks to the therapeutic injections and is loving life—finally being able to play with her five cat siblings without having to stop and scratch!

OPHTHALMOLOGY



Boz, a six-year-old male Boston terrier adopted by Dr. Suzanne Marrs and her sister LuAnn, was experiencing some redness, pain, and mucoid discharge in his right eye when he first became a member of the Marrs family.

Their veterinarian, Dr. Susan Thrash, diagnosed Boz with dry eye disease and began medical therapy; however, after several months, Boz’s eye was still giving him a lot of trouble, so Dr. Thrash referred him to the MSU CVM ophthalmology service. During their monthly clinic at the AERC, Dr. Caroline Betbeze and her team evaluated Boz and made some changes to his medical therapy to try and improve his clinical signs with medications but were uncertain how successful the new regimen would be, because they determined that Boz was likely born with congenital alacrima (or the lack of tear ducts) in his right eye.

After three months on the new medications and little to no improvement in Boz’s eye, Dr. Betbeze met with the Marrs family to discuss performing a parotid duct transposition surgery which moves a salivary duct from another area in the body to the eye in order for it to deliver saliva onto the eye as a replacement for tears. The surgery is reserved for non-responsive cases, and since Boz still had good vision, he was a candidate in order to preserve his vision and remain comfortable.

In January 2023, Boz underwent the procedure. He came through surgery fine, healed well, and has responded very well. At his recheck appointment, Dr. Betbeze saw that Boz’s vision was still intact, his eye was comfortable, and he was producing a small amount of saliva throughout the day to keep the eye moist—a perfect outcome!

When dry eye disease is severe, it’s very painful and can lead to vision loss due to corneal scar tissue and pigmentation. Thanks to Dr. Betbeze and her team, that is not the case for Boz Marrs.

MEET the FACULTY



DR. THOMAS MCBRIDE

Clinical Instructor, Department of Clinical Sciences

Dr. Thomas McBride joined the MSU CVM faculty in March as a clinical instructor in community veterinary services. Dr. McBride received his Bachelor of Science degree in animal science from California Polytechnic University in 2015. He then completed his veterinary degree from the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh in 2019. He completed a rotating internship at VCA Petcare East in Santa Rosa, California, in 2020 and worked as an emergency and general practitioner veterinarian in California for two years before moving to Mississippi, where he practiced at Animal Clinic of Columbus before joining the MSU CVM team.



DR. ISABELLA HANNAY

Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine

Dr. Isabella Hannay joined the MSU CVM faculty in May as an assistant clinical professor at the Poultry Research and Diagnostic Laboratory in Pearl. Dr. Hannay received her veterinary degree in 2020 from the University of Nottingham. She worked as a veterinarian at Aviagen UK Limited for a year before moving stateside for her graduate studies. In December 2022, Dr. Hannay completed her Master of Avian Medicine degree at the University of Georgia.



DR. DALLAS RILEY

Clinical Instructor, Department of Clinical Sciences

Dr. Dallas Riley joined the MSU CVM faculty in June as a clinical instructor in shelter medicine. Dr. Riley received dual Bachelor of Science degrees in microbiology and biological sciences from Mississippi State University in 2017. She completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree and began a population and preventive medicine residency at MSU CVM in 2021. She will complete a graduate certificate in shelter medicine through the University of Florida's distance learning program in December.



DR. KRYSTLE CRISCIONE

Clinical Instructor, Department of Clinical Sciences

Dr. Krystle Criscione joined the MSU CVM faculty in August as a clinical instructor in emergency and critical care. Dr. Criscione received her Bachelor of Arts in natural sciences and mathematics from Thomas Edison State University and her Bachelor of Science in biology from Richard Stockton University in 2013. She worked as a dental hygienist in New Jersey from 2007 until beginning her veterinary studies at MSU CVM. Dr. Criscione completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at MSU CVM in 2022 and worked as a general and emergency care veterinarian in New Jersey immediately following graduation. She holds a Fear Free certification from Elite Professional and a Cat Friendly Veterinary Certificate from the American Academy of Feline Practitioners.

MSU CVM WELL-REPRESENTED AT AVMA CONFERENCE

The College was well-represented at the American Veterinary Medical Association Convention in Denver, Colorado, this year!

As is tradition, the convention kicked off with various colleges' alumni receptions. MSU CVM's reception at Bubba Gump Shrimp Company saw nearly 50 alumni, faculty, and staff (and their families) gather for an evening of fun and fellowship.

As the convention continued, AVMA guests had the opportunity to attend continuing-education lectures from eight faculty members, including Dr. Carla Huston, Dr. Cooper Brookshire, Dr. Kimberly Woodruff, Dr. Becky Telle, Dr. Michael Jaffe, Dr. Patty Lathan, Dr. Michael Pesato, and Dr. Michaela Beasley—as well as many alumni!

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for the next convention in Austin, Texas, in June 2024!



ALUMNI DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS ON CVM WEBSITE

The MSU CVM website was recently expanded to include an Alumni Directory. The directory was added to help graduates connect with one another and assist current students with locating alumni practices, as well as to help promote the various careers and success of our graduates in locations throughout the country!

The directory is searchable by name, state, and graduation year, so it's easy to find exactly who you're looking for. Visit vetmed.mssstate.edu/alumni-directory today to check it out!

If you'd like to be included, please email MSU CVM Marketing & Events Coordinator Claire Wilson a request at cwilson@cvm.msstate.edu. She will send you a link to a form requesting the following:

- ☞ Name
- ☞ Year of graduation
- ☞ Clinic/company name, address, phone number, email, and web address
- ☞ Photo

All MSU CVM graduates are invited and encouraged to participate!



EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED FOR JOB WELL DONE and a Meal Well Cooked!

When Julie Burt and Carole McLaughlin disappear from the Animal Health Center in December, it's usually because they're making their list and checking it twice before loading the sleigh. Well actually, it's about a half-dozen carts at the grocery store they're loading. The two staff members not only purchase the groceries and prepare the highly anticipated meal for CVM's annual Christmas luncheon each year, but they are responsible for making the entire event happen. Burt and McLaughlin were jointly recognized this spring for their dedication to their "real" jobs as well as their tireless efforts to make the annual luncheon a success.

The two begin preparing for the event many weeks in advance and put in numerous hours to see it come to fruition. In addition to purchasing the groceries and preparing the meal—and we mean a full spread with all the fixings, including ham, turkey, dressing, macaroni and cheese, green beans, sweet potato casserole, rolls, cranberry sauce, and gravy—the two also handle all the other details. They work with the facilities and custodial crews to set up; secure decorations and decorate; help serve the buffet and recruit faculty and staff members to assist; solicit door prize donations, organize their display, and coordinate the drawing; and then help clean up afterwards.

Husbands of this dynamic duo, CVM leaders Dr. Ron McLaughlin and Dr. Joey Burt, acknowledge that after the annual shopping trip when the groceries are unloaded, it's

time to get out of the workshop (aka, the kitchen) and let the elves do their thing—which generally takes several weeknight evenings.

"A lot of folks probably don't realize that this meal is actually blended, broiled, boiled, basted, baked, chopped, sliced, stirred, steamed, and etcetera in our homes, but it is," Ron McLaughlin said with a grin. "And that's just part of the fun. Once it's all prepared and stored, it still has to be heated and transported before the event itself ever gets started. However, these two wouldn't have it any other way."

"This truly is a labor of love for Carole and Julie. As tiring and time-consuming as it is, the two really do enjoy it; they look so forward to seeing everyone come together to eat and visit," Joey Burt added. "It's a treasured tradition."

The duo does receive help with the desserts, which are provided by a few key faculty and staff and often include brownies, cheesecake, red velvet cake, cookies, Boston cream pie, and other such treats. And although they do purchase and prepare the meal and handle all the other details, the event wouldn't be possible without the generosity of MSU CVM graduate Dr. Todd Henderson and Nutramax Laboratories, which donates the funds to feed the entire College every year.

"Over two decades ago, I received a call from Dinah Jordan, the AHC pharmacist at the time, letting me know that she

and her colleagues were cooking a Christmas lunch for CVM staff and students; this did not surprise me as when I was a student, the family atmosphere was what made MSU the obvious choice over other schools,” Dr. Henderson said. “Nutramax Laboratories began funding the dinner and supplying fun gifts and door prizes at that time.”

According to Jordan, preparing the food for the luncheon began after a few years of trying to do a potluck meal for the AHC staff. “Problem was, we had so many men faculty members that we ended up with all rolls and soft drinks! So, I decided to start collecting money to just buy the groceries and cook the food myself,” Jordan explained. “Then, we decided to expand the meal to include students; that’s when I asked administration if I could seek out a sponsor for the event.”

“Because I knew Todd well from his time as a student, I knew he would want to support an event that celebrated Christmas. And he wanted everyone included, so before we knew it, this little potluck for 25 had grown to a buffet for hundreds,” she continued. “It required a lot of work, but it was so gratifying to me that everyone was always so grateful.”

Like Jordan, Dr. Henderson says he gets great joy from knowing the event allows the CVM family to gather and enjoy food and fellowship during this special time of year.

“Carole and Julie have continued to approach this luncheon with a servant’s-heart mentality just as Dinah did, and everyone at the College is a beneficiary of that. As long as the MSU CVM celebrates CHRISTmas, Nutramax is honored to help fund the food, fellowship, and fun! Anytime we can support His name, count us in,” Dr. Henderson said.

January through November—and for most of December—you’ll find the two elves doing the jobs that help pay their bills. Julie Burt is the clinical services coordinator for the AHC. She prides herself in offering outstanding customer service and is responsible for ensuring that clients and referring veterinarians are well taken care of before arriving, while at the clinic, and after discharge. Carole McLaughlin is a technician in the AHC Pharmacy. She can be found filling prescriptions, ordering medicines, and greeting and assisting all who visit the pharmacy with her warm smile and sweet spirit.

These two ladies are truly Spotlight Employees all seasons of the year. Thanks, Julie and Carole. We appreciate all you do!



Julie Burt



Carole McLaughlin



CVM GRAD MAKES DC HOME

You might say Dr. Bailey Archey specializes in elephants, donkeys, and eagles. As a staffer to US Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith of Mississippi, Dr. Archey spends a great deal of time working with legislators, lobbyists, and other government officials on Capitol Hill. She strives to use her scientific background to inform policymaking in a variety of areas.

In her current role, Dr. Archey advises Senator Hyde-Smith regarding her work on the Senate Agriculture Committee and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, in addition to covering issues including water resources, wildlife, and medical research. To do so effectively, she relies on her veterinary training and time spent in rural mixed-animal practices and regular contact with Mississippi stakeholders in agriculture, wildlife, and veterinary medicine. She also attends conferences on relevant emerging issues in the policy world, such as the fourth International Chronic Wasting Disease Symposium held this summer in Denver.

Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Archey earned her DVM from MSU CVM in 2022 after receiving her bachelor's degree in animal and dairy sciences from MSU in 2018. It was during her studies at MSU that she developed a deep appreciation for the role of animal agriculture in food security and global trade. While completing an externship with APHIS Veterinary Services in Washington, DC, Dr. Archey felt she was destined to work in and make the nation's capital her home.

Dr. Archey's involvement with various One Health organizations and initiatives throughout veterinary school helped seal the deal for making DC home. She served as vice president of education for the International Student One Health Alliance and advocated for One Health legislation to federal lawmakers with the American Veterinary Medical Association.

These experiences helped prepare her and led to key connections with those working in similar roles in the US government. In the spring of 2022, while a fourth-year CVM student, Dr. Archey completed a policy-related Directed Individual Study in Washington, DC, during which she met individuals working in industry, trade associations, federal agencies, and Congress on animal agriculture. This led to her landing a role in Senator Hyde-Smith's office in August 2022.



This loyal and tenacious veterinary-politico mix says that thus far, her career is turning out to be the one she dreamed of having.

"I couldn't work on such big-picture issues that affect people's lives anywhere else," she said with a smile. "What I do every day influences and impacts animal agriculture and public health on the federal level."

Outside of work, Dr. Archey enjoys reading, hiking, and working with her parents' Dexter cattle and adopted preemie bottle baby from vet school, Lil Jill, at their farm outside of Memphis.



Dr. Bailey Archey (MSU CVM 2022 and second from right) poses with US Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (second from left), MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet, and MSU CVM Associate Clinical Professor Dr. Natalie Manginsay. Drs. Hoblet and Manginsay attended advocacy meetings on Capitol Hill with members of the state's congressional delegation at the conclusion of the 2022-23 AAVMC Leadership Academy for which Dr. Manginsay served as a representative for the CVM.

POULTRY VETERINARIAN REPRESENTS CVM IN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Dr. Natalie Armour-Manginsay, an associate clinical professor in the Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine, served as MSU CVM's representative to the 2022-23 AAVMC Leadership Academy, attending in-person sessions in Washington, DC, last September and in March of this year, as well as virtual meetings in the months between.

The program provides leadership development for emerging leaders in academia and provides a forum for building lasting ties between faculty members at veterinary schools and departments around the world. Its objectives include, but are not limited to the following:

- Enhancing real-world leadership competencies in order to address a broad range of issues frequently encountered in modern leadership roles.
- Developing a working knowledge of theory, terminology, and practical application of leadership by exploring operational definitions of leadership, management, and followership theory.
- Providing participants with contextual, current, and accurate information for discussion of important leadership frameworks.
- Providing robust opportunities for participants to share their unique thoughts, observations, and perspectives involving leadership.
- Creating an expanded network of peers, colleagues, and experts who can provide information and discussions on new developments in knowledge and application.

Dr. Manginsay said she was pleased to represent the College in this year's leadership academy and believes the opportunities and experiences it provided helped to develop and strengthen her leadership skills.



"The opportunity to network with colleagues at different levels of leadership in other veterinary colleges was a terrific learning experience," Dr. Manginsay said. "The leadership training we received was outstanding and comprehensive. It truly broadened my horizons and helped me develop a better understanding of leadership, particularly in the context of academic veterinary medicine."

"In addition, the advocacy meetings at the conclusion of the program are a vital part of helping ensure that the work of MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine is highlighted on Capitol Hill, and that support is garnered for the veterinary medicine priorities identified by the AAVMC, so I was honored to take part," she continued.

Dr. Manginsay is located at the Mississippi Poultry Research and Diagnostic laboratory in Pearl. She holds a Bachelor of Veterinary Science (DVM equivalent) from the University of Pretoria in South Africa and a master's in avian medicine and a PhD in veterinary and biomedical sciences from the University of Georgia. She is a Diplomate of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians.

...the advocacy meetings at the conclusion of the program are a vital part of helping ensure that the work of MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine is highlighted on Capitol Hill...

DR. NATALIE ARMOUR-MANGINSAY, DEPARTMENT OF PATHOBIOLOGY AND POPULATION MEDICINE ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR

TWELVE FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS NAMED BARDSLEY SCHOLARS

This spring, MSU CVM awarded prestigious Bardsley Scholarships to 12 members of the incoming, 116-member Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) class of 2027.

Receiving Bardsley Scholarships are Christopher Buie, Caroline Howell, Perry Beth Liles, and Tina Nguyen of Mississippi; Sierra Light of Arkansas; Ava Powell of Idaho; Matthew Tabor of North Carolina; Caitlin Hershey and Jacob Jubach of Ohio; Olivia Cresswell of Pennsylvania; Tiarra Green of South Carolina; and Alaina Eavenson of West Virginia.



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 will 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 approximately one dozen 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 as a result of contract arrangements through the 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.

STUDENTS ADDRESS STATE LEGISLATORS



Each spring several MSU CVM DVM students are given the opportunity to attend the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association's Annual Legislative Luncheon in Jackson where they address state legislators. This year's event was held on March 22 at the Mississippi Cattleman's Association, and students participating included Emily Vowell and Lauren Zell of the class of 2023, Kenny Price of the class of 2025, and Matthew King and Sylmia Shepherd of the class of 2026. Each student shared their background, experiences at the College, and future plans in the field of veterinary medicine. They were accompanied by CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Smith. The annual luncheon is a wonderful opportunity for the CVM to spotlight outstanding students and inform legislators about the important work being done at the College.

COLLEGE PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL SERVICE ANIMAL EYE EXAM EVENT



The MSU CVM Ophthalmology Services team once again participated in the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists/Epicur National Service Animal Eye Exam Event which is hosted annually in May. Drs. Caroline Betbeze and Becky Telle and their staff members performed complimentary eye exams on more than a dozen service dogs in the area—ranging from seeing eye and mobility dogs to cadaver and search and rescue animals.

Each year, approximately 8,000 qualified service and working animals across the nation receive free screening eye exams through this event.

MSU CVM Ophthalmologist Dr. Caroline Betbeze has been participating in the event since 2008 and has conducted hundreds of these exams.

“We are honored to be able to provide eye exams for these important animals,” said Dr. Betbeze. “They give so much to their owners and handlers as well as to the community, and their eyesight is important for them to perform this vital work.”

RELATIONSHIP WITH MS AQUARIUM BENEFICIAL TO CVM STUDENTS



It's no secret that MSU CVM has one of the largest teams of aquatic animal health specialists and is one of only two universities in the nation to offer marine animal medicine training to all veterinary students. Through our work with entities on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, which

includes the Mississippi Aquarium, our students, interns, and residents attain a variety of hands-on experiences working with sea turtles, bottlenose dolphins, California sea lions and other marine life.

MS Aquarium team members Dr. Alexa Delaune, vice president of veterinary services and research, and Dr. Sean Perry, associate veterinarian, serve as MSU CVM adjunct faculty

members. Both regularly participate in the College's Marine Monday! seminar series and teach in the Marine Life elective course. In addition, many CVM students choose to participate in the MS Aquarium Veterinary Externship program. The aquarium also regularly hosts students from CVM's World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association (WAVMA) student organization. The College is thankful for this relationship, as well as others on the coast, and proud of the opportunities they provide our students.

The aquarium recently hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the official unveiling of a new indoor exhibit, Changing Tides. Several members of the CVM faculty were in attendance, including Dr. Kent Hoblet, MSU CVM Dean, Dr. Beth Peterman, assistant clinical professor, Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine and project manager for the MSU Global Center for Aquatic Health and Food Security Gulf Coast Aquatic Health Program, and Dr. Natalie Stilwell, assistant clinical professor, Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine.

Changing Tides was brought about by requests from the public and includes animals such as a two-toed sloth, pacific octopus, and red-footed tortoise. It features 23 habitats and three biomes, as well as a children's play area and small café.



New Feline Health Endowment and Endowed Professorship “PURR-FECT” ADDITIONS TO CVM

Those with a passion for animals continue to create remarkable opportunities with far-reaching and lasting impact on patients, clients, students, and faculty at MSU CVM.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Dorothy Pelan Wells and Mr. Thomas T. Wells and their estate, Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine College has yet another endowed professorship to recognize an outstanding faculty member as well as an endowment to assist clients with pets in need of lifesaving care.

THE GIFTS

The Wells estate recently established the Dot Wells Endowed Professorship in Feline Health and the Dot Wells Feline Health Endowment, both of which have already made an impact at the College.

“The Wells’ generous gifts will benefit MSU CVM in perpetuity,” Jimmy Kight, CVM senior director of development said. “Recognizing and rewarding faculty members’ contributions to the College’s success is a vital part of retaining them, and endowed professorships enable us to do just that; they also help with the recruitment of skilled faculty, which is vital to

our future. And, as one can imagine, having funds available to help offset major expenses for owners of feline patients in need of critical or lifesaving procedures who could not otherwise afford the care is a godsend to those clients and animals, as well as for the clinicians and students caring for them. We are honored and grateful Mr. and Mrs. Wells chose to support our College in this way upon their passing.”

Mrs. Wells passed away in 2019, and Mr. Wells passed away in 2020, and their wish to have a lasting impact on MSU CVM and the felines it serves has now been honored.

THE HISTORY

Dorothy “Dot” Pelan Wells, a long-time resident of Pascagoula, Mississippi, who was born in 1934 in Quincy, Massachusetts, graduated from Pascagoula High School in 1953 and attended the University of Mississippi. She returned home to work at Ingalls Shipyard in the accounting department until 1957. That year, she married her childhood sweetheart, Thomas T. Wells.

Thomas “Tommy” Wells was born in 1934 in Braxton, Mississippi, but grew up in Pascagoula and graduated Chamberlain Hunt Military Academy in Port Gibson in 1952.

This endowment allows us to train students more thoroughly, provide our clients with comprehensive education, and offer better services and care to our beloved feline patients.

DR. ALYSSA SULLIVANT, DOT WELLS ENDOWED PROFESSOR IN FELINE HEALTH

Tommy went on to attend Mississippi Southern College and then joined the US Marine Corps in 1953. After marrying, the couple moved to Camp LeJeune in North Carolina, but they eventually moved back to Pascagoula.

Dot worked at First Federal Savings and Loan as the insurance administrator from 1973 until 1997. She was active in the Pascagoula community and was an integral member of the Pascagoula High School Committee that helped save the old Pascagoula High School building, having it placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000 and the Mississippi Heritage Trust in 2005.

Tommy served his country faithfully in the Marine Corps for 20 years with tours in Korea, Vietnam, and Japan. He retired from active duty with a distinguished career as a Master Sergeant in 1973 and began his service with the Fleet Marine Corp Reserve, retiring with the rank of First Lieutenant in 1983. Mr. Wells spent his retirement years tinkering in his woodworking shop and spending time with Dot.

THE INTENT

Dot always loved cats, and before she passed away, she had welcomed many into their home, always making sure that any furry felines roaming the neighborhood had a warm place to sleep and a bowl of food readily available. It was this love of cats and commitment to their well-being that led her to establish two endowments at MSU to support feline health promotion and education and student internships and scholarships in attempt to improve feline health in as many places possible.

THE FULFILLMENT

Dr. Alyssa Sullivan, assistant clinical professor in the CVM Department of Clinical Sciences, will play an important role in making Dot's dreams come true, having been named the Dot Wells Endowed Professor in Feline Health. This position will enhance her capacity to advance feline health and well-being as well as nurture the relationships between cats, their owners, and their care providers.

Dr. Sullivan is a two-time graduate of MSU CVM, having received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2007 and Master of Science in 2016. She joined the CVM faculty in

2016 and, in addition to her clinical appointment, teaches first- and second-year DVM students as well as leads an advanced gastroenterology course for fourth-year students. Dr. Sullivan is the chair of the CVM Scholarship Committee, co-chair of the Bardsley Scholarship Committee, and a member of the CVM Intern Selection Committee.

"I am honored to be named the recipient of the Dot Wells Endowed Professorship, and I am excited to take the care of our feline patients to the next level. I am so grateful to the Wells for choosing MSU CVM to represent their wishes and for their generosity," said Dr. Sullivan. "Feline medicine has its own challenges, including the severity of feline diseases, feline nutritional requirements, and the chronicity of their conditions; the approach to their care can be all-around very different. This endowment allows us to train students more thoroughly, provide our clients with comprehensive education, and offer better services and care to our beloved feline patients."

According to Dr. Sullivan, the second endowment, the Dot Wells Feline Health Endowment, will have multiple uses, with one serving as a resource for feline owners with limited financial ability during a critical care situation.

"Critical veterinary care and emergencies are not something any of us like to think about, and not all pet owners are prepared for the associated expenses. When these situations occur and patients require advanced care and many days of hospitalization, it can become a financial burden," Dr. Sullivan said. "This endowment will help offset some costs to cat owners who are unable to cover the cost of this care. I can also see this fund helping cats that need feeding tube placements, due to their unique nutritional needs in illness, or to treat certain cancer cases with good prognoses but heavy costs."

"The Wells' generous gifts will benefit MSU CVM's faculty, residents, interns, and students who have the potential to improve the therapies and outcomes in feline patients," she continued. "They will help improve the well-being of feline patients entrusted to our care now and in the future."



DVM-PHD STUDENT BURKE NAMED 2023 FFAR VET FELLOW

MSU CVM DVM-PhD student Caitlyn Burke is one of 13 students in the US named to the 2023 Cohort of Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) Vet Fellows.

Sponsored by the FFAR and the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC), this unique fellowship creates opportunities for veterinary students around the world to conduct research advancing global food security, sustainable animal production, and environmental sustainability. Those selected for the prestigious honor gain valuable experience for their future research and public service careers while working with mentors internationally, at academic institutions, or with private-sector partners.



**FOUNDATION FOR
FOOD & AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH**



**American Association of
Veterinary Medical Colleges**

Burke is co-mentored by MSU Executive Vice Provost and Graduate School Dean Dr. Peter Ryan and CVM Hall-Davis Endowed Professor Dr. Amelia Woolums, both of whom have committed decades of their careers to bovine research. She is investigating the use of the hormone relaxin—a reproductive hormone found in humans and animals that helps “relax” muscles and ligaments in the pelvis for delivery— to help prevent dystocia, or difficult calving.

In addition to his administrative duties at MSU, Dr. Ryan is a professor in the CVM with special interest in the high incidence of difficult deliveries among first-time calving heifers. While a post-doctoral Fellow at the Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph in Canada in the late 1980s he worked for one of the pioneers of relaxin research, Dr. David Porter.

“As a post-doc with the late Dr. David Porter, I observed a study using synthetic recombinant human relaxin in dairy heifers which induced positive responses. The problem is you have to use an awful lot of relaxin, and it’s not manufactured



commercially, so it’s very expensive and not very practical,” he explained.

Dr. Ryan has since been involved with research conducted at MSU showing that at some point during their evolution, cattle, and other members of the Bovidae family, lost the relaxin gene, so they cannot produce this beneficial hormone. However, they still carry a receptor for relaxin, which means they can respond to the hormone if they are treated with it.

Woolums, who works in CVM’s Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine, has been recognized internationally for her work in several areas, including in bovine respiratory disease (BRD) and antimicrobial resistance. Recently her lab has begun research of the bovine reproductive parasite *Tritrichomonas foetus*, commonly known as “trich,” which infects bulls and leads to infertility in cows.

Dr. Woolums said the study of the respiratory and reproductive systems at the same time might seem odd, but the two systems actually have much in common.

“Dystocia increases the risk of cow and calf respiratory and digestive disorders, mastitis, metritis, retained placentae, and death, so we need to know how to prevent or reduce its occurrence,” Burke said. “If we find that relaxin can help increase maternal pelvic size, it could be used to reduce the mortality and morbidity associated with dystocia in cows calving for the first time.”

According to Woolums, calves that are born from a difficult delivery are often not as healthy. “They are more likely to not get enough of the mother’s antibodies vital in the first few weeks of life, and as a result, they’re more at risk for infections and more likely to die or not grow to be productive animals,” she explained.

Drs. Woolums and Ryan, while collaborating with Dr. Phil Santangelo at Emory University, worked with Burke to treat

Caitlyn is advancing toward a future career that will, without a doubt, make a difference. We are so proud of her work and that she was selected to receive the highly competitive, international FFAR fellowship.

DR. KENT HOBLET, MSU CVM DEAN

bovine cells with a molecule that can induce cells to make relaxin messenger RNA (mRNA). This mRNA is what cows' cells made before they lost the gene for relaxin. Burke's research showed that this treatment could indeed cause the cells from cows to produce relaxin as they once could.

"That was an exciting moment," said Burke. "I've been really fortunate to have Dr. Ryan's insight and to work under Dr. Woolums who is so highly respected in the scientific community."

The next step in this research will be to determine whether treatment of actual live cows can also lead to relaxin production.

"In a way this approach is similar to using insulin to treat people with diabetes," explained Dr. Woolums. "The insulin molecule is normally made in the body, but if people don't make it, they develop diabetes. Because scientists figured out how to make insulin 'in the lab,' people with diabetes can take insulin, and stay healthier longer."

Dr. Ryan added, "The common endpoint is to replace the loss of endogenous hormone production. One condition is addressed

with hormone therapy, in this case insulin, and in the other condition in heifers, the plan is to address the condition using relaxin mRNA therapy."

MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet noted that veterinarians trained in animal and public health are critical to addressing many global challenges within the veterinary and agricultural fields and said he continues to be impressed with CVM faculty and students.

"Our DVM-PhD program began in 2009 with the goal of training veterinary medical scientists needed to meet societal needs, and this is an example of that. With the help of our outstanding faculty researchers, Caitlyn is advancing toward a future career that will, without a doubt, make a difference," Dr. Hoblet said. "We are so proud of her work and that she was selected to receive the highly competitive, international FFAR fellowship."

Burke, who is a native of Prattsville, Arkansas, is in her third year of the College's DVM-PhD program. Her FFAR fellowship culminated with the presentation of this research at the annual AAVMC Veterinary Scholars Symposium in Puerto Rico in August.



MSU Executive Vice Provost and Graduate School Dean Dr. Peter Ryan, MSU CVM DVM-PhD student Caitlyn Burke, CVM Hall-Davis Endowed Professor Dr. Amelia Woolums

CVM SHARES INFO, FUN, AND GAMES TO SPOTLIGHT RESEARCH



Typically, when you think of veterinary medicine, you think of your beloved pet's health and well-being. However, the field of veterinary medicine encompasses much more than providing veterinary care to companion animals. As with any medical- or science-related field, research is a huge component. MSU CVM certainly has much to showcase in the realm of research—and at MSU's Annual Research Week, we did just that!

Research Week was established to celebrate and showcase research conducted by MSU faculty, staff, and students—and MSU CVM boasts a variety of scientists involved with a wide range of topics. The week-long event each April is designed to highlight innovations and research that are driving solutions to current issues and shaping the future of scientific fields through showcases, panels, research center tours, and more.

The festivities kicked off on April 11 with the Research Showcase on the University's YMCA Plaza, where MSU CVM joined other campus colleges and research centers in setting up interactive displays to convey the work being done here to improve animal health and welfare while also positively impacting the health and well-being of people in the state, country, and world.

The College was well-represented at the Showcase with the Office of Laboratory Animal Resources (OLAR), the Global Center for Aquatic Health and Food Security (GCAHFS), Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Fish (FIL), and the Population Medicine Team participating.

The OLAR table offered resources promoting Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD), which was established to convey the benefits of animal research. Their table included several giveaways and brochures highlighting specific animals and how those animals are used in research to benefit both other animals and humans. They also offered two games for visitors, with one having participants place their hands in a box to guess items and how they could be used in lab animal medicine or biomedical research and the other asking participants to match an animal to the type of enrichment activity that best benefited them.

The FIL offered a game where participants worked to correctly label a map with all the countries that currently house projects or research activities made possible by grants the Innovation Laboratory administrators. The lab gave away fish-shaped crackers and candies.

The GCAHFS showcased a 4-D dolphin anatomy model and a lightbox with x-ray presentations of dolphins and sea turtles. Visitors had the chance to simulate a blood draw on a turtle and play a game matching turtle models to the types of sea turtles they represented.

"The CVM was well represented at the MSU Research Showcase," said CVM Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies Dr. David. Smith. "It was a great opportunity for us to share info about the many research programs and opportunities available to graduate students in the College, and we had a great time while doing so!"

HUSTON NAMED TO AVMA COUNCIL ON EDUCATION



Dr. Carla Huston, a professor in the Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine, director of Enhanced Clinical Education at MSU CVM and beef extension and outreach veterinarian with the MSU Extension Service, has been selected to serve on the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education.

The AVMA Council on Education (AVMA COE) accredits DVM or equivalent educational programs, assuring that minimum standards in veterinary medical education are met by all AVMA-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine, and that students enrolled in those colleges receive an education which will prepare them for entry-level positions in the profession.

“Gaining and maintaining COE accreditation involves a great deal of work across all aspects of the college. We submit a report to the COE each year confirming our compliance with the 11 standards and also prepare for the mandatory site team visit every seven years,” MSU CVM Associate Dean for Administration Dr. Ron McLaughlin said, noting that MSU CVM’s most recent site visit was November 2021 and led to continued accreditation. “COE accreditation is critical to the success of our college and for our graduates.”

According to Dr. McLaughlin, having faculty members involved with COE is an asset to the College. “The more folks we have that have been on the other side of the accreditation process, serving on the COE or as COE site team members, the better. Dean Hoblet and Dr. Bill Epperson, PPM department head, have served on the COE, and Dr. Andrew Mackin, clinical sciences department head, and I currently serve on the COE site visit team,” he said. “That experience—visiting different veterinary colleges and seeing how they do things and how they meet the standards, or participating with the team that actually determines whether those standards have, in fact, been met—is a tremendous resource when it comes to ensuring that we remain in compliance. That Dr. Huston was selected to serve on the COE is an honor for her and great for the College.”

MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet added that Dr. Huston is well-deserving of the opportunity to serve on COE.

“Carla is an outstanding veterinarian and teacher. She is extremely sharp and a real go-getter,” he said. “Her efforts in developing our new Enhanced Clinical Practicum program have been stellar, and the many different outreach programs and services she’s involved with make her an invaluable resource to so many others in addition to those of us at the CVM. I know she will do a wonderful job in this role.”



The COE is composed of voluntary members elected by the AVMA COE Selection Committee (8), the AAVMC COE Selection Committee (8), and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (1), specifically representing the diversity of disciplines in the profession. The membership consists of at least five veterinary medical college faculty members; at least six private practitioners; one at-large member; one veterinary researcher; one public health veterinarian; and one non-private practice, non-academic veterinarian. Additionally, the COE appoints three public members. One Canadian veterinarian is appointed and funded by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. One voting member is appointed as an official representative of the AAVMC. All members are appointed for a six-year term except the official AAVMC and CVMA representatives who serve three-year terms, renewable once.

Dr. Huston was selected through the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges as a faculty member representing veterinary preventive medicine. She holds board certification from the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine and its epidemiology subspecialty. Her work with the COE will include determining whether applicant veterinary institutions meet accreditation standards and periodically reviewing, evaluating, and revising accreditation standards.

“Carla is an outstanding veterinarian and teacher... the many different outreach programs and services she’s involved with make her an invaluable resource to so many others in addition to those of us at the CVM.”

DR. KENT HOBLET, MSU CVM DEAN

KHAITSA HONORED FOR WORK WITH HERS-EA



Dr. Margaret Khaitsa, professor in the CVM Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine, was recently honored with the 2023 Excellence in Community Partner Engagement Award from the Engagement Scholarship Consortium (ESC) for her work in East Africa through Higher Education Resource Services-East Africa (HERS-EA).

The ESC awards program recognizes faculty, staff, students, and higher education institutions and their exemplary contributions to scholarship and the practice of community-engaged scholarship.

HERS-EA is an educational nonprofit organization with the goal of raising the proportion of women in leadership and management positions in higher education institutions in East Africa to at least 50 percent. Launched in 2014 in Kampala, Uganda, as an outcome of one of the 11 capacity building projects in sub-Saharan Africa funded under the Africa-US Higher Education Initiative of the US Agency for International Development (2010-2015), it is an affiliate of HERS based in Denver, Colorado.

The HERS-EA organization offers the Academy, a one-week intensive leadership training program using a leadership and management development curriculum which equips women with skills needed to advance their personal career development and successfully navigate the institutional environment where they operate. The program is focused on managing and leading change, human resource development, and institutional effectiveness. It prepares every participant

to strengthen and expand her leadership skills by working closely with HERS-EA resource persons and staff.

HERS-EA also provides a variety of presentations, workshops, research partnerships, and personal career development opportunities aimed at empowering women through personal development, institutional awareness, and networking. In 2023, in addition to the Academy, HERS-EA has offered workshops addressing academic writing and publishing, grant writing, and the role of male allies and advocates in empowering women.

“Initiatives such as these require a great deal of effort, negotiation, and thought to ensure that they are inclusive, mutually beneficial, and responsive to community needs. The testimonies from Academy alumni whose careers have been transformed by HERS-EA are heartwarming. These stories and the passion to mentor the next generation of women leaders motivates us to continue this work,” Dr. Khaitsa said. “While it is certainly an honor to be recognized for the work we’ve done, the satisfaction that comes from the partnerships, knowledge, and impacts created, and the fact that we are making meaningful changes in the empowerment of these women, is beyond explanation.”

A native of Uganda, Dr. Khaitsa co-founded HERS-EA along with Naomi Lumutenga, who currently serves as executive director. In addition to her work with this project, Dr. Khaitsa has been actively involved with a variety of other initiatives in Africa, including building human and institutional capacity in veterinary colleges in East Africa to manage transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses. She is currently working with the MSU International Institute to lead a project funded by USDA to support the African Union in harmonizing food safety standards in Africa to help facilitate international trade.

“While it is certainly an honor to be recognized for the work we’ve done, the satisfaction that comes from the partnerships, knowledge, and impacts created, and the fact that we are making meaningful changes in the empowerment of these women, is beyond explanation.”

DR. MARGARET KHAITSA, PROFESSOR AND HERS-EA CO-FOUNDER

MSU CVM AQUATIC HEALTH TEAM AGAIN MAKES WAVES IN AQUACULTURE AND FISH HEALTH



A team of MSU CVM researchers, along with their MAFES and USDA Warmwater Aquaculture Research Unit colleagues, was selected to receive a 2022 Publication Award from the American Fisheries Society. Each year, one outstanding paper is selected from each of the society's journals to receive this award.

Their paper, "Activation of *Henneguya ictaluri* Actinospores by Nonictalurid Fish Species, with Implications for Management of Proliferative Gill Disease in Catfish Aquaculture," was selected as the best paper for 2022 in the *North American Journal of Aquaculture*. The award was officially presented at the 2023 American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Drs. Matthew Griffin and Graham Rosser, alongside PhD student Ethan Woodyard and senior research associate Cynthia Ware of CVM, have been investigating mechanisms involved in the transmission of an important parasite in catfish aquaculture. *Henneguya ictaluri* causes proliferative gill disease in farm-raised catfish. Continuous exposure to the waterborne parasite induces severe gill damage, significantly impairing gill function. It is estimated the disease costs the industry millions of dollars annually due to morbidity, secondary bacterial infections, and direct losses related to mortality.

A parasitologist and assistant research professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences on CVM's main campus, Dr. Rosser, and Dr. Griffin, a research professor in the Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine stationed at the Thad Cochran National Warmwater Aquaculture Center, teamed with Woodyard, Ware, and their MAFES and USDA colleagues to determine if parasite-resistant fish species could serve as decoy hosts to the parasite.

Researchers were able to experimentally activate *H. ictaluri* infectious stages by exposing them to mucus of several non-catfish species. Working under the assumption that activation of the parasite by non-catfish decoy species would limit the number of organisms available to infect catfish, researchers stocked Channel Catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) in small aquaria along with Western Mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) at various densities. Fish were exposed to *H. ictaluri* infectious stages

and transmission rates determined using molecular methods. After 24 hours, the *H. ictaluri* infection rate was three times lower when mosquitofish were present at a rate equivalent to 25-50 percent the biomass of the catfish, indicating reduced transmission rates. These data highlight the potential to reduce PGD severity by the presence of non-catfish species in catfish aquaculture ponds.

In addition to the publication award, Dr. Matt Griffin was recognized by the American Fisheries Society Fish Health Section with for his continued contributions to fish health.



Dr. Griffin received the AFS Special Achievement/Distinguished Service Award, which is presented to an AFS Fish Health Section member who has made a significant accomplishment in the fish health field. He was honored with this award

for his leadership in initiating a virtual seminar series to enable students to continue to network in the absence of in-person meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now in its fourth year, the series has been used to leverage funds for student travel support. The series has raised \$12,000 over the last three years- all of which has been used to support student travel to AFS FHS meetings.

Dr. Griffin was also presented with the S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award, which is presented as a career achievement award to individuals who have been active in finfish and shellfish health research or diagnostics and have outstanding accomplishments in the field of fish health. It is the highest honor bestowed by the AFS FHS.

"While Dr. Griffin's research is and has always been centered around catfish diseases, his research interests have expanded to include viral, bacterial, and parasitic pathogens that affect a wide variety of fish species," said professor and director of the MSU CVM Aquatic Diagnostic Laboratory Dr. Lester Khoo. "Thus, his impact on fish health is not limited to the channel catfish industry that he serves- it also extends to the broader aquatic community. However, perhaps his greatest contribution (or at least of equal importance) to aquatic health is not his excellent research but the training of the next generation of aquatic health experts."



Chambers Celebrates HALF-CENTURY OF SERVICE



As a new graduate from the University of San Francisco in 1969, Jan Chambers traveled over 2,000 miles from her hometown of Berkeley, California, to Starkville, Mississippi, to begin a new journey. She was a newlywed, and her husband, the late Dr. Howard Chambers, had started a new position at the entomology department at Mississippi State University,

and she began her graduate work in the biology department.

After earning her PhD in animal physiology at MSU in 1973 and following a post-doctoral appointment, Dr. Chambers assumed a faculty position in the biology department, where she taught several physiology courses and initiated a research program on pesticide toxicology. In 1990, the late MSU College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) Dean Dr. Dwight Mercer recruited her to start a toxicology program at the CVM.

“Dr. Mercer is one of my four professional heroes; he had more confidence in me than I had in myself,” Dr. Chambers said. “Creating this faculty position for me at CVM really allowed my research program to flourish, enabling me to stay at MSU while growing my career.”

Dr. Chambers established the Center for Environmental Health Sciences, where experts from different MSU units collaborate to maintain and improve the quality of environmental health in Mississippi, the nation, and the world.

As the center director for 33 years, Dr. Chambers has served as the principal investigator (PI) for more than \$30 million in competitive grant funding, coming mostly from federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Department of Defense (DoD), and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with the research involved primarily focused on the effects of pesticides or similar toxicants. But her most notable work all started in 2007 on a paper napkin over lunch with her husband and one of her former graduate students who was serving in the Air Force.

“The student said, ‘What we really need to protect our military is a nerve agent antidote that can get into the brain.’ Howard pulled out his pencil and started writing on a napkin and drew

“We’re hoping this therapeutic will be available for warfighters and civilians to not just save their lives but also to save their brains. That’s the intent.”

DR. JAN CHAMBERS, WILLIAM L. GILES DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

out a chemical structure. The former student was in a position to get funding for initiating the project, and we started working on the research with a little bit of DoD funding,” explained Dr. Chambers.

Since then, she and her team have made great strides in developing a brain-penetrating antidote for chemical threat agents to reverse early biochemical toxic effects before long-term effects, like brain damage, set in.

“We’re hoping this therapeutic will be available for warfighters and civilians to not just save their lives but also to save their brains. That’s the intent,” Dr. Chambers said.

Her research, teaching, and service led to her receiving the honorary distinction of a Giles Distinguished Professor at MSU, and in 2022, she was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She is also board-certified by two toxicology-credentialing organizations, the American Board of Toxicology and the Academy of Toxicological Sciences. MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet called Dr. Chambers’ work ethic and passion for science “simply amazing!”

“After 50 years, Dr. Chambers is still very productive and remains super successful in securing funding in a highly competitive environment,” Dr. Hoblet said. “The importance of her work cannot be overstated, as it stands to greatly improve the outcomes of our troops and citizens in the event they should be exposed to chemical attacks or an accidental spill. Dr. Chambers’ efforts have been repeatedly recognized on both national and international levels. She brings great credibility to Mississippi State University and our College of Veterinary Medicine.”

While most employees would be planning their retirement after half a century of service, Dr. Chambers said she is energized by continuing to see students do well on exams, receiving a new grant, and discovering new results in the lab.

“I’ve got the facilities I need, and I work with people who are wonderful. I’ve got three long-term staff members in my group who have been with me for 15 to 20 years. They trust me; I trust them,” said Dr. Chambers. “Dr. Eddie Meek has gone from MSU student to lab manager to collaborator on grants and now is about to receive an NIH grant as principal investigator; among other things, Eddie is primarily responsible for coordinating our antidote development animal tests, and he knows a large majority of the animal and biochemical techniques and methods we use. He also oversees new student training and lab safety. I always joke that he knows more about what I am doing than I do!”

“MaryBeth Dail is well versed in molecular biology and cell culture and brings those skill sets to the program, and she develops and coordinates a number of essential methods we need for the antidote development project,” she continued. “Shane Bennett has been with my research program the longest of all my ‘lab family’ personnel and works with our animal experiments and various lab methods; he is the most organized person I know!”

During her tenure, Dr. Chambers has mentored graduate students in about 25 PhD programs and about 25 MS programs, with the majority of them successfully securing positions or additional training in the area of toxicology.



She says her motivation to continue her work stems in part from her desire to carry on her husband’s legacy. His invention that started in infancy on a paper napkin is now patented and licensed by a pharmaceutical company that will develop the antidote if the results continue to look positive.

“The group of compounds that Howard developed will hopefully help others one day if a chemical threat disaster occurs. If he hadn’t thought of that chemical platform, we would not be working on this aspect of research right now,” she said.

“All in all, I find my career very satisfying, and I enjoy coming to work most every day,” Dr. Chambers continued. “My philosophy has always been ‘On balance, it needs to be fun.’ Is it a thrill a minute? Of course not. But for 50 years, it has been way more than 50-plus percent fun!”

FORMER PATHOLOGY FACULTY MEMBER DR. ROY POOL DONATES BONE SPECIMEN COLLECTION TO COLLEGE

Thanks to a former MSU CVM faculty member who left a piece of his heart in Starkville, our students can get a closer look at the pathology of bones affected by musculoskeletal disease.

Dr. Roy Pool, a professor of pathology who worked in the College's diagnostic laboratory from 2000 to 2002 and now teaches at Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, recently made a special gift to MSU CVM: a collection of bone specimens he has used in his instructional laboratories through the years.

An experienced veterinary orthopedic pathologist, Dr. Pool said he made the donation because he feels like he, "left a part of his academic heart and soul at MSU CVM with faculty, students, and friends."

"As a veterinary student, I realized I could learn and remember more about the morphologic features of musculoskeletal diseases of animals when I physically examined a dried bone specimen and compared it with its clinical radiograph than when viewing an example in a lecture or in a textbook," Dr. Pool said. "Unlike textbooks whose editions change every five years and which students must purchase, dried bones last forever... This collection is part of my legacy to the veterinary profession that I have enjoyed for more than 50 years, and as a former faculty member at MSU where I enjoyed the students and faculty—and married one of the staff members—I wanted to offer these specimens as token of my appreciation."

The collection is displayed in a glass case for all to see in the CVM pathology area near sample receiving. Samples in the collection include osteochondritis dissecans lesions in dogs and horses, bony sequestrum in a foal, lumpy jaw in a cow, and wobbler's syndrome in two horses with representative samples of both the cervical vertebral instability type and the cervical vertebral stenosis type. Framed QR codes at the display allow viewers to access Dr. Pool's online databases: Bone Path Library and Stem Cell Library. Additionally, each sample offers a QR code that, when scanned, opens an information sheet for the viewer including the disease name, a labeled professional image of the specimen, and facts about the disease process.

"Prior to this donation, we only had one or two processed bone specimens in all of the pathology corridor," noted CVM Assistant Clinical Professor Dr. Kaylin McNulty. "Dr. Pool's excellent preservation of each specimen is what really makes this collection so useful for learning, as these special processing techniques take a lot of time. Plus, the students love the bone box and spend time every Friday before necropsy rounds utilizing this indispensable resource."

Thank you, Dr. Pool, for your continued commitment to learning at MSU CVM!



BALDWIN JOINS CVM DEVELOPMENT TEAM



Mary Beth Baldwin joined veteran fundraiser Jimmy Kight in February, when she assumed the role of assistant director of development at MSU CVM. A longtime Foundation staff member, Baldwin is a two-time MSU graduate, having earned a 2009 bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in marketing, followed

by a master's degree in kinesiology with a concentration in sport administration in 2012.

A native of Bruce, Mississippi, Baldwin began her career in the MSU Department of Athletics where she managed premium seating and hospitality for six years prior to serving as suite director. Baldwin joined the MSU Foundation as associate director of annual giving in 2018.

In her new role, Baldwin will be responsible for facilitating relationships between the College and perspective donors and aligning giving opportunities with perspective donors' interests and passions to help secure gifts for the CVM.

"We are thrilled to have Mary Beth at CVM," Kight said. "She is an outstanding fundraiser and an all-around great person. There's no doubt she's going to be a tremendous asset to the college."

Baldwin and her husband Billy have six dogs—four dachshunds and two labs—who live inside and are incredibly spoiled. The family is quite familiar with the CVM, having benefited from



services provided in the Joe Ann Ward Critical Care Unit and the emergency services team on more than one occasion. In her spare time, Baldwin enjoys reading (she read 169 books last year!) and working out (she has run 12 half marathons!) as well as volunteering with Make-A-Wish Mississippi.

"It has been a dream of mine to work in the CVM for about 10 years, and I'm so glad to have the opportunity to work alongside Jimmy Kight and Melissa Montgomery to help others learn about how to make a difference in the world of veterinary medicine," Baldwin said. "I am an animal lover, a Bulldog through and through, and I am excited to combine those two passions. I wholeheartedly believe that animal lovers are the kindest, most compassionate people you'll ever meet, and I'm thrilled to be surrounded by the best of the best every day!"

I wholeheartedly believe that animal lovers are the kindest, most compassionate people you'll ever meet, and I'm thrilled to be surrounded by the best of the best every day!

MARY BETH BALDWIN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

DVM CLASS OF 2027

By The Numbers

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED



1,393



413
STUDENTS
INTERVIEWED

ENTERING STUDENTS



116



98



17

TOTAL NUMBERS OF
ENTERING FEMALE AND
MALE STUDENTS*



37 (32%)
1ST GENERATION
STUDENTS



15 (13%)
UNDERREPRESENTED
POPULATION



13
EARLY ENTRY
STUDENTS



45
REAPPLICANTS
TO THE
PROGRAM



23 YEARS OLD
AVERAGE AGE
OF ENTERING
STUDENTS

OVERALL
GPA RANGE

3.13-4.0



OVERALL
GPA AVERAGE

3.63

PREREQUISITE
GPA RANGE

2.91-4.0



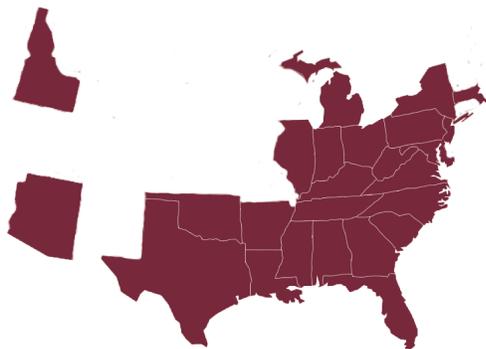
PREREQUISITE
GPA AVERAGE

3.63



12

BARDSLEY
SCHOLARS



25 STATES REPRESENTED

ALABAMA	LOUISIANA	OKLAHOMA
ARKANSAS	MASSACHUSETTS	PENNSYLVANIA
ARIZONA	MARYLAND	SOUTH CAROLINA
FLORIDA	MICHIGAN	TENNESSEE
GEORGIA	MISSISSIPPI	TEXAS
IDAHO	NORTH CAROLINA	VIRGINIA
ILLINOIS	NEW JERSEY	WEST VIRGINIA
INDIANA	NEW YORK	
KENTUCKY	OHIO	



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Dr. Kent Hoblet

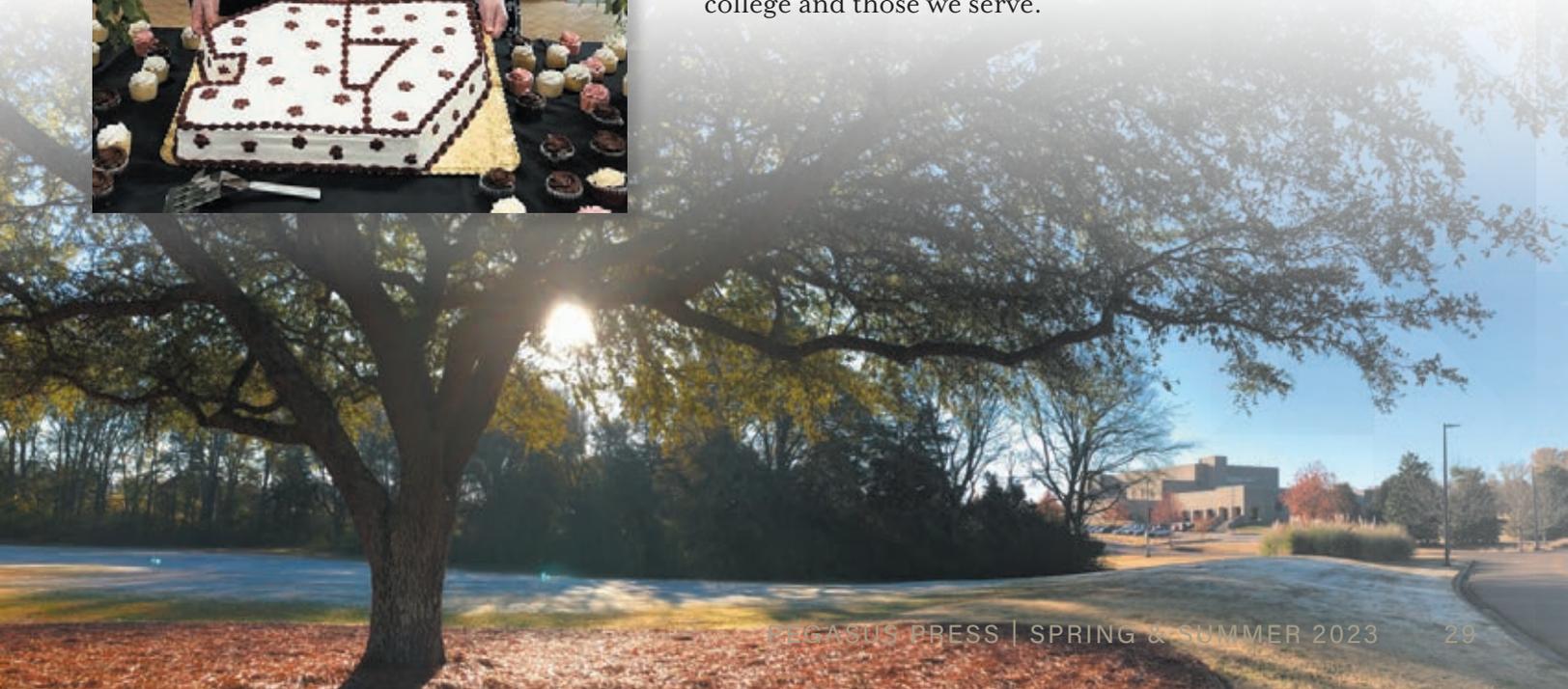


YEARS OF SERVICE

In 2006, Dr. Kent Hoblet became the fifth dean of the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine, and what has transpired under his leadership over the past 17 years is remarkable. Did the longest sitting CVM dean in the US achieve these things alone? No. He knew that he could be no better than the people with whom he chose to surround himself. Under his tenure, the College assembled a faculty and support staff that includes world-renowned scientists, boarded veterinarians, and proven younger veterinarians progressing toward professional goals, and the CVM truly fulfilled its land-grant mission of teaching, service, and research.

As is evidenced in the many milestones cited on page 32, enrollment, scholarships, educational initiatives, specialty services, research funding, facilities, and outreach programs all advanced and improved with his guidance, leading MSU CVM to be recognized for its many successes on national and international levels.

Dr. Hoblet's dedication, commitment, passion, and vision pushed our CVM toward excellence, and his humble, steady, supportive leadership style motivated and enabled us to attain those goals. His professionalism, patience, willingness to listen, flexibility, and collaborative spirit led to the establishment of many programs and partnerships of tremendous benefit to the college and those we serve.



Dr. Kent Hoblet is an honorable man of the highest integrity. He is welcoming, kind, gracious, thoughtful, compassionate, and loyal. He brings out the best in people. This is why he is such an outstanding and respected leader—and an even better friend.

Thank you, Dean Hoblet. Your MSU CVM family is forever grateful for all you have done for us and our CVM, and we wish you, Connie, and your family nothing but the best in the days ahead!

PRAISE FROM HIS PEERS

DR. ANDREW MACCABE

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges CEO

I have had the great privilege of knowing and working with Dr. Hoblet for 40 years. I first met Dr. Hoblet when I was a third-year veterinary student and he returned to Ohio State to pursue his Master's degree. Kent subsequently became the dairy Extension veterinarian for the state of Ohio, and I asked him to consult on some herd health issues. His advice was always thoughtful, professional, and right on target.

In 2003, Dr. Hoblet came to the AAVMC office in Washington, DC, to meet with federal agency leaders and discuss the veterinary workforce needs in the public sector. His work resulted in a special report that was published in the *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education* and was widely cited. Kent has often said that this experience broadened his perspective on the profession and encouraged him to pursue other leadership opportunities, including the deanship at Mississippi State.

In 2013, Dr. Hoblet was elected president of the AAVMC by his fellow deans at member institutions from around the world, recognizing his skills as a leader among leaders. Every time I have visited Mississippi State, I have noticed how Kent always puts people first. This is the epitome of servant leadership: he knows nearly everyone at the veterinary college, what they do, and what their interests are.

I have noticed over my career that the most effective leaders are not the loudest or the flashiest; they are often the quietest and most humble. Kent Hoblet is of the latter type, and I have learned much from him. Mississippi State is fortunate to have had him as dean, and I have been fortunate to know him.

LEE WEISKOPF

MSU Governmental Support Director

Dean Kent Hoblet is a good veterinarian and has been an outstanding Dean, but he is an even better person. Dean Hoblet commands respect and admiration for how he lives his life with a commitment to faith, his family, and the people in his personal and professional life. I have walked the halls of the state capitol and traveled the state with Dean Hoblet, and I have yet to find anyone who does not respect or admire him for how he carries himself and represents Mississippi State's College of Veterinary Medicine. The respect and admiration he has garnered in his 17-year tenure has transpired into unprecedented growth in student enrollment, student success, research funding, and the transformation of facilities. I will miss working with my friend, but I am thankful for our relationship and the lessons I learned from him of treating people with respect, showing compassion, and being a strong leader in both good and challenging times.

DR. RON MCLAUGHLIN

CVM Associate Dean for Administration

Dr. Hoblet has been a tremendous dean and has done so much to improve CVM over the past 17 years. His tireless dedication and positive impact on our college really can't be overstated. Under his leadership, CVM has enjoyed significant increases in revenue, faculty numbers, student enrollment, research funding, teaching hospital caseload, and foundation funding. He also increased the number of Mississippians enrolled in the veterinary program, launched successful programs in shelter medicine and veterinary medical technology, and added study abroad opportunities and a DVM-PhD program for our students. In addition, he led the formation of the AERC in Flowood, worked collaboratively to help create the most comprehensive aquatic animal health program among US colleges of veterinary medicine, and guided the college to full AVMA Council on Education accreditation over three accreditation cycles.

Dr. Hoblet's steady, soft-spoken, collaborative leadership style was instrumental in promoting positive change in our college. He is a kind, humble, and honorable man whose many contributions will have an ever-lasting impact on the college and its faculty, staff, and students.

MIKE MCCORMICK

MS Farm Bureau President

As a member of the CVM Dean's Council, I've had the privilege of working with Dr. Hoblet for many years. I can say without a doubt that he is one of the most passionate and dedicated individuals I have ever met. His commitment to this college and his tireless efforts to educate the next generation of veterinarians truly sets him apart. While I know he is looking forward to teaching, his absence as dean will be missed. I know his accomplishments in this role will continue to inspire students and guide new leadership for many years to come.

DR. BETSY LIPSCOMB

Practitioner, Port Gibson, Mississippi

Great leadership and impeccable character usually go hand-in-hand, and this is certainly the case with Dean Kent Hoblet. In his quiet, unassuming way, Dean Hoblet possesses all of the qualities that make him a great leader—vision, strategic and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, open-mindedness, creativity, flexibility, responsibility, dependability. His leadership over these last 17 years has taken our CVM to a completely new level. Our large animal clinical department is one of the top in the nation. Equine medicine, food animal medicine, and population medicine are second to none and fulfill the university's mission as a land-grant institution.

Our dean has always readily called in faculty, administration, and non-faculty to brainstorm situations together. He has surrounded himself with dedicated administrators and faculty, hiring nationally recognized clinicians and professors who share his vision of excellence.

The welfare of his students, the welfare of the college, being accessible and accountable to the veterinary practitioners



around the state, and graduating competent veterinarians have been his guiding lights throughout his tenure.

I am so honored and so proud that Dean Hoblet allowed me to be a small part of his time at the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. And I am so thankful to call him my friend.

DR. MIKELL DAVIS

CVM Dean's Council Chair

Kent Hoblet has many leadership qualities. He is a gracious man of integrity who respects people and their ideas. He is an effective facilitator who encourages excellence as a member of the CVM team. Dr. Hoblet is a visionary who effectively delegates responsibility. But perhaps his most significant quality is his ability to listen, be patient, and to analyze information before making decisions. Our college will continue to reap the rewards of Dr. Hoblet's leadership for many years to come.

DR. KEITH COBLE

Vice President, MSU Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Hoblet leaves the vet school with a stronger reputation than how he found it. His leadership has positioned the college as a global leader in veterinary medicine. He has listened to the needs of this state and worked to expand access to care and implement programs for animal health. I am grateful for his leadership and friendship.

HOBLET-TENURE MILESTONES

- DVM class size increased from 72 students in 2006 to 115 in 2023; annual applications for admission went from 385 to over 1,400
- Number of Mississippians admitted increased by 42%
- Faculty positions increased from 83 to 121
- Successfully achieved mandatory reaffirmation of AVMA full accreditation in 2007, 2014, and 2021
- Implemented successful four-year BS degree program in veterinary medical technology
- Implemented successful dual DVM-PhD program
- Scholarships increased from \$86,600 in 2006 to more than \$1.2M in 2023
- Partnered with Jackson-area practitioners to create Animal Emergency & Referral Center in 2008 and saw AERC renovated and expanded 14K-plus sq. ft. this year
- Initiated large animal ambulatory service to private farms, ranches and stables
- CVM hospital and clinic caseloads increased from fewer than 9,000 in 2007 to now more than 23,000 annually
- Oversaw creation of a student-originated VetCamp in 2010 that now has attendance of almost 200
- Created new core clinical rotation—Enhanced Clinical Practicum—to expand hands-on, experiential learning
- Total research expenditures increased from \$7.7M in 2007 to \$20M in 2022
- College gained recognition for research efforts related to bovine respiratory disease, antimicrobial resistance, and important diseases of companion animals.
- Continually secured competitive NIH Center for Biomedical Research Excellence grants for studies focused on infectious diseases and environmental toxicology and NIH funding for mentored student research
- Number of unique peer-reviewed publications (three-year average) more than tripled since 2007
- CVM Aquatics Program grown to be largest with most comprehensive faculty among US colleges of veterinary medicine; college recognized in 2012 as a UN FAO Center for Knowledge for Aquatic Animal Health
- In 2013, established Global Center for Aquatic Health and Food Security (GCAHFS), aimed at reducing world hunger and improving aquatic animal health
- In 2018, became the only college of veterinary medicine to host a USAID Feed the Future Laboratory, securing a \$15M grant to establish the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Fish which is charged with helping to alleviate poverty and improving nutrition in vulnerable populations through the provision of fish
- Received a NFWF-MDEQ grant to fund the Marine Mammal and Turtle Conservation, Recovery, and Monitoring Program on Mississippi Gulf Coast
- University recognized in 2022 as an FAO Reference Center—one of only four in the world—for Antimicrobial Resistance to be managed by GCAHFS
- Established formal study abroad programs with UN FAO and One Health in Uganda
- Established poultry residency program which is one of only eight in US approved by ACPV
- Established population medicine residency program which is one of only three in US approved by ACVPM
- CVM Pathobiology and Population Medicine program grown to offer the largest number of board-certified epidemiologists and preventive medicine specialists among US colleges of veterinary medicine
- CVM Shelter Medicine program recognized as one of top in nation and model among US veterinary colleges; program saw its 100Kth surgery completed in 2022 with each CVM graduate now averaging 55 surgeries
- CVM's four-laboratory diagnostic lab system expanded services to meet needs of agricultural industries and public health, including challenges presented by HPAI, CWD, and COVID-19; lab system also achieved AAVLD accreditation every five years and Category 1 (highest level) of NAHLN certification
- Continual reallocation and renovation of space within Wise Center to best utilize facilities for teaching, research, and client/patient services, including clinical skills lab, counseling center, expanded ER/ICU, second-year surgery suite, pharmacy and more



OUR BUDDY THE HERO



We are excited to announce that our sweet Buddy has been selected for induction into the Animal Heroes Hall of Fame! The AHHOF was established to celebrate animals both living and posthumously who have overcome adversity and/or have become heroes to people or other animals within their communities. Buddy certainly meets that criteria! His amazing story of surviving such cruelty and maintaining his sweet spirit has been an inspiration to so many and is a credit to all who helped him along the way.

Dr. Betsy Swanson, an associate professor of small animal surgery at MSU CVM who was Buddy's lead veterinarian during his lengthy hospital stay and who ultimately adopted him into her home, says that Buddy is healthy and happy.

"Buddy is doing great! He loves meeting and greeting people," she said. "We have to be sure that his face is covered in sunscreen—especially with the hot, sunny days we've had this summer, but once that's been done, he's good to go! He's especially fond of going for long walks, attending the Starkville Community Market on Saturday mornings, and playing fetch—although after a few throws, he's more interested in tossing the ball for himself!"

Buddy's favorite toy (at the moment) is a Tuffy's shark, which he carries most everywhere he goes, according to Dr. Swanson—even on those long walks and trips to the market. She also reports that he is all about eating and really likes fruit.

"Buddy loves to eat. He gobbles up any and all kinds of dog food and treats and enjoys apples, peaches, plums, and melon, but bananas are his absolute favorite," she said, adding that he also loves to be rubbed, scratched, and petted. "He will sit for a long time for scratches behind his ears, under his chin, and on his back, and he loves giving slobbery kisses!"

MSU CVM DVM CLASS OF 2027 COATING CEREMONY



Members of the MSU CVM DVM class of 2027 participated in the College's annual Coating Ceremony for the incoming class on June 16 at the conclusion of their first-year orientation. Students were presented an MSU cowbell compliments of the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association along with their

official lab coats, which were donated by MSU CVM supporter Rona Johnson Belser.

The class of 2027 is comprised of 116 students representing 25 states.

CVM MAIN CAMPUS BENEFITS FROM ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS

It sometimes seems as if there's continual renovation and/or construction underway here at the Wise Center. And, although this can be a bit inconvenient at times, we all understand this is a sign of progress, necessary to ensuring the College continues to grow its programs and services to best recruit students, educate future veterinary professionals, and care for animals in need.

According to CVM Associate Dean Ron McLaughlin, a variety of projects are, in fact, currently in progress—or slated to begin soon—within the Wise Center and on the College's main campus. Projects in the works include:

- Expansion of the Large Animal Research facility located behind the Wise Center on the south side of the CVM campus. The current 11,200-square-foot facility has only two pens and no longer accommodates the volume of work and projects being conducted. An additional two pens are being added for a total of 22,500 square feet and will include chutes, scales, and shelters in each pen. These pens are used for housing cattle involved with studies of bovine respiratory disease (BRD) pathogens, reproductive infections, and related vaccines along with modern therapeutics for BRD and other livestock diseases.
- Renovation of just over 1,000 square feet of space that currently serves as a storage area off the existing large-animal corridor will allow for installation of a suite to accommodate a new Philips 3.0 Tesla MRI unit. The new unit offers the latest technology, providing high-quality three-dimensional images of the body, providing excellent soft tissue detail in hard-to-image regions like the brain, spinal cord, knee, and shoulder. With the installation of this unit at the CVM, not only the College's small-animal, but also its large-animal services, will now have access to MRI imaging. Special tables and anesthesia machines have been ordered to allow large-animal studies on the lower limbs, head, and neck to be conducted. The advanced imaging studies the unit provides will be of great assistance in the diagnosis and formulation of medical and surgical care plans for patients, particularly those with diseases or injuries affecting the neurological system, including the brain and spinal cord, and diseases or injuries affecting the soft tissues of the limbs, including muscle and tendons, which are much more challenging to diagnose and monitor using traditional imaging modalities. In addition, having an MRI unit in the AHC, as opposed to a unit shared with physicians at a location across town, will



permit a larger patient load as well as eliminate the wait for scans on emergency patients over the weekend.

- As part of the overall MRI project, the current Animal Health Center staff area is being renovated to house the College's neurology and neurosurgery services, which are relocating to the AHC from the off-campus Veterinary Specialty Center in west Starkville with the addition of the new MRI system. The new neuro suite will have 2,797 total square feet that will include student and faculty desk areas, two exam rooms, surgical scrub and induction areas, surgery suites, and short-term animal housing.
- Through the process of moving neurology/neurosurgery services in-house, the Animal Health Center staff will gain some new office space. The College's main storeroom is being renovated to accommodate this project. It will include approximately 2,100 square feet of space with around 50 cubicles that provide office space for house officers and veterinary technicians.
- The kitchen for the previous Pegasus Dining Room is being renovated to serve as the College's new storeroom and will also house new areas for IT Support Services and the CVM Facilities Services team. When completed, the 2,500-square-foot space will feature an efficient new floor plan and receiving area for improved accessibility for the storeroom, along with the shipping and receiving and purchasing and property control offices. CVM ITS, which is currently divided into two different spaces, will be consolidated into a single office space. Team members who support student computers and MSU-owned computers for faculty and staff will be accessible through the roll-up door entrance from the foyer in front of the elevators. Team members, who support servers for research, radiology, and the hospital/laboratory information system, VetView, will be housed in the space at the back of this area and accessible from inside the seating area adjacent to the Maroon Market.

- Part of the seating space from the former dining hall is being renovated to make storage spaces for custodial equipment and a larger student pet food supply room. The remaining space will accommodate a new “clothes closet” for students who may be in need of apparel for day-to-day wear, business and professional events, cold weather, and such.
- The former Facilities Services and IT Support Services offices are being renovated to house a study space and rounds room for students on the new Specialty Medicine fourth-year clinical rotation.



Projects most recently completed in the Wise Center include:

- The CVM cafeteria has been converted to a “grab & go” Maroon Market, providing 24/7 access to a variety of food and beverages. Options for shoppers include soft drinks, juices, and Starbucks self-serve coffee, along with pre-made deli sandwiches, microwavable meals and soups, fruit, cheese, chips, nabs, gum, candy, and more.
- New commercial washing machines, clothes dryers, sterilizers, and steam generators have been installed in the Animal Health Center, eliminating dependence on the boiler system to generate steam. This has allowed for the provision of uninterrupted service to ensure clean clothing, linens, and bedding, as well as sterile surgery packs and products to CVM teaching laboratories and the AHC.
- The CVM Diagnostic Imaging suite has been renovated to accommodate the addition of a new diagnostic ultrasound service with a full-time ultrasound technician, new reading rooms, and upgraded student rounds room, allowing for more efficient use of the space and a streamlined workflow. This, in turn, enables the imaging team to handle more cases and do so in a more timely manner, while also enhancing teaching and student learning.



“All projects undertaken are done for the benefit of our students, faculty, and staff, as well as for the clients and animals we serve. We are guided by the goals outlined within the College’s strategic plan, *Strategy for Excellence: 2020-2026*, as well as requests for services, equipment, and facilities that were not necessarily planned for but are determined to be important, relevant, and wise investments at the time,” Dr. McLaughlin said. “We have, fortunately, been able to fund most of these projects through revenue generated by the College, and we have benefited greatly from the support of our donors and friends of the College. Without their generosity and support, some of these essential improvements may not have been possible.”



CVM'S GRADY NAMED TO MSU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REVEILLE 25



MSU CVM Assistant Clinical Professor Dr. Jesse Grady has been named to the 2023 class of outstanding young alumni honored through the Mississippi State University Alumni Association's Reveille 25 program.

The Reveille 25 was designed to highlight the remarkable accomplishments of 25 high-achieving young alumni who are “answering the call” of the University’s mission for educational excellence and inspiring others through the positive impact they are making in their communities and professions. The program name was derived from MSU’s former yearbook, *The Reveille*, which chronicled student life throughout the institution’s history and paid tribute to the University’s foundational military history.

A three-time MSU graduate and Corinth, Mississippi, native, Dr. Grady earned his bachelor’s, master’s, and DVM degrees in 2005, 2007, and 2012, respectively. As an assistant clinical professor with the CVM Animal Health Center Community Veterinary Service, his teaching focuses on effective client communication, small-animal examination, and small-animal general surgery. Dr. Grady’s research focuses on veterinary medical communication and pet owners’ autonomy with regards to decisions involving their beloved pets.

“Dr. Grady is a key faculty member who has sought out extensive post-graduate training and has a sincere passion for teaching in the area of effective client communication,”

said Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Smith. “This vital skill is critical to the success of our graduates, and Dr. Grady’s teaching and influence in this area across our curriculum helps ensure our students leave our program with the communication skills needed for their success.”

In 2018, Dr. Grady was named lab coordinator for CVM’s second-year surgery lab, requiring him to organize a very complex and vitally important educational component for the DVM program. The lab provides patient care including physical examinations, anesthesia, and soft-tissue surgical experience with live dogs for approximately 115 second-year DVM students each year. Over the course of the lab, roughly 300 shelter dogs are neutered or spayed through the program free of charge annually—providing a mutually beneficial service for MSU CVM and participating shelters.

“MSU has been integral to my success,” Dr. Grady said. “The community of students, staff, and faculty that I have been a part of since I began as an undergraduate in 2001 has fostered my personal and professional development. I am fortunate to work every day with a team of smart, talented, and hardworking people.”

Dr. Grady has been involved with the VetAspire Day Camp program since 2019, demonstrating small-animal physical exams for participants who are high school and junior college students interested in veterinary medicine. He also serves as the site coordinator for the American Veterinary Medical Association Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates Clinical Proficiency Exam and is trained and certified to serve as an examiner for the surgery, anesthesia, and small-animal medicine portions of the exam.

“Dr. Grady’s organizational skills and multi-tasking abilities are integral to him, the people he leads, and the students he teaches achieving maximum learning potential,” said Dr. Jake Shivley, who is co-course leader for the second-year surgery lab. “When looking at the impressive roster of activities he oversees, there is no doubt that Dr. Grady functions at a high level of excellence which positively impacts everything he’s involved with.”

When looking at the impressive roster of activities he oversees, there is no doubt that Dr. Grady functions at a high level of excellence which positively impacts everything he’s involved with.

DR. JAKE SHIVLEY, ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR AND SHELTER MEDICINE SERVICE CHIEF

HALL NAMED ALUMNA OF THE YEAR



Dr. Victoria Hall, the 2023 MSU CVM Alumna of the Year, may be one of the most accomplished 34-year-olds in the world of veterinary medicine.

The Cincinnati, Ohio, native landed in Starkville thanks to MSU CVM's Early Entry Program, which pre-admits students to its ranks before they finish high school, allowing students to focus more heavily on their studies during their undergraduate career at MSU.

Dr. Hall matriculated into the CVM in 2010, where she led in founding the College's VetCamp program—a summer camp for 10 to 17-year-olds that has continued to grow and now accepts students from across the world. In 2011, Dr. Hall completed her Bachelor of Science in animal and dairy science. She earned her DVM in 2014 and completed a concurrent MS in veterinary population medicine in 2015.

After completing her degrees, Dr. Hall's career took her to private practice in Cincinnati, then to a highly competitive residency as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she served in a frontline role to infectious disease outbreaks in Minneapolis such as measles virus, multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, and Zika virus. In 2018, she was selected to become the first veterinary epidemiologist in the Wildlife Health Sciences Department at the Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute in Washington, DC.

Dr. Hall credits MSU for encouraging her to think globally and challenging her to consider how she could use her agriculture and veterinary training backgrounds to make a larger impact on the world.

“While a student, I was able to experience many types of veterinary medicine,” Dr. Hall said. “MSU CVM supported my passions every step of the way—from being flexible with my off time and externship time to simply recognizing that veterinary medicine exists in many forms other than purely clinical medicine.”

These days, Dr. Hall has the joy of teaching the varied skill set that has taken her so far in life to the next generation of veterinarians as the Patrick T. Redig Endowed Faculty Chair in Raptor and Ecosystem Health and executive director of The Raptor Center at University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine.

While she is excited about what lies ahead, Dr. Hall said that no matter where she goes or what she does, MSU and the CVM will always be a part of her.

“It is an incredible honor to receive the Alumna of the Year award from my alma mater that truly gave me the foundation I needed to continuously push the envelope on where a veterinary degree can take you in impacting the world,” Hall said. “World-class faculty and staff and an understanding and support of nontraditional DVM tracks at MSU CVM gave me the opportunity to explore different tracks while I was a student, and I am filled with gratitude on where it has allowed my career to take me thus far.”

“The faculty, curriculum, and hands-on learning experiences at MSU CVM are phenomenal, and I'm thankful for the incredible support structure I have even years after graduation,” she continued. “My time there provided the foundation for me to accomplish all that I have thus far, and I am so thankful for the family I gained and the well-rounded education I received at MSU CVM!”

Congratulations once again to MSU CVM 2023 Alumna of the Year, Dr. Victoria Hall!

It is an incredible honor to receive the Alumna of the Year award from my alma mater that truly gave me the foundation I needed to continuously push the envelope on where a veterinary degree can take you in impacting the world.

DR. VICTORIA HALL, MSU CVM ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Somebody Left the



MSU Vet Camp was another great success this summer with more than 180 campers attending, representing 15 different states—and even a country overseas! Both day camps and overnight camps were offered to accommodate students aged 10 to 17 with animal-focused career aspirations. Camps were led by CVM faculty with the assistance of current veterinary students and included a variety of interactive labs, allowing participants to explore everything from animal anatomy and microbiology to surgery, radiology, and pathology, and an array of other real-life aspects of a career caring for animals.

CVM Admissions Outreach Manager Meredith Nagel, who manages the administrative team and counselors who staff Vet Camp, noted that the faculty and students at MSU CVM share not only their knowledge but also their excitement about veterinary medicine with the campers throughout each session.

“Vet Camp at MSU CVM provides fun and educational ways for students to explore the many facets of veterinary medicine,” said Nagel. “It allows aspiring veterinarians to make connections with veterinarians, veterinary students, and staff who can help students plan and prepare for their academic and career journey.”

Nagel added that the College receives hundreds of applications for only a set number of slots for the camps each year. Therefore, those interested in participating should visit the CVM website, vetmed.msstate.edu, to learn more about camp and the application process well in advance of the annual application period, which lasts only one month and opens in late January each year. Camp info is available by clicking the Outreach tab on the top right of the homepage and then the Summer Veterinary Camp button.



Kids & Animals

Gate Open...

"This camp is AMAZING!!
I learned so much,
and I made new friends
and memories."

"The hands-on experiences were my favorite by far! I loved the bacteria you could grow on your own, and the canine exam was really fun. The surgery lab hands-on experience to stitch up your stuffed animal was cool, and the aquaculture lab's catfish dissection was my favorite dissection I've ever done!"



"I loved so many things about Vet Camp—palpating the pregnant cow model to check the baby's position, learning how to draw blood, listening to the animals' heartbeats, feeling the organs in pathology to assess what was normal. It was all great!"

Are Everywhere!

NEW UNDERWATER TREADMILL IS FOR THE DOGS... AND THAT'S A GOOD THING!

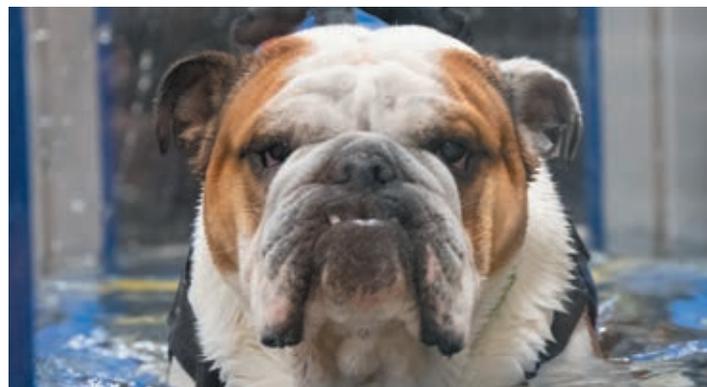
Taking Fido for a walk is not only good exercise but something many of us do simply for pleasure. However, for some pets—especially those who are older, overweight, living with arthritis, have neurologic disease, and/or are recovering from surgery—going for a walk may be more painful than enjoyable.

The problem is that movement is also essential to improving range of motion and quality of life for these very animals. That's where hydrotherapy (aka, physical therapy in water), which is a gentler alternative to land-based therapy, sails in to save the day!

Hydrotherapy has been available through MSU CVM for many years, but thanks to private support, our patients now have access to the latest and greatest equipment—a HydroWorx K900 underwater treadmill. It employs the same technology used for human rehabilitation and allows for many benefits to progress our patients' care to a level beyond what was previously available. It is the ideal way to provide the low-impact exercise needed by so many patients.

"The K900 allows for both slower and faster speeds, ensuring a much wider range of use. For many dogs, the slower speeds permit them to be able to walk at a more comfortable pace and take their time recovering," Animal Health Center Small Animal Surgery Chief Dr. Michael Jaffe said. "This treadmill also offers an option to gradually increase the difficulty of the session by adding an incline to their walk as patients progress. This improved feature allows us to advance our patients that are ready for a greater challenge."

Hydrotherapy can be used to treat a wide variety of conditions or injuries, including everything from animals recovering from complex surgeries to older animals suffering from severe arthritis, according to Dr. Jaffe.



"In all situations, the water provides for low-impact movement, taking weight off patients' joints, and making it easier for them to walk," he said. "It is especially beneficial for our post-operative orthopedic and neurological surgery patients as well as those with arthritic joints. It can help reduce edema and help increase muscle strength."

Certified veterinary technician Catherine Barton, who works with CVM patients prescribed hydrotherapy, said she has seen many different types of patients improve using this form of therapy.

"We have one dog that has been coming twice a week for about two years to help with arthritis as she ages. She walks in the treadmill twice a day for 30 minutes at a time," Barton said. "These sessions have helped keep her moving and comfortable. However, we have numerous other patients that complete short stints following an injury and/or surgery just to improve their mobility or to return to their previous level of activity."

The K900 underwater treadmill is a key component of the rehabilitation service provided through the Animal Health Center, but there are numerous other types of equipment and treatments available to patients. These therapies are professionally designed and administered specifically for each individual patient to help improve mobility, manage pain, increase strength, and, ultimately, enhance overall quality of life. Most of these services are available thanks to the generosity and support of CVM donors.

"Nearly every piece of equipment we have in our rehabilitation service has been purchased with donated funds. I can safely say that our program would not be what it is today without the commitment of partners who have supported us throughout the years," MSU CVM Assistant Dean for Clinical Services and AHC Director Dr. Joey Burt said. "From the initial investment by Walter and Jean Rotchild that enabled us to begin this service, to the continued support from Dr. Bill Moore and Mrs. Caren Madden to the contributions made by other friends of the college, donations have helped us to expand our capabilities and improve the services we provide. Donors have been a steady support to AHC's rehabilitation services, and we appreciate all they have done for us and for the animals in need of these services."

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM OFFERS HANDS-ON LEARNING, CULTURAL EXPERIENCES



In June, 17 MSU undergraduate, veterinary, and graduate students, as well as one undergraduate pre-veterinary student from West Virginia University, joined Dr. Stephen Reichley, assistant clinical professor and assistant director of the Global Center for Aquatic Health and Food Security, and Dr. Graham Rosser, assistant research professor, for the College's Tropical Veterinary Medicine and One Health in Uganda study abroad program. The group was also joined by Dr. Susan Reed, an Ohio veterinarian board certified in preventive medicine.

The program, which is held in collaboration with Makerere University College of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Resources, and Biosecurity, offered students and faculty from both veterinary colleges to participate in experiential, hands-on learning activities at the Uganda Wildlife Education Center and Zoo, three of Uganda's national parks, numerous farms, a slaughterhouse, and several fisheries and aquaculture sites. The group worked alongside Uganda Wildlife Authority veterinarians and rangers to perform chemical immobilizations, physical exams, and sample collection from a variety of wildlife.



"I had the extraordinary opportunity to participate in this year's Tropical Veterinary Medicine and One Health in Uganda trip, and I feel so fortunate to have been able to do so. I have a passion for wildlife conservation, and the trip allowed me to learn about wildlife conservation on a whole new level," said third-year DVM student Kasey Forton. "For instance, while traveling through one of the national parks, we came across an elephant caught in a snare, and working with the Ugandan Wildlife Authority, we were able to remove the snare and immobilize the elephant, allowing it to return to normal life. That memory from the trip—and so many others—will last a lifetime!"

At the Uganda Wildlife Education Center and Zoo, the group helped perform annual physical exams and sample collections from lions. In the national parks, they participated in biodiversity and wild animal health monitoring by truck and boat of various wildlife, including elephants, lions, giraffes, zebras, buffalo, mice, birds, and other species.

In addition, the team visited communities throughout the country to observe and discuss wildlife, human, and livestock interactions and promote the principles of One Health. They also toured national health labs and met with human health professionals to discuss disease monitoring and management.

"The trip this year was amazing, and the activities reinforced topics covered in pre-veterinary, veterinary, and graduate student education. It was wonderful watching the students apply what they learn in the classroom in real-world situations," Dr. Rosser said.

"It's a wonderful way to experience other cultures while participating in hands-on animal and veterinary activities at national parks, farms, field experiment stations, and other sites of interest," Dr. Reichley added. "Students learn so much about themselves and come away more confident."

Check out the College's YouTube channel for a video about the program as well as the November 2021 episode of "Pegasus" where Dr. Reichley is interviewed about it. The program is open to undergraduate, veterinary, and graduate students at MSU and other academic institutions. Additional information is also available by emailing stephen.reichley@msstate.edu.

MSU CVM SAVMA EARNS RECOGNITION, PLANS FOR UPCOMING YEAR

The 2022-2023 MSU SAVMA Executive Board recently wrapped up a super successful year, having completed numerous successful activities and events that significantly impacted DVM students' education, professional development, and wellness.

"It has been an absolute privilege to serve as '22-'23 SAVMA president, and I want to extend a most sincere thank you to everyone who has shown me and our executive board support and encouragement over the past year," said immediate past president Casey Lavender. "We are so grateful for all of the members, advisors, club officers, faculty, and CVM family that made this year so successful."

Lavender said most of the year was spent conducting a much-needed rebuild of the framework for SAVMA, which would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the executive board.

"We owe a huge thanks to the executive board for the work they did this year! Words can't express how hard these individuals worked to create the best experience possible for all here at MSU CVM; they truly went above and beyond," Lavender said. "Thanks, too, to our student members—we reached nearly 96% membership this year—and to all the club officers, who did an absolutely phenomenal job with planning and executing each and every meeting! They worked many long hours between organizing meetings and wet labs while also being full-time veterinary students!"

Key accomplishments of SAVMA this year are noted in the "Year in Review" section of this article, but perhaps the most significant recognition received was being honored with the Most Innovative Event of the Year during the 2023 SAVMA Symposium hosted in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, in March.

The chapter was recognized for their Fall Veterinary Leadership & Wellness Conference organized and hosted last September. The two-day event included several impressive veterinary and mental health professionals as presenters and saw more than 100 veterinary students, faculty, and staff participate. Attendance was free, thanks to almost \$8,000 in sponsorships secured to help fund the event. Due to its huge success, the club plans to begin hosting the event annually.

"Receiving this award was super exciting because so much work went into the event. Plus, SAVMA chapters at over 30 veterinary colleges submitted events for the honor, and the AVMA & ALL for Student Sponsors selected ours as the one they felt embodied the purpose and mission of SAVMA and the ALL for Students Program," Lavender explained. "This was obviously a huge honor for our chapter, and we couldn't be more proud!"

In addition to this recognition, the chapter also has a member,



Mississippi State Veterinary SAVMA 2022-2023

Year in Review

MEMBERSHIP 401 Members

- Class of 2023: 88 Members
- Class of 2024: 90 Members
- Class of 2025: 109 Members
- Class of 2026: 114 Members



PROJECTS Growing our Students

- Inaugural Annual Leadership & Wellness Conference
- AVMA Brave Space Certificate in Curriculum
- New SAVMA Positions (VP & DEI Chair)
- New Website & Social Media
- Connection between DVM & VMT Programs
- Updated Club Rules & Regulations



GUESTS 83 Guest Presenters

- With over 25 Student Organizations, we have invited over 80 guests to present to the Mississippi State Student Body!



SPONSORSHIPS \$31,700 in Sponsorships

- NVA
- Hills Pet Nutrition
- Alliance Animal Health
- VEG
- Nutramax
- AVMA ALL for Students
- EverVet Partners
- Merck Animal Health
- Craig Road Animal Hospital
- AVMA Life
- AVMA PLIT
- Purina
- Royal Canin
- Zoetis
- Bond Vet
- Community Veterinary Partners
- VIN
- CVF
- VBMA

*Donors: Dr. Lloyd Reitz & Mandy Walker



WWW.MSSTATESAVMA.ORG

“Words can’t express how hard these individuals worked to create the best experience possible for all here at MSU CVM; they truly went above and beyond.”

CASEY LAVENDER, MSU SAVMA EXECUTIVE BOARD PAST PRESIDENT



now third-year student Sarah Houpt, serving on the SAVMA National Executive Board. Houpt, who was spotlighted in the fall & winter 2022 issue of Pegasus Press when she was named secretary-elect, was officially inducted as secretary at the recent symposium.

The 2023-2024 SAVMA Executive Board has been selected and took office May 1. SAVMA-related inquiries should now be directed to club president Anna Grace Scrimager and the new board. Current board member names and contact info, along with a variety of other details are available at the MSU CVM SAVMA website, msstatesavma.org. In addition, the site features a link where alumni and other friends of the College can easily make donations to support student activities and help the chapter accomplish its goals; any and all contributions are greatly appreciated!



SAVMA EXECUTIVE BOARD



2022-2023

PRESIDENT: CASEY LAVENDER
VICE-PRESIDENT: KASEY FORTON
SECRETARY: CAREY MCLAIN
SENIOR DELEGATE: SARAH HOUPT
JUNIOR DELEGATE: ALYSSA HEATH

WELLNESS CHAIR: ANG FEASEL
SOCIAL CHAIR: MANDY HILLIARD
FUNDRAISING CHAIR: SOPHIA BURTNER
IVSA/DEI CHAIR: BROOKE DOMINELLO
IT OFFICER: JENNY SEARLES

SAVMA CLASS REPRESENTATIVES:

LEA CORNELIUS
SAVANNAH LAVALLEE
BRIANA JONES

CVM VMT CLASS OF 2023 HONORED AT PINNING AND AWARDS PROGRAM



On May 12, the CVM Veterinary Medical Technology Program held its annual pinning ceremony for the VMT class of 2023, which included 25 graduates.

VMT Program Director Dr. Maralyn Jackson opened the ceremony with the processional of the graduates into the auditorium. Once seated, the audience, graduates, and special guest MSU Executive Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School Dr. Peter Ryan were welcomed by Dr. Ron McLaughlin, CVM associate dean for administration.

Mallory Pitts, CVT, a 2021 graduate of the MSU VMT Program then addressed the crowd, speaking to the challenges and rewards of the profession and lending graduates advice on how to make the most of their careers.

Following this presentation, members of the VMT program faculty, including Dr. Mandy Kohler, Sarah Poole, CVT, and Dana Cooper, CVT, recognized each graduate, presented them a certificate of completion, and pinned them. Cooper then led the cohort in reciting the Veterinary Technician's Oath.

The program concluded with the presentation of awards and scholarships with Dr. Jackson presiding. The CVM clinical mentors presented the clinical awards; Poole presented the scholarships; Dr. Kohler presented the VMT program awards; and Cooper presented the CVM Student of the Year award.

The ceremony concluded with a slideshow presentation created by Alexis King-McDuffy, 2023 VMT class vice president, followed by closing remarks from Dr. Jackson.

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized for their accomplishments:

CLINICAL AWARDS

EXCELLENCE IN EQUINE

Presented by Masyn Voss
Awarded Alexis McDuffy King

EXCELLENCE IN FOOD ANIMAL/THERIOGENOLOGY

Presented by Savannah Pitts
Awarded to Alexis McDuffy King & Jules Rimmer

EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY VETERINARY SERVICES

Presented by Lora Leigh Patridge, CVT
Awarded to Asia Aaron & Kelsi McKinney

EXCELLENCE IN LABORATORY ANIMAL

Presented by Jamie Walker, CVT
Awarded to Jada Gilmore & Tha'Nisha Sacks

EXCELLENCE IN NEUROLOGY

Presented by Mallory Pitts, CVT
Awarded to Tania Towns

EXCELLENCE IN REHABILITATION

Presented by Catherine Barton, CVT
Awarded to Alexis Sarullo

EXCELLENCE IN INTERNAL MEDICINE

Presented by Niki Hall, CVT
Awarded to Tricia Pounders

EXCELLENCE IN EMERGENCY & ICU

Presented by Chelsea Jackson, CVT
Awarded to Dominik Campbell

EXCELLENCE IN SURGERY

Presented by Krista Box, CVT
Awarded to Jorene' Evans

EXCELLENCE IN AMBULATORY

Presented by Nancy Wilson, CVT
Awarded to Lauren Boykin

EXCELLENCE IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

Presented by Nancy Wilson, CVT
Awarded to Nathaniel Guy

TONYA GRAHAM ANESTHESIA AWARD

Presented by Nancy Wilson, CVT
Awarded to Dominik Campbell

SCHOLARSHIPS

MISSISSIPPI VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION SENIOR VMT SCHOLARSHIP

Presented by Sarah Poole, CVT
Awarded to Kelsi McKinney

DR. P. MIKELL AND MARY CHEEK HALL DAVIS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Presented by Sarah Poole, CVT
Awarded to Kelsi McKinney

VMT PROGRAM AWARDS



LEADERSHIP AWARD

Presented by Dr. Mandy Kohler
Awarded to Tricia Pounders



AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Presented by Dr. Mandy Kohler
Awarded to Lauren Boykin



AWARD FOR CLINICAL AND TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

Presented by Dr. Mandy Kohler
Awarded to Jorene' Evans



AWARD FOR CLINICAL AND TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

Presented by Dr. Mandy Kohler
Awarded to Mae Ward



MOST RELIABLE STUDENT

Presented by Dr. Mandy Kohler
Awarded to Dominik Campbell



MOST RELIABLE STUDENT

Presented by Dr. Mandy Kohler
Awarded to Alexis McDuffy King

STUDENT OF THE YEAR



Presented by Dana Cooper, CVT
Awarded to Dominik Campbell

MSU CVM GRADUATES 94 IN DVM CLASS OF 2023

Ninety-four new doctors of veterinary medicine earned their diplomas from the MSU CVM at the College's 2023 commencement ceremonies held at 11:30 a.m. in the Newell-Grissom Building on the MSU campus May 10.

Following the invocation offered by class member Logan Tucker, MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet welcomed all attending. MSU CVM Assistant Clinical Professor Dr. Debra Moore then delivered a message to the graduates, and class of 2023 President Joseph Evans addressed the class.

MSU CVM Assistant Clinical Professor Dr. Michael Pesato provided class member introductions, and hooding was

conducted by MSU President Dr. Mark Keenum and Dean Hoblet. MSU Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. David Shaw and MSU Vice President for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine Dr. Keith Coble presented diplomas.

Afterwards, Dr. Keenum addressed the class and officially conferred their degrees. The ceremony concluded with MSU CVM Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Smith administering the Veterinarian's Oath.

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





MEMBERS OF DVM CLASS OF 2023 HONORED AT ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST AND AWARDS PROGRAM

Students, including those pictured on this page, benefited from scholarships totaling more than \$1M, 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 2023 commencement festivities. For a complete listing of these scholarships, see pages 50-51.

Prior to commencement ceremonies, members of the DVM class of 2023 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 a.m. in the CVM Wise Center Second Floor Lobby and provided an opportunity for CVM scholarship donors and recipients to meet and become acquainted over a continental breakfast.



about three dozen 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 high grade point averages and to students deemed best overall and most likely to excel in their careers in veterinary medicine.

In addition to students being recognized, Dr. Kent Hoblet presented the 2023 Zoetis Teaching Award, selected annually by the graduating

class. 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.

Afterwards, members of the DVM class of 2023 were welcomed to the Annual Awards Program in the Newell-Grissom Building on the MSU campus at 10 a.m. by MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Smith, where



Congratulations to the following who were recognized during the event:



DEAN'S PEGASUS AWARD RECIPIENT

Joseph R. Evans

The Dean's Pegasus Award is the highest award given to a member of the graduating class. The award is based on an assessment by the College's administration of a student's displayed qualities of character, professionalism, leadership, and the promise of a career of service to the veterinary profession as demonstrated by his/her service before and while in the College of Veterinary Medicine.



BARDSLEY AWARD FOR HIGHEST ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT RECIPIENTS

Hannah Beth Kruse McDowell & Savannah Glynn Wicker

The late Dr. Charles Bardsley and Mrs. Viola Bardsley of Ocean Springs on Mississippi's Gulf Coast were very interested in the academic success of students studying veterinary medicine. Because of this interest, they established a scholarship at MSU CVM more than 20 years ago to recognize academic excellence. The Dr. Charles and Mrs. Viola Bardsley Scholarship is given to the graduating student who has achieved the highest grade point average during their time in the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. This scholarship is in the amount of \$10,000.



ASSOCIATE DEAN'S AWARD RECIPIENT

Cassandra Barber

The Associate Dean's Award is among the highest awards given to a member of the graduating class. Based on an assessment of displayed qualities of character, professionalism, leadership, and the promise of a career of service in veterinary medicine, it is given to a graduating senior who is not entering private clinical practice.



POCO AND CLIO GENTLE DOCTOR AWARD RECIPIENT

Lauren Campbell Zell

The Poco and Clio Gentle Doctor Award is presented by members of the graduating class to a classmate whom they would choose to treat their own animals. The award takes into consideration the ability of the recipient to effectively treat his or her patients while demonstrating kindness and compassion toward those animals under his or her care.



ZOETIS TEACHING AWARD RECIPIENT

Dr. Todd Archer

The Zoetis Teaching Award is presented by the graduating class to the faculty member they believe has most significantly contributed to the advancement of the profession through their teaching, dedication, and leadership.

Other nominees for the award this year included Dr. Sarah Castaldo, Dr. Corey Langston, and Dr. Ben Nabors.

In addition to the previous awards, the following graduates were also recognized at the awards program:

MISSISSIPPI VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION COMPANION ANIMAL AWARD: Amanda E. Rowe

MISSISSIPPI VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ECONOMIC & PERFORMANCE ANIMAL AWARD: Alec Reed Lucas

MISSISSIPPI VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION LARGE ANIMAL AWARD: Caleb H. Glover

FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIPS: Emily Carolyn Vowell and Mary Katlyn Henning

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS LARGE ANIMAL AWARD: Claire E. Foster

DECHRA EXCELLENCE IN EQUINE SPORTS MEDICINE AWARD: Callie Savana Ward

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS SMALL ANIMAL AWARD: Reece Paulk and Shauna Nichole Davee Kessler

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY PATHOLOGISTS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PATHOLOGY: Joseph R. Evans and Cassandra Barber

VETERINARY EMERGENCY AND CRITICAL CARE SOCIETY AWARD: FOR PROFICIENCY IN ER/CC: Savannah Glynn Wicker

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY INTERNAL MEDICINE CLINICAL EXCELLENCE - SMALL ANIMAL: Joseph R. Evans

DECHRA EXCELLENCE IN SMALL ANIMAL INTERNAL MEDICINE AWARD: Rachel Claus

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY INTERNAL MEDICINE CLINICAL EXCELLENCE - NEUROLOGY: Daniel Curtis Davis

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY INTERNAL MEDICINE CLINICAL EXCELLENCE - LARGE ANIMAL: Emily Carolyn Vowell

STUDENT AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AWARD: Callie Savana Ward

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY PROFICIENCY IN DERMATOLOGY AWARD: Lakin Bronkar

DECHRA EXCELLENCE IN DERMATOLOGY AWARD: Alexandra McCafferty

VETERINARY CANCER SOCIETY AWARD: Kylie Alais Fisher

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF FELINE PRACTITIONERS FELINE MEDICINE AWARD: Amanda Michele Whitman

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY RADIOLOGY AWARD: Sydney Jamisen Tamashiro

NORTH AMERICAN VETERINARY ANESTHESIA SOCIETY AWARD: Lauren Campbell Zell

TONYA GRAHAM PROFICIENCY IN ANESTHESIA AWARD: Bethsy M. Miletty Rodriguez

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGY AWARD: Kelsey Marie Yates

PROFICIENCY IN THERIOGENOLOGY AWARD: Mary Katlyn Henning

PHI ZETA VETERINARY HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES: Maggie Rose Azevedo, Cassandra Barber, Meghan Liu Meng Brino, Rachel Claus, Haley Norton Cliburn, Grace Stringer Dewberry, Joseph R. Evans, Hannah Haynes, Allison Hennessey, Anna Taylor Henson, Kristen Chisholm Hipp, Jessica Lynn Jones, Katherine Jones, Keegan Jones, Hannah Beth Kruse McDowell, Kristin Nicole Miller, Reece Paulk, McKenzie Lauren Pinto, Alyssa Queen, Elizabeth Robinson, Kylie Roux, Morgan N. Ruby, Michelle R. Ryan, Savannah Glynn Wicker

VETERINARY BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION BUSINESS CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS: Kay Cantrell, Samantha Giannone, Allison Hennessey, Alexandra McCafferty, Kristin Nicole Miller, Caylin Nicole Potter, Taylor E. Potter, Amanda E. Rowe, Kristina Margaret Schultz, Zoe Ashlyn Stump, Aynsley K. Wheeler, Amanda Michele Whitman

AMERICAN ANIMAL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION AWARD FOR PROFICIENCY IN PRIMARY CARE: Mark Austin Lawrence

CLINICOPATHOLOGIC CONFERENCE AWARD
Mary Kathryn Godley

CLINICOPATHOLOGIC CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE AWARD
Krista Lane and Kelsey Marie Yates

WISE SCHOLARS (GPA between 3.5 and 3.79): Maggie Rose Azevedo, Cassandra Barber, Brady S. Brown, Kay Cantrell, Anabel Dorian Rose DeBruhl, Megan Elizabeth DeLorenzo, Grace Stringer Dewberry, Kylie Alais Fisher, Hannah Haynes, Blake Marie Jones, Katherine Jones, Alec Reed Lucas, Emili Nicole McClure, Reece Paulk, Rebecca L. Roberson, Bethsy M. Miletty Rodriguez, Amanda E. Rowe, Morgan N. Ruby, Kristina Margaret Schultz, Zoey Ashlyn Stump, Sydney Jamisen Tamashiro, Kelsey Marie Yates

GILES SCHOLARS (GPA of 3.8 and greater): Meghan Liu Meng Brino, Rachel Claus, Haley Norton Cliburn, Joseph R. Evans, Allison Hennessey, Anna Taylor Henson, Kristen Chisholm Hipp, Jessica Lynn Jones, Keegan Jones, Hannah Beth Kruse McDowell, Kristin Nicole Miller, McKenzie Lauren Pinto, Alyssa Queen, Elizabeth Robinson, Kylie Roux, Michelle R. Ryan, Savannah Glynn Wicker



2023 SCHOLARSHIPS & RECIPIENTS

Drs. Mark and Carol Akin Equine Annual Scholarship: Anna Grace Scrimager

Dr. Carol Akin Feline Medicine Scholarship: Kristin Nicole Miller

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

Frank Austin & Class of 2012 Endowed Scholarship: Keegan Jones

Arthur, Sammy, and Lulabelle Endowed Scholarship: Katelynn Martin

Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association Annual Scholarship: Ashley Beyer, Sophia Lauren Mauldin, Ashley Kaitlyn Smith, Kaci Squires

Dr. Tracy Busbee Connelly Memorial Annual Scholarship: Hannah Grace Calvert

Paul Bass Annual Scholarship: Zoey Ashlyn Stump

Bedenbaugh Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine: Kay Cantrell, Rachel Claus, Megan Elizabeth DeLorenzo, Joseph R. Evans, Abigail Hope Fleming, Jessica Lynn Jones, Shauna Nichole Davee Kessler, Kristin Nicole Miller, McKenzie Lauren Pinto, Elizabeth Robinson, Amanda E. Rowe, Michelle R. Ryan, Seirra Seay, Callie Savana Ward, Kelsey Marie Yates

Rona & Dan Belser Endowed Scholarship: Cassandra Barber

William Tyler Brady Annual Scholarship: Alec Reed Lucas

Briarwood Animal Hospital/ Campbell G. Dale Memorial Scholarship: Kayla Mercer

James D. & Kay B. Bryan Endowed Scholarship: Matthew Mitsch, Rebecca Younts

Buddy the Elf Scholarship: Amy Frey, Makenzie Horning

Dr. Robert Cooper Endowed Scholarship: Nicholas Wheeler

Georgiana and Kevin Cox Memorial Annual Scholarship: Alec Reed Lucas

Ida L. Cunetto Annual Scholarship: Allyson Duvall

Dr. Leon and Mrs. Sherrill Dale Annual Scholarship: Breanna Kimbrell

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

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

Isabel M. Devine Endowed Scholarship: Camryn Carlson, Bailee Pipkin

Drs. Beth T. and Joe L. Duncan Annual Scholarship: Ian Evans

Dr. Elizabeth B. Ezelle and Mr. Robert Ezelle Annual Scholarship: Matt Harjes

A.B. Bubba Fort Memorial Annual Scholarship: Fallon Marie Dubay

Morgan Freeman Endowment for Veterinary Medicine: Breanna Baugh

Drs. Karen G. Collins and Jeff D. Grady Annual Scholarship: Dixie Caroline Morgan

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

Dr. Tip Hailey Scholarship: Danielle Fischer

Greenville Mississippi Kennel Club Annual Scholarship: Sophia Lauren Mauldin

Dr. A. Wayne Groce Alumni Society Annual Scholarship: Bethsy M. Milletty Rodriguez

Mac, Stephen, and Dava Imes Endowed Scholarship: Anna Loyd

Clarice C. Jackson Memorial Scholarship: Brady S. Brown, Kylie Alais Fisher, Hannah Haynes, Blake Marie Jones, Kylie Roux

Dr. Margaret R. Kern Memorial Scholarship: Rachel Claus

George B. Kerr Memorial Scholarship: Catherine DiNicola, Caleb H. Glover

The "Dempsey" & "Ruby" Lazar Endowed Scholarship: Mary Kathryn Godley

Dr. Michael J. Lee Endowed Scholarship: Shelby Ladner

Lehman Food Animal Endowed Scholarship: Martin Holsinger

Dr. Betsy Lipscomb Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine: Kellie Pernula

Mary Ann Long Endowed Scholarship: Faith Shupard

Linda and Jim Longton Annual Scholarship: Megan Bright

Fannie B. Loudermilk Memorial Scholarship: Kylie Roux

Karen J. & John G. McCord Endowed Scholarship: Ella Swales

Hortense & Bill McClain Endowed Scholarship: Brady S. Brown, Kimberly Ellen Terbrack

Gene McEwen Memorial Scholarship: Haley Zetterholm

James Miller & First Class 1981 Endowed Scholarship: Lea Cornelius

Dr. Craig & Jennifer Mohaghegh Annual Scholarship: Michaila Wall, Alysha Worden

David Waide Scholarship: Mary Katlyn Henning, Emily Carolyn Vowell

**Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association
Year 1 Scholarship:** Matthew King

**Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association
Year 2 Scholarship:** Caitlin Wonnacott

**Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association
Year 3 Scholarship:** Lea Cornelius

**Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association
Dr. Harvey F. McCrory Memorial Scholarship:**
Veronica List, Carey McLain,
Sidney Pounders

Billy C. Mullican Endowed Scholarship: Lakin
Bronkar, Fallon Marie Dubai

**Nestle' Purina Award for Excellence in
Companion Animal Nutrition:** Ryan Barlow

The Pet Hospitals Annual Scholarship:
Sarah Houpt

PetSmart Charities Scholarship:
Dana Galvin, Ashley Kaitlyn Smith,
Savannah Smith, Morgan Tarnalicki

Recycled Pets Are Best Annual Scholarship:
Keegan Jones, Ashley Kaitlyn Smith

Poco & Clio Gentle Doctor Award:
Lauren Campbell Zell

**Dr. James F. Perkins Annual Scholarship in
Veterinary Medicine:** BreAnna Heard

Daniel M. Thomas, DVM Endowed Scholarship:
Julia Faith McCLain

Thomas A. Plein Endowed Scholarship:
Monét DeeAnna McCarus, Delana
McCoy

**Thomas C. Randolph, Jr. Memorial
Scholarship:** Gisselle Garcia, Belinda
Strack

**Jean & Walter W. Rotchild, Jr. Endowed
Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine:** Blake
Marie Jones, Kristina Margaret Schultz

**Louis Roycraft Smith, Jr. Memorial
Scholarship:** Grace Elizabeth Shields

Barry Schieb Memorial Annual Scholarship:
Jonathan Blake Campbell

**Linda "Big Lou" Schuerer Memorial Annual
Scholarship:** Hannah Gordon

Paul H. Schuerer Memorial Scholarship:
Darby Harris

**Greta Somerville Endowed Scholarship in
Veterinary Medicine:** Allison Hennessey,
Savannah Glynn Wicker

Dr. Clyde E. Taylor Endowed Scholarship:
Payton White

**Tupelo Small Animal Hospital Annual
Scholarship:** Edie Thomas

**Cynthia Lee & Carl Turner Annual
Scholarship:** Keegan Jones,
Kylie Roux

**Vicksburg Kennel Club of Mississippi, Inc.
Endowed Scholarship:** Tori Thomas

**West Virginia Veterinary Medical Association
Annual Scholarship:** Gunner Edgell,
Kelsey Miller

**Dr. Alexander Lane "Bam" Williams Endowed
Scholarship:** Kristina Margaret Schultz

**Robert O. Williams Memorial Endowed
Scholarship:** Maxi Edwards

**The Lauran & Dean Wingo Endowed
Scholarship:** Cristina Magnanelli

**South MS Veterinary Medical Association
Scholarship:** Elora Pierce

Addie Scholarship Recipients:

Mary Catherine Beard
Karrigan Bowers
Hayden Brines
Meghan Liu Meng Brino
Carli Lee Bryant
Carly Anna Campbell
Morgan Cantrell
Marie Cozzarelli
Daniel Curtis Davis
Anabel Dorian Rose DeBruhl
Grace Stringer Dewberry
Zoe Dudiak
Jake Eldridge
Lauren Ellison
Marissa Nevaeh Gonzalez
Emily Haag
Leah Hadskey
Elijah Hemphill
Lucie Henein
Anna Taylor Henson
Kristen Chisholm Hipp
Walker Hyche
Katherine Jones
Hannah Knight
Alexandra McCafferty
Emili Nicole McClure
Rachel McDaniel
Hannah Beth Kruse McDowell
Madison Mertz
Anna Katherine Mitchell
Savannah Nelson
Ashleigh Nicaise
Reece Paulk
Sydney Peek
Hannah Pray
Morgan N. Ruby
Josie Gamble Rutledge
Mariah Sheehan
Emily Sherman
Alison Stewart
Sabrina Swistek
Sydney Jamisen Tamashiro
Julia Tate
Tori Thomas
Logan Dill Tucker
Skyler Turner
Ember West
Katie Wright
Haley Zetterholm
Nicole Grace Zimmerman

36TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE...

MSU CVM's 36th annual Open House was held March 24th and 25th and was an amazing experience for all involved! In keeping with tradition, the event was organized by the second-year DVM class and executed with the help of the first-year class. Visitors took off in *The Amazing Race: VetMed Edition*, collecting passport stamps at interactive presentations and exhibits throughout the Wise Center.

On Friday, the College saw 22 school groups with roughly 1,000 K-12 students attending, before the general public was invited to join the fun on Saturday! Saturday's turnout was even greater, with 2,500 people visiting the Wise Center to learn about the world of veterinary medicine.

The event featured 21 stations featuring everything from reptile presentations, exotic animals including a kangaroo, lessons in large-animal medicine, search and rescue working animals, to pet nutrition!



THE AMAZING RACE



DR. LANNY PACE RECEIVES HONORS AND RETIRES AFTER 22 YEARS OF SERVICE

For more than two decades, Dr. Lanny Pace was at the helm of the Mississippi Veterinary Research and Diagnostic Laboratory System. His knowledge and expertise were key to the MVRDLS's success, and his pleasant demeanor and warm smile endeared him to those with whom he worked.

As executive director of the MVRDLS, Dr. Pace was responsible for operations and personnel at each of the four labs included in the system: The Mississippi Veterinary Research and Diagnostic Lab (MVRDL) and Poultry Research and Diagnostic Lab (PRDL), both of which are located in Pearl, Mississippi, the Aquaculture Research and Diagnostic Lab (ARDL) located in Stoneville, and the CVM Diagnostic and Aquatic Lab located in Starkville, all of which fall under the purview of the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. The labs are charged with providing much-needed surveillance and diagnostic testing for practicing veterinarians, individual producers, pet owners, and the livestock, aquaculture, and poultry industries throughout the state.

During his 22.5 years of service, Dr. Pace took great pride in ensuring these services not only met but exceeded expectations, and he saw much growth and change.

"From the time I started in this role until my retirement on April 30, I was fortunate to have worked with CVM deans who understood the importance of maintaining a veterinary diagnostic laboratory system to support the missions of the college," he said. "Looking back, two of the most rewarding accomplishments of the laboratory system have been receiving continuous full accreditation by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians through four accreditation cycles and becoming part of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), attaining a Level 1 laboratory in the network."

According to Dr. Pace, critical to this process was having support from the state legislature to build a new facility for MVRDL/PRDL and, a few years later, support for renovation of the CVM necropsy facility.

"Over the years, we were able to hire faculty and staff with exceptional qualifications and abilities to increase our capabilities and use cutting edge technologies to meet the needs of our clients. We would not have been able to maintain our accreditation and become a Level 1 NAHLN laboratory without the implementation of a functional, quality system and



the hard-working and dedicated faculty and staff throughout the laboratory system," he said.

"I always knew of and appreciated their commitment, but it became glaringly obvious to many others during the pandemic, when they went above and beyond to continue meeting the needs of those the labs serve; this required many modifications to operations and accommodations to meet precautions set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but we continued to serve our clients throughout the pandemic without a day of closure," Dr. Pace continued. "This dedication was also demonstrated as our state dealt with the highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak in domestic poultry and wild birds and with chronic wasting disease in white tailed deer."

According to MSU CVM Dean Dr. Kent Hoblet, the leadership Dr. Pace provided during these times are just a few examples of his outstanding service and many accomplishments during his tenure.

"Dr. Pace has been a steadfast and key member of the CVM leadership team during my 17 years as dean. He has consistently demonstrated dedication to the land-grant mission of the College and has always worked to fully integrate overall CVM and laboratory resources to meet the needs of our state," Dr. Hoblet said. "Clearly, the state has benefited greatly because Dr. Lanny Pace chose to return home to Mississippi 23 years ago. The MVRDLS and MSU CVM are better because of the work he has done; we are fortunate to have had his leadership and service through the years."



Earlier this spring, at the National Institute for Animal Agriculture annual conference in Kansas City, Missouri, Dr. Pace was presented with the NIAA's longest standing award, the Meritorious Service Award. He was cited for being a leader within animal agriculture who has invested his career to advancing the animal agriculture sector. He was also recognized as a retiring board member of the NIAA and thanked for his service to the institute.

"Dr. Pace can always be counted on to be a voice of experience, reason, and sound judgment with a strong foundation in context. Throughout his career, he has always been an active member of NIAA serving in several leadership roles. The animal agriculture sector of today's food system is stronger because of Dr. Pace's leadership and, most importantly, his friendship," shared NIAA Executive Director J.J. Jones.

In February, at their annual winter meeting, the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) recognized Dr. Pace as 2023 MVMA Veterinarian of the Year for his efforts to enhance veterinary medicine within the state.

"I've been recognized many times during my career, but receiving the MVMA Veterinarian of the Year and NIAA Meritorious Service awards certainly ranks at the very top of the list. It's been an honor and a privilege to work in this profession, and it means the world to me for my peers here in Mississippi and those across the nation to recognize my efforts," Dr. Pace said. "As I look back at my career, I'm proud to have helped improve the lives of animals and people. I'll miss that part of the job, but I look forward to continuing to do so in other ways."

Thank you for your leadership and service over the years, Dr. Pace. We wish you all the best in retirement!



"ASK A PSYCHOLOGIST" OFFERS WELLNESS SESSIONS FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF



MSU CVM Clinical Psychologist Dr. Pauline Prince

Believe it or not, there is no training program, or even a “how-to” manual, for psychologists on how to best meet the mental health and wellness needs of the veterinary medical community—or more specifically, student needs in a college of veterinary medicine. Even with 30 years of expertise working with students, teachers, and families of students, I found myself wondering how to effectively apply my training, knowledge, and expertise to the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University.

So, five years ago, I began with a needs analysis to gather information necessary to implement an evidence-based, comprehensive wellness program that would specifically address the needs of our students, faculty, and staff. The data obtained in that survey provided the basis for the College’s wellness program for the next two years. This needs analysis has been repeated every other year as a way of collecting data on the value/benefits of previous efforts and the need to create new services based on the changing needs of the students, faculty, and staff that are currently in the building.

Our most recent analysis was conducted earlier this spring. One of the requests was for a new type of service where individuals could just “drop in” to ask a question or seek advice on some topic/issue that really didn’t reach the level of an official counseling session. Based on this request, a new service was created called “Ask A Psychologist.” Two different types of sessions have been scheduled to serve this purpose: one for students and one for faculty and staff.

The student sessions are designed to be drop-in, stay for as long as you would like, ask questions, and/or seek assistance on most any topic of your choosing. The remaining schedule for this fall is 9/25, 10/9, 10/30, and 11/6, from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. with sessions being held in the Wellness Suite Conference room unless otherwise stated. These sessions will expand our open-door policy and allow for all students to benefit from discussion addressing topics such as, “A refresher on study strategies and test taking” which is the emphasis in our next session.

Ask A Psychologist for faculty and staff is also designed to be drop-in and stay as long as you would like; however, each of these sessions will have an initial theme. The dates and topics for them are as follows:

THURSDAY 8/3 • 8:30 A.M.

Working with students with disabilities (ADHD, Post COVID, Anxiety, Depression, etc.) – Old Freshman Classroom

MONDAY 9/18 • 10:00 A.M.

Stress Management – Tait Butler Classroom

FRIDAY 10/27 • NOON

Self Care – Tait Butler Classroom

THURSDAY 11/30 • 8:30

Open Forum – Tait Butler Classroom

The CVM Office of Psychological Services is proud of the comprehensive service delivery program that has been created. The needs analysis allows us to offer a data-driven service model specifically designed to provide evidence-based strategies to meet the expressed, specific needs of those at the College. It also allows us to track our success and revise our service delivery goals to continually fine tune to address the wellness needs of those we serve.

Dr. Pauline Prince

MSU CVM Clinical Psychologist



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

CAREER EXPO

Open to veterinary practitioners, employers, practice managers, and other animal-health related professionals who wish to recruit DVM and VMT students for employment.



Friday, September 22 @ The Wise Center

8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Company/Employer Registration and Set-up

Wise Center Dean's Lobby (first floor entrance by flagpole)

9:30 a.m.

Tour of College

10:30 a.m. – Noon

“What Do Today's Graduates Expect?” & Lunch for Exhibitors

Tait Butler Classroom

*Presented by Joey Burt, DVM, MSU CVM Animal Health Center Director
Maralyn Jackson, DVM, MSU CVM Veterinary Medical Technology Program Director*

Noon – 3:30 p.m.

Career Expo

CVM Lobby

Meet and Greet MSU CVM DVM & VMT Students

**Beverages available for all participants.*

*For more information,
email Joey.Burt@msstate.edu or call (662) 325-1342.*

www.career.msstate.edu/

GRANTS & CONTRACTS

AWARDED TO CVM FACULTY

EXTERNAL GRANTS

Alejandro Banda (PI), Lanny W. Pace (CoPI) – Association of Public Health Laboratories: APHL Internship Subaward Program at the MS Veterinary Research and Diagnostic Lab – \$14,768

Cooper Brookshire (PI) – University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC): Mississippi Center for Clinical and Translational Research – \$58,600

Cooper Brookshire (PI) – University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC): One Health Analysis of Antimicrobial Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* – \$127,289

Barbara L. Kaplan (PI) – University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC): MSU/Starkville High School Student Base Pair Program – \$666

Barbara L. Kaplan (PI), Stephen B. Pruett (CoPI) – Boehringer Ingelheim (BI): Research Experience Program for Veterinary Students 2023 – \$7,700

Lanny W. Pace (PI), William B. Epperson (CoPI) – USDA APHIS: MS 2023 Earmarked One Health Surveillance – \$735,000

Keun Seok Seo (PI), Joo Youn Park (CoPI) – Smile Lab Co, Ltd.: Develop a rapid qualitative immunometric assay sensitively and specifically detect hCG in urine – \$153,856

Brittany Moore-Henderson (PI) – Purdue University (NIH): See Us-Be Us: Inspiring future veterinarians using a Veterinary STEM Ecosystem – \$1,500 (Budget Addition)

Stephen B. Pruett (PI), Barbara L. Kaplan (CoPI) – National Institutes of Health (NIH): Summer Research Experience for Veterinary Students – \$117,831

Barbara L. Kaplan (PI), Stephen B. Pruett (CoPI) – Boehringer Ingelheim/USDA ARS: USDA/BI Veterinary Scholars Program – \$27,810

Thomas S. Campbell (PI), Alison M. Lee (CoPI), Marc A. Seitz (CoPI) – American College of Veterinary Radiology: The effect of ultrasound transducer type on diagnosing medical meniscal injury in dogs with cranial cruciate ligament injury – \$7,500

Leonard E. Jordan (PI), Marc A. Seitz (CoPI), Alison M. Lee (CoPI) – American College of Veterinary Radiology: The effect of dexmedetomidine on the frequency of ureteral jets detected using standard B-mode ultrasonography – \$1,570

Russell L. Carr (PI), Anna Marie Clay (CoPI), Suminto D. To (CoPI) – Halberd Corporation: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Nasal Spray-Pilot Project – \$48,275

Keun Seok Seo (PI) – USDA-ARS: Characterization of Cellular Receptors for Bluetongue Virus – \$36,500

Martha Pulido Landinez (PI) – US Poultry and Egg Association (US PEA): Control of *Enterococcus cecorum* through the identification of its dynamics of adaptation to the chickens and its environment – \$79,999

Martha Pulido Landinez (PI), Lifang Yan (CoPI) – USDA APHIS: MS 2023 NAHLN Infrastructure – \$387,870

Lanny W. Pace (PI), Martha Pulido Landinez (CoPI), Lifang Yan (CoPI) – US Food and Drug Administration: Using MVRDL to increase the FDA Vet-LRN sample analysis capacity during animal food/feed emergency events – \$43,650

Janice E. Chambers (PI), Edward C. Meek (CoPI) – Adama, Ltd.: In vitro Interaction between Acepate and Methamidophos – \$32,162

Lester H. Khoo (PI), Matthew J. Griffin (CoPI) – USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS): Catfish Health Initiatives – \$394,923

INTERNAL GRANTS

Andrea Krauss (PI), Kristen Fizzano (CoPI), Grace McBride (CoPI) – MSU CVM Veterinary Student Research Initiative Program: Effect of alfaxalone and butorphanol on tear production in healthy cats measured by the Schirmer tear test – \$1,500

Michael Jaffe (PI), Barbara Bennett (CoPI), Steve Elder (CoPI), Cooper Brookshire (CoPI), Nicholas Wheeler (CoPI) – MSU CVM Veterinary Student Research Initiative Program: Biomechanical evaluation of orthopedic cable compared to standard cerclage wire in a canine fracture model – \$1,500



CVM OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT NEWS

The College of Veterinary Medicine is a special place that has impacted many alumni and friends over the last 40-plus years. Donors have consistently increased the amount of total giving to the college each year. These gifts have impacted scholarships, faculty support, program support, and facilities. People give through cash, property, estates, trusts, IRAs, annuities, and other donor avenues. The opportunity has existed for quite some time to work with more individuals and companies on investing in the college and its mission, so we are incredibly excited about Mary Beth Baldwin joining Melissa Montgomery and me to expand the development team. Mary Beth

is our new assistant director of development and is a devoted dog mom. She is passionate about animal welfare and healthcare and is a tremendous asset to the college. Please be sure to read the article about her, her husband Billy, and their dog crew on page 27. As always, please let us know if we can ever help you with anything here at Mississippi State University.

Many thanks,

Jimmy Kight

Director of Development

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CVM NOTES & NEWS

ALUMNI & FRIENDS NEWS

Congrats to **DR. LIBBY TODD** who started a new job with National Veterinary Associates (NVA) as a mentor in their Mentorship Program in June. In this new role, Dr. Todd works with new graduates, providing one-on-one support during their first year in practice.

In addition, Dr. Todd, who was elected to a term on the AVMA House Advisory Committee in 2019, was reelected in 2022 and is currently serving as committee chair. This committee consists of seven members, elected by the AVMA House of Delegates, and makes recommendations to the House of Delegates and Board of Directors as well as reviews and approves the credentials of candidates for president, president-elect, vice president, councils, and the House Advisory Committee.

Kudos to **DR. SETH KETTLEMAN** (DVM 2018, MS 2022) for earning Diplomate status in the American College of Veterinary Surgeons! Dr. Kettleman currently serves as a full-time surgeon at the CVM's Animal Emergency & Referral Center in Flowood, Mississippi!

Congrats to **DR. LOCKE KARRIKER** (DVM 1999, MS 2020) who was installed as vice president of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians in March during the association's 54th annual meeting in Aurora, Colorado. Dr. Karriker is a Morrill Professor and holds the Dr. Douglas and Ann Gustafson Professorship for Teaching Excellence in Veterinary Medicine in the Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine Department at Iowa State University where he also serves as director of the Swine Medicine Education Center.

2023 PROMOTIONS AND TENURE

ALICIA OLIVIER – promoted to professor

RUSSELL CARR – promoted to professor

BRITTANY BAUGHMAN – promoted to clinical professor

GRETCHEN GRISETT-HARDWICK – promoted to associate clinical professor

KEVIN WALTERS – promoted to associate clinical professor

JULI GUNTER – promoted to associate clinical professor

TAYA MARQUARDT – promoted to associate clinical professor

NOTE TO ALUMNI:

Please send us your news! We want to hear about and share your career-related happenings, such as new jobs and titles; state, national, and international committee appointments; awards and recognition, etc. Please direct this info to the attention of MSU CVM Outreach Director Mel Thurlow, mel.thurlow@msstate.edu. You can also keep up with your fellow MSU CVM graduates on our social media pages!

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HELP US STAY IN TOUCH!

Update your contact info quickly and easily by visiting vetmed.msstate.edu/alumni-friends/update-information and filling out the short form!

CALENDAR of Events

*All events and dates are subject to change.
Please check the College's social media sites
for the most up-to-date information.*

SEPTEMBER

Annual CVM Career Expo

Friday, September 22 • 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Wise Center lobby areas

Visit vetmed.msstate.edu, click on Academics, then Careers/
Practice-building for details!

CVM Alumni Fellow

Friday, September 29

Wise Center

OCTOBER

Dean's Council Meeting

Dates TBD

Wise Center

DECEMBER

All College Day

Date TBD

Wise Center

Awards Program: 11:00 a.m.

Cobbler & Ice Cream: 12:30–1:30p.m.



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of summer coming
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