



Welcome to the **June 2008** edition of the LSU SVM's e-mail newsletter. In this issue, we'll talk about [awards received](#) by students and faculty, the [Commencement Ceremony](#) for the Class of 2008, [advanced studies students](#) receiving their degrees, how select veterinary students learn about the [importance of biomedical research](#), big changes in the [continuing education program](#), a new book about [Molly the Pony](#), [alumni events in Destin and New Orleans](#), [supporting the School of Veterinary Medicine](#), [upcoming events](#), and [classified ads](#).



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

On May 2, the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine hosted the 34<sup>th</sup> 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). Dr. Joseph Taboada, associate dean for Student and Academic Affairs, served as Master of Ceremonies. Each year, the Master of Ceremonies is the winner of the Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award from the previous year. Dean Peter F. Haynes welcomed the guests. Over \$130,000 was distributed to students in the form of awards and scholarships. Faculty and staff awards were bestowed at the beginning of the evening. *For a list of all of the awards and recipients, [click here](#).*

[Back to the top](#)



## LSU SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE CONFERS DEGREES

The Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine conferred 83 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees at its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Veterinary Medicine Commencement Exercises on May 12. President Emeritus and Acting Chancellor William Jenkins, a former dean of the LSU SVM, gave the commencement address at the ceremony. Dr. Jenkins presided over the ceremony, and Mr. Jerry Shea, chairman of the LSU Board of Supervisors, conferred the degrees. Dr. Jessica Enes, Class of 2008, opened the ceremony with the invocation. Dr. Peter F. Haynes, dean, led the graduates in taking the Veterinarian's Oath, adopted by the American Veterinary Medical Association in 1969. Dr. Wesley Louis Lee, Class of 2008, closed the ceremony with the benediction. *For a complete list of the 2008 graduates, [click here](#).*

[Back to the top](#)

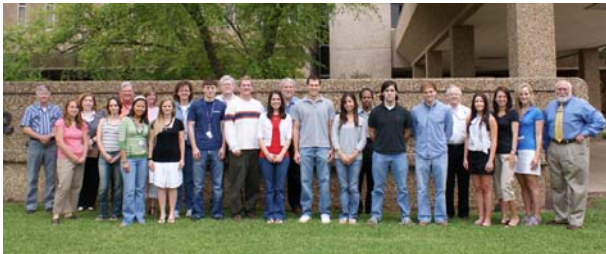


## LSU SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE CONFERS FOUR ADVANCED DEGREES

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine conferred four graduate degrees at its Diploma Distribution Ceremony for the Graduate Academic Studies Program on May 16. Associate Dean for Research and Advanced Studies and Boyd Professor Thomas R. Klei, PhD. presided over the ceremony, and Dean Peter

F. Haynes 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. **Dr. Anna Henrik Israyelyan** (Yerevan, Armenia) received her Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree from the Department of Pathobiological Sciences. **Dr. Martin Andreas Vidal** (Munich, Germany) received his Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree from the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. **Dr. David S. Migallon** (Almagro, Spain) received his Master's (M.S.) degree from the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. **Dr. Sunil Chunilal Vasanjee** (Bulawayo, Zimbabwe) received his Master's (M.S.) degree from the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. *To learn more about these graduates' degree projects and mentors, [click here](#).*

[Back to the top](#)



## VETERINARY STUDENTS LEARN THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH AS PART OF SUMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Seventeen students have been selected to participate in the LSU SVM Summer Scholars Program, an introduction to biomedical research through research-driven activities. The program is funded by the Merck-Merial Veterinary Scholar Program, a grant from the National Institutes of Health, and a fellowship from the Comparative Gastroenterology Society. The Summer Scholars Program serves to further students' learning and experiences beyond the required classroom and clinical training. Each year Merck-Merial selects veterinary schools to participate in its Animal Health Grants program, and LSU has received the funding for the seventh consecutive year. For the fifth consecutive year, students will also receive grants from the National Institute of Health (NIH) for summer study. There are only eight veterinary schools in the country with summer grant programs funded by both Merck-Merial and the NIH. The school also received a fellowship from the Comparative Gastroenterology Society. Merck-Merial will also sponsor the students' participation at the 2008 Merck-Merial Symposium on July 31-August 3, 2008, at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich., where research will be presented by students from the participating veterinary schools. To participate in the Summer Scholars program, the students developed their own research plan proposals with the guidance of a faculty member, and a faculty committee selected the participants based on the proposals. All first and second year veterinary students throughout the country and abroad had the opportunity to submit proposals. *For a list of the participating students and their research projects, [click here](#).*

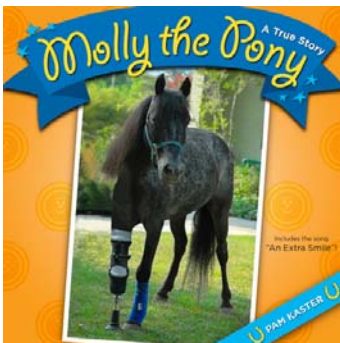
[Back to the top](#)



## BIG CHANGES FOR THE LSU SVM'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine will host the **77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians** on October 18 at the School of Veterinary Medicine in Baton Rouge, La. “The LSU SVM has made significant changes to the Annual Conference,” said Dr. Dennis McCurnin, director of the SVM’s continuing education program. “This year we are bringing in two nationally recognized speakers, Dr. Steve Marks and Dr. Sharon Kerwin, and the conference will focus on Companion Animals. We will cover farm animal and equine topics at other continuing education events throughout the year.” Dr. Marks is a clinical associate professor of critical care and internal medicine, Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, section chief of small animal medicine and director of small animal emergency services at North Carolina State University. Dr. Kerwin is a professor of small animal surgery at Texas A&M University’s College of Veterinary Medicine and Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. Eight hours of continuing education credit will be provided in two tracks so a choice of two subjects and two speakers exists each hour of the program. There will also be a continuing education program for veterinary technicians. The conference includes a reunion weekend for alumni with a reception for all alumni, the presentation of the Distinguished Alumnus Award, and a dinner for the milestone reunion classes of 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003. Other activities include a luncheon and a student job fair. **To download a conference registration brochure, click [here](#).**

[Back to the top](#)



## NEW BOOK CHRONICLES THE HEROISM OF HURRICANE PONY

Molly the pony waits. She waits in her stall. She waits during the storm. She waits for her owner to return. So begins the true story of a patient pony who is rescued from a south Louisiana barn after Hurricane Katrina and finds a new life on a farm with new animal friends. But Molly’s tale of courage does not end here. When a dog on the farm attacks Molly, her front leg is badly injured. For a pony, a damaged leg is life threatening. To the amazement of veterinarians, though, Molly rises to her new challenge. At the LSU SVM, she undergoes a rare surgery for horses: amputation of her front leg. Now fitted with a prosthetic limb, Molly relearns how to walk and embarks again on a new mission in life: making new people friends. Pam Kaster is the author of *Zydeco Goes to Horse Camp*, an editor of the Equine Facilitated Mental Health Association newsletter, and a member of Equine Photographers Network. She managed an equestrian riding program for disabled riders for three years and continues to study natural horsemanship techniques. She has been a Red Cross disaster-preparedness volunteer for twenty years and managed a Red Cross shelter during Hurricane Katrina. She lives in Zachary, Louisiana, with her husband, three horses, three dogs, and a cat. **To purchase the Molly the Pony book, go to [www.lsu.edu/lisupress](http://www.lsu.edu/lisupress).**

[Back to the top](#)



## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS IN DESTIN AND NEW ORLEANS

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine will have an exhibit booth at the [Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association](#) meeting on June 19-22 in Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. Come visit with us at our booth in the exhibit hall!

Don't forget – Alumni reception during the [American Veterinary Medical Association](#) meeting is Monday, July 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Tropical Isle on 721 Bourbon St. in the French Quarter. *For information on other upcoming alumni activities, click [here](#).*

[Back to the top](#)

## SUPPORTING THE LSU SVM

### THERE'S STILL TIME TO GIVE TO THE 2007-08 ANNUAL ADVANCE VETERINARY MEDICINE FUND!

The annual Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund is the cornerstone of advancement for the School of Veterinary Medicine. The School's long-term strategic plan sets progressive goals and objectives that will advance veterinary medicine locally, regionally and internationally. These high standards can only be met through private sector donations to enhance our resources beyond appropriations. The future of the School is dependent upon the Annual Fund.



#### **Dr. Daniel J. Hillmann Club (\$100-\$499)**

Donors who make an annual gift between \$100-\$499 are recognized as members of the Dr. Daniel J. Hillmann Club. In 1973, Dr. Hillmann was one of the first faculty members appointed to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, he is recognized as one of the finest teachers at the SVM, and he continues to teach anatomy to our veterinary students today.



#### **Dr. John D. Rhoades Club (\$500-\$999)**

Donors who make an annual gift between \$500-\$999 are recognized as members of the Dr. John D. Rhoades Club. Dr. Rhoades was on the faculty of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine from 1980-2005, and as Associate Dean of Student Affairs he touched the lives of every veterinary student during that time.



#### **Dr. William L. Jenkins Society (\$1,000-\$2,499)**

Donors who make an annual gift between \$1,000-\$2,499 are recognized as members of the Dr. William L. Jenkins Society. In 1988, Dr. Jenkins was appointed the second Dean of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. He made extraordinary contributions to LSU as Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, Chancellor of LSU, and President of the LSU System.



#### **Dr. Everett D. Besch Society (\$2,500-\$4,999)**

Donors who make an annual gift between \$2,500-\$4,999 are recognized as members of the Dr. Everett D. Besch Society. In 1988, Dr. Besch retired as the first Dean of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. He worked tirelessly for the veterinary school and in 1968 saw the Louisiana Legislature approve the establishment of the School.



#### **Dr. William H. Dalrymple Society (\$5,000-\$10,000)**

Donors who make an annual gift between \$5,000-\$10,000 are recognized as members of the Dr. William H. Dalrymple Society. Considered the "Father of Veterinary Medicine" in the south central region of the United States, Dr. Dalrymple came to LSU in 1889 as professor of comparative medicine and veterinarian of the experiment stations. Throughout his professional career, he was a member

and officer in numerous veterinary and agricultural organizations, and in 1905 was one of the charter members of the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association.

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."



[Back to the top](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

- June 19-22 [Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association](#) Summer Meeting. Destin/Ft. Walton, Fla.
- July 4 Independence Day Holiday
- July 19-23 [American Veterinary Medical Association](#) Annual Conference. New Orleans, La.
- July 21 **LSUSVM Reception at the AVMA Annual Conference.** 6:30 p.m. Tropical Isle, 721 Bourbon Street in the French Quarter, New Orleans, La.

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



[Back to the top](#)

## CLASSIFIED ADS FROM LSU SVM ALUMNI

**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 Dr. David James (LSU 1988) at [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, Del Rio, Mount Pleasant, and Plainview, 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

**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 (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](mailto:animal.cc@earthlink.net).**

[Back to the top](#)

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