Second CVM Building Slated to Open in 2007

Groundbreaking is underway on the east campus

A Tribute to Caring
CVM Students Travel to Africa
Student and Faculty Bios
CVM News
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Seasons Greetings from the College of Veterinary Medicine. The week of October 2nd, Associate Deans Fuentealba, Mason and Nelson hosted a consultative visit from the AVMA Council on Education, for the purpose of the team’s reviewing student learning in fourth year rotations. The team reviewed outcomes data, visited some fourth year sites, and interviewed fourth year students on the AVMA Standards for Accredited Veterinary Colleges. The team noted that “sites were equipped with outstanding equipment and facilities that rival (and may exceed) some of those at VTH’s;” “sites demonstrated a high volume of patients which could potentially provide ample exposure to cases for WesternU students;” and “all veterinarians and staff personnel at sites expressed that WesternU students were professional and personable.” On October 25th, the CVM Administration met for a retreat to create action plans to address concerns from the site team, including consistency of 4th year rotations objectives; variability in student participation in medical record keeping and case management; and communications with Clinical Preceptors.

On October 24th, the College hosted a groundbreaking for the new Veterinary Clinical Center, to be built with funds from corporate donors. Invited guests included Dr. Scott Campbell, Dr. Hugh Lewis, Mr. John Payne, and Mr. Richard Norris from Banfield, the Pet Hospital. Guests from the City of Pomona attended, including Councilman George Hunter, Councilwoman Paula Lanz, and Councilman Marco Robles. The new building, scheduled for occupancy by fall, 2007, will contain an 8,000 sq. ft. Banfield, Pet Hospital, student commons and laboratories, classrooms and faculty offices.

The November 4th “A Tribute to Caring” dinner dance at the Beverly Hills Hotel was another brilliant evening where WesternU friends came together to honor luminaries who embody WesternU values while raising money for student scholarships. I am very pleased that one of the College’s founding partners, Hill’s Pet Nutrition, was honored with the Corporate Award for Excellence in Health Care. Thank you to Hill’s President Mr. Justin Skala, Vice President for Marketing Mr. Randy Partee, Chief of the Veterinary Business Channel Dr. Karen Padgett, and Director of Academic Affairs Dr. Hein Meyer for attending the dinner to accept this award. Dr. Scott Campbell and Banfield, the Pet Hospital were featured during the program to recognize development of the Wegert Scholars program at WesternU.

In November, students in the Charter Class of 2007 are taking the North American Veterinary Licensure Examination, the NAVLE, also known as the National Boards, at learning centers in the community. Students will receive individual scores, and the CVM will receive aggregate students’ scores sometime in February, 2007.

THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart for your good will in 2006, for your continued support of our college through hard work, strategic partnerships, advice, mentoring of veterinary students, and much-needed gifts to the College. Please remember us in your end-of-year charitable giving. We continue to be a work in progress, a Work of Heart. Sincere best wishes that your holidays will be filled with new, old, and unexpected joys of the season.

“My little old dog: a heart beat at my feet.”
~ Edith Wharton

Shirley D. Johnston, DVM, PhD

Congratulations to Dr. Beth Boynton, elected Treasurer and member of the Board of Directors for the Association for Women Veterinarians Foundation.

Dr. Beth Boynton presented the poster “Clinics in the First Two Years: Hill’s Wellness Center” at “Veterinary Teaching Hospitals and the Future of Clinical Veterinary Education,” Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges, Kansas City, MO, November 9-11, 2006.


Welcome to Dr. Jim Diefenbach who has joined the CVM as a Clinical Field Liaison. Diefenbach provides on-site liaison with third year clinical sites and helps assess clinical skills of our third year students. Jim graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University, completed an internship at the Animal Medical Center, and served as a Captain in the US Veterinary Corps. For the past 28 years he has been owner of the Animal Hospital of Huntington Beach.

Welcome Dr. Helen Engelke, who has joined our faculty. Dr. Engelke received her veterinary degree at the University of Liverpool, and her MPVM (Veterinary Public Health) at UC Davis, studying agricultural occupational injury fatalities in California. She has been Director of Veterinary Public Health for the Ministry of Health, Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago.

Students in the Veterinary Public Health Course (DVM 2008), Ryan Folse, Sarah Vineyard, Sarah Lee, Jennifer Schmidgall, Carolyn Foster, and Carolyn Olech, spoke on Dog Bite Prevention to K-12 students at Kingsley Elementary School, Pomona on October 2, 2006. The presentation included a live demonstration with “Tucker,” to packed audiences at two back-to-back assemblies.

Associate Dean Carmen Fuentealba spoke on “the Western University Model of Clinical Education” at “Veterinary Teaching Hospitals and the Future of Clinical Veterinary Medical Education”, Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges, Kansas City, MO, November 9-11, 2006.

Dr. Wael Khamas has been named to the prestigious International Committee on Veterinary Histological Nomenclature (ICVHN). The ICVHN publishes the Nomina Histologica, the Nomina Anatomica Veterinaria, and Nomina Embryological Veterinaria. Dr. Khamas will contribute to the web-based publication, Nomina Histologica Veterinaria.

Congratulations to Ms. Mary Paine, Administrative Assistant, for winning Blue Ribbons in the Saddle Seat Academy Walk, Trot and Canter Equitation and Showmanship Classes at the LA County Fair California Saddle Horse Futurity Horse Show.

Welcome to baby Mason Reeves, born Thursday, August 24th, to Richard Reeves (DVM 2009) and wife Nickie.

Welcome to Marlena Salinas, who has joined the College as a Veterinary Technician for the Clinical Skills courses. She is a certified veterinary technician with a BS from Cal Poly Pomona, and experience at veterinary hospitals in greater Los Angeles.


Dr. Suzana Tkalcic’s proposal, “Fountain of Values”, won the university-wide Campus Esplenade design competition. The university’s landscape contractor will oversee its construction and installation.

Congratulations to Dr. Rosalie Trevejo, who passed the examination for Epidemiology Specialty Diplomates in the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

Kudos to CVM faculty who were invited speakers at the Inaugural Central Veterinary Conference West, San Diego, CA, October 27-30th:
Dr. Joe Bertone: Equine neurology made easy; Cases in equine neurology; Sleep deprivation in horses. Dr. Maria Fahie: Problem approach to small-animal surgery; Case presentations Part 1 and Part 2, Dr. Gary Johnston: Canine and Feline Ultrasonography Introductory Course and Intermediate Course Laboratories, Dr. Peggy Schmidt: Evidence-based medicine: the basics; Evidence-based medicine: use in the clinic; and Dr. Victoria Voith: Problem approach to small-animal medicine: Case presentations Part 1 and Part 2.
A GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY for the second College of Veterinary Medicine building on the WesternU campus was held on Tuesday, October 24, 2006. The building, tentatively called the Veterinary Clinical Center, will be located on the NE corner of Linden and Second Street in Pomona, one block east of the Veterinary Medicine Center. Funded entirely by gifts, the building will house classrooms, teaching laboratories, a media laboratory, faculty offices, student commons and small animal necropsy room in two stories totaling 31,200 square feet.

The showpiece of the 2-story structure will be the Banfield, The Pet Hospital Wellness Center, an 8,000 sq. ft., state-of-the-art, full service pet hospital. The Banfield hospital will include patient examination rooms, paperless records, central treatment room bays, imaging facilities (digital radiology and ultrasound), pharmacy, clinical laboratory, surgery suites, isolation facilities, a models laboratory and intensive care monitoring capabilities for pets.

Guests at the October 24th Groundbreaking Ceremony, which followed a celebratory VIP luncheon, included Dr. Scott Campbell, president and CEO of Banfield, The Pet Hospital; Banfield Vice Presidents John Payne and Richard Norris; Dr. Hugh Lewis, president of Data Savant; Dr. Tomas Morales, Provost of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; and Pomona City Council members George Hunter, Paula Lantz and Marco Robles.

The Veterinary Clinical Center was designed by Ware Malcomb and will be built by LCS Constructors, with completion expected in the fall of 2007.
Western University of Health Sciences held its 26th Annual "A Tribute To Caring" gala in support of student scholarships at the Beverly Hills Hotel on Saturday, November 4, 2006. CVM Partner Hill's Pet Nutrition was awarded the Corporate Award for Excellence in Health Care. Hill’s President Justin Skala, Vice President for Marketing Randy Partee, Chief of the Veterinary Business Channel Dr. Karen Padgett, and Director of Veterinary Affairs Dr. Hein Meyer, all from Topeka, Kansas, attended the dinner to receive this award. The College’s dear friend, Veterinary Affairs Manager for Hill’s, Dr. Barry Watson, also sponsored a table at the event and provided Hill’s ‘Bubble Clocks’ as gifts to all in attendance.

Hill’s mission is to enrich and lengthen the special relationships between people and their pets. In 1939, a visionary young veterinarian, Dr. Mark L. Morris, formulated the first specialty pet food for a seeing-eye dog, Buddy, who was suffering from kidney failure. The result of Dr. Morris’ efforts was the nutritional formulation that became the world’s first pet food to treat dogs with kidney disease. Today, the life span of dogs with kidney failure can be doubled by feeding them Hill’s K/D™.

In 2003, Hill’s Pet Nutrition became a founding partner of the College of Veterinary Medicine at WesternU by naming the Hill’s Wellness Center, and supporting the inclusion of nutritional learning issues in the College’s small animal Problem-Based learning cases.

About 500 people attended “A Tribute to Caring” this year, helping raise funds for student scholarships and supporting the university’s mission to educate compassionate and skilled health care professionals. The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation was recognized with the Elie Wiesel Humanism in Healing Award, and Mr. Stan Chambers, television newsmen at KTLA in Los Angeles for more than 50 years, was awarded the Media Award for Advancement in Health and Humanism.
I was born and raised in Hawaii and moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1996. I graduated with a BS in biochemistry and molecular biology in 2004 from UC Santa Cruz. I hope to become a small animal veterinarian and someday maybe return to Hawaii and practice there.

Leah Baksh

I'm originally from Boston. I have twelve years experience in small animal veterinary emergency medicine. I have completed internships at Tufts University, large animal, wildlife, and critical care. I also have experience in exotic species, laboratory medicine, and zoo animal. I would like to specialize in orthopedic surgery upon graduation.

Leanne Bell

I was born and raised in New York City, and obtained my bachelor's degree in psychology and biochemistry from NYU. The east coast is what I have known my entire life, and so, a bit of west coast flavor is definitely a welcomed change!

Joseph Bisignano

I graduated from California State University of Sacramento with a bachelor's degree in biological science. My plan for the moment is to track for both large and small animal practice. Some specific fields of interest of mine are in orthopedic medicine and rehabilitation therapy.

Nicole Alcain

I'm originally from Los Angeles, California. In 2005 I graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a degree in aquatic biology. I'm interested in small animal medicine, but would love to work with marine animals as well. I'm a sports fanatic and a huge Dodger fan.

Jennifer Lu

I was born and raised in Edmond, Oklahoma. I moved to California in 2000 to attend college at the University of California, Irvine and majored in biology and criminology. I am still working at Eye Care for Animals in Tustin, California once every weekend and am interested in specializing in ophthalmology.

Jessica Leach

Originally from Tennessee, my love of all things furry and feathery comes from being raised on an exotic animal ranch. I graduated from Pepperdine with a degree in biology, and also met my husband, Jason. We live in Agoura, where I hope to open my own small animal practice.

Jennifer Lu

Audio/lighting engineer from Florida turned veterinarian seeks enlightenment and yoga studios. Honee, my dachshund, is the light of my life and my constant inspiration. I am interested in exotic medicine, radiology, emergency medicine and lots of sunshine!

Jenny Herner

I grew up in Pennsylvania and graduated with a bachelor's in biology from Elizabethtown College in 2005. I moved to California a year ago with my wife. I currently work at All-Care Animal Referral Center, an emergency animal hospital. I plan to go into small animal medicine.

Brian Geesaman

Vincent Lee

I graduated from California State University of Sacramento with a bachelor's degree in biological science. My plan for the moment is to track for both large and small animal practice. Some specific fields of interest of mine are in orthopedic medicine and rehabilitation therapy.
CORRECTION FROM FALL OUTLOOK ISSUE
Howdy everyone. I am from Colombia and came to the US in 2000. I resided in Texas looking forward to become a veterinarian. I learned English at the DCCCD and received my bachelor’s in biology from UT-Arlington. Now, I’m here at WesternU eager to continue my career.

I was born and raised in Los Angeles. Following high school, I attended UC Davis and graduated in 2000 with a BS in microbiology. I am not sure what area of veterinary medicine I am interested in pursuing, but I am looking forward to learning veterinary medicine in such an innovative program.

Cristina Jaramillo

Steven Manyak

I grew up in the greater Los Angeles area and graduated from California State University, Los Angeles with a degree in chemistry. I would like to become a shelter veterinarian, however, I am still open to the possibility of pursuing other fields.

I am a 2006 College of Saint Elizabeth (Morristown, New Jersey) graduate with a BS in biology and a minor in chemistry. My name is Yikcia Morales (Yik-cee-a) born and raised in Elizabeth, New Jersey and I have come very far to fulfill my dream of becoming a veterinarian in sunny California. I look forward to meeting you all.

Philip Mar

Yikcia Morales

I grew up in Hershey, Pennsylvania. I graduated with a degree in biology from University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 2002. My career interests lie in small animal medicine, but I am still uncertain. Hopefully I will decide a path while going to school.

I was born and raised in Chula Vista, California. I earned my BS in biology with emphasis in zoology cum laude from San Diego State University. Veterinary medicine is so interesting to me that I cannot limit myself to species or specialties. I want to learn it all!

Alicia Moreau

Victoria Moreno

I graduated from Oregon State University in 2005 with a degree in animal science. I have lived in Oregon my whole life, and have moved down to Southern California to pursue my career goals as a veterinarian specializing in wildlife or exotics medicine.

After growing up in Las Vegas, I moved to Idaho and received my degree in veterinary science at the University of Idaho. I have always dreamed of becoming a small animal/exotic veterinarian and I am looking forward to the path ahead of me at WesternU.

Sheena Powell

Michelle Sanders

I received a BA in biology-psychology from Skidmore College and an MS in wildlife ecology from John Carroll University. I took a leave of absence from Ohio State’s veterinary program to complete my PhD. I declined my offer to return to OSU upon learning about WesternU’s progressive and innovative curriculum.

I graduated in animal science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 2006 where I worked in bull reproduction and poultry research. Although my experiences at school have shifted my career interests to food animal research, I am really excited to learn all aspects of animal medicine.

Jordan Schaul

Laura Shuey
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR GINI BARRETT, Biomedical Ethics and Public Policy, joined the college in August 2002, as a member of the founding faculty. Her role has been to develop and co-direct the Veterinary Issues course, which explores the ethical, cultural, legal and political forces and social issues that are shaping the veterinary profession.

Professor Barrett has an extensive background in public policy analysis and advocacy, having worked as both a corporate strategist and a social activist. She has worked diverse issues ranging from human rights and habitat preservation to worker safety and freedom of speech. She has represented groups as divergent as agribusiness, real estate, motion picture and television producers, and humane organizations. Since 1990 her main focus has been public policy and politics related to animal welfare.

Raised on a cattle ranch in western Kansas, Gini has looked at animal issues from all sides. A lifelong animal rescuer and horsewoman, she worked closely with the California Condor Recovery Program and served on the Board of the Mountain Lion Foundation in the 1980s. In the 1990s she spent six years on the Board for LA City’s animal shelters.

Professor Barrett led American Humane Association’s Los Angeles office from 1997 to 2001, managing the program to protect animals working in films, and serving as their national spokesperson on a wide variety of animal issues, including animal hoarding, animal fighting and dangerous dogs. From 2000 to 2003 Gini served as the Special Master to the Los Angeles County Superior Court on a complex environmental case involving a wild animal sanctuary. She has been a consultant to Discovery Communications and Animal Planet since 2001. Professor Barrett serves on the Board of Humane Farm Animal Care, a nonprofit organization that utilizes market forces to improve the welfare of farm animals.

DR. STEVE WALDHAML, PHD, DVM, is Professor and Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs at the College of Veterinary Medicine. He was born in the Midwest, and his family moved to the western states as his father pursued a career in microbiology teaching and research. Steve completed his bachelor’s degree at the University of Idaho and his PhD in veterinary physiology from Washington State University. During his years as a graduate teaching assistant at the WSU-CVM he taught two married veterinary students, Gary and Shirley Johnston. Steve also completed the DVM degree at Washington State before accepting his first faculty appointment to help establish a new college of veterinary medicine at Mississippi State University.

At Mississippi State University, Dr. Steve Waldhalm developed traditional physiology courses in a body systems format. He later helped persuade the faculty of the college to transition the basic science curriculum to a Problem-Based learning (PBL) paradigm, and he helped lead this curriculum to adopt student-owned computers as a requirement for advancing the life-long learning concept. He became a speaker at many scientific meetings and consultant to academic institutions on PBL and on bringing computer technology into the classroom. His physiology research included application of embryo transfer technologies to domestic and wild animal species, including deer and bobcats. These experiences prepared Dr. Waldhalm to join the founding faculty of the WesternU College of Veterinary Medicine in 2002, as Professor and Coordinator of Problem-Based learning.

Dr. Waldhalm and his wife, Marilyn, live in Upland, CA and vicariously enjoy the experiences of their 6 adult children and 2 (soon to be 3) grandchildren. Mrs. Waldhalm is an event planner for Claremont’s Harvey Mudd College. She and Steve enjoy travel, and he pursues hobbies of sailing and woodworking while she enjoys their cat, Edgar, and the fruits of her backyard orchard.
By Alicia Bauchman, DVM 2008

In the summer of 2006, Lindsay Tangeman (DVM 2009), Amber Anderson (DVM 2009) and I had the awesome privilege to be part of an adventure we will not soon forget...Africa!

Eighty veterinary students from twenty-two countries converged at the Onderstepoort faculty for the 10th Biennial Symposium on Wildlife Utilisation and Conservation in South Africa (SYMCO) last June. Organized by 4th and 5th year students from South Africa, and run by a Veterinary Safari company, it was a 16 day course introducing veterinary students to the finer points of wildlife and conservation medicine.

We visited four African wildlife parks: Kruger National Park, Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve, St. Lucia Estuary, and Pilanesberg National Park. We spent three nights in Kruger and it was undoubtedly one of the highlights. Early morning rhino and elephant immobilizations were amazing beyond words, while on dawn and dusk game drives, we were lucky enough to see all the wildlife Kruger had to offer, including seeing the “Big 5” on our first morning.

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi offered as much wildlife as Kruger, but in a smaller area, allowing us to see the elusive black rhino. One afternoon was spent with park veterinarian Dr. Dave Cooper, learning how to shoot targets with tranquilizer guns. At Cape Vidal we relaxed on the Indian Ocean beach, and learned about the unique ecosystem of St. Lucia Estuary. A river crocodile and hippopotamus cruise was followed by cultural night, where every country brought their own samples of food and favorites.

At Pilanesberg National Park, where we spent 3 nights, we immobilized lions (one of the most amazing experiences imaginable) and rhinos. This was our last stop on tour, and definitely one of the best!

I would highly encourage anyone interested in wildlife, and in socializing with amazing veterinary students from around the world, to apply for SYMCO 2007. There were only four Americans on tour (three of which were from WesternU), so we definitely need the representation! It’s guaranteed to influence your outlook on the important roles that we will all face as veterinarians.
**Always In Our Hearts: Stories from the WAVE Program**

**Puggy, My Silly Girl**

*By Lindsay Heal*

I plucked Puggy out of the bottom of a dog pile at the pound. She was just the cutest golden ball of fur at just four months old. As soon as I brought her home, she beaded straight for the biggest water dish she had ever seen and fell right in the pool, trying to get a sip of water. I fished her out, and we immediately fell in love.

Puggy was my best friend for nearly 13 years. She would go camping with my family and occasionally cruise around on my quad with me. Puggy would pull me in my rollerblades around the block. She tolerated her baths, knowing the best part was ahead... blow dried and brushed! She loved to bark at the birds and go for rides in the car. Puggy always played the best nurse, lying at the foot of my bed whenever I was sick. But most of all, she loved to be loved! One of the oddest behaviors about Puggy was that she would nudge her food right out of her dish with her nose and then cover it up with dirt and leaves so the birds wouldn't swoop down and eat it.

I lost Puggy to cancer this summer. She was never one to mope around the house. But as the cancer progressed in only a matter of weeks, she grew very feeble and began to lose the glimmer in her eyes. It just broke my heart, forcing me to make the most difficult decision to let her go. Puggy's veterinarian and the rest of the office staff were absolutely wonderful with Puggy. I felt compelled to donate her body to the college so that future veterinarians can learn from Puggy's condition and care for other pets just as she was cared for.

Puggy's friendly and silly spirit will live on in my heart! She is dearly missed!

**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 in our teaching programs. A key element of this commitment is the WAVE (Willed deceased 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 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 that 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* appears as a regular feature in each issue of the Outlook.
Dec 18-22 ....................................................... Final Examinations Week, DVM 2008, 2009, 2010
Dec 25– Jan 5 ............................................................................... Holiday Break
Jan 8, 2007 ............................................................. Classes resume, Spring Semester 2007
Mar 5-9 .............................................................. Examination Week, DVM 2008, 2009, 2010
Mar 12-16 .................................................................................... Spring Break
Mar 15-17 .................................................... SAVMA Symposium, North Carolina State University
Apr 7-8 ................................................................................... CVM Open House
Apr 18 ................................................................................... CVM Honors Day
May 7 ................................................................................ DVM 2007 on campus
May 10 ............................................................... Commencement Dinner Dance, DVM 2007
May 11 ........................................................... Commencement Ceremonies, Class of 2007 (Ms. Betty White, Speaker), Pasadena Civic Auditorium
May 14 ................................................................................. Finals Week, DVM 2008, 2009, 2010
Aug 11 ........................................................................... Convocation and White Coat Ceremony
Aug 13 ..................................................................... First day of Class, 2007-2008
Aug 24-26 ............................................................. Inaugural International Bear Care Symposium, WesternU
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.