

EXCELLENCE AND LEADERSHIP IN RESEARCH, TEACHING AND SERVICE

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THE HITCHING POST

LAB EARNS FIVE-YEAR ACCREDITATION

The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) has awarded another full accreditation to the MU Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (VMDL). The accreditation is from January 2017 to December 2021.

“Our faculty and staff take pride in what they do,” said MU College of Veterinary Medicine Dean Neil C. Olson. “Receiving another full accreditation affirms their dedication and commitment to veterinary diagnostic service, teaching and research.”

The VMDL was initially awarded full accreditation from 2015 through 2016. The AAVLD accredits public veterinary diagnostic laboratories in North America relative to technical and operational competence compatible with appropriate standards. The agency also provides an administrative assessment. An accredited laboratory is one that is capable of providing a full range of diagnostic services year-round in a majority of essential disciplines: necropsy, histopathology, clinical pathology, bacteriology, virology, mycology, parasitology, serology and toxicology. The VMDL performs more than 85,000 tests each year in fulfilling its

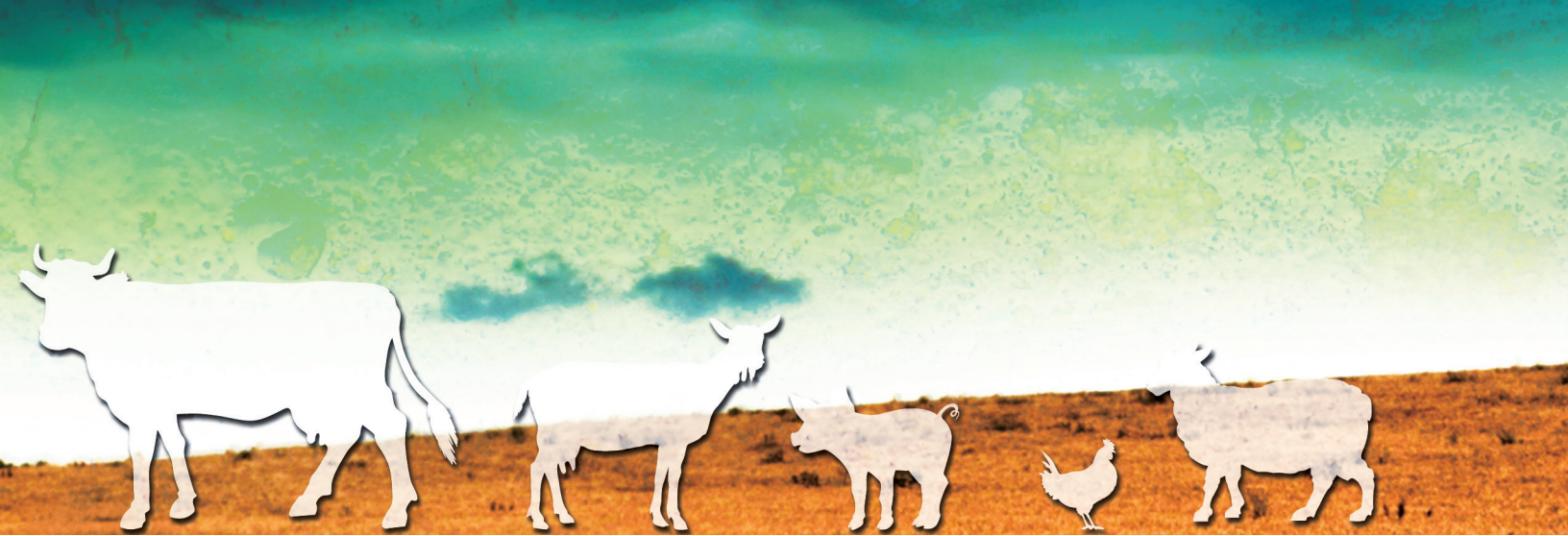


mission to provide in-depth laboratory diagnostic support to veterinary practitioners and pet owners, livestock and poultry industry interests, wildlife conservationists, researchers throughout the University of Missouri, state and regulatory officials, and veterinary clinicians in the MU Food Animal, 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.

The AAVLD accreditation process is based on the Requirements for an Accredited Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, Version 5.0 (2010), which incorporates the World Organization for Animal Health, or Office International des Epizooties, (OIE) document “OIE Quality Standard and Guidelines for Veterinary Laboratories: Infectious Diseases,” from the Standards Commission of the OIE 2008. OIE was authorized to establish the international standard by the World Trade Organization, and input into development of the OIE Quality Standard is international in scope.

AAVLD accreditation ensures a high-quality laboratory diagnostic program for veterinary education and research. It also assures VMDL clients that results are accurate, faculty and staff are competent, facility and equipment are adequate and properly maintained, all procedures are documented, and results are recognized by other accredited laboratories. Results from an accredited laboratory are accepted by other countries for live animal or animal products export to other countries, which is critical to the success of Missouri’s animal agricultural industry and economy.



FINGLAND NAMED ALUMNUS OF YEAR

Roger Fingland, a 1981 graduate of the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine, was named the 2016 Alumnus of the Year during the CVM's Alumni Reunion Weekend held Sept. 23-24.

Originally from Sedalia, Missouri, Fingland began working in a local veterinary clinic when he was 14. He said his original goal was to drive a big four-wheel drive truck to farm calls. However, his first surgery rotation in veterinary school convinced him that he wanted to be a surgeon. He also developed a desire to teach. He recalled asking his mentor James Coffman, a professor of equine medicine at MU, how he had become such a great teacher?

'Well, Roger,' Coffman responded. 'I guess I remember what it was like when I didn't know,' Fingland recounted.

After earning a bachelor of science with honors at Mizzou, he went on to graduate with a doctor of veterinary medicine. He completed a master's degree in surgery and a surgical residency at the Ohio State University, and an MBA from Baker University in Kansas.

He served as professor of surgery and chief of Small Animal Surgery at Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine. While there, he became internationally recognized for his work on surgical management of tracheal collapse in small-breed dogs.



Roger Fingland accepts the 2016 MU CVM Alumnus of the Year award.

He trained many veterinary students, interns and surgery residents before becoming executive associate dean and hospital director at Kansas State.

Earlier this year he returned to Ohio State as executive associate dean and professor of surgery for the College of Veterinary Medicine, and executive director and chief medical officer of the Veterinary Medical System.

Fingland is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. He has published numerous scientific articles and book chapters and delivered hundreds of continuing education presentations at local, national and international meetings. He serves as the secretary-treasurer and member of the executive committee of the Ameri-

can Association of Veterinary Clinicians and the director of the Veterinary Internship/Residency Matching Program. Among his honors, he has received the Norden Distinguished Teacher Award, the Merck National Award for Creativity in Teaching, the SCAVMA Teaching Excellence in Clinical Sciences Award and the Leadership Kansas Jim Edwards Alumnus of the Year Award.

He thanked his family, especially his wife, Ann, for their support, and the people who influenced his career: veterinarians he shadowed, professors at Mizzou and professional colleagues.

'All I did was try to emulate what they taught me and the kind of people that they are,' he said.



Recognitions and Honors

College of Veterinary Medicine Announces Recent Promotions

The University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine congratulates the following faculty members on reaching career milestones:

Sandra Marie Bechtel, an assistant professor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, was awarded associate professor with tenure.

Michael Calcutt, an associate professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, was awarded professor.

Craig A. Emter, an assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, was awarded associate professor with tenure.

Patrick Pithua, an assistant professor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, awarded associate professor with tenure.

Shannon Reed, an assistant teaching professor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, was awarded associate teaching professor.

Marlyn Whitney, an associate clinical professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, was awarded clinical professor.

CVM'S FALES IS ONLY NON-DVM INDUCTED INTO HONOR ROLL

MU College of Veterinary Medicine Professor Emeritus William H. Fales, PhD, was inducted into the Missouri Veterinary Medical Foundation (MVMF) Veterinary Honor Roll on Sept. 10.

The Veterinary Honor Roll recognizes veterinarians who have been nominated for inclusion by people whose lives they have touched. Fales is the only individual who is not a doctor of veterinary medicine ever to be inducted. MVMF Board members nominated him for inclusion. Fales is also the only non-DVM to be an active voting member of the MVMA. He was elected to full membership in the MVMA in 1991 and was elected to honorary membership in the Missouri Academy of Veterinary Practice in 1999.

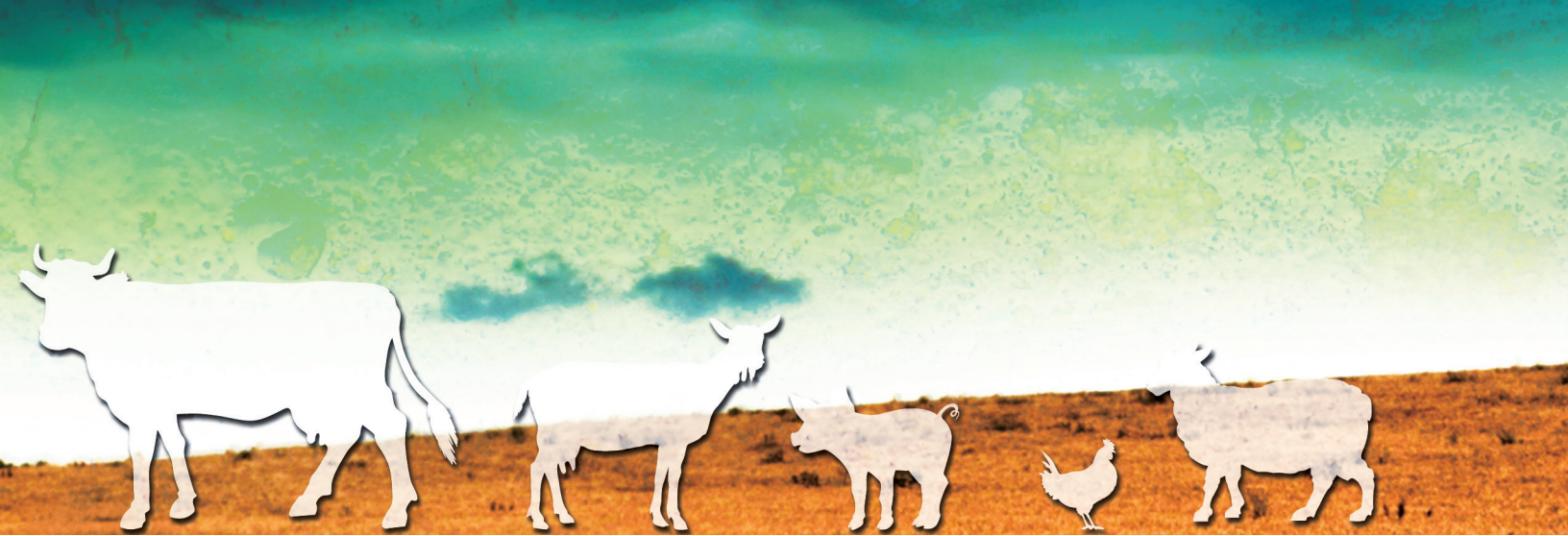
A native of Redding, California, Fales served in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps from 1966-69. He then pursued a master of science and a doctorate in bacteriology at the University of Idaho, Moscow. He began his career at the University of Missouri in 1974 as a research associate in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology. From 1975 to 1981 he was an assistant professor in the Department of Microbiology and served as a clinical micro-



Susan Fales looks at her husband's plaque after a ceremony inducting William Fales into the Veterinary Honor Roll.

biologist for the Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory and the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. In 1981 he became a tenured associate professor, and in 1986 he was named a full professor of veterinary pathobiology. He was elected as an honorary diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists in 1992. In August 2015 he retired from MU, but accepted an adjunct appointment and was named professor emeritus.

Fales was one of three people inducted into the Veterinary Honor Roll during the September ceremony. Joining him were MU CVM alumni Melanie Grundy, DVM '98, of Carthage, and Charles Monsees, DVM '54, who was inducted posthumously.

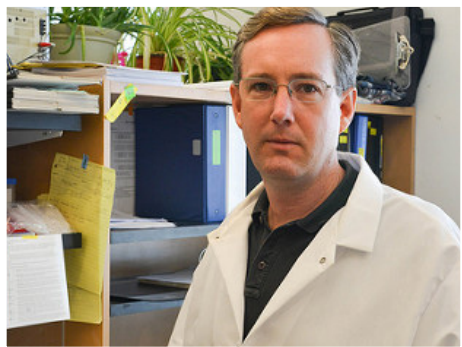


NEW DRUG OFFERS HOPE FOR SMA

According to studies, approximately one out of every 40 individuals in the United States is a carrier of the gene responsible for spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a neurodegenerative disease that causes muscles to weaken over time. Researchers at the University of Missouri developed a new molecule in April 2014 that was found to be highly effective in animal models exhibiting SMA. Now, testing of that compound is leading to a better prognosis for mice with the disease and the possibility of potential drugs that will improve outcomes for patients with SMA.

“Our team has been fine-tuning a potential therapeutic for SMA and what it does,” said Chris Lorson, an investigator in the Bond Life Sciences Center and a professor of veterinary pathobiology in the MU College of Veterinary Medicine. “It’s a type of molecule called an antisense oligonucleotide, or ASO, that essentially is a synthetic string of nucleic acid that binds a specific sequence in the gene.”

In individuals affected by SMA, the survival motor neuron-1 (SMN1) gene is mutated and lacks the ability to process a key protein that helps neurons function. Muscles that control walking or even lifting an arm often are profoundly affected as well as muscles im-



Chris Lorson and his team tested a new molecule that was found to be highly effective in animal models exhibiting spinal muscular atrophy. Now, testing of that compound is leading to a better prognosis for mice with the disease and the possibility of potential drugs.

portant for breathing. Fortunately, humans have a nearly identical copy gene called SMN2; however, SMN2 normally only makes a small amount of the correct SMN protein. Lorson’s compound targets SMN2 and effectively “turns the volume up” for SMN2, allowing it to make more of the correct SMN protein.

“Our current treatment helps the body create a backup mechanism to combat the disease and extends survival in mice with SMA from just 13 days to a little over five months after only one

injection at birth,” Lorson said. “This treatment helps produce the right form of SMN, the one that was only produced at very low levels before.”

Lorson stressed that his lab’s achievement does not promise a cure for SMA and that it is unlikely a single compound will address the full gamut of symptoms. However, by combining therapies currently being researched, a better prognosis could be on the horizon, Lorson said.

The early-stage results of this research are promising. If additional studies are successful within the next few years, these compounds may be tested in human clinical trials with the hope of developing new treatments for SMA.

The study, “Optimization of Morpholino Antisense Oligonucleotides Targeting the Intronic Repressor Element1 in Spinal Muscular Atrophy,” recently was accepted for publication in *Molecular Therapy*. Previous funding was received from CureSMA. Erkan Osman, a postdoctoral fellow and lead author on this publication working in Lorson’s lab is funded by FightSMA and the Gwendolyn Strong Foundation. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the funding agencies.



JASPER'S LEGACY: LOVE AND THE SEARCH FOR A CURE

Newly married in 2005, Diane Civetta and her husband, John, wanted to expand their family with a dog. They agreed upon a labradoodle based on the breed's temperament and reputation for being hypoallergenic. While the Civettas planned to acquire their pet from a breeder, they decided they would first visit a pet store near their home in Scarsdale, New York, so that John Civetta, who was unfamiliar with labradoodles, could see what they look like.

"When I walked into the pet store, I saw my beautiful Jasper running around his cage," Diane Civetta recalled. "I walked right over to him and fell in love with him."

At the time, Diane Civetta's daughter, Emily Yankowitz, was at a sleep-away camp. Yankowitz asked her mother to wait until she returned before bringing Jasper home. Civetta agreed, but began making daily visits to the pet store.

"I would come into the pet store and Jasper would start barking and running around his cage," Civetta said. "The store owner would take him out and we would go into an empty room together. I would sit on the floor and Jasper would run around me, sit on my lap and make humming sounds."

After several days, Civetta entered the pet store and found Jasper's cage empty. The store owner told Civetta the bad news: Jasper had pneumonia and she planned to return him to his breeder in Missouri.

"I was stunned and told her that Jasper was my boy and I still wanted him," Civetta said. "The pet store owner told me that she would only pay a nominal amount for Jasper's medical care, and once again, I told her that I still wanted Jasper. I will never forget when the pet store owner brought me into the back and Jasper was using a nebulizer and he had the mask on his snout. He looked so weak and sad. I stayed with him the whole day and felt guilty leaving him."

Once the Civetta family took Jasper home, he required twice-weekly treatments for his pneumonia until he fully recovered.

For nearly 11 years, Jasper was a central part of the Civetta family. Jasper's vitality and utter joy filled their lives with excitement and love. He relished running with other dogs at the park, chasing rabbits, and greeting the mailman. In particular, Jasper enjoyed snuggling and getting his belly rubbed.

However, in December 2014, during Jasper's annual exam, the veterinar-

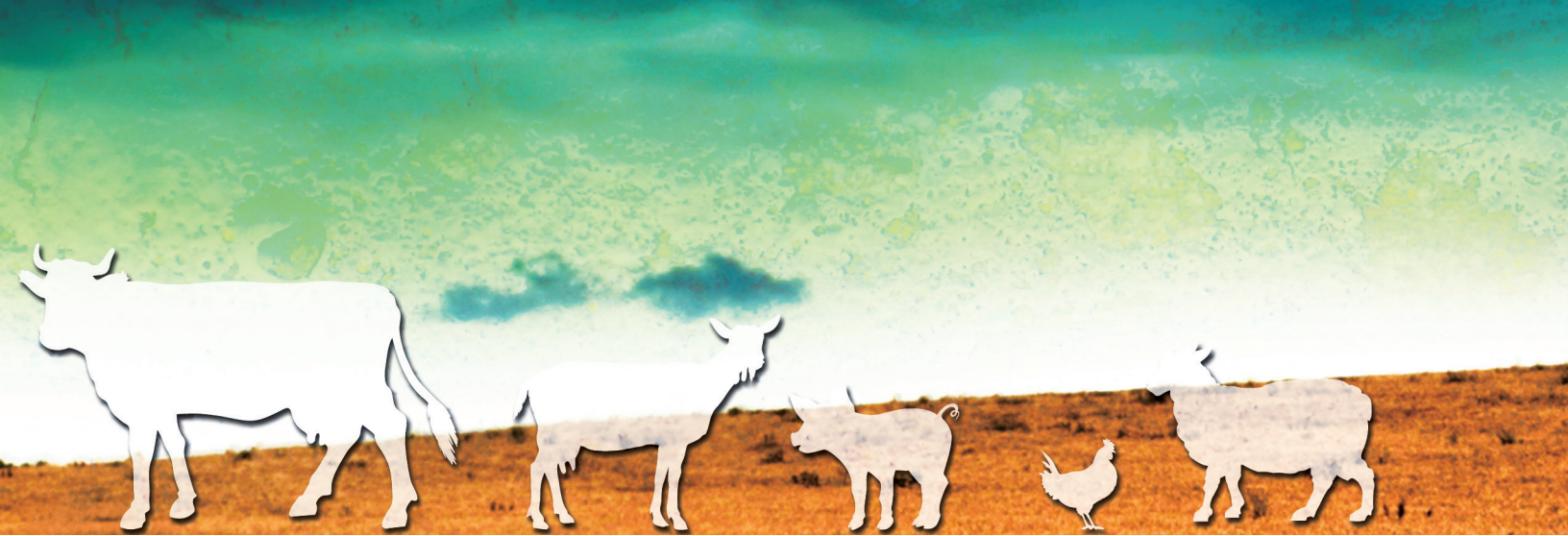


Diane Civetta and her daughter, Emily Yankowitz, cuddle their labradoodle Jasper.

ian discovered a lump. Diagnosed with anal sac carcinoma, Jasper faced a grim prognosis. Anal sac adenocarcinomas are aggressive tumors that often spread to nearby lymph nodes and organs including the liver, spleen and lungs. To give him the best chance for survival, Jasper underwent surgery to remove his tumor, followed by radiation using a linear accelerator with 3-D conformal therapy, and chemotherapy at the Veterinary Cancer Center in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Jasper was in a tremendous amount of pain and had become incontinent.

Continued on page 6



Jasper, continued

During his chemotherapy sessions, Jasper developed radiation recall, a skin condition resembling a burn that can be triggered when chemotherapy follows radiation treatments. To help manage the pain, Jeanne Budgin, DVM, a veterinary dermatologist who helped care for Jasper, suggested the family seek treatment for him at Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University in North Grafton, Massachusetts. In addition to care at Tufts, Jasper received help from a veterinary nutritionist who recommended a special diet that minimized his incontinence, and an acupuncturist, who provided pain reduction therapy. With treatment and care from his doctors, and love from his family, Jasper defeated cancer.

Shortly thereafter, he had a minor dorsal laminectomy. The surgery was successful, but Jasper developed aspiration pneumonia. While the Civettas hired around-the-clock technicians to stay with him and were told he had an excellent chance of recovery, Jasper died on May 2, 2016, a month shy of his 11th birthday. The family was heartbroken that Jasper, who had gone through so much to defeat cancer, had ultimately died from unrelated causes.

Diane Civetta decided to channel her grief into helping other dogs and their owners. She began looking for researchers who were investigating anal sac cancer, and with the assistance of



Jasper

Budgin, Civetta learned about research under way at the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine.

"I wanted to make a donation in Jasper's name. When I found the study at MU, because Jasper had come from a breeder in Missouri, I felt like I had come full circle," she said.

On Civetta's behalf, Budgin reached out to Jeffrey Bryan, an associate professor of oncology, director of the Scott Endowed Program in Veterinary Oncology, and director of the Comparative Oncology Radiobiology and Epigenetics Laboratory, to learn more about the research. Bryan and his team are working with researchers in human medicine on a novel treatment to attack anal sac carcinoma and melanoma, two cancers that are common

in dogs. Working with client-owned dogs with naturally occurring cancers, Bryan and co-investigator Gary Clark, PhD, a research associate professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health, have created a process in which they develop a vaccine using cells from a patient's own tumor.

"Essentially, we are creating a vaccine against the tumor that works by re-educating the immune system," Bryan said. "By this approach we count on the immune system to control the tumor."

To honor Jasper's life and work to end anal sac carcinoma in dogs, Civetta created the Jasper's Legacy of Love Fund with a donation of \$25,000, which will support Bryan and Clark's research. The gift has been used to purchase equipment critical to creating an improved vaccine and has so far funded the treatment of one dog with anal sac carcinoma, Bryan said.

"The patient we treated is doing well since we received the gift for this enhancement. There has been no recurrence of the cancer, which typically, we would have expected to see," Bryan said.

The oncology group is looking to recruit patients that need treatment for anal sac carcinoma. The program can now treat patients more quickly because of the equipment purchased through Civetta's generosity. The program will move forward more efficiently in loving memory of Jasper.



New Counselor Offers a Comprehensive Approach to Wellness

The MU College of Veterinary Medicine has created a full-time position to help veterinary students succeed as they advance through the four-year curriculum. Kerry Karaffa, PhD, a psychological resident, was hired to serve as the mental health and wellness coordinator with the MU Counseling Center and CVM.

Karaffa offers confidential counseling to all MU College of Veterinary Medicine students and fellows, with services tailored to fit individual needs and goals.

“My goal is to provide quality counseling services to help students manage stressors both in and out of vet school and ultimately support their ability to be successful,” Karaffa said. “I think it is important to recognize that although attending vet school is a challenging experience in itself, many students also face ongoing challenges in other areas of their lives, including in their personal and family relationships. I believe that supporting positive mental health and wellness is an ongoing process, and to effectively address the needs of students, we must take a comprehensive approach.”

Karaffa also plans to offer seminars on topics related to psychology and mental health and conduct research.

Previously, the college had a psychologist available on a part-time basis. An-



Kerry Karaffa

gela Tennison, DVM, said that one of her priorities when she was appointed associate dean for Student Affairs in 2015 was to increase a proactive approach to student wellness.

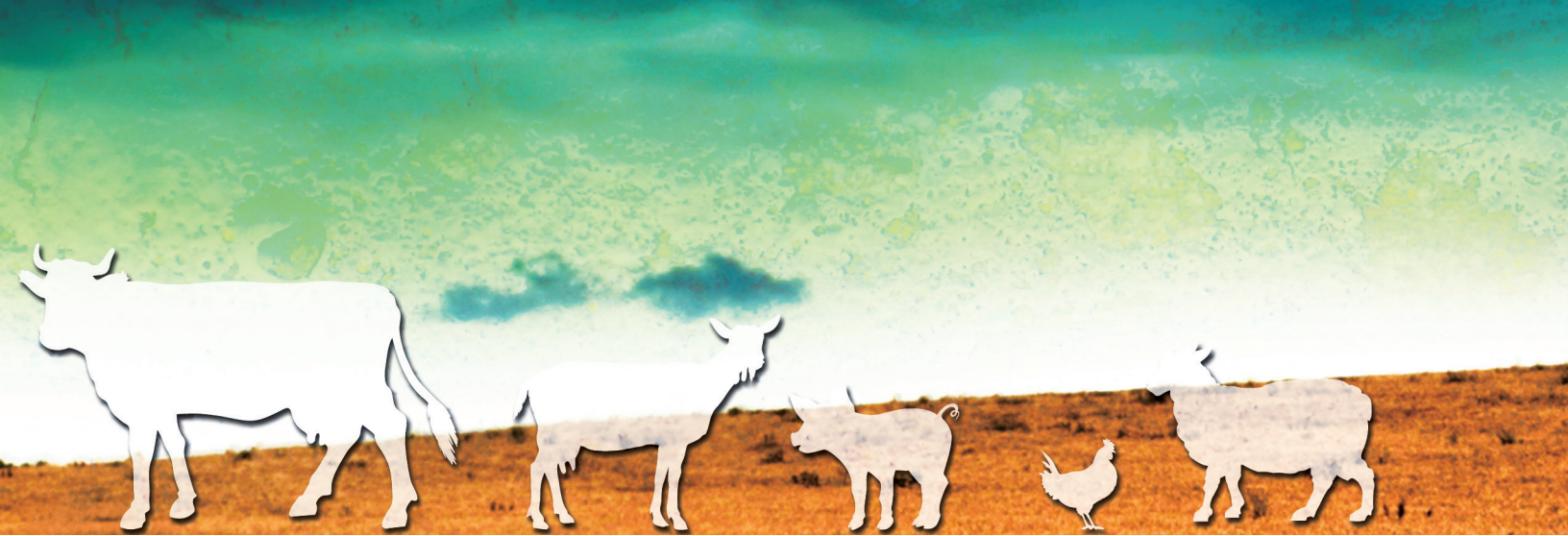
“We want to give our students the tools to recognize when circumstances are creating extra challenges to their physical or emotional health and help them work through difficult times,” Tennison said. “Some of the issues that exacerbate our students’ anxiety include worry about student loan debt, helping clients who are grieving, and the rigors of the curriculum. Ours is a demanding profession; stress levels don’t necessarily decrease when students graduate. If we can help future veterinarians stay healthy while in school, we hope that those techniques they learn here will help them throughout their careers.”

CVM Students Take Honors at Conference

The University of Missouri, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and Auburn University have developed a collaborative partnership to advance research into the one health concept. The three institutions held an inaugural One Health Conference on Sept. 30 at the St. Louis Zoo.

As part of the conference, a student poster contest was held. Students working on research in areas such as environmental health, comparative medicine, zoonotic diseases, translational medicine, natural resource management and conservation were invited to present a poster.

MU College of Veterinary Medicine students captured both first place and runner-up honors. The winner was CVM second-year student Geraline Arroyo for her poster, “Comparison of MALDI-ToF and PFGE for Strain-Typing *Staphylococcus aureus* Isolated from Cow’s Milk.” The runner-up was Lori Lind, also a second-year, for her poster, “The Effects of Tongue Injection of CTB-SAP on Ventral Hypoglossal Motor Neurons: A Novel Model of ALS.”



Retired CVM Professor Robert Miller Passes Away

Dr. Robert Bruce “Bob” Miller of Columbia, Missouri, a retired veterinarian and University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine faculty member, passed away at his home on Oct. 4. He was 85 years old.

He was born on March 17, 1931, in rural Eureka, Kansas, where he lived with his parents and brothers on their farm. He rode his horse to grade school and, against his parents’ wishes and without their knowledge, hitchhiked to a nearby airfield where he earned his pilot’s license. He attended Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas, and then transferred to Kansas State University in Manhattan, where he earned his undergraduate degree and a doctorate in veterinary medicine. He was a member of the Acacia Fraternity, served in the Missouri National Guard, and was a member of the Missouri United Methodist Church.

Dr. Miller and his family lived in Warrensburg, Missouri, where he was co-owner of the B&B Animal Hospital for nearly 20 years. In 1973, he accepted an appointment at the University of Missouri and earned a master’s degree in veterinary pathology and a PhD in pathology. He had an extensive body of research and published works, lectured throughout the world, and received tenure in 1980. He retired from full-time work in 1999, but remained active in furthering the advancement of veterinary



Robert Miller

medicine at the university and through national and international organizations.

Countless veterinarians across the country and world were taught and influenced by Dr. Miller during his more than three decades at the CVM and through his continuing education efforts. Veterinary clients across mid-Missouri depended on his keen diagnostic skills and his quiet understanding and connection to the animals he treated. He received the Veterinarian of the Year Award in 2012 from the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association.

“Veterinary medicine has allowed a Kansas farm boy to travel widely and to daily meet wonderful people from all walks of life,” he once wrote.

He was active in more than 15 professional organizations, including serving as president of the Western Veterinary Conference, director of the Missouri

Cattle Institute, diplomate emeritus and president of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, district director of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, and an honorary member of the Missouri Academy of Veterinary Practice. He was called a “leader in his field demonstrating dedication to veterinary medicine and continuing education” by Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine when he was honored with the Alumni Recognition Award in 2004.

Dr. Miller is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dr. Phyllis A. Miller; daughter Deborah M. Clark and son-in-law Stephen E. Clark, of Anchorage, Alaska; son Raymond R. Miller and daughter-in-law Deanne R. Crewse of Cairo, Egypt; daughter Karen M. Pensiero and son-in-law F. James Pensiero of Verona, New Jersey; and grandchildren Gina N. Pensiero and her wife, Anika Pensiero, Madeline R. Pensiero, and Samuel J. Pensiero.

A celebration of Dr. Miller’s life was held on Oct. 10, at the Missouri United Methodist Church in Columbia. The family suggests donations to the Missouri United Methodist Church Elevator fund or to the Bob Miller Food-Animal Proficiency Award, c/o the Office of Advancement, W210 Veterinary Medicine Building, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, 65211.



John Berg

CVM Professor Emeritus John Berg Passes Away

John N. Berg, DVM, PhD, passed away early on Oct. 7, at the age of 80. He was born in North Dakota on June 19, 1936.

Dr. Berg received his doctor of veterinary medicine from Iowa State University in 1960. He proceeded to obtain a master's degree in veterinary microbiology in 1970 and doctorate in area microbiology in 1972 at the University of Missouri.

Following graduation, Dr. Berg accepted a position as assistant professor

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Job Fulfills Longtime Dream for New Farm Director

Mike Glascock has always had a passion for farming, but he never considered it as a means to earn his living. Glascock spent most of his career with Boone County Public Works, starting as a general laborer and advancing to the position of superintendent. While he raises cattle, hay and grain on a family farm in Ashland with his father and sisters, he thought farming would remain just a hobby.

However, when Dale Lenger, longtime supervisor of the MU College of Veterinary Medicine's Middlebush Farm, retired earlier this year, Glascock decided to throw his hat in the ring, applied, and was hired as the new director.

"My background is in heavy equipment operation," Glascock said. "I've wanted to farm my whole life, but could never make it happen. I thought this would be a great job."

Middlebush Farm comprises 288 acres south of Columbia just off Highway 63. The farm houses the college's teaching herd of 22 horses and between 40 and 50 head of cattle. Glascock leads a crew of three people tasked with ensuring the ani-



Mike Glascock

mals' well-being, maintaining the buildings and fences, cutting and baling hay and fertilizing the fields where crops are raised.

Since taking the reins, he said he has immersed himself in evaluating the operation's needs.

"I'd like to see us utilize some of the fields for different crops and possibly expand the cattle herd a little bit," he said. "I'm also looking at the feasibility of updating some of the equipment, but we need to assess the needs, versus the cost, and what the prospects are for efficient utilization."

In his free time, Glascock and his wife, Callie, enjoy helping with community events and traveling the country to watch their daughter, Ashton, compete in college rodeos.



John Berg, continued

in veterinary microbiology at MU. He held the position until 1976 when he was promoted to associate professor. In 1984 he was named professor of microbiology. Additionally, Dr. Berg served as the director of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Education for the CVM from 1984 to 1986, and he served as graduate director for the area microbiology program from 1987 through the 1990s. In the mid-1990s, microbiology consolidated with pathology to form the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology. Dr. Berg retired in 2000 with emeritus faculty status.

He continued to serve as lead instructor of the veterinary bacteriology and mycology courses through this year. His research interests were in animal infectious diseases, particularly those of the bovine pathogen *Fusobacterium necrophorum*.

He is survived by his second wife, five sisters, one daughter, three sons, six grandchildren, one stepdaughter, and a step-grandchild.

A memorial for Dr. Berg was held Friday, Oct. 14, at Alive in Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Southampton Drive, Columbia, Missouri.

Former Small Animal Surgery Chief Passes Away

M. Joseph Bojrab, DVM, MS, PhD, of Las Vegas, Nevada, former faculty member at the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine, passed away on Sept. 13, at the age of 76.

He was born on Aug. 4, 1940, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, to the late Joseph and Julia (nee Ferrah) Bojrab. Bojrab graduated from Central Catholic High School in Fort Wayne in 1958. He earned a doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Purdue University in 1964. He accepted a position as instructor in the Department of Veterinary Surgery at Oklahoma State University, where he earned a master of science in physiology in 1968. He received a National Science Foundation Science Faculty Fellowship in 1969 and traveled to the University of Bristol, England, where he studied veterinary anatomy and received his PhD in 1971.

Bojrab was appointed associate professor and head of small animal surgery at Oklahoma State in 1973, before joining the faculty at the MU CVM as a professor and head of small animal surgery. In 1987 he moved to Las Vegas and began a surgical consulting practice.

He was a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and delivered more than 550 seminars and presentations on veterinary surgery to international, national, regional, state and local associations, including

visiting lectureships to Japan, England, France, Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Belgium and Israel. He



M. Joseph Bojrab

was awarded the Bourgelat Award for 1981 by the British Small Animal Veterinary Medical Association, and the Veterinarian of the Year distinction by the American Animal Hospital Association for 1982. He also received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine in September in 1984.

He was editor of nine texts on small animal surgery and was integral to continuing education as well. He recruited speakers and managed the clinical track of the Central Veterinary Conference from its beginnings in 1988 until his retirement from his position in December 2014.

Bojrab is survived by his son, Christopher (Holly) Bojrab, daughter, Rhonda (James) Kildea, grandchildren, Tiffany, David, Olivia, Margaret and Catherine, sister, Darlene (Alan Taylor) Bojrab, brother, Donald Bojrab, and ex-wife, Barbara Nemoir.



GIRL PASSES ON PRESENTS, ASKS FRIENDS TO HELP FIGHT CANCER

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Bailey Dean, a 4-year-old golden retriever, was not so much a family pet, but more of a third musketeer to sisters 10-year-old Maddie and 8-year-old Emma.

“No matter where the kids were, Bailey was right there next to them,” said Maddie and Emma’s mother, Emily Dean, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri. “The kids would get home from school and she was always there waiting for them to come through the door. She would knock everything over with her tail just to get to them,” she recalled. “Bailey would sit in the living room and the girls would dress her up — bows, sunglasses and whatever they found in a box. Every night the kids would go to bed she would lie next to the bed and stay there all night,” Dean said.

Bailey enjoyed nothing more than joining the family on mule rides around the farm and to the creek.

Late last summer Bailey developed a hot spot — a patch of dermatitis — on her right foreleg. Although the lesion healed, the active dog began to show signs of a limp. In October, the Deans took Bailey to their local veterinarian, MU CVM alumnus Jeff Shively, DVM ’96. Suspecting that the hot spot had developed into a bone infection, he initially treated Bailey with antibiot-



Associate Professor of Veterinary Oncology Jeffrey Bryan, gave the Dean family a tour of the MU Veterinary Health Center, and showed them equipment used to diagnose and treat cancer in animals.

ics. But the limp didn’t improve, and a lump soon became evident. By November, the Deans received a grim diagnosis, Bailey had osteosarcoma — a rapidly growing cancerous tumor in her bone.

In January the Deans said good bye to their beloved dog.

“Maddie took it hard,” Emily Dean said. “After Bailey died, Maddie and I talked about it. She didn’t want other families to go through what we went through. She wanted to help find a cure.”

While Emily Dean investigated studies that are being conducted to find treatments for osteosarcoma, Mad-

die came up with ways she could help. With her 11th birthday approaching, she had an idea: She asked her birthday party guests not to bring any presents for her, but instead to make a donation to canine osteosarcoma research.

Following her birthday party, she and Emma organized a second fundraiser to take place during a competition at a local CrossFit gym. Maddie sold hot-dogs, hamburgers and other snacks, Emma ran a lemonade stand, and their cousin, Evan Farrow, age 8, joined in the effort and sold cupcakes.

Between the two fundraisers, the girls collected a total of \$476. Based on their mother’s research they decided to make a gift to the MU College of Veterinary Medicine Comparative Oncology Support Fund. The two girls, their mother, and their father, Richard Dean, traveled from Cape Girardeau to Columbia to present the gift to Jeffrey Bryan, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVIM (Oncology), associate professor of oncology, director of the Comparative Oncology Radiobiology and Epigenetics Laboratory and director of the Scott Endowed Program in Veterinary Oncology. Bryan said he was moved by the sisters’ dedication to helping other dogs after losing their companion.

REAR HITCH



CLINICS BEGIN FOR THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS

The MU College of Veterinary Medicine celebrated the progression of third-year students from classroom to clinics during the annual White Coat Ceremony on Oct. 16. The event, held at the Missouri Theatre, marked the midpoint in the professional curriculum for 113 students.

The first two years of preclinical training included courses in anatomy, physiology, cell and molecular biology, pathology, pharmacology, microbiology, virology and toxicology. The doctor of veterinary medicine candidates also learned fundamentals in clinical disciplines, including anesthesiology, clinical pathology, radiology, public health and medicine and surgery.

During the ceremony each student had a white laboratory coat, presented to them by a family member, friend or mentor who then assisted their student in donning the coat.

The ceremony marked the next step in the students' education as they will

"Your success as a veterinarian will have more to do with your interaction with people than any other variable."

— CVM Dean Neil C. Olson

spend the remaining 19 months of the DVM curriculum working in the Veterinary Health Center in the Small Animal, Food Animal and Equine hospitals and the Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, as well as completing preceptorships in private practices or with public agencies.

CVM Dean Neil C. Olson, DVM, PhD, told the class that they are entering veterinary medicine at an exciting time that is marked by rapid change. He urged them to embrace that change, but also reminded them that they are entering a people-oriented profession.

"Your success as a veterinarian will have more to do with your interaction with people than any other variable," Olson said.

Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Chairman John Dodam, DVM, MS, PhD, welcomed the students "across the parking lot," and advised them that they would no longer be able to ask if the material they were learning would be on a future test as their future pop quizzes would be assisting during a difficult calving and caring for a pet that had been hit by a car.

"Every conversation with an (animal) owner reflects on our school and on our profession," Dodam said.

Phillip Digasbarro gave the response on behalf of his classmates, thanking family members, friends and mentors for their support. He assured his classmates that they would continue to support each other.

The Missouri Veterinary Medical Association, represented by President Mel Falk, DVM, and Executive Director Richard Antweiler provided lapel pins for the ceremony.