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## Insects Can Spread EIA from Asymptomatic Horses

By Philip Johnson, BVSc., MS, MRCVS

A number of horses in the United States have recently tested positive for the virus that causes equine infectious anemia. Equine infectious anemia (EIA) is an infectious disease of horses, mules, donkeys and zebras caused by the equine infectious anemia virus (EIAV).

Also known as "Swamp Fever," EIA was one of the first diseases to be recognized as caused by a virus in 1904. The EIAV is endemic throughout the Americas, parts of Europe, the Middle East, Far East, South Africa and Russia. This equine-specific virus is closely related to the HIV-1 virus that causes AIDS in people; both viruses are classified as retroviruses. However, unlike HIV-1 in people, the EIAV does not cause immunodeficiency in infected horses. The disease is transmitted to horses by biting insects that transfer the virus from infected horses to non-infected horses. Biting insects that are important for EIA transmission include horseflies, deerflies and stable flies. This virus can also be transmitted when hypodermic needles are used between different horses or when blood products that were produced in infected horses are administered to equine patients. It should be noted that most modern commercial plasma producers will use donor horses that have been rigorously tested and shown to be negative for EIA.



The clinical outcome of EIAV infection can be quite variable between different horses depending on the general susceptibility of the patient to infectious disease, the number of viruses that were introduced into the patient's blood, and the pathogenicity (virulence) of the viral strain involved. In general, the clinical pattern of an EIAV infection has been categorized into three distinct stages. First, there is a transient acute phase immediately following infection during which there is fever, lethargy and lack of appetite for a few days. The acute phase is followed by a chronic phase that lasts approximately 12 months during which the patient suffers from recurrent and intermittent bouts of malaise, fever, anemia, soft tissue swellings (edema), loss of condition, jaundice, reduced neurological functions and cachexia (wasting). Some horses die during the chronic phase. If the patient survives the chronic phase, it may seem to recover and return to a normal healthy-appearing state. This third recovery phase is known as the inapparent carrier stage during which the patient does not exhibit any clinical symptoms — this final stage may persist for the life of the horse.



As with many infectious diseases, some patients follow a clinical course that does not fall into these three stages of classification and may have constant fever with unprovoked bleeding problems and die. Other horses develop signs of organ disease as a result of EIA, including problems with the lungs, liver, spleen, kidneys and even the spinal cord.

In light of the fact that many infected horses do not exhibit any clinical signs of infection, the true extent of this infectious disease is often underestimated. The diagnosis of EIA is based on the demonstration of circulating antibodies against the virus in the patient's blood. There are two blood tests for this purpose, and the best known of these is the Coggins test. It should be noted that, following infection by the EIAV, it might take 45 to 60 days for the patient to develop antibodies, so veterinarians may perform more than one test when concerned with diagnosis of EIA. Unfortunately, there does not presently exist a curative treatment or an effective vaccine for this disease.

In North America, horses are routinely tested for EIA, and positive horses are subjected to either euthanasia or life-long segregation. It is important to re-emphasize that a majority of horses that test positive for EIA are not exhibiting any signs of disease. These asymptomatic horses still represent a source of the virus and risk of infection to other horses. Both the horse industry and the veterinary profession agree that the risk from asymptomatic carriers of EIA is sufficiently severe to warrant their segregation or euthanasia to protect healthy horses. Although there does not presently exist a federally mandated EIA eradication program, many states do require recent certification of negative EIA status, based on the Coggins test. Moreover, negative EIA status is required by many horse boarding farms, horse shows and events, stud farms, and for purposes of international export. Although responsible horse owners typically request an annual Coggins test, which is a simple blood test, greater testing frequency should be considered for horses that travel extensively.

New MU Metagenomics Center to Make Important Research...

<http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0804-new-mu-metagenomics-center-to-make-important-research-cheaper-faster/>

## **First Booth Lecture Set for Aug. 25**

M. Harold Laughlin, PhD, will deliver the inaugural Booth Lectureship in Physical Activity, Exercise and Health at 4 p.m. on Aug. 25 in Acuff Auditorium at the University of Missouri School of Medicine. Laughlin, who is a University of Missouri Curators' Professor, is stepping down as chairman of the Department of Biomedical Sciences at the MU College of Veterinary Medicine after more than two decades. He also is a professor within the MU School of Medicine Department of Medical Pharmacology and Physiology and a research investigator at the Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center.

His lecture is titled, "Application of Understanding of Physical Activity Induced Remodeling of Skeletal Muscle Vasculature to Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes."

Laughlin earned a doctorate in physiology and biophysics from the University of Iowa. His research focuses on the cardiovascular effects of exercise with the primary goal being to understand the effects of exercise training on the coronary circulation and skeletal muscle vascular beds. He has more than 325 peer-reviewed manuscripts and his research has been continuously funded by NIH for 37 years.

The Booth Lectureship series was created in 2014 to honor Frank Booth, an MU professor with appointments in the College of Veterinary Medicine Department of Biomedical Sciences, the School of Medicine Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, College of Human and Environmental Sciences, and Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center. With leadership from Brian Tseng, MD, PhD, who studied under Booth at the University of Texas at Houston, and John Thyfault, PhD, an associate professor of molecular and integrative physiology at the University of Missouri, trainees and colleagues of Booth created an endowment to fund the lectures series in honor of Booth's life-long commitment and contributions to research in exercise and human health. Booth has been published in more than 220 publications. He also has received numerous national and international honors from exercise biology organizations.

A reception will be held outside Acuff Auditorium immediately following Laughlin's lecture.



*Dr. M. Harold Laughlin*



*Dr. Frank Booth*

# Equine Seminar

AT THE MU VETERINARY HEALTH CENTER EQUINE HOSPITAL

Sept. 26, 2015  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Adams Conference Center  
E125 Veterinary Medicine Building  
University of Missouri

**Lunch will be provided**

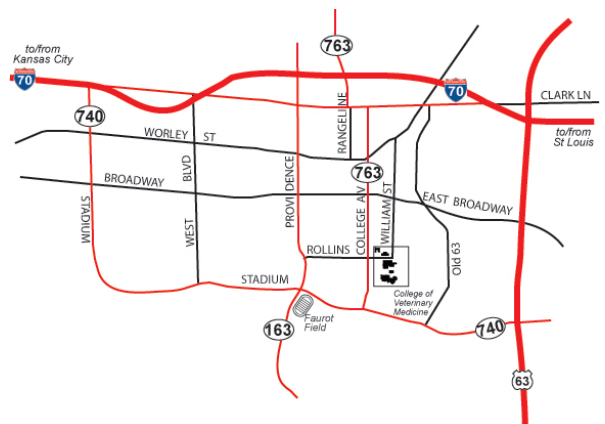
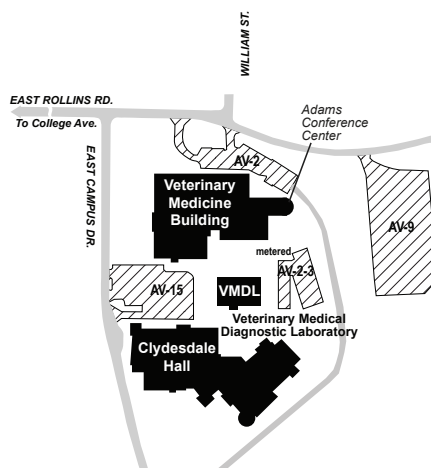
## Program

- Update on Equine Herpesvirus: How to Protect Your Horse at Equestrian Events  
Dr. Dee Whelchel
- Update on Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome.  
Dr. Philip Johnson
- Back Pain: The Spine, the Saddle, the Rider  
Dr. Shannon Reed
- Student Education: What Does it Take to be a Veterinarian?  
Dr. Joanne Kramer
- Ready. Set. Rescue! VHC and Boone County Fire Team up to Rescue Large Animals  
Dr. Alison LaCarrubba
- Sink Your Teeth into Dental Disease.  
Dr. Alison LaCarrubba
- Tours of the VHC Equine Hospital

*Groups of more than three people are asked to RSVP: 573-882-3513*

### How to find us:

The Adams Conference Center is on the east side of the Veterinary Medicine Building. From Interstate 70, take Highway 63 south to Stadium Boulevard. Turn west on Stadium toward S. College Avenue. Turn north on S. College to E. Rollins Street. Turn east on E. Rollins. The Veterinary Medicine Building is on the south side of Rollins at the intersection of East Campus Drive.



Visit us on Facebook: [facebook.com/MUEquineClinic](https://facebook.com/MUEquineClinic)

## **Alumni Weekend is Sept. 18-19**

The MU College of Veterinary Medicine 2015 Alumni Weekend is set for Sept. 18-19. The weekend will kick off with a reunion dinner from 6 to 10 p.m. on Sept. 18 in the Adams Conference Center of the Veterinary Medicine Building. The presentation of the Alumni of the Year Award will take place at 7:30 p.m. All CVM alumni and their guests are invited to attend. This year's reunion will honor class years 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2010.

Sept. 19 events begin at 8 a.m. with brunch with retired faculty and a tailgate party prior to the 11 a.m. kickoff of the football game. The Missouri Tigers will be taking on the University of Connecticut Huskies. Tours of the Veterinary Health Center Equine Hospital, Food Animal Hospital and Small Animal Hospital will be offered.

[Contrary to Previous Studies, Diabetes Affects Diaphragm, Skeletal Muscle Cells Differently](http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0819-contrary-to-previous-studies-diabetes-affects-diaphragm-smooth-muscle-cells-differently/)

Link: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0819-contrary-to-previous-studies-diabetes-affects-diaphragm-smooth-muscle-cells-differently/>

[Compound Found in Red Wine Causes Conflicting Changes in Dogs' Immune Systems](http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0824-compound-found-in-red-wine-causes-conflicting-changes-in-dogs-immune-systems/)

Link: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0824-compound-found-in-red-wine-causes-conflicting-changes-in-dogs-immune-systems/>



## **Diagnostic Laboratory Earns Full Accreditation**

The University of Missouri Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (VMDL) has earned full accreditation from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) accreditation committee.

The AAVLD started in 1957 as the organization that establishes standards for public veterinary diagnostic laboratories and then determines if those standards are being met in technical and operational competencies. There are currently 32 AAVLD accredited laboratories in North America.

“The AAVLD is the gold standard for veterinary diagnostic laboratory accreditation,” said MU College of Veterinary Medicine Dean Neil C. Olson. “The VMDL is the only laboratory in Missouri to receive this distinction, and I congratulate our lab faculty and staff for the hard work they have put in to make this possible.”

The VMDL performs more than 85,000 tests each year in fulfilling its mission to provide in-depth laboratory diagnostic support to veterinary practitioners and pet owners, livestock and poultry industry interests, wildlife conservationists, researchers throughout the University of Missouri, state and regulatory officials, and veterinary clinicians in the MU Food Animal, Equine and Small Animal Hospitals. The lab is a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, which responds to animal disease outbreaks, such as the recent outbreak of avian influenza, and other adverse animal health events of significant consequence. It is also a Tier I laboratory of the Food and Drug Administration Veterinary Laboratory Investigation and Response Network, which investigates cases of potential foodborne illness in animals.

In 2003, the AAVLD added stringent quality assurance requirements that demanded labs provide additional documentation. Olson hired Shuping Zhang, DVM, PhD, in 2013 to direct VMDL operations and take over the task of obtaining full accreditation.

“Each person on the faculty and staff was asked to take ownership of quality assurance,” Zhang said. “It became part of faculty evaluations, and we created a staff award in 2014 to recognize staff members who are effective in improving quality control assurances.”

The VMDL is the most comprehensive lab in Missouri and the only one that provides full services for all animal species. As part of MU, the VMDL provides laboratory support to researchers and trains residents as well as U.S. and international undergraduate and graduate students.

“Full accreditation is important because we have an obligation to protect the animal health and public health through diagnostic services, to support researchers, and to teach diagnostic medicine to students, graduate students and residents,” Zhang said.

The AAVLD awarded full accreditation through 2016.

## [Rhett, Professional Assistance Canine](#)

“Tiger Paws”

Three four-legged MU workers poised to make a difference

Link: <http://news.missouri.edu/2015/tiger-paws/>

## [Scientists Successfully Edit Genes of Dengue Fever Mosquitoes](#)

Link: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0902-scientists-successfully-edit-genes-of-dengue-fever-mosquitoes/>

## Natural Compound Found in Herbs, Vegetables Could Reduce Breast Cancer Risk in Some Women

Link: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0908-natural-compound-found-in-herbs-vegetables-could-reduce-breast-cancer-risk-in-some-women/>

[Female Mice Exposed to Environmental Chemicals May Cause Decreased Physical Activity in Their Offspring](http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0918-female-mice-exposed-to-environmental-chemicals-may-decrease-physical-activity-in-their-offspring/)

Link: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/0918-female-mice-exposed-to-environmental-chemicals-may-decrease-physical-activity-in-their-offspring/>

## William Gengler is CVM Alumnus of the Year

University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine Dean Neil C. Olson announced that William Gengler, DVM '72, was selected as the 2015 Alumnus of the Year. The announcement came during the CVM's Alumni Reunion Weekend held Sept. 18-19. A 1966 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Gengler completed a master of science degree in ruminant nutrition at MU and then went on to earn his DVM.

He initially worked in a small animal practice in Newburgh, New York, with a rotating internship at the Animal Medical Center in New York City. He went on to become the co-owner of a small animal and equine practice in Blue Springs, Missouri. In 1978 he founded the Animal Hospital of Verona, which he owned for the next 20 years. After selling the hospital, he stayed on as the chief of staff through 2005.

In 1998 he became a diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College after completing a specialty board examination in veterinary dentistry and oral surgery. He served as the section head of the Dentistry and Oral Surgery Service at the University of Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital from 1990 until 2010, and from 2003 until 2010, he also served as the associate dean for Clinical Affairs and as director of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. He is now an emeritus associate professor in Wisconsin's School of Veterinary Medicine.

Although he is retired, he continues to work part time at Dallas Veterinary Dentistry and Oral Surgery in Southlake, Texas, and Mission Veterinary Specialists in San Antonio, Texas.

He is credited with more than 20 professional publications, and has held numerous leadership positions in veterinary organizations, including as president of the AVDC. He is the recipient of more than a dozen awards, including Veterinarian of the Year by both the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association and the Wisconsin Veterinary Technicians Association, the American Veterinary Dental Society Hill's Research and Education Award, the Seeing Eye Dog Foundation's Veterinary Award, the University of Wisconsin-Platteville's Friend of Agriculture Award, and its Outstanding Alumnus Award, and the AVDC Peter Emily Service Award honoring outstanding contributions to the field of veterinary dentistry.

In nominating the honoree, Richard Meadows, DVM, Curators' Professor at the CVM, said Gengler provided early guidance and support to the Veterinary Dental Educators organization, which teaches dentistry to veterinary students from around the world at no cost. He works as a volunteer teacher during the Student American Veterinary Medical Association annual conference, and volunteers at the yearly MU Zoetis Veterinary Dentistry Continuing Education Weekend — all at his own expense.



*CVM Dean Neil C. Olson congratulates William Gengler and presents him with a plaque honoring him as the 2015 Alumnus of the Year.*



*The CVM Mule Team was on hand for rides following the Alumni Reunion Weekend brunch Sept. 19.*



*Jewell Taylor, DVM, '61 catches up with classmate James Thorne, who is a professor emeritus at the CVM.*

## [Extremely Active Rats Become Lazy when They Artificially Receive “Runners’ High”](http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/1006-extremely-active-rats-become-lazy-when-they-artificially-receive-runners-high/)

Link: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/1006-extremely-active-rats-become-lazy-when-they-artificially-receive-runners-high/>

## White Coat Ceremony Ushers in Clinics for Class of 2017

The MU College of Veterinary Medicine held its 15th annual White Coat Ceremony on Oct. 18, to celebrate the success of Class of 2017 members in completing their first two years of the veterinary curriculum and advancing to their clinical training.

The event marked the midpoint in the students' professional curriculum. The first two years of preclinical training included courses in anatomy, physiology, cell and molecular biology, pathology, pharmacology, microbiology, virology and toxicology. They also learned fundamentals in clinical disciplines, including anesthesiology, clinical pathology, radiology, public health and medicine and surgery. The students each received a white laboratory coat before starting their next two years working in the Veterinary Health Center in the Small Animal, Food Animal and Equine hospitals, as well as completing preceptorships in private practices or with public agencies.

"Instead of studying late into the night for an equine anatomy test, you may instead be relearning gastrointestinal anatomy as you assist in the surgical resection of 10 feet of small intestine from a horse ... at 2 in the morning," said John Dodam, DVM, MS, PhD, chairman of the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, as he welcomed the students to the next phase of their education.

Alyssa Thomas gave the response on behalf of her classmates, quoting author A.A. Milne, "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

"Don't doubt yourself, don't overthink and know that you are smarter than you think," she said. "We have been equipped with an arsenal of knowledge from these past two years, and while life may not be multiple choice, never forget that you do have a phone-a-friend option."

The 113 students who took part in the ceremony selected a family member, friend or mentor to present their white coats and assist in donning them. Following the ceremony, which was held at the Missouri Theatre in Columbia, a reception was held in the students' honor.



*College of Veterinary Medicine Dean Neil C. Olson, DVM, PhD, congratulates Jenelle Francis on earning her white coat.*



*Jason Razo selected his grandmother, Norma McWilliams, to present him with his coat.*



*Alyssa Thomas reminded her classmates that they had successfully pushed through mental walls to reach this point in their education.*





*Alexis Zallas is assisted into her white coat by her father, Nicholas Zallas.*

*The Missouri Veterinary Medical Association provided lapel pins for the ceremony. MVMA President Chuck Berry, DVM, presents a pin to Brian Jochems.*



## The (Academic) Road Less Traveled

Link: <http://cafnrnews.com/2015/10/the-academic-road-less-traveled/>

## Companies Share Latest Products with Veterinary Students

The MU College of Veterinary Medicine hosted Veterinary Products Day on Oct. 20. The annual event brings together veterinary students with representatives from animal care and nutrition companies, veterinary interest businesses and the government. Now in its 19th year, the forum attracted 400 veterinary students who learned about products available from 19 companies. The U.S. Army and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service also sent representatives to advise students about potential careers with their agencies.

The evening included a food buffet featuring a variety of appetizers, as well as drawings for prizes and scholarships. Winning \$500 scholarships each were: Brittany Antuna, VM-1; Ashley Hotop, VM-2; Bryana Mitchell, VM-3; and Valerie Duncan, VM-4. Other drawings included a stethoscope donated by Banfield Pet Hospital and won by Victoria Spreyer, VM-2; a canine drink fountain from Hill's Pet Nutrition won by Chelsea Boutwell, VM-1; and two \$50 gift cards given by Norbrook and won by Cody Secret, VM-1, and Antuna.

Companies and agencies attending the networking forum included, Addison Biological Laboratory, Banfield Pet Hospital, Boehringer Ingelheim, Dechra Veterinary Products, Hill's Pet Nutrition, iVet, MDF Instruments, Merial, Mizzou Animal Cancer Care, MWI Veterinary Supply, Nestle Purina Pet Care, Norbrook, NutraMax Laboratories, Pet King Brands Animal Health, ProPartners Wealth — AVMA GHLIT, Radiologic Resources, U.S. Army Health Care Recruiting Team, USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, VCA Animal Hospitals, Royal Canin and Zoetis.



*The MU College of Veterinary Medicine's annual Veterinary Products Day gave 400 veterinary students the opportunity to meet with representatives of companies and learn about animal food, medicine and other care products as well as diagnostic equipment the companies offer.*



*Sean White of MDF Instruments discusses the different types of stethoscopes his company offers.*



*Virginia Shetler of ProPartners Wealth — AVMA GHLIT meets with Elizabeth Farnen, a member of*



*Second year veterinary students (from left) Natasha Frost, Chelsey Shaffer and Michelle Lenertz check out the displays inside Adams Conference Center during Veterinary Products Day.*

## Pet Insurance Pioneer Receives Lifetime Award

University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine alumnus Jack Stephens was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the North American Pet Health Insurance Association. Stephens, DVM '72, started the pet health insurance industry in the early 1980s when he founded the company Veterinary Pet Insurance. He went on to start a second pet insurance company Pets Best Insurance Services.

He launched the pet insurance business after practicing veterinary medicine for a decade in Southern California, during which time he started six veterinary clinics. The Twin Falls, Idaho resident adds the Lifetime Award to a list of honors, including the CVM Alumnus of the Year Award in 1993, and the University of Missouri Distinguished Alumni Award in 2003.

His most recent honor was featured in [Veterinary Practice News](#).



Link: <http://www.veterinarypracticenews.com/VPI-Pets-Best-Founder-Receives-Lifetime-Award/>

## **Doug Bowles to Lead CVM's Department of Biomedical Sciences**

University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine Dean Neil C. Olson recently named Doug Bowles, PhD, as the chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences. His appointment follows a national search to replace Harold Laughlin who retired after serving as the department chairman for 23 years. Bowles has been the associate chair of the department since 2013.

Bowles earned a bachelor's degree in biochemistry in 1984 and a master's degree in exercise science in 1987 from Kansas State University in Manhattan. He went on to earn a doctorate in exercise physiology in 1992 at the University of Texas, Austin, before coming to the University of Missouri as a National Institutes of Health (NIH) postdoctoral fellow in 1992. He became an American Heart Association (AHA) postdoctoral fellow in 1993 and an NIH individual postdoctoral fellow in 1994. At Mizzou, his studies focused on vascular biology, exercise and atherosclerosis.

He was appointed as a research assistant professor at MU's Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center in 1995, a position he held until 1998, when he became an assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and a Dalton investigator. He went on to serve as associate director for the National Center for Gender Physiology at MU, director of the MU Research Catheterization Laboratory, associate professor and professor of Medical Pharmacology and Physiology, and associate professor and professor in Biomedical Sciences at the CVM.

"My goal is to build upon the solid foundation left by Dr. Laughlin to make our department the model for how a basic science department excels in research and contributes to interdisciplinary research at Mizzou, while maintaining excellence in education of professional and graduate students," Bowles said of his plans for Biomedical Sciences.

In addition to his NIH and AHA fellowships, he was named an American Physiological Society Cardiovascular Section fellow, and an American College of Sports Medicine fellow (ACSM). He was also honored with the NIH Independent Scientist Award in 2005 and the ACSM New Investigator Award in 1998.

He is a member of the American College of Sports Medicine, American Heart Association and American Physiological Society.

He has more than 70 scientific research papers published, served on multiple NIH and AHA review panels and has reviewed manuscripts for a dozen journals. His research program has been funded by multiple NIH grants, in addition to funding from the American Heart Association, NASA and research contracts with private industry and foundations.



## **CVM's Evans Receives Governor's Award for Teaching**

Tim J. Evans, DVM, MS, PhD, DACT, DABVT, associate professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology and Toxicology Section leader in the Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, was honored as the 2015 recipient of the Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. The prestigious award is presented each year to one outstanding faculty member from each participating higher education institution in the state.

Evans and his guests will be invited to attend a luncheon hosted by the governor in early April for the award presentation.

Faculty colleagues, departments, schools and colleges or recognized campus organizations nominate individuals for the award. Criteria used in selecting the recipient include effective teaching, effective advising, service to the university community, a commitment to high standards of excellence, and success in nurturing student achievement.

Among numerous letters of support submitted on Evans' behalf was one written by CVM Class of 2015 member Sage Buckner. Evans was Buckner's mentor during the 2012 Veterinary Research Scholars Program. In his letter, Buckner described the guidance Evans provided that took his work to a higher level.

"The third phase of the mentorship process, tormentorship, came when deadlines were in sight and I was in need of a sense of urgency," Buckner wrote. Through emails, text messages, or in person, Dr. Evans pushed me to work hard and quickly to achieve goals that we had been striving for. It was comforting during these phases of the research to know that Dr. Evans was willing to work hard and long hours alongside me to get the job done, even when that commonly meant working nights and weekends."

Evans earned a doctor of veterinary medicine at the University of California, Davis. He went on to pursue a master of science degree in veterinary medicine and surgery and a doctorate degree in veterinary pathobiology at the University of Missouri. He is a diplomate in both the American College of Theriogenologists and the American Board of Veterinary Toxicologists.

He joined the CVM faculty as a clinical instructor in 2001, and became an assistant professor in 2002. As an instructor, Evans teaches topics including reproductive pharmacology, veterinary diagnostic toxicology and how chemical agents cause environmental disease.

Evans was a 2013 recipient of the William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence and was awarded the Carl F. Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Veterinary Teacher Award in 2012. He has also been awarded two Golden Aesculapius Awards, a SCAVMA Teaching Award for Clinical Sciences and the George Dadd Award for peer-reviewed excellence in teaching.



## [Pigs that are Resistant to Incurable Disease Developed at University of Missouri](#)

Link: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2015/1208-pigs-that-are-resistant-to-incurable-disease-developed-at-university-of-missouri/>

## **Veterinary Hospital Has New Name**

The University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine officials recently changed the name of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital to the Veterinary Health Center (VHC). The center now comprises the Equine Hospital, Food Animal Hospital, Small Animal Hospital and Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory.

The name change better reflects the range of services provided through the hospitals, clinics and diagnostic lab, said CVM Dean Neil C. Olson.

"Educating future veterinary clinicians and scientists is at the heart of our mission," Olson said. "However, the former name did not fully reflect the scope of our objectives, which also encompass healing, discovery and service," Olson said.

"We think this new name will help increase awareness of the advanced care available through each of our hospitals," added VHC Hospital Director David Wilson. "We are a referral center for the entire Midwest and have the most advanced imaging and state-of-the-art diagnostic capabilities available in veterinary medicine. Clients may also be interested in learning about clinical trials conducted at MU and whether their pet may be eligible to participate, particularly in the fields of internal medicine, neurology and oncology," Wilson said.

The new name incorporates the primary service functions of the College of Veterinary Medicine, which led to the change in the organizational structure, placing the Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (VMDL) under the VHC umbrella. The laboratory is the most comprehensive in Missouri and the only one in the state that has full accreditation from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.

The VMDL performs more than 85,000 tests each year providing laboratory diagnostic support to veterinary practitioners and pet owners, livestock and poultry industry interests, wildlife conservationists, researchers throughout the University of Missouri, state and regulatory officials, and clinicians in the VHC hospitals. The lab is a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, which responds to animal disease outbreaks, such as the recent outbreak of avian influenza, and other adverse animal health events of significant consequence. It is also a Tier I laboratory of the Food and Drug Administration Veterinary Laboratory Investigation and Response Network, which investigates cases of potential foodborne illness in animals.

As part of the new identity, the Mizzou Animal Cancer Care facility in Wentzville, Missouri, will also have a new name. It will become the Veterinary Health Center in Wentzville. In addition to offering radiation oncology and pet behavioral services, the VHC in Wentzville will begin providing dermatology services this spring.