



Welcome to the **May 2008** edition of the LSU SVM's e-mail newsletter. In this issue, we'll talk about [new faculty](#), [accomplishments by the faculty](#), [awards received by the faculty](#), [Staff Awards](#), [induction ceremony for Phi Zeta](#), a [book written about horse rescues after Hurricane Katrina](#), the [Small Animal Medicine Symposium](#), the [International Exhibition on Animals in Art](#), [continuing education opportunities](#), [supporting the School of Veterinary Medicine](#), [upcoming events](#), and [classified ads](#).



## LSU SVM WELCOMES NEW FACULTY

**Dr. Marxa L. Figueiredo** joined the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences as an assistant professor on April 15. She received her B.S. from the Federal University of Goiás in Goiânia, Brazil, in 1994. Dr. Figueiredo received her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2002. She is currently principal investigator on a five-year K01 grant from the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health to conduct independent research in cancer biology, with a focus on gene therapy strategies for prostate and head and neck cancers. Dr. Figueiredo's research interests are in cancer biology and gene therapy using adenovirus to target the cell cycle.

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## LSU SVM SALUTES ITS FACULTY

**Dr. Frederic Gaschen** (left), associate professor of companion animal medicine, and **Dr. Lorrie Gaschen**, associate professor of veterinary radiology, both in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, spoke at the **51st Congress of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association** (BSAVA) in Birmingham, United Kingdom. Dr. Lorrie Gaschen presented six lectures. In the pre-congress day, she talked to the British branch of the European Association of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging about "Ultrasonography of the

Icteric Patient." She also presented at the meeting of the British Small Animal Medicine Society about "Ultrasound, The Companion of Thoracic Radiographs." During the BSAVA congress, she lectured on: "When to Use Ultrasound in Patients with Acute Abdomen," "Is It Surgical or Not? Abdominal Radiographs in Patients with Acute Abdomen" and "Imaging Endocrine Disorders." Dr. Lorrie Gaschen also gave a state-of-the-art lecture on "Gastrointestinal Haemodynamics in Dogs with Chronic Diarrhoea: Improved Diagnostics." Dr. Frederic Gaschen gave three lectures in a series entitled "Approach to..." (a) Chronic Diarrhoea in the Dog, (b) The Vomiting Cat, and (c) The Febrile Patient." Drs. Frederic and Lorrie Gaschen also gave a joint seminar on "Case Studies in Gastroenterology."

**Dr. Shulin Li**, professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, has been invited to join the editorial board of the journal **Molecular Biotechnology**. The journal, now in its fifteenth year of publication, publishes original research

papers and occasional review articles. Particular areas of interest include: stability and expression of cloned gene products, cell transformation, gene cloning systems and the production of recombinant proteins, protein purification and analysis, transgenic species, developmental biology, mutation analysis, the applications of DNA fingerprinting, RNA interference, and PCR technology, microarray technology, proteomics, mass spectrometry, bioinformatics, plant molecular biology, microbial genetics, gene probes and the diagnosis of disease, pharmaceutical and health care products, therapeutic agents, vaccines, gene targeting, gene therapy, stem cell technology and tissue engineering, antisense technology, protein engineering and enzyme technology, monoclonal antibodies, glycobiology and glycomics, and agricultural biotechnology. Full details of this journal, and access to a sample copy, can be found at the Humana Press website at <http://www.springer.com/humana+press>.

**Dr. Ashley Stokes**, assistant professor (research) in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, was selected into the 2008 Baton Rouge Barton Leadership Program. John W. Barton Sr. Community Leadership Development Program was started by Forum 35 in partnership with the Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO). This program fosters leadership initiatives and enables development of leadership skills while promoting community involvement in Baton Rouge. It is a 5 month program with graduation in October 2008. Topics of the program include: Mission and Program Evaluation, Governing Body and Conflicts of Interest, Human Resources, Financial and Legal Management and Policies, and Openness, Fundraising and Public Policy. Forum 35, comprised of over 800 professional men and women, provides volunteer service and personal growth opportunities for the purpose of improving the Baton Rouge community. Dr. Stokes also serves on the Board of Directors for Forum 35.

**Dr. George M. Strain**, professor of veterinary physiology, pharmacology & toxicology in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, gave two invited presentations at the 11<sup>th</sup> Congreso Internacional de Medicina, Cirugía y Zootecnia en Perros, Gatos y otras Mascotas, in Acapulco, Mexico, April 24-25. The congress was sponsored by the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and the Federación Canofila Mexicana (Mexican Kennel Club). The presentations were “Deafness in dogs: Causes, prevalence, and current research” and “Deafness in blue-eyed white cats”.

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## LSU SVM FACULTY RECEIVE GRANTS AND AWARDS

**Dr. James Catallo**, associate professor of environmental toxicology in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, was awarded \$10,000 from the Board of Regents National Science Foundation Pfund (pilot funding) for his project entitled, “Bio-based petrochemicals: Hydrothermal production of Acetic Acid and CO<sub>2</sub> from Pest Vegetation Biomass” for the period of 4/1/08-3/31/09.

**Dr. Shulin Li**, professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences (above right), received \$97,900 from LSUHSC’s Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center for his project entitled, “Elimination of Residual Malignancy by Programmed Systemic Cytokine Gene Therapy” for the period 2/18/08-2/17/09.

**Dr. Mandi Lopez**, assistant professor in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, was awarded \$220,500 for the project entitled, “Adult stem cell suppression due to alcohol induced microenvironment alterations” for the period 4/15/08-3/31/10.

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## LSU SVM BESTOWS STAFF AWARDS AT SPRING RECEPTION

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine presented awards to five staff members at a spring reception on May 1. **Lisa Roundtree**, lab animal assistant technician (dermatology) in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics, was presented with the **Outstanding Achievement Award**, which recognizes an employee from all SVM staff categories, who exhibits superior work habits and who gives extra contributions to the School. Roundtree was commended for her 17 years of service to the LSU SVM and her dependability, communication skills, willingness to help others, and perseverance.

The **Administrative Support Award** was presented to **Leslie Talley**, associate clinical specialist (equine) in the VTH&C. This award recognizes an employee for excellence in support in all areas of administration. Talley was commended for her 20 years of service to the LSU SVM and her dedication, loyalty, initiative, and efficiency.

**Jackie Murray**, an administrative coordinator in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, won the **Academic Support Award** for excellence in providing academic support to the School's faculty. Murray was commended for her 25 years of service and her dependability and attention to detail, as well as her computer and communication skills.

The **Operations Management Award** was presented to **Cecilia "C.K." Koon**, lab animal technician in the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine. The award recognizes outstanding management support in all areas of the School's operations. Koon was commended for her 18 years of service and her ability to supervise others, positive attitude, and leadership abilities.

**Kendra Shultz**, a research associate in the Department of Pathobiological Sciences, received the **Technical Management Award** for her outstanding technical service to the School. Shultz was commended for her seven years of service and her dependability, enthusiasm, and resourcefulness.

**Photo: Dean Peter F. Haynes congratulates the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine's 2008 Staff Award recipients shown from left to right: Leslie Talley (Administrative Support Award), Lisa Roundtree (Outstanding Achievement Award), Jackie Murray (Academic Support Award), Kendra Shultz (Technical Management Award), and Cecelia "C.K." Koon (Operations Management Award).**

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## STUDENTS AND FACULTY INDUCTED INTO PHI ZETA

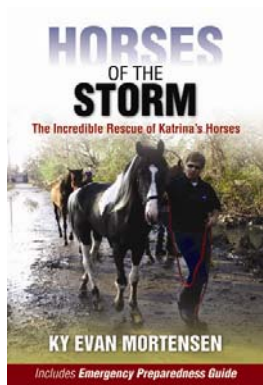
The following students and faculty were inducted into the **Tau Chapter of Phi Zeta** on April 24. Members of the **Class of 2008**: Kaikhushroo Banajee, Jennifer Crescioni, Jennifer Fenner, Katie Foote, Wesley Lee, Jessica Leto, Alexander Mesonero, Erin Roof, Jennifer Sandoz, Gabriel Van Brunt, and Maghan Wormuth. Members of the **Class of**

**2009:** Michelle Fecteau, April Fitzgerald, Daniel Langlois, Alyce Leger, Meredith Mouney, Patricia Schuster, Verna Serra, and Katherine Smith. **Graduate students:** Dr. Amy Gill, Dr. Renata Linardi, and Dr. Srinivas Sriramula. **House Officers** (residents and interns): Dr. Jose Len, Dr. Lynne Snow, and Dr. Jessica Thompson. **Faculty:** Dr. Hermann Bragulla, Dr. Inder Sehgal, and Dr. Eric Storey.

Phi Zeta is a national Veterinary Honor Society, the object of which is to recognize and promote scholarship and research in matters pertaining to the welfare and diseases of animals. The Tau Chapter of Phi Zeta was installed on March 30, 1977, with Dr. C.W. Titkemeyer as Chapter President. Phi Zeta is the abbreviation of the Greek word Philozoi, which means "love of animals."

**Photo: Maghan Wormuch (Class of 2009) receives her Phi Zeta certificate from Dr. Daniel Paulsen, professor of veterinary pathology and president of the Tau Chapter of Phi Zeta.**

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## BOOK CHRONICLES HEROIC RESCUE OF HORSES AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA

**Ky Mortensen**, director of advancement for the Equine Health Studies Program, has written a book entitled, *Horses of the Storm: The Incredible Rescue of Katrina's Horses*. The book review states that in the midst of Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005, was born the largest equine rescue ever. Ky presents readers with a collection of gripping and ultimately inspiring first-hand accounts of how the LSU's Equine Rescue Team spearheaded a dedicated group of heroic staff and volunteers that saved hundreds of horses. *Horses of the Storm* will also contain take-away tips to prepare horse owners before, during and after a disaster. This book is available in paperback on-line at Barnes & Noble ([www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com)) and Amazon ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)) after the publication date of May 1, 2008. A portion of the proceeds goes to the LSU Equine Health Studies Program.

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## VETERINARIANS EARN CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS AT COMPLIMENTARY SMALL ANIMAL MEDICINE SYMPOSIUM

One hundred and thirty-two veterinarians attended the **LSU SVM Small Animal Medicine Symposium** on April 27. The symposium focused on infectious diseases of dogs and cats. Thanks to an educational grant from Pfizer Animal Health, the doctors attended this event at no charge. The featured guest speaker was Dr. Edward Breitschwerdt, professor of internal medicine at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine, who discussed the molecular diagnosis of infectious diseases, persistent blood-borne infection, vector-borne infections and canine bartonellosis. LSU SVM internists, cardiologists, and dermatologists lectured other topics including canine ehrlichiosis and anaplasmosis, methicillin-resistant staphylococci, mycoses, canine leptospirosis, endocarditis,

American trypanosomiasis and challenging infectious disease cases. "The symposium was a success on all levels", said Dr. Frederic Gaschen, associate professor of companion animal medicine. "Both LSU SVM and our sponsor Pfizer Animal Health demonstrated their commitment to provide high quality continuing education for Louisiana veterinarians." The next LSU SVM Small Animal Medicine Symposium is scheduled for April/May 2009.

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## ART EXHIBITION RAISES FUNDS FOR LSU SVM

The 21<sup>st</sup> International Exhibition on Animals in Art opened with a reception on March 29 and closed on April 27. The show can be viewed on-line at [www.vetmed.lsu.edu](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu). While the show was open, 21 pieces were sold, raising more than \$2,200 for the LSU SVM. These funds will be used to purchase materials for the SVM Library and the Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana. The \$1,000 **Best in Show** award went to **Monica Freeman** from Baton Rouge, La., for her stone and steothite sculpture entitled **Feline**. Dr. Janis Audin, Chicago, Ill., editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*, chose Jane Cozart's pastel, entitled **Woman with Hounds**, to appear on a future cover of the journal. The People's Choice Award went to **Margaret Rice** for **Tess**, an oil (pictured above).

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## TELEPHONE APPEAL TO ALUMNI YIELDS PLEDGES OF MORE THAN \$12,000 TO LSU SVM ANNUAL FUND

From Monday, April 14 through Thursday, April 17 and on Sunday, April 20, the School of Veterinary Medicine partnered for the first time with the **LSU Foundation's TigerTalk** to conduct its recent telephone appeal. As a component of the SVM Annual Appeal 2008, TigerTalk's student callers made over 5,728 phone attempts to SVM alumni in various time zones throughout the country. Over the five-day calling period, 88 alumni made specific pledges of \$12,105.00. An additional 114 alumni committed to "unspecified" pledges. The 18.45% per specific pledge decision gave the SVM one of the highest rates, if not the highest, campus-wide!

To facilitate this new partnership, Dr. David Senior (Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives and Institutional Advancement), Gretchen Morgan (Coordinator of Alumni and Public Programs) and Connie Anderson (Assistant Director for Institutional Advancement) were on-hand at the center to answer questions and offer information to student callers and alumni. Taking advantage of the telephone appeal as a unique funding opportunity was the Student Chapter of the American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners. Chapter president Nanci Solis served as an additional SVM contact during the telephone appeal, raising \$150 for the chapter.

When asked her impressions of TigerTalk, Nanci commented, "Volunteering with the Tiger Talk Alumni Appeal was an excellent way for the Small Ruminant Club to get involved in supporting the SVM. The Tiger Talkers were enthusiastic, professional, energetic, and efficient and did a great job of representing us. Sometimes as students, there is not a lot we can

do to give back, but it was very easy to be available as 'back-up' in case there were questions or anyone wanted to speak to an actual student. I would encourage every SVM student to participate next year. It was a great experience and a way to help the club and the school at the same time."

Although the SVM was the last academic unit on campus to utilize TigerTalk's technology and student caller resources, loyal SVM alumni, staff and students demonstrated that last certainly was not least!

***Photo: SCAASRP President Nanci Solis and student caller Jessica Bates enjoy a dinner break at the LSU TigerTalk Center. Jessica, whose dog Dave was saved by the SMV Clinic after ingesting sago palm, gave enthusiastic personal testimony about the SVM Clinic care to all she contacted.***

To learn about other ways that you can help the SVM, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 225-578-9826 or visit our website at [www.vetmed.lsu.edu](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu) and select "Support the LSU SVM."



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3	LSU classes end
May 9	<b>Semester ends</b>
<b>May 12</b>	<b>SVM Commencement</b>
<b>May 12</b>	<b>Final day for grades to Student Affairs (Years I-III)</b>
May 16	LSU Commencement

For information on these and other events, please go to the School's website at [www.vetmed.lsu.edu](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu).

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## CLASSIFIED ADS

**Associate Veterinarian wanted - come for a visit - stay for a career!!**

Phone: 775-575-5851

Fax: 775-575-6606

State: Nevada

A great opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a brand new facility! Our small animal general practice is steadily growing and we are breaking ground in the immediate future for a new clinic building. We have an excellent support staff, who enjoy what they do; great clientele, and we are in the fastest growing county in Nevada. We offer exclusively laser surgery, quality medicine and work in a great atmosphere with its fair share of challenges. Clientele are excellent and we have easy access to specialists. Fernley is a great safe place to raise kids, we still have a small town farming community atmosphere complete with our well known junior and senior pro rodeo right here in town. Fernley Nevada is almost rural - but close to Reno, Nevada to the northwest and Fallon naval air station to the southeast. Lake Tahoe with all its summer and winter recreation opportunities is a 2 hour easy drive from here. Salary is negotiable DOE, standard benefits package

offered. Contact Dr. Laura Remsen @ 775-575-5851 or send resume to Animal Care Center, 805 E Main St., Suite D, Fernley, NV 89408. Email - [animal.cc@earthlink.net](mailto:animal.cc@earthlink.net).

**Practice for Sale:** Located in the historical city of Natchitoches, La., in NW Louisiana. Will include a 7 yr. old building, and ~1ac. property on a busy highway. The building includes small animal (2413sq.ft.), and large animal (1337sq.ft.) areas all enclosed. Some contents included are computer, blood analyzers, X-Ray, and boarding kennels. Some owner financing possible. For further info e-mail [bluejames@suddenlink.net](mailto:bluejames@suddenlink.net).

**Are you looking for career options?** The USDA, Food Safety & Inspection Service is currently hiring veterinarians in Booker, Cactus, Del Rio, Lubbock, Mount Pleasant, Nacogdoches, Plainview, and Waco, Texas. Our Public Health Veterinarians work in Meat and Poultry establishments and are vital to the safety of the American Food Supply. We offer a competitive salary - a new veterinarian will make at least \$54,494.00 (GS-11) to start. Some salaries will be higher, depending on the location and qualifications of the person selected. Many of our Public Health Veterinarian positions advance to the next grade after one year of satisfactory performance and conduct. The starting salary for the next grade (GS-12) is \$65,315.00. We offer a recruitment bonus of 25% of starting salary with a one year service agreement, as well as a paid move. We offer paid sick and vacation leave, health, life, and dental insurance, and an attractive retirement plan. In addition, any work performed over 40 hours per week is compensated, and training is provided. Please feel free to contact us if you are interested or would like more information!



800-370-3747, x2556



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