



SVM UPDATE JUNE 2009

Welcome to the **June 2009** edition of the LSU SVM's e-mail newsletter. In this issue, we'll talk about, [Supporting Scholarships at the SVM](#), [Hurricane Preparedness for Animals](#), [Pets & Vets](#), the [35th Annual Awards & Honors Banquet](#), the [33rd Annual Commencement](#), the conferring of [Advanced Degrees](#), [Dr. Hosgood's retirement](#), new [SVM Faculty](#), a patriotic gift to the [Cancer Treatment Unit](#), [alumni events](#), [upcoming events](#), and [classified ads](#).



SUPPORT THE LSU SVM

Sit Up and Take Notice: It's a Matter of Life and Debt

LSU SVM graduate Dr. Verna Serra, knows the value — and the price — of a great education. As a three-time scholarship recipient at LSU's School of Veterinary Medicine, she appreciates the financial assistance she's received in pursuit of her dream. And she knows that those funds would not have been available without the generous support of donors like you. Being a veterinary student at LSU is intense. It takes commitment, passion, focus, and, of course, money. But scholarships help ease our students' financial strain. Your donation toward scholarships will give them less worry so that they can devote their full attention to the things that matter most. **Alumni can give a gift on behalf of their class to support their class goals.** Contact Gretchen Morgan at gmorgan@lsu.edu or 225-578-9565 to discuss how you can make a class gift. Please donate now.



To make an online gift to support student scholarships, please go to <https://www.lsufoundation.org/contribute.php>, select the School of Veterinary Medicine as the beneficiary unit, and select, "It's a Matter of Life and Debt" as the fund. Please call Judyth Wier, executive director for institutional advancement at **225-578-9870** for more information about giving opportunities.



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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS FOR ANIMALS

If you are forced to evacuate your home because of a hurricane or other emergency, don't forget to make preparations for your pets. Pets, just like any other member of your family, have their own special needs. It is also important for horse owners to ready themselves in advance for evacuation and other recommended tasks related to hurricane preparedness. The Louisiana State Animal Response Team (LSART – www.lsart.org) and LSU School of Veterinary Medicine

(www.vetmed.lsu.edu) offer tips to help prepare you and your animals for an evacuation. **For more information about hurricane preparedness for animals, please go to http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/hurricane_information.htm.**

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LSU SVM HOSTS PETS & VETS, A SUMMER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

Come learn about birds, dogs, cats, horses, cows, reptiles and more at **Pets & Vets**, the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine's annual children's education program, beginning June 2nd and ending June 25th. **Pets & Vets** features topics on farm animals, pets, and veterinary medicine. All presentations are free and open to the public, but pre-registration is requested. Parents are also invited to attend. All **Pets & Vets** courses are held at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine on Skip Bertman Drive. **For more information, please go to http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/pets_&_vets.htm.**

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LSU SVM HONORS FACULTY AND STUDENTS AT ANNUAL AWARDS & HONORS BANQUET

On May 1, the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine hosted the 35th annual **Awards and Honors Banquet** at the LSU Union. The banquet was sponsored in part by Nestlé Purina Pet Care, Novartis Animal Health, and the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association (LVMA). Over \$143,000 was distributed to students in the form of awards and scholarships. Faculty and staff awards were bestowed at the beginning of the evening. This year Dean Peter F. Haynes created the *Dean's Student Scholarship Endowment Initiative*. This *Initiative*, funded through gifts from the alumni and friends of the SVM to the Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund, will add \$2,000 to the funds distributed from each endowed scholarship. The *Initiative* will add this minimum amount to the distribution from each endowed student scholarship on an annual basis, including those created in the future. Through the much appreciated generosity of our alumni and supporters, *Initiative* contributions will grow in future years with the primary goal of reducing student debt. **For a list of all of the awards and recipients, please go to [http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/news_&_events.htm#Awards at Annual Banquet](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/news_&_events.htm#Awards_at_Annual_Banquet).**

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LSU SVM CONFERS DEGREES AND AWARDS

The Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine conferred 81 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees at its 33rd annual Veterinary Medicine Commencement Exercises on Monday, May 11. Secretary of State Jay Dardenne gave the commencement address at the 2 p.m. ceremony. Dean Peter F.

Haynes presided over the ceremony, and Dr. John Lombardi, president of the Louisiana State University System, conferred the degrees. Crystal Myers (Class of 2009) opened the ceremony with the invocation. Program speakers included Clifford Vannoy, senior vice president of the LSU Alumni Association, Dr. Pamela Mitchell, School of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association president, and Dr. Bruce Elits, president of the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association and professor of theriogenology. **For a list of the graduates and awards received, please go to [http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/news & events.htm#Confers Degrees](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/news_and_events.htm#Confers_Degrees).**

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LSU SVM CONFERS TEN ADVANCED DEGREES

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine conferred ten graduate degrees at its Diploma Distribution Ceremony for the Graduate Academic Studies Program on May 15. Associate Dean for Research and Advanced Studies and Boyd Professor Thomas R.

Klei, Ph.D. presided over the ceremony, and Dr. Peter F. Haynes, dean of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, greeted the guests. Dr. Stephen D. Gaunt, professor of veterinary clinical pathology, served as the representative of the LSU Graduate Council and conferred the degrees. **For a list of the graduates and their research projects, please go to [http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/news & events.htm#Ten Advanced Degrees](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/news_and_events.htm#Ten_Advanced_Degrees).**

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VETERINARY SURGEON RETIRES AFTER 20 YEARS WITH SVM

Dr. Giselle Hosgood, professor of veterinary surgery, joined the faculty at the LSU SVM in July 1989. She has retired and has returned with her family to Australia. Dr. Hosgood is now a professor of small animal surgery at Murdoch University in Perth, Australia. Her responsibilities will be similar to those she had at LSU—working in the teaching hospital,

teaching students and house officers, and research. The LSU SVM salutes Dr. Hosgood for her accomplishments and wishes her all the best in her future endeavors.

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NEW FACULTY



Dr. Maria Antonieta Guerrero-Plata joins the faculty in the Department of Pathobiological Sciences as an assistant professor. Dr. Guerrero-Plata comes to LSU from the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas. Her research focuses on innate immunity, dendritic cells and the effect of environmental factors on the pathogenesis of respiratory viruses.



Dr. Huiyong Wei joins the faculty in the Department of Pathobiological Sciences as an assistant professor (research). He received his PhD in Molecular Virology from the Zhongshan School of Medicine, Sun Yat-sen University (China) and his MS from Sun Yat-sen University. Dr. Wei was a postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Microbiology & Immunology at University of Illinois at Chicago. His research at LSU will focus on Identifying BHV-1 gN domain(s) necessary for TAP and gM binding, the construction of BHV-1 mutants not expressing gN or gM or that lack the gN-TAP binding domain, and the development of BHV-1 attenuated vaccine.

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LSU CANCER TREATMENT UNIT RECEIVES PATRIOTIC GIFT

A U.S. flag was flown over the Headquarters of the Multi-National Corps-Iraq in honor of the LSU SVM, the Small Animal Clinic, and the Cancer Treatment Unit. The flag was then given to the CTU in appreciation of the care and treatment received by a U.S. soldier's dog that was treated for cancer at LSU. Dr. Andy Daters (LSU 2004), instructor, is holding photographs of the dog, and Jenny Cassibry, associate clinical specialist, is holding the certificate

awarded with the U.S. flag, which is shown between them.

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UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

On July 13, at 6 p.m., the LSU SVM will host a reception for alumni and friends at the Top of the Market at Pike Place Market as part of the **American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Conference** in Seattle, Wash. **Pictured here is the alumni and friends reception at the Tropical Isle in New Orleans at the 2008 AVMA Conference.**

On November 7, the **Classes of 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004** will celebrate their milestone reunions (thirty, twenty-five, twenty, fifteen, ten and five years, respectively). These reunions will take place following the Annual Conference, which will be held on the same day. A reception for all alumni and conference attendees will take place at 5:15 p.m. at the SVM, and the Distinguished

Alumnus Award will be presented. Reunions for the Classes of 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004 will take place at 6:30 p.m. at Tiger Stadium.

For information on alumni events, contact Gretchen Morgan at gmorgan@lsu.edu or 225-578-9565 or go to [http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/svm alumni & donors.htm](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/svm_alumni_&_donors.htm) and click on Alumni Activities. LSU SVM alumni are encouraged to visit http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/alumni_resources to provide the school with their most up-to-date contact information.

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

June 18-21	LVMA Summer Meeting, Destin/Ft. Walton, Fla.
July 3	Independence Day Holiday
July 11-14	AVMA Convention, Seattle, Wash.
July 13	Alumni and Friends Reception, Top of the Market, Pike's Place Market, Seattle, Wash.

For information on these and other events, please go to the School's website at www.vetmed.lsu.edu.

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CLASSIFIED ADS FROM LSU SVM ALUMNI

Locally owned Banfield hospital in Lafayette, La. searching for a fulltime associate and a relief veterinarian. Relaxed environment practicing high quality small animal medicine and surgery. **Please call Dr. Scott Tate (LSU 1994) at 337-984-1668 or e-mail om0638@banfield.net.**

Associate position available in Hammond, LA. Salary based on experience; new graduates encouraged to apply. Compensation package includes all fees related to licensure, malpractice, and liability insurance, CE, AVMA, LVMA, and local VMA dues. **Please contact Dr. Jody Bondurant (LSU 2004) at Knight and Associates Veterinary Practice (www.hammondvet.com), 46631 River Road, Hammond, LA 70401. 985-345-0440 bondurantjb@yahoo.com**

Are you looking for career options? The USDA, Food Safety & Inspection Service is currently hiring veterinarians in Friona, Plainview, Amarillo, Lufkin, Carthage, Mount Pleasant, and Cactus, 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! **Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Beasley-McKean (LSU 1993).**

 800-370-3747, x2556  (612) 370-2377 Jennifer.McKean@fsis.usda.gov

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. New graduates welcomed, mentorship program is in place. Salary is negotiable DOE, standard benefits package offered. **Contact Dr. Laura Remsen (LSU 1990) @ 775-575-5851 or send resume to Animal Care Center, 805 E Main St., Suite D, Fernley, NV 89408. Email - animal.cc@earthlink.net.**

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This e-mail newsletter is designed to update LSU SVM alumni, faculty, staff and students, Louisiana veterinarians and the public about the School and its activities. If you do not wish to receive this publication, please reply to this e-mail and put "Unsubscribe" in the subject line. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you feel would be interested or would benefit from it. If this e-mail was forwarded to you and you would like to be added to the newsletter e-mail list, please go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu and click on "Subscribe to LSU SVM's free monthly newsletter." Thank you.

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