

# the Outlook

College of Veterinary Medicine  
Western University of Health Sciences

Spring/Summer 2010/Volume 11, Issue 3

**CVM News**

**Alumni News**

**Research: Snow Leopards**

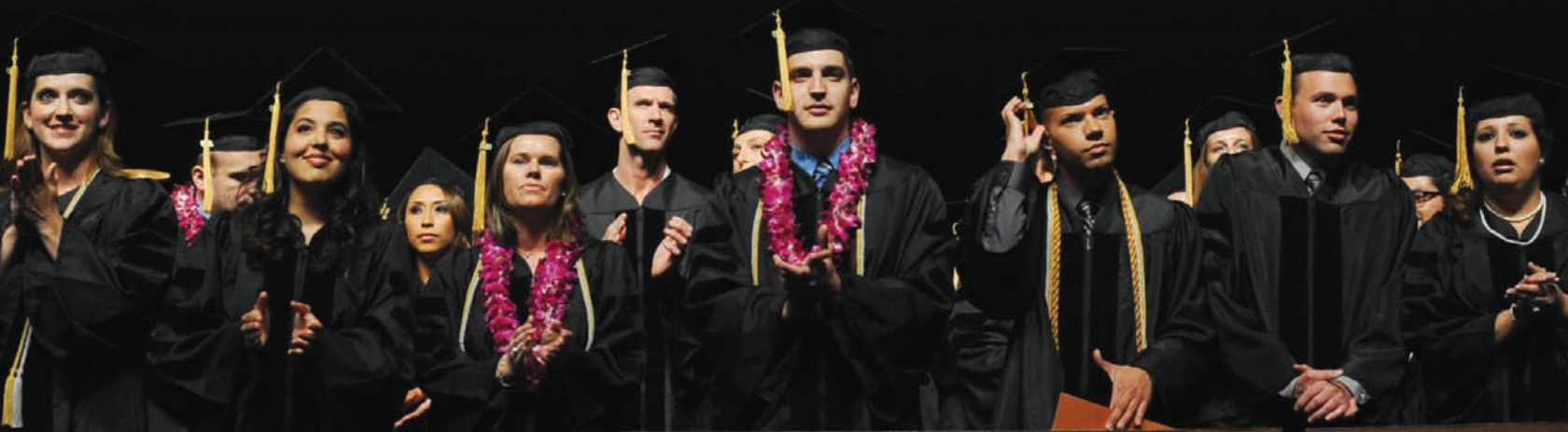
**Honors Day 2010**

**Grads in the Field**

**Our Students**

**Featured Faculty**

**WAVE Program**



## Commencement 2010

Featured Keynote Speaker  
Kevin Fitzgerald, DVM, PhD



*A Work Of Heart*



As another academic year has come to a close, we want to thank all who helped make this an outstanding time in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences.

We have been fortunate to be able to meet the academic and budgetary demands set before the College, especially as this time of financial crisis is causing numerous concerns for many institutions of higher learning. And, as I mentioned in the last issue of *The Outlook*, we are especially pleased that the CVM has earned full accreditation for the next three years.

This year, the College also met a significant milestone with the complete endowment of our second scholarship award fund, The Winston Endowment. This fund was established by one of our own - Dr. **Peggy Barr** and the Barr family - to support students interested in oncology, and in honor of a family pet who died from cancer.

We are extremely close to filling all of our faculty positions and have significantly increased staff support, resulting in an enhanced educational environment. The College continues to establish new partnerships designed to enhance curricular opportunities for our students.

Our alumni base is growing as well. We routinely spotlight our graduates in *The Outlook*, and in this issue you will find a new Alumni section where we intend to provide information of particular interest for and about our alums. In 2012, we will begin hosting alumni retreats on campus, starting with the class of 2007. We are very much looking forward to reuniting with that pioneering class.

Speaking of alums, we now have 100 more - the Class of 2010. Their commencement ceremony - the fourth class at CVM - is also spotlighted in this issue.

These are indeed exciting times for the College and we look forward to many more years of growth and advancement.

See you in the fall!

**Phillip Nelson, DVM, PhD**

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*A Work Of Heart*

## On The Cover

CVM's 2010 Commencement Exercises held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium in May.

Photos by Jeff Malet



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## C V M C a l e n d a r

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<b>PACVET 2010 Conference, San Francisco, CA .....</b>	<b>July 15 to 18, 2010</b>
<b>STARS Presentations .....</b>	<b>July 27, 2010</b>
<b>Preceptor/Faculty Retreat.....</b>	<b>July 28 and 29, 2010</b>
<b>AVMA Conference, Atlanta GA.....</b>	<b>July 31 to August 3, 2010</b>
<b>University Welcome Week .....</b>	<b>August 2 to 6, 2010</b>
<b>CVM Orientation Week .....</b>	<b>August 2 to 6, 2010</b>
<b>White Coat Ceremony.....</b>	<b>August 7, 2010</b>
<b>First Day of Class .....</b>	<b>August 9, 2010</b>
<b>World Rabies Day .....</b>	<b>September 28, 2010</b>
<b>Board Prep .....</b>	<b>November 1, 2, and 3, 2010</b>
<b>Job Fair .....</b>	<b>November 4 and 5, 2010</b>
<b>A Tribute to Caring .....</b>	<b>November 13, 2010</b>
<b>National Board Exam .....</b>	<b>November 15 to December 11, 2010</b>
<b>Thanksgiving Break .....</b>	<b>November 25 to 26, 2010</b>
<b>Winter Break.....</b>	<b>December 20, 2010 to January 3, 2011</b>

## A l u m n i C a l e n d a r

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<b>PACVET 2010 Conference, Alumni Reception.....</b>	<b>July 17, 2010</b>
<b>AVMA Conference, Alumni Reception.....</b>	<b>August 2, 2010</b>
<b>Class of 2007 Five Year Reunion.....</b>	<b>2012</b>





# CVM Confers Degrees on 100 Students In Fourth Commencement

WORDS OF WISDOM and hopes for the future were offered to the College of Veterinary Medicine's Class of 2010 during the school's fourth commencement exercises on May 21. Doctor of veterinary medicine degrees were conferred onto 100 graduates - 67 women and 33 men - during the 90-minute ceremony in a packed Pasadena Civic Auditorium.

CVM Dean **Phillip Nelson, DVM, PhD**, presented this year's honorary degree to **Kevin Fitzgerald, DVM, PhD**, and 10-year host of the Animal Planet show "Emergency Vets." Fitzgerald, who is also a professional comedian, mixed levity with the serious in his commencement address.

"Listen more than you talk. Be generous with your time," he said, running down his list of how to achieve success and fulfillment in the veterinary profession. Other points: "Surround yourself with good people; cultivate good friendships. Don't worry who gets the credit ... Stay hungry for knowledge. Don't let anyone be scared to come see

you." He closed with. "Be flexible and be cool."

Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs **Stephen Waldhalm, DVM, PhD**, administered the Veterinarian's Oath to the class and then **Michael Kavanagh, DVM '07**, welcomed them to the ranks of

CVM alumni. Dr. Kavanagh, owner of Saddleback Animal Hospital in Tustin, offered some guiding principles as well.

"Continue to learn, continue to work hard," he said, encouraging the graduates to practice compassionately and to give back - to their community, their profession and their alma mater. "Share your experience and your knowledge. Share your time."



In his charge to the newly minted doctors, Dean Nelson urged them to "never lose your sense of compassion - for animals or your fellow man." He told them to "remember and acknowledge those who have helped you ... reach back, and pay it forward." He added, "Free your heart from hatred, free your mind from worry, live simply, give more, expect less."

# Funny Man, Serious Vet



**CVM COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER KEVIN FITZGERALD, DVM, PhD**, may have been a familiar face to many at this year's commencement. Not only did he host "Emergency Vets" for a decade on Animal Planet, but he has appeared on numerous other news and entertainment programs on television and radio. Among them, he was a guest on the late **Steve Irwin's** Animal Planet show, "New Breed Vets" in 2006. Later that year, after Irwin's death, Dr. Fitzgerald paid tribute to him at the 8th Annual Family Viewers Awards by presenting Irwin's widow, **Terri**, with a posthumous lifetime achievement award for her husband.

Still, Dr. Fitzgerald's life story has not been limited to the veterinary profession. For many years he worked as a bouncer (for the likes of The Rolling Stones, The Who and The Police) and has performed as a professional stand-up comedian for 20 years. In the latter role, he has opened for a dizzying array of stars including Bob Hope, Diana Ross, The Temptations, and The Neville Brothers.

When he's not on the road making people laugh, he is a practicing vet at Alameda East Veterinary Hospital in Denver, Colo., where he grew up. He graduated from the University of Colorado in Boulder, also receiving master's and doctorate degrees in Endocrinology. He received his DVM in 1983 from Colorado State University.

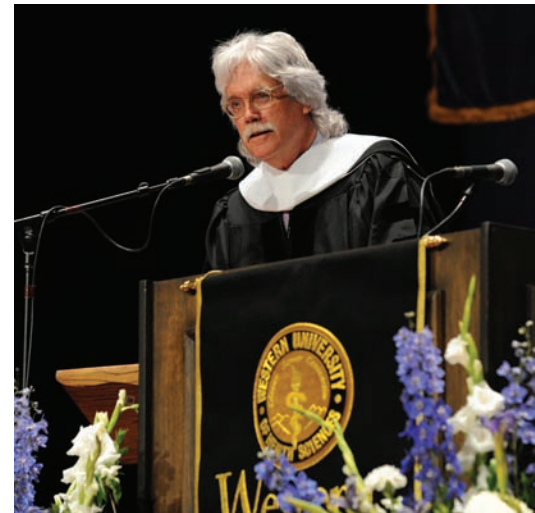
Dr. Fitzgerald has served as President of the Denver Area

Veterinary Medical Society (DAVMS), as a member of the Board of Directors of the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center, and since 1985 has been assistant professor adjunct at the University of Denver.

In 1998 he became board-certified in Canine and Feline Practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.

In 1993, he received the "Up and Coming" veterinarian award from the Colorado Veterinary Medical Society and in 2006, he received Hill's Dog Food and Veterinary Specialists in Private Practice's "Spirit of Excellence" award, given to an outstanding specialist in private practice.

Dr. Fitzgerald writes monthly columns for the *American Kennel Club Gazette*, *American Kennel Club Family Dog* magazine and *Police Dog* magazine. He also has written twenty-one book chapters in various veterinary texts ranging from small animal toxicology and emergency medicine to reptile medicine and surgery.



# PRECEPTOR PROFILES

## *3rd-Year Preceptor of the Year Dr. David Weber*

AS A CHILD GROWING UP IN NORTH HOLLYWOOD, DAVID WEBER, BS, DVM, would tag along with his father to his job in the brain research institute at UCLA. At nights, his father would quiz him on the periodic table. That basic grounding in science – along with “dogs galore” at home – laid the foundation for a career in veterinary medicine that today is benefiting students from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences.



Dr. Weber was chosen by the students as the 2009-2010 3rd-Year Preceptor of the Year. “It was awesome,” he says. “Teaching these guys and just being involved is so much fun for me. I was not only honored and humbled, but proud that I am making a positive effect on the students. It’s wonderful; they’re great kids.”

Since 2005, Dr. Weber has worked at Orange County Emergency Pet Clinic in Garden Grove. As a preceptor, he works with three third-year students and one fourth-year student each rotation. “I grill the students about the cases, we talk about the physiology behind the cases. I make them go

into the (examining) room and get a feel for what it’s like.” He adds that whatever the students want, “I’m willing to give to them. But you have to want it; you have to want to be here and doing this.”

Dr. Weber has “wanted it” since shortly after he picked up a flier for a job at a veterinary hospital when he was about 20 years old and attending community college. A respected veterinarian mentored him, he says, offering the confidence and support to pursue veterinary medicine as a career.

“Sometimes it just takes that special person to push you in the right direction.”

He went on to UC Davis, focusing on a double major in Animal Science and Microbiology. He earned two BS degrees in 1998, and for the next two years supervised the UC Davis Feline Retroviral Research Laboratory. In 2004, he received his DVM from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Weber’s own family these days includes wife, Lindsay, who also works at the pet clinic, and two daughters, ages 6 and nearly 3. There are also six cats, two dogs – and a squirrel.

He hopes the students who’ve been through his rotation learn not only the technical aspects, but something more intangible. “I want them, when they come out of here, to have a confidence about themselves, knowing they are saviors of lives.”



## *4th-Year Preceptor of the Year – Medicine Dr. Tina Kemper*

EVEN AFTER PRACTICING EQUINE MEDICINE FOR A QUARTER CENTURY, TINA KEMPER, DVM, DACVIM, says she “still can’t believe that I actually get paid to work with horses!” It is that unbridled joy for her work that she imparts as a preceptor for students from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences. In return, she was named the 2009-2010 4th-Year Preceptor of the Year – Medicine.

“This is a very special honor and it means a lot to me,” says Dr. Kemper, who practices at San Luis Rey Equine Hospital in Bonsall. “I really appreciate being chosen as one of the Preceptors of the Year. I have enjoyed working with each student. This is the start of an amazing and wonderful path for each of them and I feel privileged to have had even a small part in helping to prepare them for the future.”

Her own interest in veterinary medicine was sparked by a college class.

## 4th-Year Preceptor of the Year – Surgery

# Dr. Stephen Bilbrey



FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS, STEPHEN A. BILBREY, MS, DVM, has practiced veterinary surgery, and even after all that time, he still loves what he does. “I’m excited about it every day,” he says. His love of surgery and enthusiasm for preparing students to go into the veterinary field helped earn him the honor of being named this year’s 4th-Year Preceptor of the Year – Surgery.

Dr. Bilbrey, also a Diplomate of American College of Veterinary Surgery, practices at Animal Specialty Group in Los Angeles. He trains surgery residents, interns, and fourth-year students. His main interest is thoracic, reconstructive and oncologic surgery. Under his tutelage at Animal Specialty Group, students from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences are responsible for a range of duties, from seeing patients and collecting histories to coming up with diagnostic and treatment plans and scrubbing in on surgical cases.

He says he is honored to have been chosen by the WesternU CVM students as the 4th-Year Preceptor. “I enjoy teaching and I’m able to have the benefits of both working in a private

practice and teaching students, interns, and residents. The real gratification for me is seeing the tremendous confidence and satisfaction develop in students as they learn and apply their knowledge to clinical patients. Ultimately, a teacher wants the student to be a better clinician and surgeon than the teacher.”

Dr. Bilbrey’s medical and veterinary experience is extensive. He earned a BS in Microbiology and an MS in Immunology, along with his DVM in 1985, all from Colorado State University. He completed an internship at West Los Angeles Veterinary Medical Group from 1985-86, followed by a surgery residency at The Ohio State University 1986-89. He received Board Certification from the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1991. He also has been involved in research in chylothorax and has been published in multiple publications, and referenced in journals and a textbook.

Dr. Bilbrey is married to a veterinary surgeon, who practices in Ventura, and the family includes two golden retrievers and two cats. He enjoys traveling, especially to exotic locations such as Tanzania, South Africa, Botswana, and the Galapagos Islands, Australia. He also enjoys skiing, kayaking, and fishing. But, he adds, “some of the best times are the simple ones: walking on the beach with my wife and dogs.”

As for the CVM students, Dr. Bilbrey says he would like to help them be the best veterinarians they can. “I would like to see them going on to internships and even residencies, but the ultimate goal is to practice as good, solid, caring and compassionate, veterinarians.”

***“My goal for each student is that they develop the skills necessary to become successful and knowledgeable veterinarians.” ~ Tina Kemper, DVM, DACVIM***

“I have had a fascination and respect for horses my entire life, but I never considered becoming a veterinarian until I took a horse husbandry course from a woman veterinarian at Pierce College,” she explains. “I was hooked and felt that there could be no better job in the world.” She continued her undergraduate studies at Cal State Northridge and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, obtaining her bachelor’s degree from the latter. She earned her DVM at UC Davis, where she also received specialty training in internal medicine.

As a preceptor, she works with one or two students at a time. The students are responsible for assisting in initial patient assessment, diagnostic evaluations, treatments and management of the cases. This often requires the student to research various diseases and treatment protocols.

“My goal for each student is that they develop the skills necessary to become successful and knowledgeable veterinarians,” Dr. Kemper says. “This includes being proficient at obtaining a thorough history, performing a comprehensive physical exam and developing a plan regarding additional diagnostic testing and therapeutic options for their patients. We try to provide each student with the opportunity to perform procedures that they will be expected to do in practice.”

Dr. Kemper says she appreciates the enthusiasm and professionalism of the students from WesternU, and that working with them “has been a positive experience for all of us at SLREH. They bring a fresh perspective to the practice and their questions and involvement in the cases have helped to make us all better doctors.”

# Students, Faculty Lauded at Honors Day



*Dr. Barry Watson senior veterinary academic affairs manager for Hills Pet Nutrition Inc., gifted the CVM with a lithograph by Sean Wyeth. ▼*



*The Winston Student Scholarship Award was presented by ▲ Peggy Barr, DVM, PhD, professor of virology and immunology.*

More than \$25,000 in cash plus other gifts were awarded to deserving students and faculty this spring during the College of Veterinary Medicine's annual Honors Day Ceremony. About 125 people attended the April 19 event on campus.

This year's Pfizer Award for Research Excellence was given to **Josep Rutllant-Labeaga, DVM, PhD**, one of only three educators in the country to receive both this award and the Carl Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teaching Award, which he won previously. He is a professor of anatomy and co-director of Phase 1. This year's honoree for the Carl Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teaching Award was **Linda Kidd, DVM, PhD, DACVM**. Dr. Kidd is an assistant professor in small animal internal medicine. Both awards were presented by Associate Dean for Academic Affairs **Teresa Morishita, DVM, PhD, DACPV** and **Ann Brown**, area sales manager for Pfizer Animal Health.

In a milestone for the CVM, it was noted that the **Dr. Shirley D. Johnston** Endowed Scholarship is now fully endowed. That award, named in honor of the CVM's first dean, went to

## **Jennifer Stonequist, DVM 2011.**

Another newly endowed scholarship, The Winston Award, was bestowed upon **Veronica Bingamon, DVM 2011**, and **Joseph Jacovino, DVM 2011**. The award was presented by **Peggy Barr, DVM, PhD**, professor of virology and immunology. It is named in honor of her aunt's cocker spaniel who suffered from hemangiosarcoma and also honors the memory of other beloved family pets with cancer. When Dr. Barr's father passed away, money from his estate was used to fully fund this scholarship at \$20,000. Each of the scholarship recipients received \$500 and the money must be used to defray expenses associated with an oncology rotation or to attend a veterinary oncology-related meeting.

During a special presentation, **Barry Watson, DVM**, senior veterinary academic affairs manager for Hills Pet Nutrition Inc., gifted the CVM with a limited edition lithograph, "The Veterinarian," by **Sean Wyeth**. Dr. Watson acknowledged he was bestowing the gift on the college "because you are like family." He added that "WesternU has touched me."

# Crowds Gathered for Open House



The College of Veterinary Medicine's Open House this spring was a huge success, with about 2,000 community members turning out for the event on April 3. It was the largest turnout yet for the CVM Open House, and organizers hope it will continue to grow in the years ahead.

"All Creatures Great & Small" was the 2010 theme. The day-long program featured a mobile aquarium from the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, a milking parlor from the California Dairy Commission, tours of the college and of Banfield, the Pet Hospital, pet vaccinations, demonstrations by a K-9 search and rescue unit from the Ventura County Sheriff's Department and student booths on pet care.

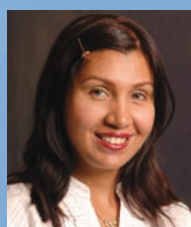
About 1,000 Boy and Girl Scouts registered for the event, which also featured an art contest with more than 35 entries. (For more on the contest, see Page 21).





**Julia Howland**

I grew up in Chicago and have always been drawn to sports, the ocean and animals. After graduating from the University of San Diego in 2008, I worked in Chicago at an emergency animal hospital while interning at the city's Lincoln Park Zoo.



**Eileen Jast**

I was born and raised in Southern California. A few years ago, I was working in the fashion industry, aspiring to be a fashion designer. However, my true fate is working with animals. Now, I'm here at WesternU ready to finally pursue my destiny.

Born in Seoul, Korea, and raised in Southern California, I graduated from UCLA in 2008 with a BS in Physiological Science. I am thrilled to be at WesternU, and eager to get started in veterinary medicine. I play lots of golf and am always looking for new golf partners.



**Jiho You (Jay)**

I was born and raised in Korea and California. I graduated from Cal Poly Pomona with a BS in Biology. I am interested in all areas of veterinary medicine and excited to start this program.



**Renee Jong Hee Joo**



**Patrick Kirk**

Raised in Jacksonville, Fla., I completed my BS in Biology from Florida State University. I have worked in two small animal clinics since 2003 and enjoyed all of my time there. I have never lived west of Florida, but I am excited to attend school here.



**Sarah Korf**

I grew up in Michigan and Washington, but spent the last 8 years of my life in Bozeman, Mont. where I obtained my BS in Biology from Montana State University. After obtaining my undergraduate degree I worked for 5 years for Montana State University as a research associate. I also worked as a veterinary technician for a private practice and as a field technician for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. I hope to return to Montana to pursue medical research or small animal medicine.

Born and raised in Northern California, I earned a BS in Evolution and Ecology and an MA in Education from UC Davis. In my spare time, I enjoy traveling around the world and hanging out with my two dogs. I can't wait to begin my veterinary career!



**Naomi Lavelle**

Raised in Minnesota, I graduated with a BS in Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and now call San Diego home. My background ranges from small animal and shelter medicine to volunteering with baboons in South Africa. My interests are small animal surgery and internal medicine.



**Tonya Leavitt**



**Daniel Lee**

I was born in Sacramento, Calif., and graduated with a BS in Ecology Behavior and Evolution at UCLA. I worked in a small animal/exotic animal hospital for three years. My interests lie in public health and I plan to pursue the DVM/Master of Public Health dual degree.



**Brett Leonard**

I was born and raised in Titusville, Fla. I graduated from the University of Florida with a BS in Animal Biology. My hobbies include surfing, tennis and video gaming. My main interests are in small animal medicine and surgery. I hope to practice medicine in the United States and abroad.



I was born in New York and raised in Tampa, Fla. I graduated from the University of South Florida with a BS in Biomedical Science. I traveled here from the East Coast with my 4-month-old kitten, Simba. My primary focus in veterinary medicine lies within zoology and aquatics.



**Jonathan Levine**

A traveler by nature, it's hard to call one place home. I earned my BA in Biology/Microbiology from Hampshire College and my MS in Pathobiology and Veterinary Science from the University of Connecticut. I have interests in non-mammalian species, infectious disease and colony management.



**Beth Lieblick**



**Kimberly Lin**

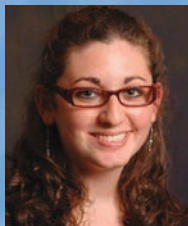
I graduated from UC San Diego with a BS in Animal Physiology & Neuroscience. I was in the Navy Marine Mammal Program, training sea lions and dolphins. However, my experience is mostly in small animals. I haven't decided which field I want to work in, and hope WesternU will help me decide.



**Lisa Lippman**

Originally a Jersey girl, I graduated from Syracuse University and completed a post-baccalaureate program at the University of Pennsylvania. I am excited to branch out west (though I am contractually bound by my mother to return east). I chose WesternU because I know it will make me the best veterinarian I can be.

I have lived in Connecticut my entire life and drove to California to start my career in veterinary medicine. I graduated in 2009 from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn., with a BS in Environmental Science and Ecology and Conservation. I am interested in all aspects of veterinary medicine, specifically exotic animal medicine.



**Angela Luberto**

Born and raised in Camarillo, Calif., I received my BS in Animal Science from UC Davis. Although my experience is in small animal, I am open to all aspects of veterinary medicine. In my free time, I enjoy cross stitching, wine tasting, hiking and, of course, playing with my two dogs and two cats.



**Sophia Mallon**



**Patrick McGeever**

Having lived, worked and learned in various places, I am excited to start a new adventure across the country from my home in my native New York. After obtaining a BS in Marine Biology and gaining experience in different areas of animal medicine, I look forward to furthering my studies and dreams.



**Ashley Miliotti**

Raised on a ranch in Los Angeles, I received my Associate's degree in Biology from College of the Canyons, my Bachelor's in Animal Science from Cal Poly Pomona and a Master's in Public Health from the University of Southern Mississippi. Although most of my experience is in large animals and public health, I'm open to all areas of veterinary medicine.

Growing up in San Diego, Calif., my compassion for animals was encouraged by the conservation efforts of the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park. In 2007, I received my BS in Animal Science from Cal Poly Pomona and have since decided to pursue zoo/wildlife medicine alongside a career in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps.



**Jenna C. Mondares**



**Bridget Morton**

Raised near Albany, N.Y., I decided to try a new adventure in Colorado seven years ago. I received my BS in Microbiology from Colorado State University and MS in Public Health from St. Louis University. I am truly excited to explore my future at WesternU.



**Brittany Neal**

I am a native of Southern California, born in Culver City and raised in Rialto. Following completion of my high school diploma at Eisenhower High School in Rialto, I attended Tuskegee University, where I majored in Pre-Veterinary Animal and Poultry Sciences and minored in Biology.

I received a BS in Biology from UCLA. I am passionate about all animals and am fascinated with every aspect of veterinary medicine. I look forward to seeing what opportunities await me in the veterinary profession as I embark on an extraordinary journey at WesternU.



**Cara Nguyen**

I'm from Idaho, where I breed and show Dorset sheep. I have been heavily involved with youth and adult agricultural programs in my surrounding counties. I plan on practicing food animal medicine in rural areas, providing much needed care and education to families and ranchers.



**Janet Nutting**



**Catherine Oi-Man Pau**

Born in Hong Kong, I moved to California in 1993 and eventually obtained a BS in Animal Science from UC Davis. After being a veterinary technician for eight years, I am looking forward to the great challenge at WesternU. My professional interests include small animal medicine and public health.



**Sean Perry**

A born and raised California boy, I've traveled to every continent except Antarctica. I intended to become a pilot; however, I decided to follow my dream and work with animals. During the past four years I've been attending UC Santa Cruz and conducting research on leopard sharks and the California mountain king snake.

I was raised in San Diego and graduated from UC San Diego with a BS in Physiology and Neuroscience. I've worked in private practice and laboratory settings mostly, but my passion is in wildlife/exotics, surgery and neurology. I enjoy being outdoors, traveling, camping, surfing, snowboarding, yoga and meditation.



**Lindsey Porterfield**

I'm an Akron, Ohio, kid with a long background in small and large animal veterinary specialty and a BS in Biology/Immunology. The last two years have been nonstop travel as an animal welfare consultant/public speaker. I am ecstatically chasing my childhood dream and bringing my feline study partner, Ralston.

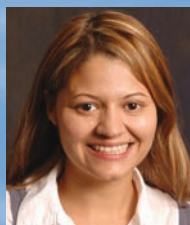


**Rochelle Prudic**



**Heather Dawn Rally**

I was born and raised in the Los Angeles area and graduated from UC Santa Barbara. I have worked as a small animal technician, but more recently in marine mammal rehabilitation. This is a fascinating field because of its potential to affect change on a vast environmental level. Other interests: dance, film, and anything outdoors.



**Fabiola Ramirez**

I grew up in the Los Angeles area, and always dreamed of becoming a veterinarian. I received my BS in Animal Science from Cal Poly Pomona and have an interest in pathology.



I grew up in Pittsburgh, Pa. I have a degree in engineering physics and have worked with Boeing Satellite Systems for five years. I've worked with big cats in Africa and Bolivia and want to continue working with wildlife.



**Crystal Ramsey**

I am a Southern California native and graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 2009 with a BS in Animal Science. I enjoy working with large and small animals, but probably will focus on small animal medicine. I am very excited to begin my journey here at WesternU!



**Kari Reina**



**Stephanie Rodriguez**

Born and raised in Southern California, I graduated from Cal Poly Pomona in 2009 with a BS in Animal Science. I am excited to fulfill my dreams of becoming a veterinarian at WesternU. I have a wonderful husband, three furry children, and enjoy doing gymnastics, crocheting and running.



**Lisa Rosenfelder**

I grew up in a tiny town in southern New Hampshire. I studied biology at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. I've always wanted to be a veterinarian and am excited to start at WesternU. I've been running cross country and track for the past 10 years and play the fiddle.

Growing up in the rural Santa Cruz Mountains above Half Moon Bay, my love for animals and nature flourished. My interests include surfing, running, cycling, riding, triathlons and yoga. I love a good hike with my dog, Mia, or riding my horse, Icy Hot.



**Catherine Allegra Roth**

The possibilities of veterinary medicine seem endless, which is one of the reasons I wanted to become a veterinarian. I am from Honolulu, Hawaii, and have enjoyed working with several small animal veterinarians. I have also worked with large and exotic animals in Texas, which was an amazing experience! Every day in veterinary school is exciting and new, and I could not picture anything better.



**Joanna Rudosky**



**Scott Sabelhaus**

I am from Dallas, Texas, and graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas in 2007 with a BS in Biology. I have mostly small animal and laboratory research experience, and am interested in expanding my knowledge with other species. I am ready to get my hands dirty.



**Christian Saldana**

I'm excited to start my lifelong goal of becoming a veterinarian at WesternU. I was born and raised in Miami, Fla. I graduated with a BS in Animal Sciences and a Master's of Public Health from the University of Florida. I'm interested in small animal practice and veterinary public health.

I was born and raised in Utah. I graduated from Utah Valley University with a degree in Biology. I love sports, fishing, camping and pretty much anything outdoors. My favorite activity is spending time with my wife and son. I'm most excited to be here at WesternU to finally study veterinary medicine.

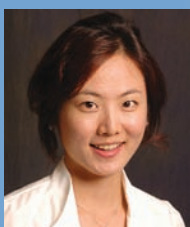


**Chad Schow**

After 18 years on Cape Cod, I ventured north to attend the University of Vermont, where I received both my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Animal Science. In addition to research, I am interested in clinical pathology and exotics, specifically "pocket pets."



**Jennifer Scudder**



**Joohee Seo**

I am an international student from Seoul, Korea. I've been studying in the United States since I was a sophomore in high school. I have a BA in Biology with a Music minor from Pitzer College in Claremont, Calif. All of us made it to WesternU! Now a new, challenging professional journey starts. I am very excited and let's all enjoy our time at WesternU.



**Heather Sesody**

I grew up in Hollister, Calif., loving animals and the outdoors. I received my BS in Biology from UC Davis. I have relocated from Northern California, where I have been gaining experience at a veterinary clinic. I am ecstatic to finally begin this journey.

I grew up in Davis, Calif., and received my BS in Animal Science, with an emphasis in animal behavior, from the University of California, Davis. I have always dreamed of becoming a small animal veterinarian, thus, I am excited to begin my studies at WesternU.



**Amber Shonk**

I'm a Bay Area native. I graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 2007 with a BS in Animal Science. I have experience with poultry in the agriculture and research industries and as a technician for small and exotic animals. I hope to pursue my passion for avian medicine and surgery.



**Janna Shreffler-Perez**



**Lauren Sirota**

While I am a native New Yorker, I attended Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., before transferring to the University of Minnesota, where I received a BS in Animal Science. I enjoy working with small animals and exotics by day and I am a ballroom dancer by night.



**Gisele Tolson**

I was born and raised in Los Angeles and received a BS in Biological Sciences from UC Merced. I worked at a cats only practice and a small animal/exotics practice, and my main interest is small animal medicine. But I'm open-minded.

I grew up Southern California, but headed east after high school. I have a Bachelor's in Biology from Brown University and a Master's in Lab Animal Science from Drexel College of Medicine. Now moving back to the West Coast, I'm honored and thrilled for my veterinary journey at WesternU.



**Ashley Van Kurin**

I was born in Texas and have lived in Germany, Virginia, Arizona and Illinois. I majored in physiology at the University of Arizona. I have volunteered at a zoo, fostered cats, researched parvovirus, and worked at a 24-hour small animal emergency clinic and a day practice.



**Christine Vogt**



**Kyle Wakeman**

Growing up in Northern California, I have enjoyed living in an area that is surrounded by the coast and redwoods. I graduated from Humboldt State University in 2008 with a BS in Zoology and Marine Biology. I'm excited to be a part of WesternU.



**Allison Walker**

After completing a cross-country road trip, I arrived in California from my hometown of Lawrenceville, N.J. I received my BS in Animal Science from Cook College at Rutgers University. I have particular interests in exotics and small animal medicine, although I do have a peculiar, near-obsessive love for pigs.



**Brittany Yates**

I was born in Northridge, Calif., and soon after the 1994 earthquake, my family moved to Palm Springs, where I grew up. I received my BS in Animal Science from Cal Poly Pomona. Veterinary medicine has been a lifelong pursuit of mine and I am excited to start the next phase of my journey at WesternU.



**Elizabeth Yi**

I was born and raised in Orange County, Calif., and received my BS in Animal Science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 2008. I have always been interested in the science of medicine and passionate about animals. Now I can fulfill my dream of being a veterinarian in research.

## CVM Faculty Profiles



**YVONNE DRECHSLER**

**YVONNE DRECHSLER, PhD**, is completing her third year at the College of Veterinary Medicine at WesternU, where she is an assistant professor of virology and immunology. A native of Germany, she studied at the University of Tubingen, earning the equivalents there of both bachelor's and master's degrees. She went on to do her PhD work at Children's Hospital of the University of Tubingen, focusing on innate immunity of neonates.

Dr. Drechsler came to the United States in 1999 and started a post-doctoral study on monocytes at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester. In 2003, she headed west, moving to Texas when her husband received a job offer there. Her research career took a different path when she accepted a position in the veterinary pathobiology department at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M. During her time in Texas, she started researching avian viruses, an avenue which she has continued to pursue at WesternU. She also has expanded her scope to include research into feline viruses and is collaborating on a project on avian influenza.

She and her husband, Ulf, have a son, Sven, in elementary school. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and home remodeling projects, and says she loves doing yard work and landscaping, recently planting seven or eight fruit trees on the grounds of her Claremont home.

Dr. Drechsler says the transition from living in Germany to residing in the United States took a little time. "The first year was kind of an adjustment," she says. Now Dr. Drechsler, who received her green card in 2007, adds, "I really love being here. We are probably going to stay here."

She is equally enthusiastic about her work at WesternU. "I'm not just a research person. I love interacting with students and collaborating with other professors."



**DEAN SMYLIE**

**FROM HIS EARLY LIFE IN A SMALL TOWN** in Iowa to his current position on staff at WesternU's College of Veterinary Medicine, **Dean Smylie, DVM**, has led a varied and remarkable life.

After obtaining a liberal arts degree at Yale University, Dr. Smylie worked in the insurance and investment business in Colorado for three years. He then went back to school, to Colorado State University, earning his DVM. His intent, he says, was to practice equine medicine, which led to founding San

Fernando Valley Equine Practice in 1974. While there, he became involved with animal nutrition, which led to yet another career as a businessman, producing specialty diets for dogs, cats, and horses. In 2000, he retired.

He had planned to stay that way, but became intrigued by an advertisement seeking veterinarians "who might be interested in an innovative veterinary program." He joined the CVM staff in 2005, and currently is co-director of Veterinary Basic Science for first- and second-year students.

At WesternU, Dr. Smylie also has become known as something of a computer guru, developing several databases to aid in teaching and testing, and helping associates with their technology troubles.

"I've always been fascinated by computers," he says, noting that he built one of his own in the 1950s. He is self-taught on the subject, learning several computer languages, and views computers in general as a hobby. His office bookshelf attests to his keen interest in the subject.

Among his other hobbies are tennis (he managed the US Tennis Association's league tennis in the San Fernando Valley for many years), skiing, horseback riding and flying. Dr. Smylie has his pilot's license and notes that his equine practice was based at Van Nuys Airport. He frequently flew to equine calls throughout Southern California.

Dr. Smylie and his wife, Janine, have three children and four grandchildren. The family also includes two dogs and two cats.



Congratulations to veterinarian and Assistant Professor **Babak Faramarzi, DVM, MS, PhD**, who was awarded a \$4,000 scholarship by the Chi Institute to support his study of traditional Chinese medicine. This award is specific regarding acupuncture in horses. Dr. Faramarzi has conducted extensive studies of the equine foot and he hopes for better understanding of alternative medicine including acupuncture.

Chi Institute is the biggest institute supporting traditional Chinese veterinary medicine.



Congratulations to veterinary parasitologist **Malika Kachani, PhD, DVM**, who has been invited by the director-general of the World Health Organization (WHO) to become a member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Neglected Tropical Diseases (STAG-NTDs). STAG has the mandate of advising WHO on overall global policies and strategies, ranging from epidemiology, monitoring implementation and research development to delivery of interventions and their linkages with other health interventions.



Congratulations to **Tom Phillips, DVM, PhD**, and **Pia Phillips, PhD**, who were featured in a recent issue of California Veterinarian. The magazine carries an article that resulted from an interview with the pair. In the story, the Meriel Veterinary Research Scholars Program is

described along with remarks from DVM alumni. Both doctors emphasize the importance of involving our health care professional students in early career research experiences. The complete citation is: "New Research Program at WesternU," California Veterinarian, Volume 64 (2) p. 35, Mar/Apr 2010.



Congratulations to CVM alumna **Amber Andersen, DVM '09**, who auditioned to get a show on the Oprah Winfrey Network.

Congratulations to the College of Veterinary Medicine, whose students were mentioned in a story in the April 3-4, 2010, weekend edition of the Wall Street Journal. The story dealt with the increased bunny population at Long Beach City College after



Easter each year and noted that a team of veterinarians from Western University of Health Sciences neutered about 100 rabbits. The surgery was part of a Rabbit Spay/Neuter event in the spring.



Congratulations to veterinary microbiologist, raptor specialist and Assistant Professor **Miguel Saggese, DVM, MS, PhD**, who was invited to Madrid, Spain, in May to give a full-day series of lectures on avian and reptile anesthesia and surgery. This event was organized by Improve Iberia, an affiliate of Improve International, a non-governmental organization with a goal to provide continuous professional development for veterinarians in Europe. Dr. Saggese's lectures were part of a year-long course on exotic animal medicine. After successful completion of a final exam at the European School of Veterinary Postgraduate Studies, veterinarians receive a General Practitioner Certificate in Exotic Animal Practice.



Congratulations to **Joohee Seo, DVM '13**, for both her acceptance into the externship program at the Institute of Comparative Medicine (ICM), Columbia University Medical Center, and for her obtaining the Mark Friedman Memorial Scholarship Award for 2010. The scholarship is awarded every two years. This year, New York University is the host institution for the summer program.

## GRADS IN THE FIELD

*“Grads in the Field” is a regular column in the Outlook. CVM alumni are encouraged to email Paul Gordon-Ross, DVM, MS (pgordon@westernu.edu) sharing experiences from their first years as veterinarians.*



“Much to my surprise, I fell in love with dentistry during my very last externship of fourth year. Until then, I hadn’t thought of it much as an option for a career choice. I had considered mainly surgery, medicine and emergency. Shortly after graduation, I started a rotating small animal internship at Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital, near Denver, Colo. The internship has been helpful in that I have had the opportunity to work in general practice, emergency, surgery and internal medicine. We have full-time radiologists, and I have seen a variety of cases, from dystocia to torn toenails, with and without backup support. This year I have learned an immense amount, both by seeing my own cases and via the boarded minds I have gotten to work with. The internship helped me to be sure about my career choice: to pursue a specialty in dentistry and oral surgery. I plan to move back to California following the internship and begin training in San Diego.”

***Kara Breeding, DVM***  
***Class of 2009***



“After graduating from WesternU, I started an internship in shelter medicine at the Oregon Humane Society in Portland, Ore. The staff here have been amazing and made me feel at home from the beginning. In my five months at OHS I have performed more than 700 surgeries (mostly spays and neuters, but also cystotomies, exploratories, enucleation, amputations, etc.) I have also seen quite a variety of medical cases, ranging from infectious diseases (lots of feline URD) to hyperthyroid cats, diabetes and renal disease. I also get to work with fourth-year vet students from Oregon State University and occasionally other schools, which has been fun. I give a lecture on feline URI to the new students every two weeks and started a journal club as well. One of my most memorable cases has been a 3-year-old dachshund, who was found on the side of the road paralyzed in his back legs. I took him on as my patient after a Good Samaritan brought him in and soon discovered he had IVDD. I found a surgeon in the area to perform the surgery (for free!) and after several months of physical therapy, we placed him up for adoption – another of the countless happy endings! I love being able to help those who need it

most and every day has been a new adventure. I’m constantly humbled by my patients, and their stories are truly inspirational. The Oregon Humane Society is an example of how shelters should be and can be. I hope to go on to a residency in shelter medicine and someday help improve shelters around the country and world. For any WesternU student who is interested in shelter medicine, I would highly recommend an externship here. They are great teachers, you get tons of surgery and case experience, and you get to see high quality, high volume medicine at its finest. Plus, you get to help wonderful homeless animals in the process.”

***Zarab Hedge, DVM***  
***Class of 2009***

# CVM Professors Head Up Snow Leopard Workshop



*WESTERNU'S COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE hosted a workshop in San Diego on Jan. 27-29 as part of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Planning Grant. The project title was "Correlation of Snow Leopard Genetics with Immune Function: A Model for the Integration of Functional Genomics into Endangered Species Captive Breeding Plans."*

The workshop was organized by principal investigators **Peggy Barr, DVM, PhD**; **Kristopher Irizarry, PhD**, and **Janis Joslin, DVM**, with collaborators **Todd Mockler** from Oregon State University and **Jay Tetzloff** from Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington, Ill.

involved in captive breeding of other endangered species. The meeting brought together a diverse group of more than 30 individuals from as far away as Australia to develop a strategy for applying genomics information to problems encountered in the conservation of endangered species.



Workshop participants were carefully chosen for their ability to provide expertise in one or more areas of knowledge required for a successful cross-disciplinary approach to the problem of endangered species conservation. Participants included geneticists, immunologists, pathologists, reproductive physiologists, field researchers studying in the snow leopard's home range, zoo professionals including members of the North American Snow Leopard Species Survival Plan and people

"This type of cross pollination of ideas is critical for the successful management of endangered species by developing a multidisciplinary approach to address the many challenges encountered in the conservation of species impacted by habitat reduction, environmental change, infectious diseases, poor reproductive fitness, and loss of genetic diversity," according to Dr. Joslin.

Additional goals of the planning grant are to establish a bank of DNA and mRNA from captive North American snow leopards, to determine a draft of the snow leopard genome, and to

identify polymorphisms in specific genes associated with immune function and other problems affecting these magnificent animals in captivity. The final goal of the project is to incorporate ideas and identify collaborators from the workshop in order to apply for a larger, three-year IMLS National Leadership Grant which will apply this same approach to other highly endangered species.

# RESEARCH *Update*



*Pedro Diniz*

**Pedro Diniz, DVM, PhD**, has published his study titled “High Prevalence of Tick-Borne Pathogens in Dogs from an Indian Reservation in Northeastern Arizona.” This work involved a large group of collaborators from academia, the U.S. government, private industry and the Hopi Indian tribe. The complete citation is: Diniz PP, Beall MJ, Omarm K, et al. High Prevalence of Tick-Borne Pathogens in Dogs

from an Indian Reservation in Northeastern Arizona. *Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases*. 2010; 10(2): 117-123.



*Hrvoje Smodlaka*

CVM faculty members **Hrvoje Smodlaka, DVM, PhD, Wael Khamas, BVM&S, MS, PhD, and Suzana Tkalcic, DVM, PhD**, together with CVM alumna **Trudy Golub, DVM '09**, and **Lauren Palmer, DVM** of the Marine Mammal Care Center, have published their paper titled “Histological Assessment of Selected Blood

Vessels of the Phocid Seals (Northern Elephant and Harbour Seals).” This work appears in the leading journal of World

Association of Veterinary Anatomists. The study described in this paper was

funded through a WUHS Intramural grant and investigates vascular adaptations that play a vital role in blood pressure regulation and distribution of oxygenated blood during prolonged deep diving in these animals. The complete citation is:

Smodlaka H, Khamas W, Tkalcic T, et al. Histological Assessment of Selected Blood Vessels of the Phocid Seals (Northern Elephant and Harbour Seals). *Anat Histol Embryol*. 2010; 39; 178-185.



*Suzana Tkalcic*



*Wael Khamas*



*David Kersey*

Veterinary physiologist and Assistant Professor **David Kersey, PhD**, in collaboration with Chinese and American scientists, has published his work on maximizing reproductive success in the giant panda. The study validated a non-invasive alternative to urinary hormone monitoring for assessing the single annual peri-estrous period. This is important for understanding the hormonal

factors that trigger sexual receptivity, ovarian follicle development, behavioral estrus and ovulation in this rare species. The complete citation is: Kersey DC, Wildt DE, Brown JL, et al. Endocrine Milieu of Peri-estrus in the Giant Panda (*Ailuropoda Melanoleuca*) as Determined by Noninvasive Hormone Measures. *Reproduction, Fertility and Development*. 2010; 22; 901-912.

Veterinary Assistant Professor and Equine Dentist **Elizabeth Schilling, DVM**, recently presented a paper at the “Anesthesia Frontiers” pain conference in Naples, Italy. The focus on pharmaceutical management of dental pain was a significant contribution to this interprofessional conference. The complete citation for the abstract is: Schilling E. Multimodal Sedation and Pain Management in the Equine Dental Patient. *Anesthesia Frontiers: Research and Therapy for Human and Animal Suffering (Proceedings)*. 2010; May 16-19; 52-56.



*Elizabeth Schilling*

# DVM CLASS OF 2010 – POST GRAD PLANS

*The newly minted DVM Class of 2010 will be fanning out across the country, taking the skills they've acquired at WesternU to help animals from California to New York and many points in between. Some will serve internships or continue their education, while others will be employed in private practice. Two of the graduates were inducted into the Army during Honors Day ceremonies this spring and will enter military service.*

## ***Breakdown of the plans from 49 of the students:***

### **Military Service – 2 graduates (~ 4 %)**

Army – 2 individuals

### **Internships – 20 graduates (~ 41 %)**

Small Animal Medicine and Surgery Service – 13 individuals

Equine Service – 3 individuals

Undeclared – 2 individuals

Emergency Critical Care Service – 1 individual

Rotating Services – 1 individual

### **Private Practice Employment – 22 graduates (~ 45 %)**

Small Animal (Predominantly to Exclusively) – 17 Individuals

Mixed Animal Practice – 3 individuals

Emergency Practice – 1 individual

Undeclared – 1 individual

### **Residency/Masters Program – 1 graduate (~ 2%)**

Poultry – 1 individual

### **Currently Undecided – 4 graduates (~ 8 %)**

## ***Among the locations of the positions are:***

### ***California:***

Antelope Valley

Brea

Glendora

Granada Hills

La Habra / Garden Grove

Lancaster

Lawndale

Los Angeles (4)

Monterey County

Murrieta

Palmdale

Paso Robles

Pomona

Riverside

### ***Sacramento***

San Diego

San Jose

San Luis Obispo County

Twentynine Palms

Upland

Westlake

Whittier

### ***Arizona:***

Scottsdale

Tucson (3)

### ***Connecticut:***

Norwalk

### ***Florida:***

Hollywood

Lake Wales

### ***Nevada:***

Las Vegas (2)

### ***New Jersey:***

Brick

Hoboken

New Jersey (general)

Tinton Falls

### ***New York:***

New York

Plainview

### ***North Carolina:***

Raleigh

### ***Oregon:***

Portland

### ***Tennessee:***

Dickson

### ***Wisconsin:***

Green Bay

## ***They will include the following practices:***

Advanced Veterinary Care Center

AV Animal Hospital

All Animals Veterinary Hospital

The Animal Medical Center

Animal Specialty Group

Banfield, The Pet Hospital

Bricktown Veterinary Hospital

California Animal Hospital

California Veterinary Specialists

Center Sinai Animal Hospital

DoveLewis Animal Hospital

Elwood Animal Clinic

Garden State Veterinary Specialists

High Desert Animal Care

Hoboken Animal Infirmary

Hollywood Animal Hospital

Lake Wales Veterinary Hospital

Long Island Veterinary Specialists

Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center

North Carolina State University

Orange County Emergency Pet Clinic

Pet Medical Center Chatoak

Red Bank Veterinary Hospital

Riverside Animal Hospital

South Valley Animal Hospital

Southwest Equine Medical

and Surgical Center

Steinbeck Country Equine Clinic

Tropicana Animal Hospital

UNO Animal Hospital

VCA Emergency Animal Hospital and Referral Center

VCA VREC Vet Referral and EMS Center

VCA Sacramento Veterinary Referral Center

VCA West Los Angeles

Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson

Washington Boulevard Animal Hospital

# Art Contest Winners



More than 35 entries were received for the CVM Open House Art Contest, held in conjunction with its annual Open House on April 3. The contest theme was "All Creatures Great & Small," which was also the Open House theme.

Classes were invited to create posters depicting the theme, using only pictures but no words. Each student in the class was required to participate and the winning posters were displayed during the CVM Open House.

Among the grade-level winners were two from Washington Elementary School in Pomona: **Mrs. Stone's** first-grade class and **Mrs. Cerda's** fifth-grade class. Both classes are shown here. Grand prize was a classroom pizza party, provided by the CVM, for each grade-level winner.



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Call or email for information, Jason Carter  
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*\*RSVP Required*

Event Location: 505 E. Second Street, Pomona, Calif.

# Always In Our Hearts: stories from the WAVE Program



## **Tristan** (Named from “Legends of the Fall”) By Dawn Miller-Jacobson

*The day Tristan’s heart stopped, so did mine as I watched his happy face dwindle into eternal slumber. I still cry when I think of him that day nearly a year and a half ago.*

*I got Tristan one day when I went to the grocery store. A young girl was standing outside the doors begging someone to take him. He was six months old. We first noticed a problem in December 2006, when I had X-rays done while he was having his teeth cleaned, and the vet thought he had a fractured hip. We eventually had a CAT scan done, and got the devastating news in April 2007 that he would lose*

*function of his hind legs, and then it would progress to his front legs and eventually kill him. I got on the internet and began to do research on “Dogs with Degenerative Myelopathy,” but I found no real support except through technology.*

*By the fall of 2007, Tristan had started to drag himself around the house. I bought him a wheelchair, but it never really fit him. He preferred to drag himself, and because he was so muscular in his front legs, he did it well. Tristan used to follow me everywhere I went; after he lost function of his hind legs, he still followed me. I had to put runners though the house because we have hardwood floors. He was successful getting around on the carpet paths until July 2008, when the disease began to affect his front legs.*

*Before the disease disabled him, he could run and jump in the air and catch his glow ball, which he loved. After the disease struck, he would drag himself over to me with his ball in his mouth and actually flip his head, and throw the ball into my lap.*

*Everyone wanted me to put Tristan down sooner than I did, but I just didn’t feel it was time. I told them the day he stopped following me around the house, I would consider it. In September 2008, that time came, and it was the hardest decision of my life. Tristan was not just a dog to me, he helped me through the most difficult times in my life, and he gave me inspiration to get up every morning. He was the epitome of a TRUE COMPANION, and I will FOREVER MISS HIM.*

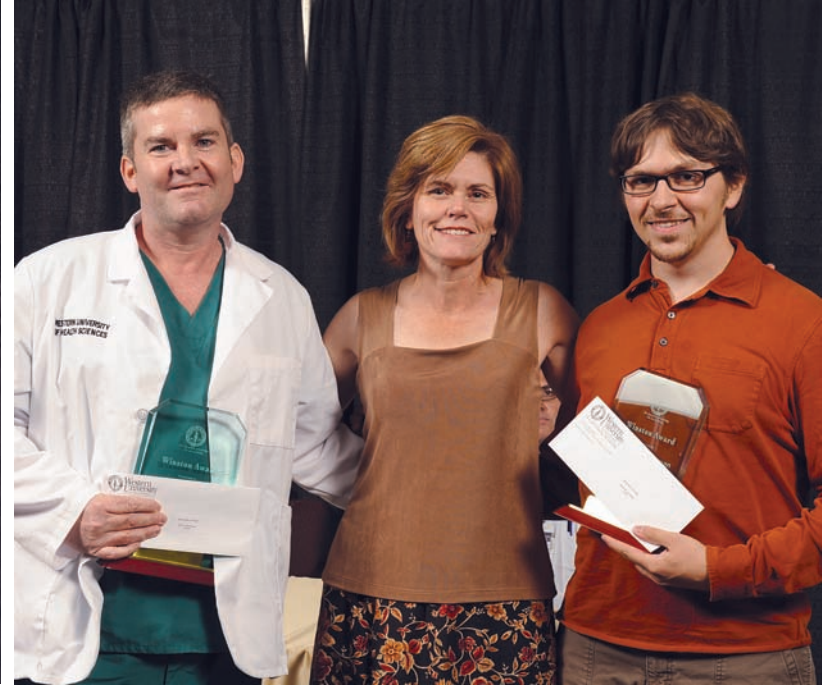
## **The Willed Body Program for Veterinary Medicine, WAVE**

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 (WAVE Program is modeled after the Human Willed Body Program at WesternU). More than 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 Miller 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*.





# Endowed Scholarships

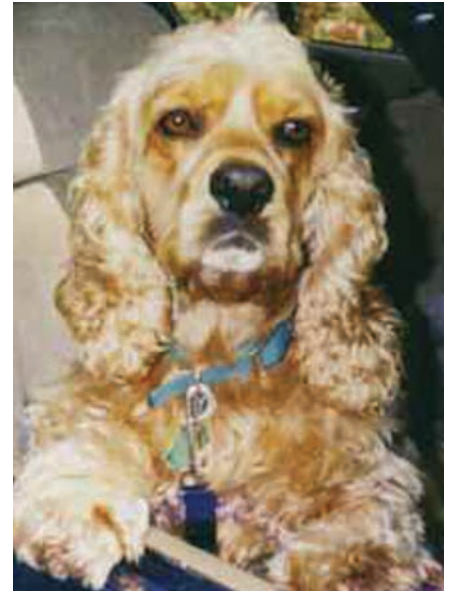
Honors Day 2010 marked the awarding of the College of Veterinary Medicine's first two fully endowed scholarships.

**The Dr. Shirley D. Johnston Endowed Scholarship** was named to honor the leadership of Dr. Johnston, founding Dean of the College. This scholarship provides an annual award for third year students who have demonstrated a commitment to compassionate, high quality pet care, treating pets like family and honoring the human-animal bond.

**The Winston Award Endowed Fund** was created to honor the memory of **Winston**, a beloved cocker spaniel who succumbed to canine cancer, and in memory of other family pets with cancer. It provides annual awards to veterinary students who are interested in the field of veterinary oncology.

Endowing a scholarship at the College of Veterinary Medicine with a gift of \$20,000 or more truly provides a gift that keeps on giving. Endowed gifts are prudently invested by the University with only the interest earned each year used to fund the annual scholarship award. This ensures the original principal is not spent, and the endowed fund will continue to provide annual awards in perpetuity.

Endowed scholarships are a fantastic way to honor or remember the people and pets that are important to you, while providing much needed financial assistance to the next generation of compassionate veterinarians being educated by the College of Veterinary Medicine. You can help define the criteria to determine the award winners (academic achievement, study area of interest and financial need to name a few), and you will receive information on the students who are awarded the scholarship each year.



"Winston"

*To learn more about how to create an endowed scholarship at the College of Veterinary Medicine, contact Tim McPheron, Director of Development, at 909-706-3762 or [tmcpheron@westernu.edu](mailto:tmcpheron@westernu.edu).*



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# Western University of Health Sciences

**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. Instruction and clinical opportunities are provided in a wide variety of domestic species, including food animal, equine, and companion animals. 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. ♥*

