



LSU SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

SVM Update – December 2007

Welcome to the **December 2007** edition of the LSU SVM's e-mail newsletter. In this issue, we'll talk about the [SVM's first transcatheter closure of a PDA](#), a [new grant to research laminitis](#), [SVM faculty speaking at international conferences](#), [research dollars received by the SVM](#), the [Christmas tree donated by an alumna](#), [supporting the Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund](#), [upcoming events](#), and [classified ads](#). Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Dr. Romain Pariaut treated Bentley, a six-year-old German Shepherd, for congestive heart failure at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine using a procedure called transcatheter PDA occlusion.

LSU Performs Its First Transcatheter Closure of a PDA in a Dog

Bentley, a six-year-old German Shepherd, came to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine with congestive heart failure. He was born with a congenital defect called patent ductus arteriosus (PDA), which is an abnormal persistence of a small blood vessel, the ductus arteriosus, between the aorta and the pulmonary artery, after birth. Bentley was treated using a procedure called transcatheter PDA occlusion. This is the first time this procedure has been done on a dog at LSU. When Bentley first arrived at the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, he was suffering from pulmonary edema (fluid in the lungs). "We discussed the traditional surgical option [with the client], which involves opening the chest cavity and ligating the vessel, and cardiac catheterization," said Dr. Romain Pariaut, assistant professor of veterinary cardiology. "Using interventional cardiac catheterization is less invasive than surgery and

does not require as much recovery time." Bentley had the procedure on a Tuesday and went home the next day, though he will be on medication. **To read more about Bentley and the transcatheter procedure, click [here](#).**

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LSU Veterinarian Ralph Beadle (left) and a local farrier team to correct damage to hooves created by equine laminitis. The LSU SVM was recently awarded a grant from the National Thoroughbred Racing Association in memory of Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro to study this crippling disease.

LSU and University of Georgia Receive Grants to Research Laminitis

Two projects focusing on the equine disease laminitis will be launched soon utilizing funds raised by the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) in memory of Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro. The projects, costing slightly more than \$100,000 in total, will be conducted by researchers at Louisiana State University and the University of Georgia. The projects chosen were designed by Professor Susan Eades of Louisiana State University's School of Veterinary Medicine and Professor Douglas Allen of the University of Georgia. Dr. Eades' project will continue veterinary science's efforts to understand the specific route of

development of laminitis while testing the hypothesis that the medication doxycycline can prevent the onset of the disease and serve as a therapeutic agent for horses that contract it. ***To read more about this grant and LSU's role, click [here](#).***

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SVM Faculty in Demand at International Conferences

Members of the LSU SVM faculty are often invited to speak at international conferences. Listed below are some of our faculty's recent international presentations.

Dr. Jacqueline Davidson (Veterinary Clinical Sciences): *CanWest Veterinary Conference*, Banff, Alberta, Canada, October 2007, "Benefits of Physical Rehabilitation," "Modalities for Rehabilitation," "Therapeutic Exercise," "Assessment and Planning," "Osteoarthritis," and "Neurologic Rehabilitation;" *Thirteenth International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Symposium*, New Orleans, La., September 2007, "Rehabilitation of the ICU Patient," "Rehabilitation for Pain," "The Acute Abdomen: To Cut or Not to Cut," and "Bandaging Techniques Laboratory."

Dr. David Senior (Administration/Veterinary Clinical Sciences): *Southern European Veterinary Conference*, Barcelona, Spain, October 2007, "Managing difficult urinary tract infections."

Dr. Ashley M. Stokes (Veterinary Clinical Sciences): *4th International Laminitis Symposium* in West Palm Beach, Fla., November 2007, "Pieces of the Laminitis Puzzle: Research of the LSU SVM Equine Health Studies Program Laminitis Laboratory."

Dr. Joseph Taboada (Administration/Veterinary Clinical Sciences): *Southern European Veterinary Conference*, Barcelona, Spain, October 2007, Schering Complex Disease

Symposium, "Diagnosis and treatment of diabetic cats with concurrent hyperthyroidism" and "Approach to the vomiting cat."

Drs. Christine M. Mocklin (LSU '07), Sara K. Lyle (Veterinary Clinical Sciences), Bruce E. Eilts (VCS), E.G.H. Wouters (University of Utrecht), L.R. Gentry (Animal Science), Robert A. Godke (VCS), Dale L. Paccamonti (VCS): *4th Leipzig Expert Workshop on Equine Reproductive Medicine: The Barren Mare*, Leipzig, Germany, November 22-23, 2007, "Is the individual variation in response to post-ovulatory cloprostenol in mares due in part to timing of initiation of treatment in relation to ovulation?"

Etta A. Bradecamp (Veterinary Clinical Sciences resident), Amy Snyder (VCS resident), A. Rocha (University of Porto, Portugal), Sara K. Lyle (VCS), Jose Len (VCS resident), Bruce E. Eilts (VCS), Robert A. Godke (VCS), Dale L. Paccamonti (VCS): *5th International Conference on Equine Reproductive Medicine: The Barren Mare*, Leipzig, Germany, November 24-25, 2007, "Can time of day of ovulation be influenced by hcG?" and **Dale L. Paccamonti (VCS), E. Carnevale (Colorado State University,** "Pregnancy loss during the embryonic period."

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LSU SVM Receives Grants for Research

The School also receives numerous grants for research throughout the year. Here are some of our most recent awards.

Merck Merial Veterinary Research Award: Dr. Thomas R. Klei, associate dean for research and advanced studies, received \$20,000 for the 2008 Summer Scholars program for Veterinary Students. The award is for one year.

Grayson-Jockey Club Foundation: Dr. Susan Eades, professor of veterinary medicine, and Lee Ann Fugler, a PhD candidate in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, were awarded \$58,400 for their project entitled, "Treatment of experimentally induced laminitis in horses with doxycycline" from 1/5/08-12/31/08.

NIH/TNPRC: Dr. Joseph Francis, associate professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, was awarded \$263,727 for his project entitled, "Superoxide and Nitric Oxide interactions in the kidney" for a period of five years from 8/1/07. The prime award to TNPRC is from NIH-National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

Lafeber Co: Dr. Thomas Tully, professor of veterinary clinical sciences, was awarded \$6,030 for his project entitled, "Pharmacokinetics of voriconazole after oral administration of single and multiple doses in Hispaniolan Amazon parrots" from 11/1/07-10/31/08.

LSUHSC-Cancer Consortium: Dr. Shulin Li, associate professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, was awarded \$50,000 for one year beginning 7/1/07 for his project entitled, "Delivery of bleomycin & IL-12 via electroporation for treating spontaneous tumors."

LSUHSC-Gene Consortium: Dr. Konstantin G. Kousoulas, professor of veterinary virology and director of the Division of Biotechnology & Molecular Medicine, was awarded \$50,000 per year for two years for his project entitled, "Use of HSV-1 as cancer therapeutic agents." The project period is 11/1/07-6/30/09.

Science, Toxicology, and Technology Inc.: Dr. Konstantin G. Kousoulas was awarded \$55,000 for six months starting 11/15/07 for his project entitled, "Anti-viral effects of immuilliaa and ImmuTX nutritional supplements."

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This Christmas tree was donated to the LSU SVM by a member of the Class of 1985.

Class of 1985 Alumna Donates Tree to the LSU SVM

Many thanks to Class of 1985 alumna **Dr. Lisa S. Brabham** and her husband Ricky Peairs, owners of Windy Hills Christmas Tree Farm, for donating the tree in the SVM Courtyard to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine! Windy Hills Christmas Tree Farm, 8380 Highway 963, Ethel, Louisiana, (225) 683-6828, www.windy-hills-farm.com, windyhillsfarm@bellsouth.net.

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Support the School of Veterinary Medicine

This year, our professors and students will provide medical treatment for more than 20,000 dogs, cats, horses and other animals. Our patients get exceptional care, for the School of Veterinary Medicine is among the best in the country. Help us maintain our excellent programs and lift the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine to even more national acclaim. You can do so by giving your annual contribution to our Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund. Your gift will help us continue to attract the very best faculty and students, and to develop new innovations to help the animals we all love. **To learn more and to make a donation to the Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund, please click [here](#) or contact Pat Edwards, director of institutional advancement at pedwards@vetmed.lsu.edu or (225) 578-9870. For**

information on how you can help the SVM, contact Pat Edwards or visit our website (www.vetmed.lsu.edu) and select "Support the LSU SVM."



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Upcoming Events

December 3-14	Second Year PBL
December 8	LSU classes end
December 14	SVM semester ends
December 21	LSU Commencement
December 24-January 1	Christmas and New Year's Holidays
January 7	SVM Semester begins
January 7-22	First Year PBL
January 11	Pharmacy Day and Job Fair

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

Practice for Sale: Located in the historical city of Natchitoches, La., in NW Louisiana. Will include a 7yr. 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. Email bluejames@suddenlink.net.

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