A Day in the Life of a Third Year Student
CVM students share their clinical rotations experiences
The 2005-2006 academic year at WesternU began on August 6, 2005, when President Pumerantz declared the year open at university convocation. This was followed by individual College White Coat Ceremonies, welcoming, in our case, veterinary students in the Class of 2009 into the profession. We were honored to host keynote speaker, Dr. Michael Blackwell, at our ceremony in Bridges Music Auditorium at the Claremont Colleges. Dr. Blackwell, currently dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Tennessee, has had an illustrious career, during which time he attained the rank of Assistant Surgeon General (Rear Admiral) in the U.S. Public Health Service. He was the first veterinarian to serve as Chief of Staff for the Surgeon General. He spoke movingly about society’s need for veterinarians, whether in their capacity as Public Health providers or as nurturers of the Human-Animal bond. We welcome the 106 members of the Class of 2009 to the College of Veterinary Medicine at WesternU, and look forward to getting to know them.

The beginning of the academic year is our third new year as a College and an important year in the implementation of our innovative curriculum. On August 8, students in the Class of 2007 started clinical rotations in sites that varied geographically (from Merced in the north to El Cajon in the south), and by discipline (Dairy Practice, Lab Animal, Zoo Animal, Equine, Small Animal, Diagnostic Pathology, Public Health, Population Medicine, Shelter Medicine, International Veterinary Medicine & Foreign Animal Diseases, Food Safety, Epidemiology). I wish to extend a huge public thank you to Dr. Carmen Fuentealba, Associate Dean for Clinical Programs, Dr. Robert Mason, Associate Dean for Clinical Rotations and External Relations, our on-campus faculty serving as third year course directors, and the veterinarians at clinical sites who are participating in our students’ education. While our feedback is still preliminary, my sense is that the students are enjoying incredible caseloads, huge opportunities to learn, and significant networking with some of the regional leaders of our profession. Every day we receive communications from students that they have been delivering calves, managing interesting cases, working with board-certified pathologists at Antech, or attending Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee meetings at one of our sites. Hooray for everyone (including our phenomenal students who are getting RAVE reviews from practicing veterinarians) helping us take veterinary education in a most positive direction.

I am very pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees of Western University of Health Sciences has a new member, Mr. Peter Cheney. Peter has been a long-time friend of the College of Veterinary Medicine, serving on our first CVM Advisory Council, established in the summer of 1999 when he was director of the Kal Kan™ facility in Vernon, California. Peter went to on to serve as President of Mars, Inc., from which he retired in December of 2004. He brings a wealth of knowledge in long-term strategic planning and business practices with an interest in education. Welcome, Peter.

The College is looking forward to opening our doors to the first annual Open House and (second annual) Parents’ Luncheon, both to be held on Saturday, September 24. We anticipate many wonderful demonstrations, tours, and opportunities to recruit students into the career of veterinary medicine. Look for photos from that day in our next issue of the Outlook.

“for the animals shall not be measured by man...they are not brethren, they are not underlings; they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of the earth.” - Henry Beston, The Outermost House.

Shirley D. Johnston, DVM, PhD

Kudos to **Ms. Karen Eiler** (DVM 2007) for being elected to the SAVMA Executive Committee, which is the governing body for SAVMA. As the International Exchange Officer, Karen will act as the SAVMA liaison with foreign veterinary schools and will be the liaison with the International Veterinary Student Association. She represented SAVMA at the International Veterinary Student Association Congress in Vienna, Austria in July, 2005.

Kudos to **Ms. Karen Eiler** (DVM 2007) and **Mr. Terence Krentz** (DVM 2008) for their leadership in bringing the 2006 International Veterinary Student Association Congress to California July 19-29, 2006.


Welcome to **Dr. Oscar Illanes**, Professor of Veterinary Pathology, who joined our faculty on July 1, 2005. Oscar completed his DVM degree with distinction at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia, Chile, and his PhD in Veterinary Pathology at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, University of Liverpool, England. Following a residency at Texas A&M University, he became board certified in ACVP. Before coming to Western University, Dr. Illanes taught at the Atlantic Veterinary College on Prince Edward Island and worked for Pfizer Global Research and Development in La Jolla.

Welcome to **Dr. Wael Khamas**, Professor of Veterinary Anatomy, who joined our faculty on August 1, 2005. Wael completed his DVM at the University of Baghdad and his MS and PhD at Iowa State University in Veterinary Anatomy. He has been a faculty member at the University of Baghdad, the Jordan University of Science and Technology, and Purdue University, where he was a Fulbright scholar.

Welcome to **Dr. John Tyler**, Associate Professor of Small Animal Internal Medicine. John completed his DVM at the University of Georgia, graduate studies in immunology at the University of Wisconsin, a small animal internship at the University of Missouri, and medicine residencies at Iowa State and the University of Missouri. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Small Animal) and most recently was a faculty member in the PBL Curriculum at Mississippi State University, with special expertise in endocrinology, cardiology, dermatology and environmental toxicology.

Kudos to **CVM Director of Philanthropy Ms. Leigh Wiemann** for securing a $2500 grant from the PetCo Foundation in support of medical supplies for community outreach activities of our VACS (Veterinary Ambulatory Community Services) Vehicle.

Welcome to **Mr. Dean Raines**, Veterinary Assistant Coordinator for the Shelter rotation in our third year curriculum, reporting to **Dr. Victoria Voith**. He comes to us from the Second Chance Animal Sanctuary in Norman, Oklahoma, where he was a supervising technician maintaining oversight of Oklahoma State’s veterinary surgery rotation. Dean also has had extensive experience as a ratite (ostrich) veterinary technician.

Farewell to **Dr. Lara Rasmussen**, a founding faculty member of the College of Veterinary Medicine in Small Animal Surgery, who will leave us in September to take a surgical specialist position in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Lara will maintain adjunct faculty status in order to continue work on a WesternU grant from the Bosack Kruger Foundation to create and study models for teaching of clinical skills and she will also provide a fourth-year small animal surgical site for our students.

Welcome to **Ms. Dee Smith-Pavek**, Registered Veterinary Technician, who joined the CVM at the Hill’s Wellness Center on August 23, 2005. Dee comes to us from the University of Minnesota (Departments of Cardiology, Microbiology and the Veterinary Teaching Hospital) and from small animal technician experience in Minnesota and California.

Welcome to **Dr. John Tyler**, Associate Professor of Small Animal Internal Medicine. John completed his DVM at the University of Georgia, graduate studies in immunology at the University of Wisconsin, a small animal internship at the University of Missouri, and medicine residencies at Iowa State and the University of Missouri. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Small Animal) and most recently was a faculty member in the PBL Curriculum at Mississippi State University, with special expertise in endocrinology, cardiology, dermatology and environmental toxicology.

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Welcome to **Ms. Sydney White**, who left her position in the Hill’s Wellness Center this summer to assume Clinic Directorship at the Humane Society of San Bernardino Valley.
“Class of 2009, you are now our colleagues in training. As a collective, we have the common mission of protecting and advancing the well-being of humans. Many of you have entered veterinary school thinking of the profession along the lines of a traditional Norman Rockwell painting where the doc patches up Patches. I challenge you to don the compound lenses a comparative medicine degree affords. Your first look through those lenses shows a universe much larger than you had imagined your chosen profession to be.

Today, the human animal bond is stronger than ever before. As a veterinarian, you will need to recognize your role in the psychological, mental and emotional dynamics associated with providing medical care to someone’s companion, someone’s family member. There will come a time, in the not too distant future, when some veterinarians will also treat humans on a limited basis. “One Medicine.” You have the opportunity to be pioneers in our profession and take leading roles in creating primary care facilities that treat the entire family.

One of the veterinarian’s responsibilities, as outlined in the oath you will take upon graduation, is to promote public health. The public health demands, whether it be food animal medicine, food safety, or protecting humans against zoonotic diseases, continue to grow. The general population is becoming more aware of our role as public health officials. Over the last 25 years, disease after disease, starting with HIV and including Monkey Pox, West Nile Virus, and SARS, has made people aware that as a professional group we are helping to guard the interface between humans and animals.

Old challenges still exist even as new ones arrive, but this is an exciting time to be a veterinary student. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment of veterinarians is expected to outpace the average of all other occupations through the year 2012. You are fortunate to be attending the College of Veterinary Medicine at WesternU where you will receive real world clinical medical training.

My request of you, my challenge to you, is be relevant in your profession. Look beyond the Rockwell painting. Help veterinary medicine evolve to meet the demands of tomorrow.”

“A few words from Michael J. Blackwell, DVM, MPH, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine at The University of Tennessee.

Dr. Blackwell spoke to WesternU CVM entering students at the August 6, 2005 White Coat Ceremony.

“So, You Wanna’ Be a Vet...”
A Day In The Life of a Third Year Student

On August 8, 2005, students from the CVM began their third year clinical rotations. The field reports received thus far, both from the students (see below) and the clinical site coordinators, are overwhelmingly positive. Students will complete two-week rotations through on-campus courses such as food and feed safety, population health, veterinary and environmental public health, USDA accreditation, foreign animal diseases, and international veterinary medicine. Off-campus rotations in the disciplines of small animal medicine & surgery, emergency medicine & surgery, laboratory animal medicine, food animal practice, equine practice, zoo animal practice, humane society and shelter medicine, and clinical and anatomic pathology will complete the third year curriculum.

Some of the comments from students in the above-named rotations are included below: We find them to be substantial endorsements of our belief that the time spent by our students in high quality-high volume practices is time well spent in terms of introducing them to the real "everyday world" of veterinary medicine.

“Hi Dr. Cole,
I wanted to let you know that I just finished my first “Dairy Day.” We got up at 4:30am and I had a great time. Dr. Brandt at Mid-Valley was the vet I rode with and he was AWESOME. He was very interested in having students with him and taught me a ton just in the first hour! I was able to palpate over 30 cows (all open), saw a field necropsy on an RDA, palpated a fetal mummy, and we did a LDA surgery — ALL THIS MORNING. It was a great day, and for me that means so much (since I am small animal oriented). The doctors were friendly and also very probing with anatomy, path and physiology questions throughout the rotation. Thank you in advance for this experience.” HA

“Hi Dr. Johnston,
Here are my case logs and learning issues for the week. Nicole, Mike and I are having a great time at Dr. Carpenter’s practice. We’re learning tons of ‘good stuff’ there.” PE

“Dr. Johnston,
I have been rotating at Newport Harbor Animal Hospital. I am in one of two groups that are going to be rotating through this practice. This, so far, has been better than I could have expected. The doctors, staff, case load, clients and everybody else are fabulous at this practice. I don’t think we could ask for a better strategic partner. I wish more people could rotate through this practice.” MK

“Dr. Cole,
I rode with Dr. Hank Vander Poel today and he was awesome too! What a thrill to work with such lovely people.” HH

“Hi Dr. Cole,
We work about 5:30-6am until 1-1:30pm Mon-Fri. and feel we have ample study time. I wouldn’t feel like we were getting a full experience if we had less cow time than that. Lone Oak and its doctors are simply amazing. I delivered a calf yesterday! A heifer! It was very exciting! Dr. Fiser, et al. seem very pleased and are extremely helpful and willing to guide us.” HH

“Dr. Cole,
Okay, thought you might like to see these photos. It was my first delivery, so amazing! What a great day!” CK

Cindy Kinney with her newborn calf.
Carlos Alosilla

I am from Florida’s “first” coast. I did my undergraduate degree at Jacksonville University in 1999. After working 2 years in both a small animal clinic and shadowing an equine veterinarian, I moved to Gainesville to take animal science classes. I assisted in an equine reproduction study and then I accepted an assistantship at University of Florida. I investigated vitamin A supplement resistance to rumen destruction. I am determined to return to the greater Jacksonville area where I intend on working as a mobile equine/bovine veterinarian.

Angel Auyeung

I was born and raised in Southern California. I’m a huge fan of the beach, eating out, movies, and of course animals! Other interests include reading non-fiction and literature books, traveling, and music. I completed my undergraduate studies at UCLA, majoring in physiology and classical civilization (the study of ancient Rome and Greece).

Angelina Beeks

Veterinary school has been a long-awaited dream of mine. I am married 20 years to Gary E. Beeks; we have 2 children Nichole, 17, a ballet dancer and Kris, 14, who loves animation. I have lots of pets. Love dancing, zip lining across the canopy, and I run an art center in Long Beach.

Shane Andrews

I grew up in Santa Monica, California and graduated from Dartmouth College with a degree in English and Russian literature in 1996. I’ve traveled extensively and have an interest in Conservation Medicine. However, while my daughters are young, I’ll stay closer to home and would like to go into companion animal practice.

Caroline Bagshaw

My current interest is in public health, primarily pathology and parasitology. I am also considering a future career in academia (most likely in anatomy). I would also love to work with Gunter von Hagens. Aside from that, my goal in life is find a job I love so I never “have” to work again.

Jessica Brophy

I grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and graduated from the University of Washington with a BS in cell and molecular biology. My goal is to specialize in equine medicine, but my cat, Leo, has made me consider a small animal practice as well.

Lauren Clune

I grew up in northern California with my mother and little sister I did undergraduate school at UC Santa Barbara, where I will always consider home. I have a background in business and a passion for science. I love to travel and will volunteer my skills in various countries.

Kara Breeding

I am from Jarrettsville, Maryland. I completed my bachelor degree in biology at the University of Maryland, College Park. I worked for a small animal veterinary clinic for 12 years and gained a vast amount of experience in small animal diagnostics, orthopedics, and clinical skills. My future plans include owning my own practice and specializing in orthopedics.

Erika Carrillo

I am from Sylmar, California. I graduated from UCLA with a BA in the fine arts. I returned to school to complete my prerequisites for veterinary medical school, which took an additional three years to complete. I have two dogs, named “Brandy” and “Moocbie.” My hobbies include traveling (the Caribbean Islands are my favorite vacation getaways, especially Jamaica), painting, sculpting, and playing tennis.

Brianne Brockmeier

I received my BS in Animal Science in 2005 at Cal Poly Pomona. At this time I would like to pursue the idea of working with zoo animals. I am also interested in the research of pharmaceuticals relating to our domestic pet friends.

Veronica Boling

I am from St. George, Utah and did my undergraduate work in biology at BYU. I love to travel, play tennis, golf and hang out with my beautiful wife, Amy. I also love Japanese food and creamy ice cream.

Brianne Brockmeier

I am a lifelong resident of southern California. I grew up in the suburban town of Hacienda Heights. I graduated from University of La Verne with a BS in biology (May 2005) and I am now a first-year student working on my DVM degree.

Danielle Chase

I am from Florida’s “first” coast. I did my undergraduate degree at Jacksonville University in 1999. After working 2 years in both a small animal clinic and shadowing an equine veterinarian, I moved to Gainesville to take animal science classes. I assisted in an equine reproduction study and then I accepted an assistantship at University of Florida. I investigated vitamin A supplement resistance to rumen destruction. I am determined to return to the greater Jacksonville area where I intend on working as a mobile equine/bovine veterinarian.

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Alicia Elwell

I was born in Connecticut where my love of animals began. I moved to the Philadelphia area as a pre-teen and there my interests expanded with many small and large animal experiences. I have a BS degree in biology from Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. I wish to pursue holistic veterinary medicine in a mixed practice.

Sasha Gibbons-Ohr

I was born in California and moved to New Jersey when I was seven. I received my BS in biology from Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, New Jersey. I currently own chinchillas and leopard geckos. My veterinary interests include exotics and wildlife. In my spare time I enjoy yoga and snowboarding.

Jana Grant

I was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona but lived in Virginia the past 10 years. I graduated from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia with a BS in biology and a minor in Anthropology. I am interested in small animal medicine, and animal behavior.

Brandon Hayes

I am a RVT and completed a BS in agriculture/animal Science at the University of Nebraska. I lived in Columbus, Ohio and worked at OSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital in equine ICU. Although my options are open to where my veterinary career may lead, my interests include equine surgery and large animal emergency critical care.

Zarah Hedge

I am from Eau Claire, Wisconsin. I went to college at South Dakota State University where I majored in biology and minored in Spanish and zoology. As of right now, I am interested in going into small animal and/or wildlife medicine.

Hope Hedrick

I graduated from UC Riverside in 1998 and completed a post-baccalaureate premedical program at Bennington College in 2000. I am currently part of the DVM class of 2009 (thanks to the support of all my friends and family)! From San Diego, California, I moved here with Rogue and Kitty and am looking forward to slowly losing my mind.

Jeremy Hoge

I am from San Jose, California, where my father is a practicing vet. I went to Arizona State where I got my BS in psychology and a minor in both sociology and biology. I like to have fun and enjoy people. ISFP is what they tell me I am, so look me up.

Cassandra Hughes

I moved here from Sacramento, California, but I am originally from St. Augustine, Florida. I am a Navy brat and was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico. I have worked as an AHT since 1977 and became an RVT in 1990.

Karyn Irwin

A small town called Fallbrook, outside of San Diego, California is where I grew up. I come from a large family and through their support I made it to WesternU. From California State University, San Marcos, I received my bachelors in biology and Spanish. I love to travel and run.

Linda Jenkins-Pacetti

I was born and raised in southern California and had the privilege of spending two years in Rome, Italy before returning home for college. I attended UC Los Angeles and graduated with a BS in microbiology, immunology & molecular genetics in 2003. I am interested in holistic medicine.

Kelly Koetters

I am a 24-year old first-year in the DVM program here at WesternU. I graduated from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana in May of 2003 with a BS in animal sciences and a minor in chemistry, followed in May 2004 with a BA in chemistry from Quincy University. I would love to be a farm animal veterinarian until I can save up the money to begin a wild horse sanctuary in the Midwest.
Tracy Murchie

Tracy Murchie grew up in the coastal city Durban and attended the University of Pretoria, in South Africa where she received her bachelor of veterinary science in 1999. After qualifying, she spent two years working in predominately small animal practices in the United Kingdom. Despite remaining strong, stimulating her move to the United States.

During her time as a resident Tracy thoroughly enjoyed the University of Florida in the fall of 2001. She graduated to pursue further studies in this discipline. Tracy enrolled in a combined master’s/residency program in reproduction at completed the ACT certifying board exams in August 2004.

During her time as a resident Tracy thoroughly enjoyed the student interaction that the residency program afforded and discovered that in teaching it is not only the student who learns. She also realized that teaching had become a passion and for this reason she began to pursue a career in academia. In August of 2004 Tracy packed up her household belongings and made her way to the west coast, narrowly missing yet another hurricane!

Tracy has found that acclimation to sunny California has been a breeze and is thoroughly enjoying all that the west coast has to offer.

As for work, Tracy is enjoying the challenges that are part of the developing CVM program. She is currently the Chair of the Student Affairs Committee and is a PBL facilitator. Tracy most enjoys the intimate student interaction that the CVM program affords. “It is wonderful to watch the students knowledge grow in this unique learning environment. I am honored to be a part of so many individuals’ burgeoning careers.”

Tracy’s current interests include comparative reproductive physiology, research in reproductive immunology and veterinary medical education.

Suzie Kovacs

Suzie Kovacs grew up in Toronto, Canada and attended the University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario, Canada, where she received her bachelor of science in biological sciences. She then completed a master’s degree in epidemiology at the Ontario Veterinary College, where she researched the role of the veterinarian in detecting, assessing and responding to animal maltreatment. Prior to this research, Suzie worked for the Ontario SPCA in the development of their new Animal Care Centre in 2000. After graduating from OVC, Suzie began working for Health Canada as an epidemiologist on the NSAGI (National Studies on Acute Gastrointestinal Illness) team.

In July of 2004, Suzie packed up her belongings and her dog, a ten year old Canadian Bitza named Jersey Girl, left her home and native land, and drove 2500 miles to Pomona, California to begin her new position as Assistant Professor at WesternU’s College of Veterinary Medicine. Her eventful six-day road trip, which included the Chicago nightlife, skydiving in Moab, and a final stunt in Las Vegas, was a perfect way to ease the transition of moving to a new country. How has that been for her? Suzie claims that once she got past the language barrier, she really started to feel settled. She says her fine colleagues have been instrumental in making her feel at home. Her only complaint would be the scarcity of Canadian cuisine and poor hockey coverage.

As for work, Suzie is thoroughly enjoying being part of the evolution of CVM. She currently co-directs the Veterinary Issues course and is a PBL facilitator.

What is her favorite part of the job? “The students,” she says. “I really love watching them learn in this environment. Their level of knowledge really gets a chance to shine in this curriculum. They work hard and it shows.”

Suzie’s current interests include animal welfare, medical ethics, and veterinary medical education; more specifically, outcomes assessment of the PBL process and the teaching of non-technical competencies to veterinary students. She is now pursuing a doctoral degree in education from UCLA.

INTERESTED IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THIS WONDERFUL PROFESSION?

The WesternU College of Veterinary Medicine Admissions and Scholastic Standing Committee (ASSC) is looking for veterinarians who are interested in serving on the committee for a 1-year (renewable) term, May 2005-2006. Our public members are instrumental in bringing balance and insight into our selection process, and we welcome those who would like to be considered for this committee.

Responsibilities include: meeting attendance and participation, candidate selection through file review and interview participation, and annual admissions process evaluation.

Time commitments include:
- **Sept-Oct**—Organizational meetings and some training (2-3 meetings, 3 hours each)
- **Jan-Feb**—File review (24 hours), interview training (3-4 hours)
- **Feb**—Interview weeks (4 full days or 8 half days)
- **Mar-Aug**—Organizational meeting for process evaluation (2 meetings @ 2 hours)

If you are interested in this membership position, please send letter of intent to:

**Dr. Peggy Barr, Chair, ASSC**  
(pbarr@westernu.edu; 909-469-5628)  
**College of Veterinary Medicine, WesternU 309 E Second St., Pomona CA 91766.**

Thank you for considering this opportunity.
REMEMBER THE HEAVY RAINS and mudslides at the beginning of this year? Some of these factors caused a “mystery oil spill” on the Ventura County coastline that resulted in a real environmental catastrophe! From January 13th until as late as April of 2005 approximately 1,400 birds, primarily Clark’s Grebes, Western Grebes and Common Loons, were brought into the International Bird Rescue Research Center (IBRRC) in San Pedro, CA - a facility under the auspices of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) that operates a year-round rehabilitation program for sick and injured birds. The Ventura mystery spill turned out to be the world’s largest in over two years in terms of live birds collected, and was the largest in California history since the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) was organized 10 years ago. Many local organizations and volunteers from the community were called upon to help, because birds that get oiled and don’t get treated quickly face a certain death mainly due to the hypothermia and dehydration.

A group of WesternU Veterinary Students, some members of the newly established “Seal Team” and a few faculty members responded to this call and volunteered many hours caring for the oiled birds. The WesternU volunteers assisted in stabilizing the conditions of the rescued birds, administering oral fluids, interpreting lab results, feeding, and finally washing and rinsing. The students who volunteered their time included: DVM 2008: Hiroko Hata and Erika Roldan, DVM 2007: Paige Heywood, Daniela Leuner, David Higginbotham; and now DVM 2009 Petra Johnsson. Expertise of our pathologist, Dr. Suzana Tkalcic, and soon-to-be-faculty Dr. Heather Nevill, was also used to help the unfortunate, affected wildlife.

A large number of birds succumbed to the effects of the crude oil contamination. Although many of the affected birds did not survive, tremendous efforts of the large contingent of people that came to the bird rescue were rewarded by the release of about 300 cleaned up and shiny birds to raft again along the cold and rough Pacific shores.

Photos and text by Paige Heywood and Suzana Tkalcic.
The Willed Body Program for Veterinary Medicine, WAVE

The College of Veterinary Medicine's Reverence for Life Commitment promises that animals will not be harmed for our teaching programs. A key element of this commitment is the WAVE (Willed deccasen Animals for Veterinary Education) Program, which reaches out to animal owners to ask that they consider donating their beloved pets’ remains to anatomy and clinical skills education at the College (The WAVE Program is modeled after the Human Willed Body Program at WesternU). Over 500 deceased animals—like “Mama”—have been donated to the College in the last two years. These special animals are providing a greater quality of education to future generations of veterinarians.

All donations to WAVE must be deceased due to age, serious illness or injury. An animal that has no owner to approve the donation of its remains will not be accepted. When you know the death of your beloved pet might be imminent, and you live within 40 miles of the College, please ask your veterinarian about donating to WAVE. Your veterinarian may contact Ms. Tami Jones at (909) 469-5597 to make all arrangements.

Always in Our Hearts: Stories from the WAVE Program will appear as regular feature in each issue of Outlook.

Always In Our Hearts: “MAMA”
Stories from the WAVE Program

By Ursula Sauthier, Boxer Rescue, Los Angeles

Mama came to us in October of 2002, as an old senior. She had obviously been a breeder – used to make puppies and not much else. Then she was dumped in the shelter when she was no longer useful. She could have been 8 when she ended up at Boxer Rescue. No longer breedable, she was of no use anymore, and she was dumped in the shelter to die. It’s sad to think that the day she was pulled from the shelter to come to our kennel may have been the best day of her life.

I hope not. At the kennel Mama was given the star treatment. She was moved over into the smaller, more personable kennel where she frequenty got to socialize with other dogs. There is even a rumor that she was a “kept woman” by a much younger dog, “Nick.” A new Mama began to emerge; not the haggard, downtrodden dog that was brought to the kennel, but an excited, sociable girl who looked forward to some attention and love. It was near the end of July when Mama’s breathing became heavy and laborious, but that was blamed on the sweltering heat. Even as the weather cooled, the labored breathing continued, so Mama was taken to the vet. Lesions were found in her throat, and Mama passed over the bridge, her head cradled in the arms of Lillian, our Boxer nurse, in the only real home she had ever known.
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<tr>
<td>Sep 17, '05</td>
<td>AAEP Farrier Course for WesternU CVM Students</td>
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<td>Sep 24-25</td>
<td>CVM Open House</td>
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<td>Oct 3-7</td>
<td>Exam Week</td>
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<td>Oct 5-9</td>
<td>Wild West Veterinary Conference, Reno, NV</td>
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<td>Dec 12-16.</td>
<td>Exam Week</td>
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<td>Dec 19-30</td>
<td>WesternU Holiday Break</td>
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<td>Jan 2, '06</td>
<td>First Day of Spring Semester</td>
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<td>Feb 19-23</td>
<td>Western Veterinary Conference, Las Vegas, NV</td>
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<td>Feb 27-Mar 3</td>
<td>Exam Week</td>
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<td>Mar 6-10.</td>
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<td>Mar 22-24.</td>
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<td>Exam Week</td>
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<td>Jul 19-29</td>
<td>2006 International Veterinary Student Congress, Pomona, CA</td>
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*The dream begins here.*

*The love begins here.*

*Your gift to the Veterinary Medicine Scholarship Fund will help keep the dream and love alive.*

WesternU College of Veterinary Medicine • 309 E. Second Street • Pomona, CA 91766-1854
Contact Leigh Wiemann at (909) 469-5516 • lwiemann@westernu.edu
MISSION STATEMENT:

The College of Veterinary Medicine is committed to serving society and animals through the preparation of students for the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary public health and/or veterinary research in an educational program of self-directed learning, reverence for life and clinical education through strategic partnerships. The college sustains a vibrant diverse faculty by encouraging advancement through personal and professional development and research. This creates an environment of competent, caring, ethical professionals, where cooperative learning, public service, and scholarship can flourish.