The logo features a large maroon 'C' on the left containing a circular emblem with the Texas A&M University seal. To the right, 'CVM' is written in large maroon letters, and 'Today' is written in a white script font below it.

# CVM Today

College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences • Texas A&M University  
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One Medicine  
One Technology  
Human and Veterinary Medicine:  
A Healthy Partnership

New Facilities, Renewed Vision ~ page 8

Eliab Chavira: An Example of Firsts ~ page 16

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**On the cover:** *The CT scanner is an example of how technology brings the two medicines together.*

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# Creating the Future

Now, more than ever, excitement can be felt throughout our college, with plans in the works to not only grow our facilities, but also expand current programs and create new ones in order to continue exceeding the expectations of our clients and providing unique educational opportunities for our students.

New faces and new equipment will help build a foundation for our veterinary oncology program. A new mobile MRI has expanded our clinical neurology program while also increasing our ability to collaborate with other scientists involved in neurological research.

Construction is in the planning phase for a new arena specifically designed for the treatment of lameness and other disorders of equine athletes. By bringing together quality facilities and expertise, we are starting to see the beginnings of a true regional center for equine lameness.

A permanent MRI with the ability to image horses will be housed in a brand new building. In addition, a linear accelerator will be added to further expand the services available to cancer patients in our Small Animal Hospital.

Plans are also in progress for the new wing on the research tower, providing labs and office space for the new faculty hired under Texas A&M University's Faculty Reinvestment Program. We've been fortunate to be able to recruit top researchers and clinicians to the CVM which directly impacts the quality of education provided to our DVM and graduate students.

All of the planning for the new equipment and the new facilities has made me realize, that particularly through advances in technology, how close we have become to the "One Health" concept. This past July, Ronald M. Davis, MD, president of the American Medical Association, addressed the annual convention of the American Veterinary Medical Association, announcing the adoption of a policy by his organization calling for greater collaboration between the



Dean H. Richard Adams

two fields of medicine. Our main feature in this *CVM Today* demonstrates how technology has not only made the world a smaller place, but how it is shared between veterinary and human medicine, and fosters increasing collaboration towards global health.

I also realized that the excitement of collaboration and construction is not possible without the positive relationships we've developed with referring veterinarians, alumni, and friends. For your support, we thank you. Our continued growth, and our concurrent ability to help solve the many issues facing the future of our profession are realized in the demand for and success of our graduates. To fully meet the needs of our faculty, staff, and students; and to exceed the expectations of our friends, clients, and referring veterinarians, we will have to continue developing external sources of funding and support.

As you will see in these pages, there are many compelling stories inside the CVM. To win support for our programs, we have to continue to

tell our story. We ask that our readers share our stories with others as well.

During this holiday season, I can think of no greater gift from those we know, than having them help us reach out to others, increasing the participation in our mission.

If you plan on enjoying the sights and sounds of Aggieland this holiday season, stop by for a visit...our doors are open and the hospitality is warm.

**H. Richard Adams**  
Carl B. King Dean  
of Veterinary Medicine

# Brazos Animal Shelter and the CVM share a beneficial alliance

The CVM is devoted to taking care of all animals, not just those with warm, loving homes. Throughout the four years that students attend the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, they are exposed to numerous levels of care for live animals. From routine examinations to general surgery practices, the students at Texas A&M experience an exceptional level of hands on experience with live animals and gain an even greater understanding of community responsibility and animal husbandry.

The Brazos Animal Shelter and the CVM have created a vertically integrated educational collaboration to provide the animals of the Brazos Animal Shelter with veterinary care while giving students experience in handling, physical diagnosis, general surgery and clinical reasoning.

Veterinary colleges are constrained to limited options when utilizing experiences with live animals for teaching purposes. The purchasing and maintenance of healthy animals

bred for veterinary training can be extremely expensive and ethically objectionable. While technological simulations and cadaver surgery experiences are less expensive alternatives, they do not allow students real interaction with survival surgeries. The CVM has found a solution with the Brazos Animal Shelter that offers students adequate live animal experience, and shelter animals invaluable benefits.

The Brazos Animal Shelter is a non-profit organization and has been in place for about 25 years. While it has a caring and supportive staff of 17 employees, the shelter does not employ a veterinarian. Financial constraints have historically restricted the amount of veterinary care provided by the shelter. This alliance with the CVM is helping to bring medical care to shelter animals that would otherwise not be available.

A great concern of the AVMA was that veterinary students were seeing an abundance of sophisticated, complicated medical cases, and a

lack of exposure to common problems. Often, animals presented at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital's facility during community practice are referral cases, which are often complicated and require extensive treatment and management. The relationship between the CVM and the Brazos Animal Shelter

helps to alleviate this concern. The exposure to routine problems, like those experienced at the Brazos Animal Shelter, give students a more realistic representation of a general veterinary practice case load.

"Students are receiving a tremendous and invaluable exposure to primary care problems," explained Dr. Karen Snowden, course coordinator for the Veterinary Pathobiology (VTPB 941) Clinical Microbiology/Parasitology rotation for the 4VM students.

First and second year students are supervised by a licensed DVM faculty member and 4th year student mentors while participating in clinical training at the shelter. Within the first two years of veterinary school, students take part in the "clinical correlates" course series which provides experience and knowledge in general veterinary practices.

Fourth year veterinary students in the Clinical Microbiology/Parasitology rotation attend the shelter in groups of approximately six students and receive 16 contact hours at the shelter with an expanded list of animals and care tasks. Anywhere from 15-40 animals a day can receive care through this arrangement.

The BAS provides a list of care assignments, and students administer the evaluations or care needed. Numerous clinical skills are practiced during this training at the shelter including: physical examinations, vaccinations, animal restraint, heartworm testing, as well as the diagnosis of infectious diseases. Because there is not a DVM on staff, the alliance between CVM and BAS provides a tremendous asset to the shelter, allowing animals the benefit of extensive veterinary care and evaluations.

"Before the alliance, we were often forced to make a euthanasia decision about many animals brought in



*Fourth-year students perform spay/neuter surgeries during general surgery rotation.*

due to their health status. Now we can make a treatment decision and hopefully find a loving home for an animal that otherwise would have been euthanized," explained Ashley Wesp, Director of the Brazos Animal Shelter.

The Brazos Animal Shelter manages about 8500-9000 animals annually, and this partnership helps to provide much needed medical care. "This program provides a large selection of animals for students to gain experience. It gives them a chance to advance their professional expertise with the animals," said Dr. Snowden.

The hands-on approach to managing shelter animals enriches students' educations and professional training by exposing them to the immediacy of the pet overpopulation problem and helps enrich an already present concern for the care of homeless animals. "We hope we are creating veterinarians who will go into practices across the country and give back to the communities and shelters where they will be practicing veterinary medicine" said Wesp.

The General Surgery Rotation in students' fourth year is a program which instructs about six students per two-week period on live, survival surgical experiences. While about half of the spaying and neutering surgeries at the Brazos Animal Shelter are performed by area veterinarians, the other half are performed by the CVM.

Not only do students gain experience, but the CVM is providing a crucial service to the community by helping to control the homeless pet population.



*Students giving a physical examination to a beagle at the shelter.*

State regulations require that all animals be spayed/neutered when they are adopted from an Animal Shelter. Also, by providing animals that are already spayed/neutered, animals are more likely to be adopted because they are available for immediate adoption and transport to new homes.

"It's a great thing for both sides" said Wesp. "Because we work with the students for all four years, students get different levels of experience and we get different levels of expertise."

While the CVM subsidizes a portion of the cost of surgeries due to the high training value to the college, BAS pays a small fee per animal for spay/neuter surgeries. Students are transported to the shelter for professional clinical training, and the shelter transports animals to and from the college for surgeries. By meeting in the middle, both parties enjoy a reduced cost and a greater benefit.

The students become familiar with surgeries under the supervision of doctors such as Dr. Mark Stickney. Dr. Stickney, the director of general surgery services and clinical assistant professor, guides students through many general surgeries to become surgically competent graduates. Students are exposed to and perform surgical procedures commonly seen in private practice.



*Three students giving a physical examination to a young cat at the shelter.*

*Continued on page 11*

# New technology and faculty help lead the fight against cancer

The medical oncology section of the Small Animal Department is looking to the future, a bright future with a commitment to curing. A series of improvements have begun that will lead the oncology department of Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences to becoming a formidable opponent in the fight against cancer.

With advances in technology and improved living conditions, both people and animals are living longer, healthier lives. As pets live longer, they are at greater risk of developing cancer just like their owners. In fact, approximately 50 percent of all pets over 10 years of age are suspected of having cancer. Veterinarians at the CVM have recognized the need to improve the oncology center to combat this disease and are headed down a path to a comprehensive

cancer treatment facility and program to combat this silent killer.

The oncology program has recognized the need for both excellence in research and treatment, and is working diligently to improve the already successful program. The oncology program prides itself on having a high level of expertise through its faculty and staff, consisting of Dr. Kenita Rogers, Dr. Claudia Barton, Dr. Zachary Wright and Krystal Schneider.

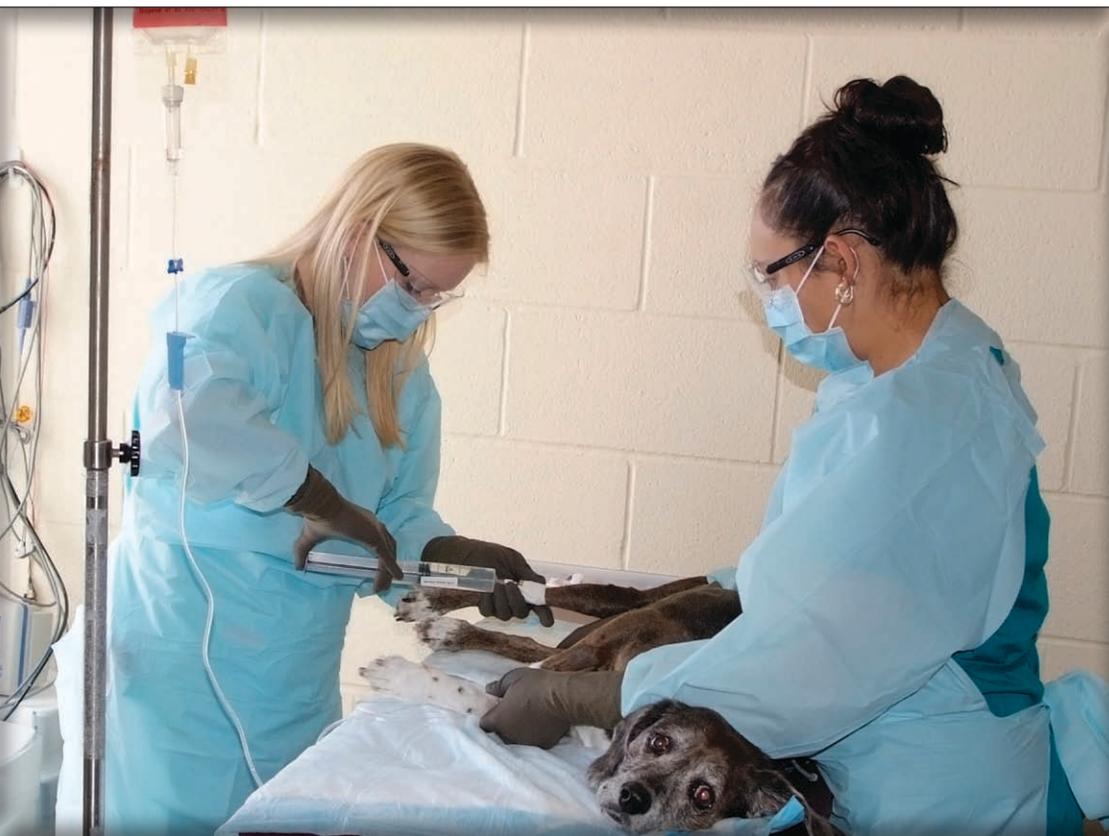
The CVM recently welcomed Dr. Heather Wilson to the faculty, as the latest oncologist added to the team fighting cancer. She received her DVM from the University of Tennessee in 2003 then completed a small animal



*Dr. Heather Wilson*

rotating internship at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center and a residency in Medical Oncology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Veterinary Teaching Hospital. She is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in the specialty of Oncology and recipient of the E. Gregory MacEwen award for Outstanding Basic Science Research in the field of Oncology from the Veterinary Cancer Society in 2006. Her research and clinical interests include cancer stem cells, osteosarcoma, and transitional cell carcinoma.

Dr. Wilson is looking forward to conducting clinical trials and is hoping to bring A&M to the forefront of the fight against cancer. Dr. Wilson explained that Texas A&M University has completed the application process to join the Comparative Oncology Clinical Trial Consortium, which is a division of the National Cancer Institute, and is awaiting approval. Joining these groups will benefit the CVM by partnering with groups furthering canine and human cancer research and will bring in greater



*Technicians flushing the IV catheter prior to chemotherapy administration.*

funding opportunities, prestige and clinical trials.

A partnership with COCTC and NCI has allowed A&M to apply for a grant that, if awarded, would allow A&M to be part of a national tissue bank of canine cancers as well as normal tissues. Currently, the United States is lacking an adequate canine tissue bank, which makes any global determinations on cancer work very limited. "If a tissue bank were to be filled, researchers could have enough cases to fully test their theories and make much better conclusions about studies, rather than basing theories on several cases here and there," said Dr. Wilson.

Dr. Wilson's laboratory will focus on cancer stem cells responsible for tumor resistance and will develop, characterize and identify possible therapies to combat these cancers. In particular, osteosarcoma in canines is of poignant interest to Dr. Wilson. Osteosarcoma, the primary bone cancer in dogs, is very similar to osteosarcoma in children (which has an approximately 60 percent mortality rate in children and 90 percent mortality rate in canines).

As Dr. Wilson explained the beneficial impact that clinical trials have on the fight against cancer, she illustrated how these trials can open doors to new drug approvals and other effective treatments against cancer. Along with clinical trials, experimental types of chemotherapy, molecular target-based therapies, tissue banking and studies in genetic mutations are being investigated and considered. The new facility and program will allow these steps to a cure to be taken.

Dr. Wilson also explained the many parallels between dogs and humans in cancer and treatments. Many drugs used on humans are used to treat cancer in dogs as well. "Dogs get spontaneous tumors, unlike mice, and this makes the studies [on dogs] easier to translate to human medicine because dogs and humans are very similar. Mice are not as good a test subject for translation into human cancer testing."

"Clinical trials on canines are beneficial for humans and dogs, and I hope to fashion a trial specific to genetic mutations in tumors to study



*Darby Roberts and her dog ZZ. ZZ was a cancer patient at the VMTH.*

drugs for those specific cancers," said Dr. Wilson

"Texas A&M has the potential to grow leaps and bounds over the next decade, and I'm so excited to be a part of that," said Wilson.

Some integral parts of the oncology program are the technicians and residents. Krystal Schneider is a technician with the cancer center and plays a key role in the treatment and development of the program. Technicians teach students, interns and residents proper chemotherapy techniques and serve as an imperative "double-check" utility for dosing calculations of chemotherapy. They also provide a familiar face to clients, as technicians consistently work with clients each time they come in.

Dr. Zachary Wright is the only current resident with the oncology department. However, next year another resident will be added. Until now, all residents of the department

have been privately funded. Next year the oncology program will welcome its first university funded resident, a crucial step for the department.

Within the CVM is a recently renovated chemotherapy treatment room which provides a safe and quiet area for administering chemotherapy to patients. The chemo treatment room allows for the safe handling, administration and disposal of chemotherapy. Complete with padded tables, the chemotherapy treatment room furnishes patients with a comfortable area during treatment sessions, which can take up to 30 minutes and requires patients to remain still.

It takes a comprehensive program to combat cancer effectively, and Texas A&M is working towards improving the current oncology program to help the search for a cure for cancer. The CVM is planning a new

*Continued on page 11*

## New facilities, renewed vision



*A conceptual rendering showing what the planned arena at the CVM will look like.*

With close to a million horses in the State of Texas representing an industry with an annual economic impact estimated at \$3 billion (according to a 2005 study commissioned by The American Horse Council), equine lameness makes a significant impact on the Texas economy. Another study released from the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in 2001 estimates that the economic cost of lameness

in the United States ranges from \$678 million to \$1 billion annually, with the largest component of the cost attributed to lost use of the horse.

Reasons like these are what have compelled veterinarians at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences' Large Animal Hospital (LAH) to look for ways to improve the diagnosis and treatment of lameness.

"As a regional referral center, we see a lot of lameness," said Dr. Kent

Carter, professor and chief of medicine for the large animal hospital. "It's one of our largest admissions."

Over the last six years, lameness exams at the LAH have increased from 10 percent of the total number of equine cases to nearly 20 percent, with more than 1000 exams performed in 2006.

To improve the way lameness is diagnosed and treated, plans are in the works to add a new arena and to build a new imaging center on the CVM campus. The arena will consist of a 100 foot by 200 foot area where horses can be ridden at varied speeds and through different maneuvers. A roof is also included in the plans which will allow workouts during rain. The surface will be a synthetic Astro-turf material with a state-of-the-art drainage system underneath and approximately three inches of sand on the top of it. A circular lunge pen is included in the project as well.

"The Astro-turf provides a consistent surface and better upkeep," said Sam Wigington, clinic manager for the LAH. "We've been able to visit places with the system installed and observe it in use, and we're pleased with the results we saw. The arena

will be a safer environment for not only the horses, but also the students and the clinicians who teach them.”

However, it takes more than just an arena to truly build a program.

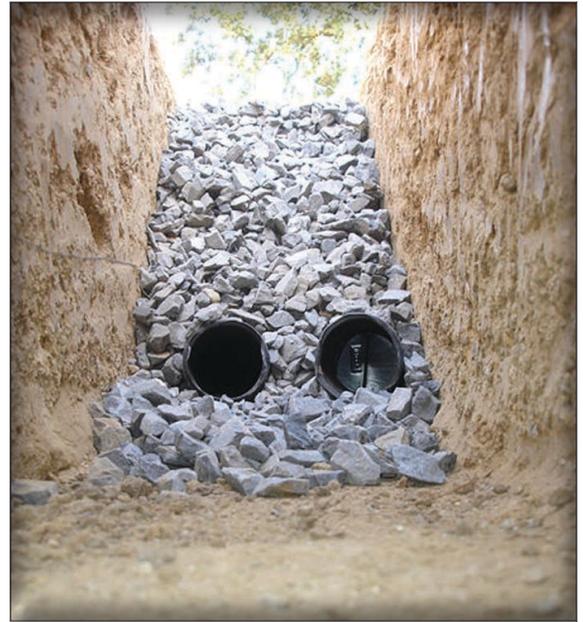
“To have a quality lameness program, you have to have the right people, the right facilities, and the right equipment,” said Carter. “We have people here who see lameness all the time, and others who perform orthopedic surgery all the time. With the arena we are able to add to our facilities, and with a new imaging center in the works, we will be able to add the equipment necessary to grow our program.”

Close to the large animal hospital, the new imaging center will be constructed featuring two entrances. On one side will be an entrance for predominantly companion animals to access a linear accelerator. On the north side will be an entrance for an MRI and CT that will be capable of imaging equine patients. Currently, horses from the region requiring MRI have to travel to Dallas or Oklahoma City, which can be a challenge for horse owners.

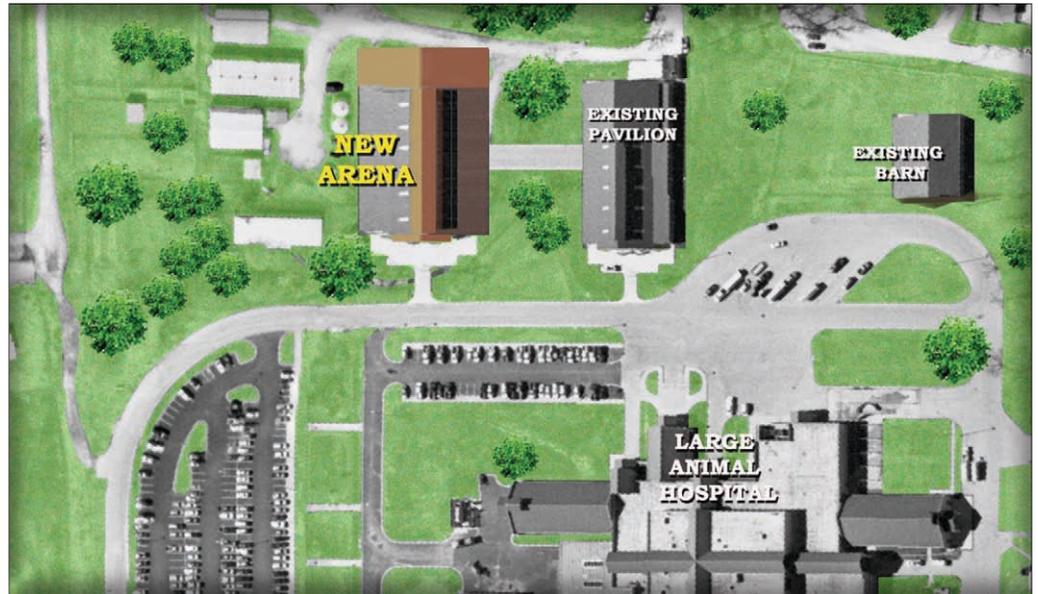
The imaging center represents a significant financial commitment from the CVM. At a time when state funds are often unable to balance the budget, the CVM turns to the support of grateful clients and friends who choose to donate to special projects. The new imaging center and arena are two such projects with naming opportunities available.

Groundbreaking for the new arena could come as early as the beginning of 2008 with the imaging center not too far behind.

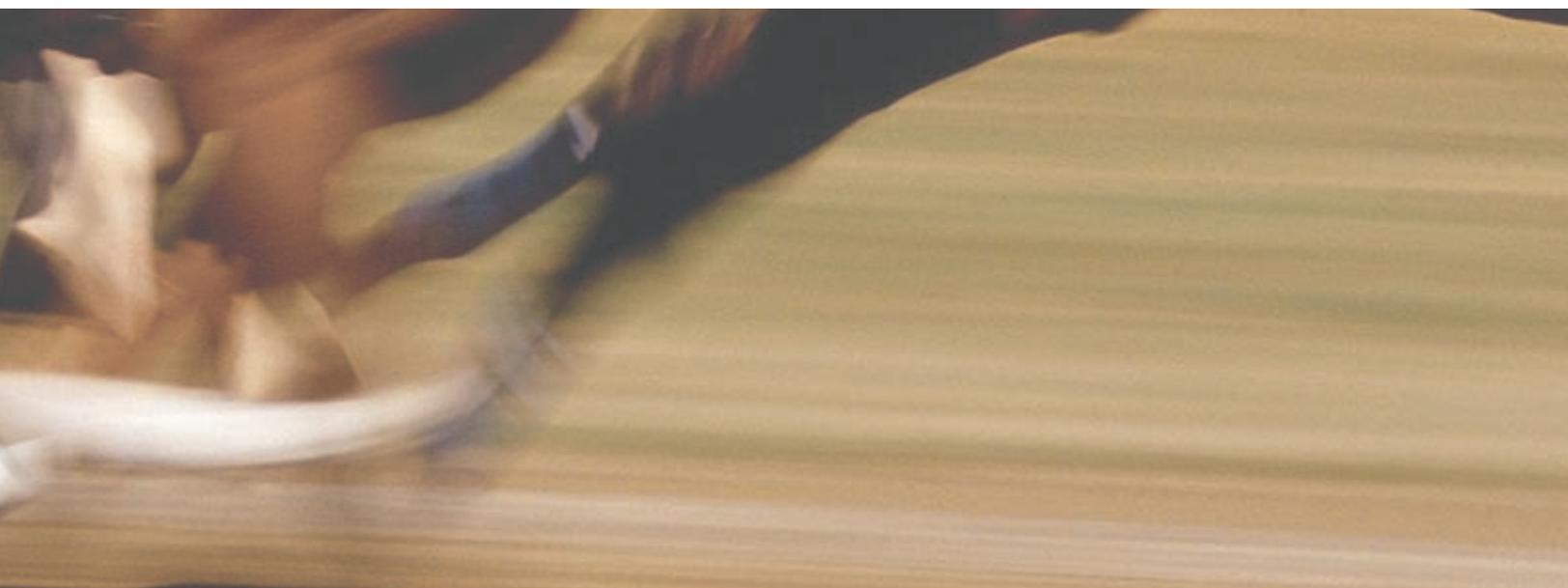
“We are looking forward to having the new facilities and equipment as tools to help us manage lameness,” said Carter. “The expanded capabilities will also help us to better evaluate cardiac problems during exercise, respiratory problems, and some neurologic problems. So not only does this improve our diagnostic and treatment options, it also allows us to offer a more comprehensive scope of service in the most convenient manner to our clients, whether they are horse owners or referring veterinarians. Ultimately, providing the highest quality service to our clients is the bottom line.” 🐾



*Example of the drain system to be used in the planned arena.*



*A map rendering showing the location of the planned arena on the CVM campus.*



## Book Review

# 'Dillos: Roadkill on Extinction Highway? by W. R. Klemm, DVM, PhD

With a face only a mother could love, the armadillo is truly a natural wonder. However, in spite of some of its most amazing biological features, not enough wondering about armadillos is what prompted Dr. W. R. Klemm, veterinarian and professor at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences to take a closer look.

In Klemm's recently released book, *'Dillos: Roadkill on Extinction Highway?*, readers are entertained with an in-depth look at this misunderstood mammal from both a scientific and an anecdotal point of view. Most people know armadillos as the menace that digs up their gardens, or the critter most commonly found on the side of the road. After reading *'Dillos*, it's clear that there is much more to the armadillo than meets the eye.

It's important to note that *'Dillos* is not a textbook reserved for those in the biological sciences. It's a well-written, yet scientifically factual examination of one of the more interesting species in our world. It is evident that Klemm has worked very hard to combine scientific research with entertaining observations to create a comprehensive review of all things armadillo. Readers will walk away with a much greater appreciation for armadillos on many different levels.

Klemm includes information about all species of armadillos, including some like the 'pink fairy' that are extremely rare, and those that aren't, like the nine-banded species that is the only one of the 20 armadillo species in the

Lone Star State. He also gives readers a unique historical perspective by examining the evolutionary journey of the armadillo, showing how changes in the environment (including the impact of humans and the growth of communities) have affected the armadillo's territory over time.

*'Dillos* also highlights how the armadillo contributed to scientific research, yet how many more questions than answers there are about them. Klemm, through his research, provides insight into the biology of the mammal in relation to its way of life, its environment, and how it evolved. Also included are how its unique bio-



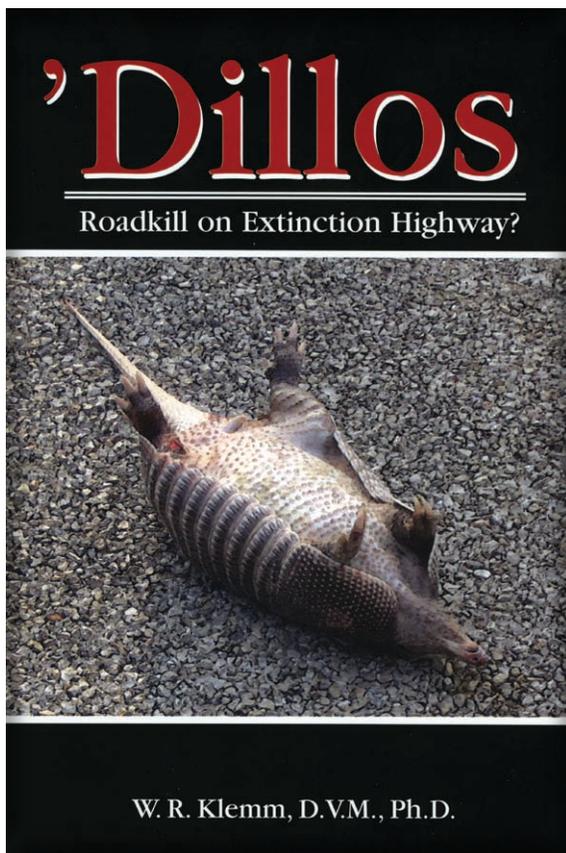
Dr. W. R. Klemm

logical features make it a subject worthy of further research.

As the de facto state mammal for the State of Texas, Klemm also demonstrates the armadillo's impact on human culture. He includes references from early pictographs to modern festivals. Armadillos are now found on t-shirts, in night clubs, on posters, in art galleries, and even as recipes in cookbooks.

Klemm successfully paints a colorful picture of the armadillo and where it fits in the larger scheme of its surroundings. Everyone has a role to play in the environment, and the armadillo is no exception, especially because of the huge amount of insects, including locust larvae, that the armadillo eats. There is more to be learned from this mysterious mammal, and *'Dillos* takes a significant first step towards earning the armadillo the respect it deserves.

For more information about armadillos, the author, or to order your copy of *"Dillos,"* visit the book's website (<http://dillos.us>). 



## Caring.....continued from page 5

In addition to the Brazos Animal Shelter, clients of the VMTH, the Austin Humane Society, Brazos Feral Cat Alliance and the Aggie Feral Cat Alliance of Texas all provide patients for the General Surgery Rotation. Students perform about 12-15 spaying or neutering surgeries each, in the two week period in addition to other general surgeries. The program helps spay/neuter about 1500 shelter animals a year and helps to develop a community service spirit in graduates.

“We are both teaching and instilling competency in our students while benefiting the community,” said Stickney. “We want to encourage

community responsibility. We want students to give back, not just now, but in the future.”

As Texas A&M trains future veterinarians, the utilization of advantageous collaborations benefits all involved and increases the rewards for everyone, animal and human alike. The CVM is dedicated to producing experienced and specialized veterinarians with a strong sense of community and a passion for giving back. This collaboration is just one way of creating great, veterinarians and the clinical staff is looking forward to continuously enhancing the program to improve the lives of all involved. 🍷

“We are both teaching and instilling competency in our students while benefiting the community. We want to encourage community responsibility. We want students to give back, not just now, but in the future.”

— Dr. Mark Stickney  
Director of General Surgery Services  
and Clinical Assistant Professor



Four students giving a physical examination to a dog at the shelter.

## Curing.....continued from page 7

facility to house the cancer center with more advanced technological cancer treatments and scanning devices. A permanent MRI machine and linear accelerator are some of the components for the new facility. The linear accelerator will become a huge addition to the cancer therapy program, representing the radiation therapy modality.

Dr. Michael Walker, diagnostic imaging and radiation oncology therapy specialist explained, “The new facility is a significant improvement to the program that we have in place. The faculty and staff of the College of Veterinary Medicine and the future facility with its diagnostic and therapeutic equipment, will place our college among the leaders in veterinary cancer diagnosis and treatment.”

“These technologies and the facilities to house them are expensive to buy, build, and maintain,” stated Dr. Walker. “It’s a significant commitment to bring them to the CVM, and will need support outside of state funding in order to continue to grow.”

The new facility will house a permanent MRI that will allow the scanning of not only small animals (like the one currently), but also of larger animals. While only small parts of large animals can be scanned, it will allow a broader range of patients to be treated by the oncology department and open the doors to new opportunities. The MRI will be used primarily for the diagnostic benefits of small animals and horses. Additionally, the MRI can also be used for lameness diagnosis in equines. “We look forward to effectively treating

as many patients as we can, the new facility will allow us to do this,” said Dr. Walker.

The increased commitment to the oncology program will help form the foundation for a multidisciplinary program that not only cures animals, but also makes significant contributions to translational research. The program will continue to grow in size, scope, and specialization, and is looking forward to a bright future. 🍷

“The faculty and staff of the CVM and the future facility, with its diagnostic and therapeutic equipment, will place our college among the leaders in veterinary cancer diagnosis and treatment.”

— Dr. Michael Walker  
Diagnostic Imaging and  
Radiation Oncology Therapy Specialist



## Striving to exceed Client Expectations

The Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH) at Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Science is not just an animal hospital; it is a compassionate center of knowledge and learning. It's a place where people can bring their beloved animals and know that their pets are receiving the very highest care.

Healing an animal is not the work of one person; it takes many people working together towards one central goal. Doctors, interns, residents, students, and staff must all work together to achieve a positive outcome. This is a process that the individuals working at the VMTH have perfected. "Team work is a key aspect in customer satisfaction—full blown teamwork," Lucy Wendt, registered veterinary technician at the Small Animal Hospital stated. "The customer, whether it is a pet owner or a referring veterinarian, must feel like he or she is a priority, and that we recognize the important role they

play in what we do. That requires collaboration."

This teamwork not only comes from inside the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital; it comes from all over. The Hospital is often called "the referral hospital of the southwest." Patients with complex problems are referred from all over the state and even beyond because of the diverse number of specialties all available under one roof. At the VMTH there are veterinarians from all over the country with specialties in oncology, cardiology, internal medicine, behavioral medicine, neurology, dermatology, equine lameness, gastroenterology, ophthalmology, and post surgical rehabilitation—to name a few. Referring veterinarians know when their patients arrive at the VMTH that their patient will be in the hands of a multi-disciplinary team. This can be of tremendous assistance to referring veterinarians and clients alike. The client and patient are more comfortable only traveling to one place instead of many; and the referring veterinarian can feel comfortable knowing that any procedure the patient may need can be done under one roof.

Referring veterinarians may also send their patients to the VMTH to

utilize the advanced technology. On site, the VMTH has access to a CT, MRI, ultrasound, endoscope, and equipment to perform digital radiography. This state of the art equipment is often too costly for a private practice. In addition to having a variety of tests done in one place, referring veterinarians know that a complete list of procedures and images will be sent to them to continue patient care close to home.

VMTH veterinarians and staff alike recognize the importance of keeping communication lines open with the referring veterinarian and the client throughout the entire process, ensuring the best care for the animal. From briefing them on a patient's status to sending a copy of the discharge summary to the referring veterinarian; good communication ensures that if additional procedures are needed, the referring veterinarian knows what has already been done. The staff also realizes the significance of keeping the pet owner informed. "Staff of the VMTH excel in customer communication, it is so important to update the clients as information is obtained on their animal," stated Galen Pahl, assistant hospital administrator for Large Animal. The staff often call clients after procedures ensuring that

*"Having attended Texas A&M University for my undergraduate degree, I knew what an excellent reputation the Veterinary College had."*

owners have current information.

The electronic VMIS system has also contributed to communication lines within the VMTH. "VMIS has played an integral part in communication throughout the VMTH. Laboratory reports, billing, diagnostic results may all be obtained electronically," explains Pahl. The VMIS system allows all faculty of the VMTH to access a patient's medical records; making it considerably easier for multiple experts within the hospital to know a patient's complete medical history without searching for a file. "While departments may be distantly located from one another, there is still a close tie among them. For example, large animal staff rely on services provided

by Clinical Microbiology, Clinical Pathology, Purchasing, Central Receiving and Computer Support. We all work together to ultimately provide the highest level of customer service," adds Pahl.

With a high volume of patient visits each year, maintaining quality customer service can be very difficult. Ensuring a positive experience for referring veterinarians and clients comes right at the start. "The client and patient are always first," says Wendt. "We want to make them feel at ease from the moment they walk through the front door."

Another integral part of the care received at the VMTH is best stated by Lori Atkins, registered veterinary technician in the Small Animal ICU, "We treat our patients like we would want our own animals to be treated." The hospital goes above and beyond to ensure that every pet is comfortable during their stay. The ICU provides large and spacious kennels that are thick and padded at the bottom, a

*"After my experience with the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, I felt obliged to personally contact you and thank you for the care my pet received."*

plethora of animal toys, high quality food, munchies; and enough love for every animal that walks through the door. "At the VMTH we have a high level of expertise. But most importantly, we have an even higher

level of love and compassion for every animal that comes through our door," comments Dana

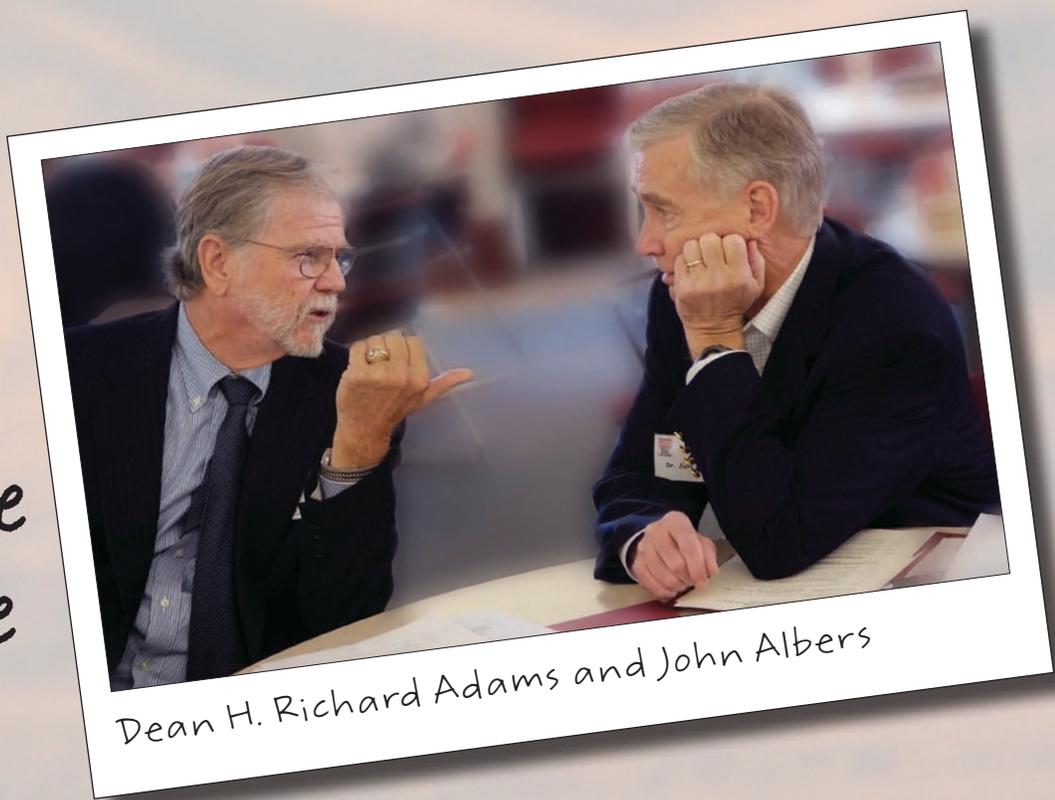
Heath, assistant hospital administrator for Small Animal. "We will go out of our way to make sure that each animal's every need is met."

W. Terry Stiles, hospital director, says "We strive to exceed our customer's expectations. Cards and letters from our clients expressing appreciation for the quality and caring services we provide are appreciated by all. We are very proud of the quality and diversity of the programs offered by our hospital and the faculty, staff, and students who make them possible." 🍀

*"I can now say that I experienced nothing short of stellar treatment for my beloved pet, and believe the excellent reputation of the Veterinary College to be well deserved."*



# Building the Future of the Profession



Dean H. Richard Adams and John Albers

Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences has a long tradition of educating and graduating high quality entry level veterinarians. Working closely with industry and veterinary medical practitioners, the Center for Executive Leadership in Veterinary Medicine works to ensure that these graduates are prepared to meet the changing demands of a dynamic profession.

"Many studies have been done on a national level to determine what skills are needed to be successful in this profession, now and in the future," said Dr. E. Dean Gage, executive director and Bridges Chair for the center. "At the top of every list you will see communication skills and leadership ability."

One of the biggest challenges to developing these skills in future veterinary practitioners is finding a way to add it into an already loaded curriculum. Also under consideration are the changes in the profession itself. As veterinary medicine plays a larger role in public health, developing practitioners that can work in alternative environments from private practice and take a leadership role in solving public health problems on a global scale requires a long look at how the CVM and the Center for Executive Leadership develop graduates who can best respond to these demands.

To better understand the emerging needs of the veterinary medical profession, the Center formed an Advisory Council made up of leading executives representing the animal health industry and national organizations with the veterinary medical profession. Working together, Texas A&M and these veterinary leaders are building a leadership program that is nationally recognized, and serves as a resource for students and the profession.

In October of this year, the Advisory Council convened at Texas A&M for a full day of presentations. The morning sessions focused on the steps that the CVM is taking to address leadership, communication, and life skills within the DVM curriculum and within the faculty. In the afternoon, industry leaders shared their perspective on the skills required to be successful after graduation as well as the anticipated future needs for veterinarians to fill a variety of roles.

"The support we have received from organizations and companies has been phenomenal," added Gage. "Together we are better able to address the future of veterinary medicine and make a positive impact on the direction our profession is moving."

Gage stressed the importance of the contributions from those outside of the CVM because they help those within the CVM focus their efforts on preparing students for the real world outside of the university. Finding innovative and unique ways to incorporate leadership concepts into the current curriculum, as well as offering leadership development opportunities for faculty and staff are priorities for Gage and the Center.

To date, a number of faculty and students have participated in the Veterinary Leadership Experience at Washington State University, and ten faculty have attended the Bayer Institute for Health Communications.

The next step is for those who have received training to become the trainers and provide examples of how to incorporate those lessons learned into the classroom, which is already happening around the CVM.

"As leadership education begins to spread throughout the college, we can then begin to build the foundation for a national program much like the VLE and Bayer, except perhaps at a whole new level," added Gage. "Leadership and life skills have become that important to success, and our administration has recognized that and made a strong commitment to becoming the example of how to provide that education to our students and faculty."

Presenting at the meeting were: Randy LeFevre, Banfield; John Albers, American Animal Hospital Association; Rick Sibbel, Schering-Plough; Robert Jones, Novartis; Tom Lenz, Fort Dodge; Liesa Stone, Bayer; Janet Donlin, Hill's; Nicholas Vaughan, Nestle Purina; Susan Giovengo, Procter & Gamble Pet Care; Roberta Relford, IDEXX; Marguerite Pappaioanou, American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges; and Lyle Vogel, American Veterinary Medical Association.

Through the course of the presentations, one common theme emerged – the need for veterinarians prepared to meet the multiple challenges facing the future of the profession. The CVM



John Albers,  
Executive Director  
American Animal  
Hospital Association



Randy LeFevre,  
Vice President  
of Professional Relations  
Banfield



Robert Jones,  
President  
Novartis



Rick Sibble,  
Director, Global Ruminant  
Technical Services  
Schering-Plough



Janet Donlin,  
Manager of Veterinary  
Business Channel  
Hill's Pet Nutrition



Susan Giovengo,  
Manager,  
Professional Relations  
Procter & Gamble Pet Care

was commended for its early steps with the development of the DVM/MBA and the DVM/PhD programs, as well as the establishment and funding of the Center for Executive Leadership. As the Center continues to grow to meet its mandate, an associate director position has been created to help encourage the development of innovative leadership programs for the CVM and the profession which place Texas A&M at the forefront of the future of veterinary medicine.

"We are so honored by the support and encouragement from these leaders in industry," said Gage. "They have pledged continuing commitment for our Center and its programs. We have set very high goals and have very high expectations for our Center, and with their help, we will be able to not only achieve them but exceed them." 🍀



Nicholas Vaughan  
Influential Marketing-  
Communications Manager  
Nestlé Purina



Liesa Stone,  
Manager, Veterinary  
Technical Services,  
Animal Health Division  
Bayer Health Care

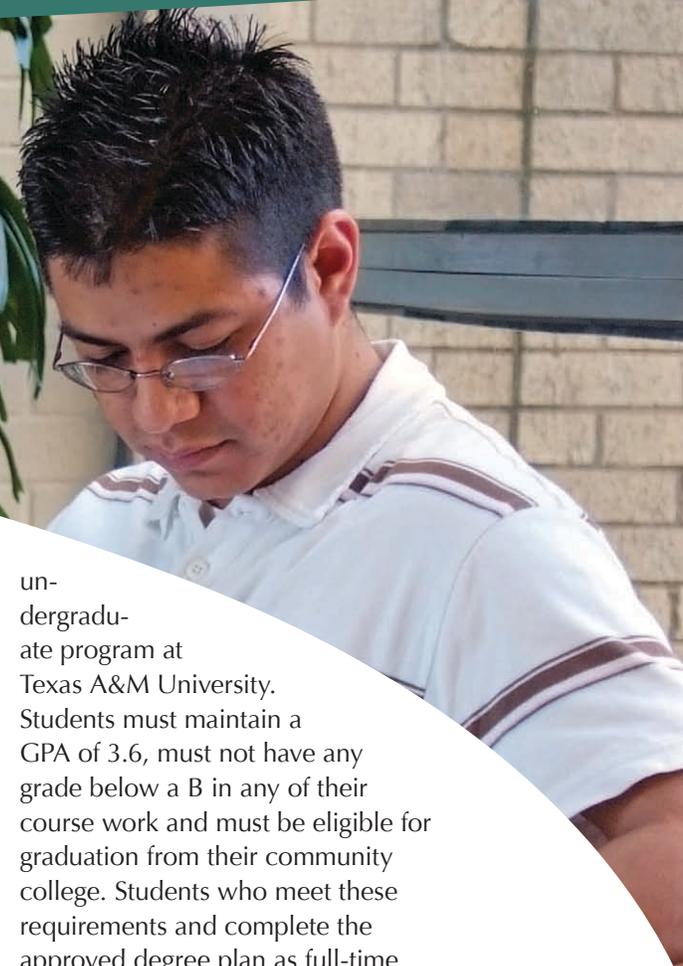
Biomedical Sciences

*Spotlight*

# Eliab Chavira: An Example of Firsts



2 + 2 = success



Eliab Chavira is an example of firsts. He is the first member of his family to graduate college and the first 2+2 program graduate to attend the College of Veterinary Medicine. The San Antonio native takes time from the challenge of his first semester to share his journey with us.

Chavira started his college career with Palo Alto Community College in his home town of San Antonio. It was during his time attending Palo Alto that he discovered the 2+2 program between his community college and Texas A&M University. With the help of academic advisors and a positive family and friend base, he began preparing himself to obtain a degree from Texas A&M University.

During his time at Palo Alto he began devoting his Saturdays to volunteering with the San Antonio Zoo, helping to feed, clean and observe the animals of the large animal department. He later began volunteering at Pleasanton Road Animal Hospital, a local private practice vet clinic. "The clinic told me I was volunteering too much of my time at the clinic simply volunteering, so they hired me," Chavira said. "It was the vet and vet technician from the clinic that gave me so much encouragement to work hard at my classes and pursue a degree in Veterinary Medicine."

Chavira was introduced to the 2+2 program while attending Palo Alto Community College and started preparing himself to attend Texas A&M University. He kept his grades above the 3.6 grade point average required by the 2+2 program and took more classes than suggested

*"I would recommend 2+2 to those students interested in veterinary medicine or any health related science," stated Chavira.*

to prepare himself for the course load he would take at A&M as he pursued his biomedical sciences bachelor's degree. "I wanted to get comfortable before coming to a big school," Eliab said. "So I kept taking more and more hours to prepare myself. I knew a BIMS degree and vet school would be challenging. I wanted to be ready."

The 2+2 program allows students to make a seamless transition from participating junior colleges to the

un-  
dergradu-  
ate program at Texas A&M University. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.6, must not have any grade below a B in any of their course work and must be eligible for graduation from their community college. Students who meet these requirements and complete the approved degree plan as full-time students will be admitted to the Biomedical Sciences program.

Biomedical Sciences is the largest major on the Texas A&M University campus, with approximately 2,000 students enrolled. Most students pursuing this degree are preparing for a career in the health field, which includes such professions as medicine, optometry, veterinary medicine, nursing, ophthalmology and dentistry. "I would recommend 2+2 to those students interested in veterinary medicine or any health related science," stated Chavira.

Changing into an increased speed and size of class can be intimidating. 2+2 helps transition students into such a large university by creating the most advantageous situation pos-

# Partnerships For Success

The College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University has established 2+2 agreements with a number of Texas community colleges. These partnerships serve to facilitate the admission and academic transfer of students from the participating community colleges into the Biomedical Science program (BIMS). As students progress successfully toward the completion of an Associate's degree, they must follow the guidelines that their community college and the BIMS program have defined.

Although these guidelines do vary for each of the community colleges, the general criteria for automatic acceptance into the BIMS program are as follows:

- 1) Students must complete the designated community college degree plan, as full time students, and meet all other general admission requirements (i.e., transcripts, applications, timelines, etc.) to Texas A&M University.
- 2) Students must have maintained no less than a 3.60 GPA in the courses taken at the community college and will have completed the set number of hours of transferable course work on the designated community college degree plan.
- 3) Students must not have made any grade below a "B" in all of their Common Body of Knowledge (CBK) science and math coursework.

Community colleges currently participating in the BIMS 2+2 Articulation Agreement are:

- Austin Community College
- Cisco Junior College
- Dallas County Community College District
- McLennan Community College
- Northeast Texas Community College
- Odessa College
- Palo Alto College
- Temple College
- Tyler Junior College
- Weatherford College

For more information about the 2+2 program, please call 979-845-4941 or visit the following url: <http://www.cvm.tamu.edu/bims/2+2agree.shtml>.

sible. 2+2 guides students through their first two years at a community college with an exact list of courses needed in order to transfer to Texas A&M University. "Clarity is one of the biggest advantages of the 2+2 program," explained Dr. Skip Landis, Director of Biomedical Sciences. "Students enter well prepared for BIMS course loads and the required courses for 2+2 cover many prerequisites for professional school."

"I would like to compliment Palo Alto Community College on their preparation of students," said Landis as he described Chavira's community college and the first college to join the 2+2 program. "It was a pleasure working with Palo Alto. They set the expectations for schools to follow."

"Eliab is so conscientious. He is going to make a great veterinarian," said Landis. "He is going to represent us well."

Chavira is now pursuing his goal of becoming a Doctor of Veterinary Medi-

*"Eliab is so conscientious. He is going to make a great veterinarian," said Landis. "He is going to represent us well."*

cine, as part of the class of 2011. Chavira is thinking of opening his own private practice one day.

"I'm really enjoying the challenge of vet school," said Chavira. "The wet labs are so great and offer great opportunities to learn about techniques, clinicals and diseases. Vet School is challenging, but well worth it. I'm so excited to be here." 🦋





# *The Future is Here*

## ***Class of 2011 Profile***

**Class size: 132**  
**Total applicants: 448**  
**101 of the 132 students are women**  
**Average Age: 23 (range 20 to 52)**  
**Average cumulative GPA: 3.64**  
**Science GPA: 3.6**  
**States of Residence:**  
TX – 126  
NY – 1  
CA – 1  
NJ – 1  
OK – 1  
OH – 2

## ***Class of 2007 Placement***

**Class Size: 128**  
**(122 Respondents)**  
**Number expecting to practice in Texas: 86**  
**Number selecting small animal practice (exclusive): 38**  
**Number selecting small animal predominant: 9**  
**Number selecting mixed practice: 16**  
**Number selecting large animal predominant: 2**  
**Number selecting large animal exclusive: 1**  
**Number entering equine practice: 5**  
**Number entering civil or uniformed service: 3 in uniformed service**  
**Number expecting to seek internship/residency: 26**  
**Number expecting to pursue advanced study: 4**  
**Estimated average starting salary: \$55,884.21**





# ONE Medicine

# Technology

# ONE

## Human and Veterinary Medicine: A Healthy Partnership

**D**oes this scene sound familiar? It's late at night. A patient arrives at the emergency room after an accident. She is not responding. Radiographs and CT scans reveal broken bones and internal bleeding. After recovering from emergency surgery to repair her broken body, the patient looks up and licks her caregiver's face.

This scenario may occur at veterinary specialty clinics around the country, and the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences is no exception. However, it also occurs regularly at human hospitals ...except for maybe the face-licking part.

What's so important to the story is that in that situation and others like it, much of the technology and treatment for either four-legged or two-legged patients would be the same. There are diseases that animals and humans have in common such as diabetes, cardiac disease, cancer, and joint degeneration to name just a few. As medical practitioners, veterinarians and physicians have sometimes found the need to collaborate in

order to advance treatment against these maladies. In addition, many of the emerging disease threats today are zoonotic – able to infect humans and animals – and require a unified approach towards public health in a global sense. Historically, the closest crossover point between the two fields of medicine has been through technology.

“Much of the specialized equipment used in veterinary radiology was originally for human medical use,” said Dr. Michael Walker, veterinary radiologist at the VMTH. “That includes specialized imaging equipment such as CT and MRI, and radiation therapy equipment as well. Since these machines are very expensive, you are more apt to find them in the large veterinary specialty centers that may purchase used models from human facilities.” Thus, the machines used in veterinary medicine are often the same as those used in human medicine. The main difference being that human patients are usually awake during many of the specialized medical imaging and radiotherapeutic procedures, whereas animals have to be sedated or anesthe-



Dr. Fossum  
in surgical  
headgear

A surgery suite at  
St. Joseph Regional  
Health Center



tized  
so that  
they remain still.

Dr. Jonathan Levine, a veterinary neurologist at the VMTH, is involved in research using MRI to study cervical disk herniation. As he studies how to reverse disk degeneration early in the injury cascade by examining bone morphogenic proteins in dogs, his collaborators at Scott & White Hospital are discovering ways to translate the findings into reversing disk degeneration in humans.

"In addition," said Dr. Levine, "we are working on NIH funded research with investigators at University of California-San Francisco Medical School. It is our hope to provide direct benefits to humans and animals with neurological disease, and

through collaborative use of technology in diagnosis, give veterinarians new treatment options for complex problems." Advances in surgical techniques have also come full circle.

"Many of the things we use in human medicine today originated in veterinary medicine," said Dr. Charles Sanders, professor of Humanities in Medicine at the Texas A&M System Health Science Center. "After being used and developed further in human medicine, they have found their way back to veterinary medicine. A lot of techniques, devices, and drugs have been shared by both fields – things like CT scans, heart bypass machines, ultrasound technology, and even laparoscopic surgery have all developed by the efforts of veterinary medical practitioners and their human physician counterparts."

Using the same diagnostic tools is not where similarities end. At the foundation, is the basic science

that diagnostics and treatments are predicated on. Many of the problems that veterinarians and physicians face in their efforts to cure disease are the same because the diseases either have the same origin or manifest themselves in the same way.

"Particularly when you get to the specialist level in either veterinary medicine or human medicine, you see some of the same disease conditions," said Dr. Jonathan Friedman, a neurosurgeon with Texas Brain & Spine Institute. "The two fields often intersect at that level because of mutual research interests. When looking at the disease process of tumors, for example, the basic





Anesthesia  
equipment



Dr. Nelson  
in surgical  
headgear



A surgery suite at  
the Veterinary Medical  
Teaching Hospital

science really overlaps between humans and animals. The research conducted to better understand how this disease, that naturally occurs in both animals and humans, responds to different therapies often originates in veterinary medicine. Not only does this benefit animals, but it directly impacts human health."

Dr. Friedman and his colleagues plan to collaborate with veterinary medical counterparts when looking at tumors in the brain and how they respond to radiosurgery, a new technology that TBSI has brought to the Bryan/College Station community.

"This is a time of growth and momentum during the Health

Science Center expansion," added Friedman.

"There is no doubt in my mind that having a College of Veterinary Medicine in close proximity to the Health Science Center enhances the ability of both organizations to recruit specialists with expertise in translational research."

For many years, researchers have recreated disease in mice to study the efficacy of treatments, the disease process, or even the genetic inheritability of the disease. Today's science calls for models that are closer to humans, especially since artificially creating the disease is not quite the same.

The canine genome was sequenced in 2004, and with it came a wealth of discovery on the genetic causes of some diseases, especially those that humans and dogs have in common.



Surgical  
clamps



"One model that is very close to humans for certain diseases and conditions is the dog," said Dr. Theresa Fossum, veterinary surgeon at the VMTH. "If we can validate the dog as a disease model, we will show that with the diseases and health concerns that the two species share, we can be more predictive for human medicine, and it's ultimately better for the dogs. For instance, with certain drugs and devices, when we are able to use them to treat diabetes or cardiac defects that naturally occur in dogs, these animals are then able to have access to care that they wouldn't normally have been able to. What we learn from treating the dogs can then eventually lead to FDA approval for human clinical trials."



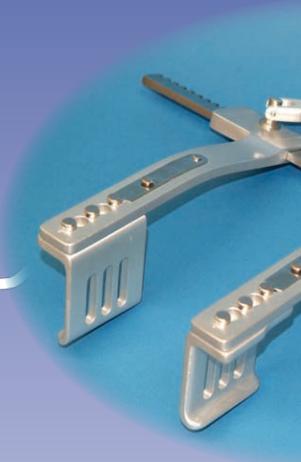
## Clinicians with a heart-lung machine at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital

Fossum noted that by building a registry of animals that present with a given disease, the animal trials cover the cost of the care for the patients, which is good for the pets, their owners, and the veterinarians.

Projected for completion in the first quarter of 2009, the Texas Institute for Preclinical Studies represents

the apex of the "One Medicine" concept.

To pursue advances in diagnostics and treatments for diseases in animals and humans, the practitioners collaborating at TIPS will study devices and some pharmaceuticals using Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) standards required by the FDA to move novel medical



technology and pharmacology into human trials. At the core of this collaborative effort will be a state-of-the-art imaging center that will feature multiple modalities (CT, PET CT, MRI) that are only equaled by large metropolitan medical and research centers. Fossum, as the director of TIPS, will be working to establish the institute as the hub of an emerging biotechnology center in the Brazos Valley.

"TIPS is absolutely applicable to the 'One Medicine' concept," said Friedman. "What Dr Fossum is developing there is the use of animal models to develop treatments for the benefit of humans and animals. I

## Conceptual rendering of the TIPS facility





Rib  
spreaders



Orthoscopic  
surgery at the  
Veterinary Medical  
Teaching Hospital

don't know how much closer to the 'One Medicine' concept we can get."

Any discussion of "One Medicine" has to include the increasing role of the veterinarian in public health. Some of the newest threats to our world have been emerging disease in the form of zoonotic pathogens, those that can infect humans and animals. The headlines are full of avian influenza, SARS, and still other diseases that threaten to cross the human-animal boundary. In an editorial published in *amednews.com*, a newspaper for physicians in the American Medical Association, statistics from the Centers for Disease Control were quoted as estimating about 60 percent of all human pathogens are zoonotic, and approximately 75 percent of recently emerging infectious diseases affecting humans are of animal origin.

In September of 2006, Dr. Roger Mahr, president of the American Veterinary Medical Association, made uniting human and veterinary medicine one of the priorities of his term of office. Following that announcement, the American Medical Association voted at its annual meeting to increase collaboration with the veterinary community in order to improve the recognition, monitoring, and treatment of zoonotic diseases.

"So much from human health and animal health is the same," said

Sanders.

"The way we teach the basics like creating sterile fields, gloving/gowning, and sewing up incisions is so much the same that we are able to share resources, and have done so here at Texas A&M for about eight years. As technology and medicine continue to advance, there will always be a drift between the human realm and back to veterinary medicine. Our collective future is truly intertwined." 



## First Aggie vet to act as reviewing officer for Corps of Cadets

Texas A&M veterinarians have always answered the call to service, even when that means returning to Aggieland for a football game weekend.

Before the Aggies' home opener against Montana State University, the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets performed their regular pre-game "march in". Reviewing the cadets was Brigadier General Michael B. Cates, who is not only Texas A&M Class of '79, but also Texas A&M DVM '80, the first Aggie veterinarian to serve as the reviewing officer.

"It was a tremendous opportunity to serve as the reviewing officer at A&M's first football game of the season," said Cates. "There is nothing like the spirit and excitement in College Station on game day, and my wife and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience! We are already looking forward to our next visit."

Military veterinarians like BG Cates have four main roles: animal health, food safety, zoonotic disease pre-



Brigadier General Michael B. Cates (center) pictured in the reviewing stand with Chairman of the Texas A&M System Board of Regents Mr. Bill Jones (left) and TAMU Interim President, Dr. Eddie J. Davis (right).

vention and control, and medical research and training support.

BG Cates has served as an army veterinarian for 27 years, and currently serves as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM), the Army's main preventive medicine and public health command. He also serves as

the Chief of the Army Veterinary Corps, the senior veterinarian in the U.S. military.

"By giving me these responsibilities," adds Cates, "the Army has shown both awareness and confidence that veterinarians can make crucial contributions

to the health of humans as well as animals."

As one of the largest veterinary colleges in the nation, and with the unique military tradition of Texas A&M, it stands to reason that Aggie veterinarians are making an impact in the armed forces. Cates noted that there are a number of fantastic officers from Texas A&M in the Veterinary Corps as well as throughout the military, and he continues to be impressed with their professionalism, their dedication, and their enthusiasm.

"We are proud to have BG Cates return to Aggieland, representing not only the Army Veterinary Corps, but also the first to represent the veterinary medical profession as the reviewing officer," said H. Richard Adams, dean of veterinary medicine.

"BG Cates is a shining example of how veterinary medical professionals continue to serve our country and its citizens."

"This is one of the best times in the Veterinary Corps' 91 year history to be an Army veterinarian," added Cates, "given the unique practice experiences and the definite steps we have taken in the direction of 'One Medicine, One Health.'" 🌿



Brigadier General Michael B. Cates returned to Aggieland on October 19 to present "The Role of the Military Veterinarian" during College Hour.

While he was here, he visited with Emily Matz, 2VM (above), a recipient of a Health Professions Scholarship from the United States Army.

He also reconnected with Dr. Leon Russell (right), professor in Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, who was one of his instructors when he was a student here.



## Duke TIP young scholars explore veterinary medicine at Texas A&M

Summer often means swimming, sunshine, and studying. At least it does for the 7th to 10th graders participating in the annual Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP). For them, studying at Texas A&M University is a fun and challenging way to spend part of their summer break, and for the first time ever, these young scholars will have the opportunity to explore veterinary medicine.

"Our first year to host programs at Texas A&M University was 2006," said Traci Guidry, Manager of Educational Services at Duke TIP's satellite office in Austin. "We are excited to be able to add veterinary medicine to the course offerings at Texas A&M this year. The College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences (CVM) has an international reputation for excellence, and that will serve to provide our students with an unforgettable experience."

Divided into two sessions, with the first beginning June 10, nearly 40 participants were given an introduction to veterinary medicine and the veterinary medical profession through classroom learning, laboratory activities, tours, discussions, and problem solving.

"Providing this kind of an outreach opportunity reflects the vision of our dean, Dr. H. Richard Adams," said Dr. Larry Johnson, professor and out-

reach coordinator for the CVM.

"Dr. Adams is committed to enhancing educational opportunities for future veterinarians. I am fortunate to be able to work with so many dedicated people to make this happen, including my co-instructor, Shawn Martin."

In addition to the many faculty members from the CVM that contributed their skills and expertise, current veterinary students served as teaching assistants.

"By including some of our current veterinary medical students as TAs," said Dean Adams, "we are able to provide them the opportunity to hone their communication skills, serve as role models for future veterinarians, and give back to the community. In this way, we help to further develop the leadership skill set these veterinary medical students will need to be successful in practice."

Participants in Duke TIP arrived at Texas A&M University from all over the United States, and some from other countries. In addition to veterinary medicine, other courses offered at Texas A&M include algebra, debate, computer science, philosophy, political science, robotics, literature, history, nanotechnology, and geometry.

"The courses offered on each of our host campuses are selected to showcase that university's programs that are unique and have a strong reputa-

"By including some of our current veterinary medical students as TAs, we are able to provide them the opportunity to hone their communications skills, serve as role models for future veterinarians, and give back to the community. In this way, we help to further develop the leadership skill set these veterinary medical students will need to be successful in practice."

—H. Richard Adams,  
Carl B. King Dean of Veterinary Medicine

tion," said Guidry. "Veterinary medicine was frequently requested and filled up quickly. We look forward to being able to offer this course in the future."

The Duke TIP Summer Studies Program offers students in grades 7-10 the opportunity to learn highly challenging material at a rate suited to their advanced abilities. Students enroll in a single Duke TIP-designed course for three weeks of in-depth study; they attend nearly 40 hours of class each week between Monday morning and Saturday afternoon. Programs are primarily offered on select college campuses in North Carolina, with Texas A&M University and the University of Kansas as the only two host campuses outside the state, providing an unparalleled opportunity for young scholars to experience college classroom instruction and residence hall living.

For information about Duke TIP enrollment and qualification, visit their website at [www.tip.duke.edu](http://www.tip.duke.edu). For information about Texas A&M University, visit [www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu).

Additional information about Duke TIP and the Summer Studies Program at Texas A&M University is available through Traci Guidry, Manager, Educational Services, Texas Office at (512) 473-8400 or [tguidry@tip.duke.edu](mailto:tguidry@tip.duke.edu). 

"The College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences has an international reputation for excellence, and that will serve to provide our students with an unforgettable experience."

—Traci Guidry,  
Duke TIP Manager of Educational Services

## Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital introduces new MRI and CO<sub>2</sub> surgical laser technologies

The Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences significantly enhanced its surgical and diagnostic capabilities with the installation of two major pieces of medical technology—a mobile magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) unit and a CO<sub>2</sub> surgical laser.

"The College of Veterinary Medicine is dedicated to maintain state-of-the-art instrumentation that improves the clinical services we provide our patients, their owners and our referring veterinarians," said Dr. H. Richard Adams, dean of veterinary medicine. "Many of the technological advances in human medicine were

"MRI will allow us to see strokes, brain malformations and a host of other conditions that are very difficult to image with CT. This will lead to improved clinical diagnoses and more effective neurological treatments."

—Dr. Jonathan Levine,  
Veterinary Neurologist, Small Animal Clinical Sciences Professor

actually developed through the use of animals, and are now accessible in clinical veterinary medicine."

The addition of MRI capabilities with the arrival of the Magnetom Impact/Expert Plus MRI unit improves the ability of veterinarians to image and diagnose many conditions and disease, especially those of the brain and spinal cord.

"The resolution we'll have when looking at soft tissues, such as the brain, will be far superior to what we

could achieve using cat scan (CT)," said Dr. Ben Young, a veterinary radiologist with the Small Animal Hospital. "Overall, we are very pleased to have acquired this unit. It will be utilized to advance research as well as diagnosis of our clinical patients."

The Neurology/Neurosurgery service will see the greatest impact of the new MRI.

"MRI will allow us to see strokes, brain malformations and a host of other conditions that are very difficult to image with CT," said Dr. Jonathan Levine, veterinary neurologist. "This will lead to improved clinical diagnoses and more effective neurological treatments."

Another first for the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital is the addition of a CO<sub>2</sub> laser, which can replace a scalpel blade for many surgical procedures.

"For procedures that normally cause a lot of bleeding such as some oral surgery, the laser will help us reduce blood loss as well as post-operative pain," said Dr. Mark Stickney, veterinary medical surgeon. "We are able to see our patients recover in a shorter period of time, which is beneficial to both the patient and their owners."

The CO<sub>2</sub> laser is one of only two in use in the area, and Texas A&M is the only veterinary medical school in the country with this model of CO<sub>2</sub> surgical laser. Both the MRI and the laser are typically found only in major metropolitan areas, making their arrival at Texas A&M a major benefit to referring veterinarians and the pet-owning public in the region. 🐾



The image above is one example of how the newly arrived MRI technology is able to provide clinicians with another diagnostic tool that can be used in both research and treatment.

## Roussel named Diplomat in European College of Bovine Health Management

Dr. Allen Roussel, professor of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, has been named a de facto Diplomat in the European College of Bovine Health Management (ECBHM).

Roussel is the only veterinarian from the United States neither trained nor having practiced in Europe that earned acceptance as a Diplomat in the College, which consists of 181 diplomates representing 25 countries.

"It is quite an honor for me to receive this recognition," said Roussel. "I have the greatest respect for my European colleagues in bovine medicine, many of whom have led the world in this field. My interactions with them have been gratifying, both professionally and personally."

The College was established late in 2003 as the first production animal College of the European Board of Veterinary Specialization, with the objective of improving the health and welfare of the European cattle herd and increasing the competency of those who practice in the field of bovine herd health. These goals

will be achieved by overseeing postgraduate clinical education towards specialization, administering specialist European Diploma examinations, encouraging research and scholarly activity and promoting the dissemination of knowledge related to the subject.

"I hope to broaden my interactions with European bovine veterinarians through active participation in this organization," added Roussel. "We both have so much to learn from each other. Exploring the methods and philosophies of practice of others can open the door to new possibilities. It's my hope that my experience with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) can also contribute in some way to the growth and maturation of the ECBHM."

Working together and developing collaborations is a sentiment that is echoed by the administration of the ECBHM.



*Dr. Allen Roussel*

"We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Roussel into the College," said David Barrett, President of the ECBHM. "We are keen to develop links with colleagues in North America and particularly the ACVIM food animal specialists, and hope that those individuals who are members of the ACVIM and ECBHM such as Dr. Roussel will assist us in developing collaboration in the training of residents both in North America and Europe."

Veterinarians considered for de facto Diplomat status in the college had to meet significant criteria that measured not only their experience in practicing bovine veterinary medicine, but also their contribution to the creation and communication of new knowledge in the field of bovine herd health. Future diplomates will be required to successfully complete a residency and certification exam for inclusion in the college.

"It is my hope that my participation in this college will lead to more opportunities for intellectual and cultural exchanges between my colleagues in Europe and those on this continent, especially those at Texas A&M University," said Roussel. "We have so many professional challenges in common, that by sharing ideas and perspectives, perhaps we can address them on a global scale." 

"I hope to broaden my interactions with European bovine veterinarians through active participation in this organization. We both have so much to learn from each other. Exploring the methods and philosophies of practice of others can open the door to new possibilities. It's my hope that my experience with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) can also contribute in some way to the growth and maturation of the ECBHM."

*—Dr. Allen Roussel,  
Large Animal Clinical Sciences Professor*

## CVM hosts visitors from the Leadership Texas program

In June, the CVM hosted nearly 100 women as part of the Leadership Texas program. Members received a tour of the Large Animal Hospital and had a presentation about the CVM and its future by Dr. H. Richard Adams, dean of veterinary medicine.

Leadership Texas brings together Texas women who have demonstrated their leadership ability in their profession, community or workplace.

The vision of the program is to identify and develop Texas' women leaders by providing them with essential information, an awareness of ongoing changes, sharpened skills and an enduring network of women from diverse backgrounds.



*Dr. William Moyer talks with members of Leadership Texas during their visit to the CVM.*

Representing both rural and urban areas, Leadership Texas graduates are corporate



*Members of Leadership Texas attend a presentation during their visit to the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.*



executives, educators, community leaders, lawyers, physicians, allied health professionals, journalists, artists, entrepreneurs and elected officials, among others. Emanating from a diversity of backgrounds and personal experiences, these women reflect the ethnic, cultural, geographic, career and volunteer activities of the women in the State of Texas.

They meet five times per year in different locations to give program participants first-hand knowledge of the very real differences that exist between and within regions of the state. These sessions are held at locations that provide a context for each topic, such as universities, correctional facilities, corporate headquarters or South Texas colonias. Texas A&M University was the host for one of these sessions this year. 🌿

*Leadership Texas members enjoyed presentations and took a tour of the Large Animal Hospital.*

## Staff recognized at annual awards for exceptional service to CVM

Commitment to Excellence. That has been the signature for the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences since its inception in 1916. To maintain that level of commitment requires developing dynamic programs and providing compassionate service; but most of all, it requires building a quality staff of devoted employees.

Each year, the CVM recognizes members of the faculty and staff for their years of service, and honors a select few individuals for their exceptional contributions to the college, through Staff Awards, the Dean's Impact Award, and the Pearl Enfield Award.

The Dean's Impact Award was given to Terry Stiles, director of the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hos-

pital, Lucy Wendt, registered veterinary technician, and Betty Suehs, a business coordinator in Pathobiology. The Dean's Impact Award is given to individuals who have made a positive difference in the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences over a number of years.

"This award is my ultimate achievement and has inspired me," Wendt enthusiastically proclaims, "I believe in this institution, because I am this institution. I believe in what I do, and it is an honor to be rewarded for loving my job."

Stiles displays his gratitude by stating, "Receiving the Dean's Impact Award was truly an honor. My career here at the College of Veterinary Medicine has been most rewarding. I am very honored to be a member of such a fine institution."

Suehs was elated to receive the Dean's Impact Award stating, "I have been with the college in the same department for thirty-eight years, and I have received awards in the past; but the Dean's Impact Award is closest to my heart."

The Pearl Enfield Staff Leadership Award was bestowed upon Dana

Heath, assistant administrator in the Small Animal Hospital. This award recognizes Heath's exceptional leadership, her outstanding skills as a mentor, and her willingness to interact with students and the public.

"In the seventeen years I've worked at the VMTH, I've been blessed with a family of co-workers who have always been there with me," said Heath. "This award is a reflection of the efforts of the entire family."

"As a college, we have been blessed by the caliber of people on our faculty and staff," said Dr. H. Richard Adams, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. "It is always an honor to recognize such outstanding individuals each year."

Congratulations for all you have done to advance the mission of the CVM.

Also receiving Staff Awards for 2007: Yolanda Brinkman, Stevie Bundy, Mary Jewell, Heather Maass, Dana Osterstock, Margaret Patton, Deborah Perry, Jennifer Schilling, Bridget Sebesta, and Dave Sessum. 🐾



Staff award recipients – Top row: Jennifer Schilling, Dana Osterstock, Heather Maass, and Margaret Patton. Center row: Mary Jewell. Bottom row: Dave Sessum, Deborah Perry, Lucy Wendt, Yolanda Brinkman, Stevie Bundy, Bridget Sevesta, Dana Heath, and Terry Stiles.

## Veterinary professors receive prestigious A&M recognition

Every year, each college highlights a few individuals that have gone above and beyond the call of duty. These individuals have performed well over many years and have proven themselves to be invaluable to their colleges. As a sign of gratitude, each college rewards these individuals with the Association of Former Students (AFS) Award.

The Texas A&M University website states that this award was designed to, "encourage and reward the superior classroom teachers—those individuals whose command of their respective discipline, teaching methodologies, pervasive care, communication skills, and commitment

to the learning process exemplify the meaning of a teacher/mentor to the highest sense. This award is designed to distinguish those teachers who maintain high expectations of their students and who insure academic rigor in their courses."

At the college wide ceremony Dr. Mike Willard, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Small Animal Clinical Sciences (VSCS), and Dr. Christopher Quick, Professor, Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology (VTPP), were given this prestigious



*Dr. Bonnie Beaver and Dean H. Richard Adams.*

award for the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

"I have been fortunate to have received several awards over the years;



*Dr. Glen Laine, Mr. Porter Garner, Executive Director of the Association of Former Students, Dr. Christopher Quick and Dean H. Richard Adams.*



*Dr. Duane Kraemer and Dean H. Richard Adams.*

however, the AFS awards are ones that I value most," comments Willard. "When the people and students who work with you and suffer your idiosyncrasies day in and day out compliment you, it means a lot."

Receiving Dean's Impact Awards for faculty were Dr. Bonnie Beaver, small animal clinical sciences, Dr. H. Phil Hobson, small animal clinical sciences, Dr. Duane Kraemer, veterinary physiology and pharmacology, and Dr. James D. McCrady, professor emeritus in physiology and pharmacology. 🐾



*Dr. H. Phil Hobson and Dean H. Richard Adams.*

## Students from Prairie View A&M University visit the CVM

Every year, Dr. E. Gloria C. Regisford, Associate Professor in Biology at Prairie View A&M University, takes students on a unique field trip experience. The students represent various science and engineering undergraduate programs at Prairie View, and Dr. Regisford wants to give them a look at the career opportunities in research and industry that are available, in addition to the more traditional career paths of medical school. This summer, Dr. Regisford and her students included a stop at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences to learn about graduate research opportunities and the DVM program. "Our students are very competitive, and we want to expose them to as many opportunities for their future as we possibly can," said Dr. Regisford. "They need to know that there are a world of options out there for them."



*Dr. James D. McCrady and Dean H. Richard Adams.*



## Opportunities for Giving to the CVM

The College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences is consistently growing and expanding its efforts to make this a better world for animals and humankind. As we near the end of 2007, tax time is fast approaching and donations are on the minds of many.

Mandatory minimum withdrawals from IRAs often produce unneeded income and increase income taxes, possibly reducing social security benefits. The 2006 Pension Act was created to encourage those over 70 years of age to give donations through use of their IRAs during 2006 and 2007. Carrie and Joe West, DVM '56, recently took advantage of this opportunity and created an endowed scholarship for our college.

This opportunity to take advantage of the 2006 Pension Act is only available until the end of 2007. So be sure and check with your accountant and or financial advisor to see if you can help the college as well as benefit from this 2006 Pension Act.

Plans are underway for the development of an imaging center, complete with a MRI that can be used for both small and large animals. Housed in the same building will be

a linear accelerator which will complement our growing oncology program and include equine imaging and treatment. These additions to the CVM are not possible with state funds alone, and require the support of donors and friends of the college. As with all new facilities, multiple naming opportunities are available.

Numerous other options are available to those who would like to donate to the CVM. Endowed scholarships, the Pet Memorial Program and the Walk of Honor are all examples of how donations can be made to the college. Also, please review the new "Wish List" included in this issue of CVM Today.

All of us in the Development and Alumni Office wish you a Happy



*Dr. O.J. "Bubba" Woytek*

Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year.

**O. J. "Bubba" Woytek**  
*Senior Director, Development and Alumni Relations*

## Call for Outstanding Alumni Award Nominations

Outstanding Alumni Awards have been presented since 1980 to recognize graduates of the college who have reached a level of success in their professional careers that brings credit to both the individual and the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. Outstanding alumni exemplify the ideals, character strengths and principles of conduct that make the veterinary medical profession one of the highest callings.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences Outstanding Alumni. Graduates from Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences may be nominated for this honor.

Nominations are welcome through January 11th, 2008. For each nominee, a resume or curriculum vitae that summarizes major career accomplishments, and two letters of support are required, as well as any additional information or letters that may be helpful to the selection committee. Awards will be presented at the annual reception and dinner to be held Friday evening, April 3rd, 2008, at Miramont Country Club in Bryan, Texas.

*Nomination packets can be found on our website at <http://www.cvm.tamu.edu/alumni> or you may call Noell Vance at 979-845-9043 to receive one by mail.*

## VMTH Wish List

In the spirit of the holiday season, the clinicians and technicians at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital have put together a "Wish List" of things they need to continue providing high quality care to clients. Many people at the end of the year take advantage of giving opportunities to receive tax benefits. When reviewing end of year donation options, please consider supporting our programs by contributing all or part towards the purchase of this much needed equipment.

Thank you on behalf of the VMTH staff and practitioners.

For more information on how to help with our wish list, please contact the Development Office at 979-845-9043.

### Small Animal Hospital

#### Anesthesia:

Cardell Monitor #9401 = \$1840.00

Cardell Monitor #9402, NIBP, SPO2, ECG = \$2694.00

Cardell Monitor #9403, NIBP, SPO2, ECG, RR, Temp = \$3594.00 (Quantity needed: 4)

Pulse Oximeters #NPB 40, give heart rate and SPO2 = \$1200.00 (Quantity needed: 3-5)

Tidal Wave (Novamatrix Capnography) model 610 (includes accessories) = \$1995.00

Matrix Anesthetic machines for surgical suites model VMS Plus (includes oxygen yoke and quick pop-off valve) = \$3294.00 (Quantity needed: 4)

#### Exotics:

Animal Care Products, AICU E-series intensive care unit: small size, metal = \$880.00;

Large size, acrylic = \$1034.00

Cardell Monitor #9403, NIBP, SPO2, ECG, RR, Temp = \$3594.00;

Cardell Monitor #9401, blood pressure only = \$1840.00

#### Reception:

Benches for the front of the Small Animal Clinic: \$5000.00 (Quantity needed: 3-4)

#### Soft Tissue:

Pulse Oximeters # NPB 40, give heart rate and SPO2 = \$1200.00 (Quantity needed: 2)

Cabinet for their bronchoscopy unit (42" long) ~ unknown price

Laceration packs to replace old ones ~ \$300.00-350.00

Small wound packs to replace old ones ~ \$300.00-350.00

Emergency packs ~ \$500.00-600.00

Shore line surgical table on wheels, for the soft tissue special procedures room = \$2800.00

#### ER/ICU:

Syringe pumps = \$3,000.00 (Quantity needed: 4-5)

Gurney's with lift capability = \$4000.00 (Quantity needed: 2)

Mobile isolation cage unit (2 cages with frame) from Northgate Veterinary Supply = \$2495.00

Acclaim Encore IV infusion pumps from Abbott (Webster Veterinary Supply #07-8336570)

= \$1491.45 each (Quantity needed: 5)

IV fluid warmer (Webster Veterinary Supply #07-8347769) = \$450.00 each (Quantity needed: 3)

Mobile hoist, graduate from Westcoast Animal Rehabilitation Equipment = \$1995.00

Set of six slings for hoist = \$846.00

Stainless Steel wet/prep procedure table by VSSI (Webster Veterinary Supply #07-8366791) = \$2550.00

### Large Animal Hospital

#### Ultrasound:

37" Flat Screen Monitor to enable live viewing of ultrasound exams by students, clients, etc. = \$2,000

Small clippers = \$60 (Quantity needed: 2)

Plastic Storage Basket = \$15

One Gallon Garden Sprayer for Alcohol = \$30

## CVM Class Endowed Scholarships

Financing the cost of a professional education can be challenging. Tuition costs have caused a tremendous financial burden on our outstanding veterinary medical students, with an average debt upon graduation of over \$79,000. Every dollar makes a difference to these dedicated young men and women. Scholarships provides students with an advanced veterinary medical education that utilizes the finest in modern technologies.

Once a class reaches the \$25,000 minimum required for an endowed scholarship, income from the endowment will provide an annual scholarship to a veterinary student in good standing and based upon need. Descendants of the College of Veterinary Medicine class members, whose class has an endowed scholarship and who meet all of the qualifications, may be given preference in the awarding of these scholarships.

Giving today will benefit the students of tomorrow.

“The gift of an education is one of the greatest impacts one can provide to another individual.”

– Dr. E. Dean Gage,  
Bridges Chair and Executive Director  
for the Center for Executive Leadership  
in Veterinary Medicine

### Class Endowed Scholarships

Class of '41	Class of '68
Class of '51	Class of '69
Class of '55	Class of '70
Class of '57	Class of '75
Class of '65	Class of '84
Class of '66	Class of '02
Class of '67	Class of '07

## ‘CE by the Sea’ raises funds for the CVM



The Second Annual “CE by the Sea” event hosted by the Coastal Bend Veterinary Medical Association raised more than \$50,000, endowing two more scholarships at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

The event was held September 14-16 at Port Royale in Port Aransas, TX, and was attended by veterinarians from all around the coastal bend area. In its inaugural year, proceeds were used to endow a scholarship in the memory of Dayton Pat Prouty. This year, the group, headed by Drs.

Scott Vaughn and Pancho Hubert, honored the memory of Dr. J. K. Northway and Dr. Pat L. Hubert.

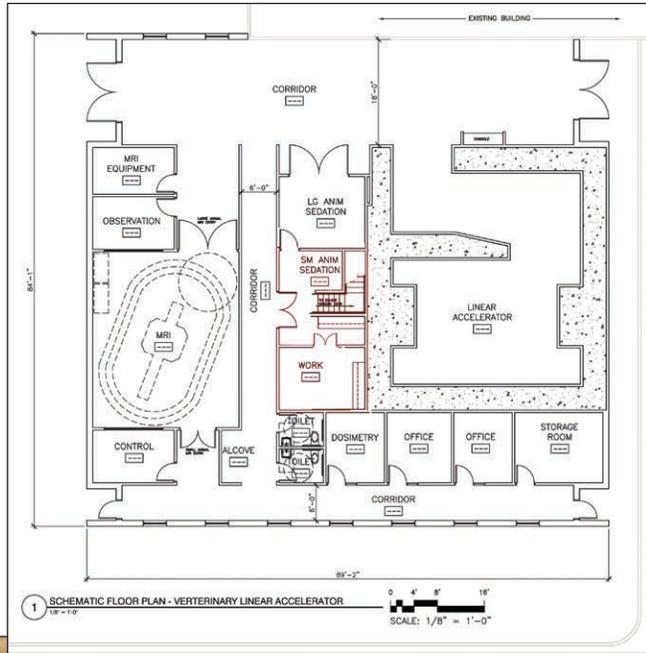
CVM Development Officer, Dr. Oscar “Bubba” Woytek, attended the event to receive the scholarship funds on behalf of the college.

# Veterinary Imaging and Cancer Treatment Center

Pictured are the initial renderings of the future building which will house an Imaging Center capable of diagnostic imaging for multiple species, including large animals, and a linear accelerator which will further enhance our abilities to treat companion animals with cancer. It is designed for easy access by our clinicians and patients, providing a safe and comfortable environment for everyone.

Our pets make a big impact on our lives, and being able to help them lead healthier, longer lives is an integral part of the CVM mission. In addition to the expanded diagnostic and treatment tools this building will house, it represents our commitment to the future of veterinary medicine by providing additional training and educational opportunities for our students. The support we receive from those who want to share in our vision for the future of veterinary medicine will help to turn this dream into a reality in the very near future.

For information about how you can support our vision, please contact the Development Office at 979-845-9043.



DEVELOPMENT  
News

## Choose the support option that's right for you!

There are so many ways to support the mission of the College of Veterinary Medicine &

Biomedical Sciences. Whether it be honoring a beloved pet or veterinarian with a brick in the Walk of Honor, or recognizing the loss of a client's pet through the Pet Memorial program, your donations support not only research at the CVM, but also the clinicians providing treatment

at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. Ultimately these funds enhance the educational opportunities we are able to provide our students.

For more information on any of the support opportunities available at the CVM, please contact the Development Office at 979-845-9043.

THE  
**Capper**  
AND **Chris**

SAVE THE  
ANIMALS FUND



Walk  
of  
Honor



# MARK FRANCIS Fellows

The Mark Francis Fellows recognizes donors who have given \$1,000 or more to the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. The following donors were honored at the annual Mark Francis Appreciation Luncheon held on September 7th. Donors are grouped into two alphabetical lists: New Members and Members Advancing to Higher Levels of Giving.

## *New Members:*

**Dr. and Mrs. Terry L. Blanchard**  
Lexington, KY

**Dr. Janice D. Boyd**  
Slidell, LA

**Gene and Nancy Carter**  
Dallas, TX

**Dr. Evelyn Tiffany Castiglioni**  
College Station, TX

**Gordon and Judith Chapin**  
Lampasas, TX

**Rick and Sue Copeland**  
Richmond, TX

**Mr. and Mrs. John C. Douglas**  
Houston, TX

**Mrs. Robert Engstrom**  
Dallas, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Gunnels**  
Ledyard, CT

**Mr. and Mrs. Ray E. Harder**  
Tyler, TX

**Lorraine W. Heard**  
Katy, TX

**Dr. Joni Hegel**  
Scottsdale, AZ

**Lori D. Kaelber**  
Houston, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. Gregory G. Knape**  
Alvin, TX

**Linda H. Kurz**  
Overland Park, KS

**Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Lawhorn**  
College Station, TX

**David R. Mayeux**  
Roanoke, TX

**Neal T. Morris**  
Dunlap, IL

**Thomas and Patsy Nichols**  
Austin, TX

**Mr. and Mrs. Erle A. Nye**  
Dallas, TX

**Mr. and Mrs. William P. O'Hara**  
Austin, TX

**Ralph and Joann Oler**  
Baytown, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. Terry M. Perkins**  
Richardson, TX

**Kurt N. Rathjen**  
Alvin, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. Rolean B. Riddle**  
Meadowlakes, TX

**Gregor H. Riesser**  
Houston, TX

**James and LeVern Lasley Riley**  
Amarillo, TX

**Dr. George C. Shelton**  
Belleville, IL

**Dr. and Mrs. Eugene T. Skidmore**  
Hilltop Lakes, TX

**Dr. Scott A. Smith**  
Austin, TX

**Lt. Col. Irene Sofferis**  
San Antonio, TX

**Gen. and Mrs. Edmond Solymosy**  
College Station, TX

**Walter W. Stewart**  
Austin, TX

**Beatrice Carr Wallace**  
Dallas, TX

**Honorable and Mrs. Jeffrey Wentworth**  
San Antonio, TX

## *Members Advancing to Higher Level of Giving:*

**Dr. William L. Anderson**  
Frisco, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. Charles M. Cocanougher**  
Decatur, TX

**Mr. and Mrs. Jon Dockins**  
Houston, TX

**Ann Eichelberger**  
San Antonio, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. Landis K. Griffeth**  
Dallas, TX

**Dr. William R. Klemm**  
Bryan, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Knauss**  
Burton, TX

**Drs. John and Deborah  
Kochevar**  
Grafton, MA

**Dr. and Mrs. Glen A. Laine**  
College Station, TX

**Drs. Ronald J. and Judy  
Martens**  
College Station, TX

**Gregory L. and Rhonda Meier**  
Wylie, TX

**Dr. and Mrs. John M. Morton**  
Athens, TX

**Raymond and Sarah Preddy**  
Waco, TX

**Dr. James R. Prine**  
Slayton, OR

**Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sheets**  
Paradise Valley, AZ

**Albert and Sheila Simmons**  
Austin, TX

**Nancy L. Simpson**  
Goochland, VA

**Dr. Clifford and Jody Skiles**  
Hereford, TX

**Dr. Horace A. and Judy Smith**  
Brenham, TX

**Mr. and Mrs. Martin E. Walker**  
Springboro, OH

*For more information about the Mark Francis Fellows program, please contact the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences Development Office at 979-845-9043.*

# In MEMORIAM



## **Class of 1936**

Ralph G. Gomez, 95, of Tulsa, OK died June 21, 2007.

*Dr. Gomez's friends are contributing to the Ralph Gomez Scholarship at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences to honor him and his memory. For more information, please contact the Development Office at 979-845-9043.*

## **Class of 1942**

Eugene S. Hobert, 91, of Fairmont, MN, died August 16, 2007.

## **Class of 1945**

Claude Henry Richey, 83, of Austin, TX, died May 9, 2007.

## **Class of 1946**

Lyle McDermott, 85, of Cameron, TX, died August 11, 2007.

## **Class of 1949**

Karl Edward Wallace, Jr., 85, of Huntsville, TX, died October 11, 2007.

Robert Gerald Owen, 80, of Lubbock, TX, died October 25, 2007.

## **Class of 1950**

James P. Jones, of Colleyville, TX, died May 5, 2007.

## **Class of 1951**

Elmer Pierce, 84, of Pearland, TX, died August 19, 2007.

## **Class of 1955**

Rudolph A. "Rudy" Hoffman, 75, of Ballinger, TX, died October 31, 2007.

## **Class of 1958**

Dan William Hilliard, 83, of San Antonio, TX, died September 25, 2007.

## **Class of 1960**

John Robert Barlow, 69, of Jackson, TN, died September 16, 2007.

## **Class of 1961**

Donald W. Schultze, 72, of Richardson, TX, died June 15, 2007.

## **Class of 1966**

Michael T. McCann, 65, of Fulshear, TX, died November 7, 2007.

*Memorial contributions may be made to the Texas A&M Foundation for the Dr. Michael Turner McCann Veterinary Scholarship. Please contact the Development Office at 979-845-9043, for more information.*

## **Class of 1968**

Robert A. Fiske, 63, of Bryan, TX, died July 1, 2007.

## **Class of 1974**

William Frank Brandenberger, 56, of Burseson, TX, died June 20, 2007.

Jack Leon McPhaul, 67 of Smithville, TX died September 9, 2007.

*A memorial account has been set up at First National Bank of Bastrop with proceeds to go to the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.*

# Continuing Education Calendar of Events

Dates	Event	Chairs
February 1–3, 2008	15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Veterinary Technician Conference	Lori Atkins & Candise McKay
April 25–27, 2008	Annual Feline Conference	Dr. John August
June 7–9, 2008	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Food Animal Conference	TBA
July 18–20, 2008	Practical Veterinary Dentistry	Dr. Bert Dodd
August 1–3, 2008	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Dermatology Conference	Dr. Christine Rees

## Office of Veterinary Continuing Education

College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University

4470, TAMU, College Station, TX, 77843-4470

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The Fifth Annual

# Gentle DOCTOR

BENEFIT AUCTION



Saturday  
April 5, 2008

Sponsored by Parents, Friends, and Family of the  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE of VETERINARY MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

## The 2008 Gentle Doctor Benefit Auction

Please join us for the Fifth Annual Gentle Doctor Benefit Auction. Income generated will enhance the "Gentle Doctor Educational Program"—a program established to provide support to veterinary medical student education.

### When:

*Saturday Evening, April 5th 2008*

### Where:

*Reed Arena, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX*

### Events:

*Doors open for Silent Auction at 4:30 pm; Dinner Buffet begins at 5:30 pm; Live Auction begins at 7:00 pm; Entertainment*

For more information about reservations and auction donations, please call Sherry Adams at 979-845-5053.

TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY

**CVM Today**  
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