



La VETerinaire

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Diagnostic Laboratory Assists Homeland Security

by Melissa H. Edmonston

The Louisiana Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (LVMDL) at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine will receive \$750,000 from the USDA as part of an effort to establish a new animal health network to aid homeland security efforts.

The LVMDL was one of only 15 state diagnostic laboratories selected to receive part of \$20 million designated to fund a rapid detection and diagnostics network, which will merge existing federal and state animal health laboratories to enhance homeland security. These efforts would provide response to animal health emergencies, including bioterrorist events, newly emerging diseases, and foreign animal disease threats.

"The introduction of foreign animal diseases such as foot and mouth, Newcastle, hog cholera, and highly pathogenic avian influenza could be devastating to our food supply and cause millions of dollars in damage. The USDA's diagnostic network will serve as a deterrent to agrobioterrorism and minimize the damage caused by any such occurrence," said Dean Michael Groves.

LVMDL Director Dr. Wayne Taylor believes LSU's lab was chosen for the program because of its strategic location on the Gulf Coast and because it has proved itself capable of providing accurate and timely diagnostic services. "I also believe that we were chosen because our immediate past dean and our present dean are internationally-known military experts on infectious diseases, and our school has a strong history of disease surveillance and prevention," he said.

Other states with labs that will receive the funds include Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The participating laboratories will assist with early detection of bioterrorist events, natural or intentional contamination of the nation's food supply, animal disease outbreaks involving agents that impact human health such as anthrax and brucellosis, and early recognition of newly emergent and economically important diseases such as West Nile virus and mad cow disease.

"To aid this rapid diagnosis initiative, we will bolster our capabilities by augmenting molecular diagnostic techniques, such as polymerase chain reaction, immunoblotting and immunohistochemistry, allowing the most specific diagnosis available," said Dr. Taylor.

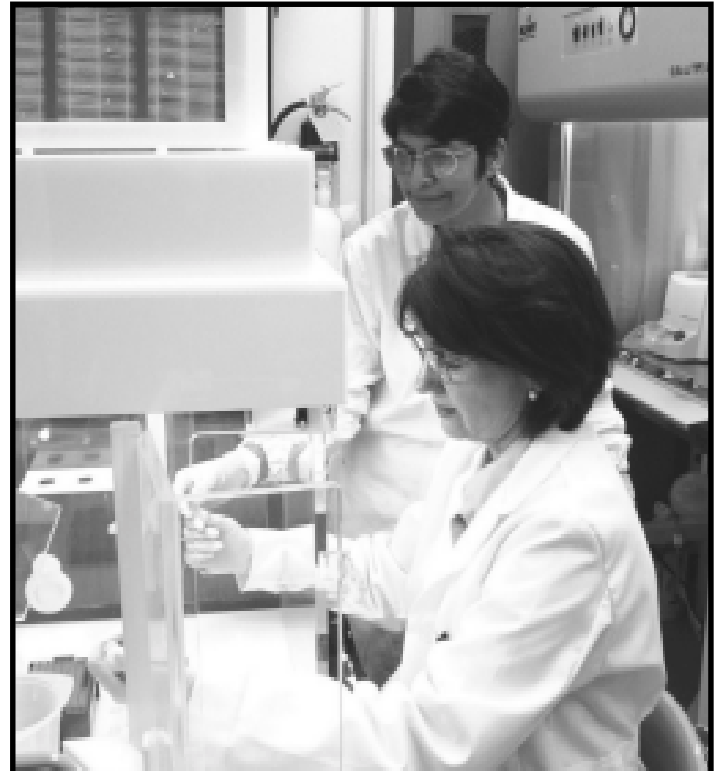
The network will also strengthen current state-based laboratory testing for export of animals and live animal products, ensure that testing meets international quality standards, and enhance surveillance for diseases of international concern to expand global markets.

"The diagnostic lab's participation in the network continues a tradition of support by the School for the nation's anti-bioterrorism efforts that predates the September 11 events," said Dr. Groves.

"This includes the development of genetic reagents for the rapid identification of the agents that cause anthrax, plague, and brucellosis, and research on the genetics of anthrax bacteria that was key to tracking the strains used in the recent U.S. attacks. Under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Justice, the School has also helped produce an emergency response course that has become the

standard for training emergency personnel on how to counter a bioterrorism occurrence. This course is currently being taught across the U.S. to police, fire, and medical personnel," he said.

The LVMDL, accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, is a full-service diagnostic laboratory that processes approximately 25,000 cases a year for private citizens and the state. It is funded through an annual agreement with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and by service-generated revenues. The LVMDL also oversees the Arbovirus Surveillance Laboratory, the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, and the Louisiana Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory.



As part of the LVMDL, Dr. Alma Roy (seated) and Durriya Sarkar will aid the USDA's efforts to assist homeland security as part of a new network of animal diagnostic laboratories.

LSU Purchases Imaging, Research Equipment

The School of Veterinary Medicine has purchased new radiographic equipment and a new scanning electron microscope with recent emergency capital outlay funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents.

The updates to the radiographic suites, valued at \$750,000, will replace the current equipment from 1985. Improvements will include the large and small animal radiograph suites and an update of the radiography/fluoroscopy (R&F) room. The large and small animal suites will continue to utilize X-ray film, while the R&F room will utilize digital imaging technology. "We will be getting some capabilities we didn't have before, but mostly we're modernizing and making things faster, more efficient, and safer," said Dr. Robert Pechman, service chief of radiology.

The large animal radiograph suite is one of the most unique suites in the world, and it will be remodeled to preserve its original integrity because its capabilities cannot be replaced. The enhancements will include replacing the X-ray generating equipment and the electronics that will drive the equipment, but will leave the unique, 18-foot, ceiling-mounted towers that move the X-ray tube and film holder.

The small animal suite will also be remodeled as a state-of-the-art X-ray room, similar to what would be found in a human hospital, including a new floating table and a more powerful X-ray generator for better image production and a much shorter exposure time.

The R&F room will also be standard to a human facility, but very progressive for a veterinary institution because it utilizes digital imaging rather than standard X-ray film. The new technology transfers the image directly to a computer where it can be manipulated or enhanced for better viewing instead of having to retake film as would be the case with X-ray film. The R&F capabilities will also allow more sophisticated images that are suitable for modern research. Of the new equipment, the R&F room will be the only digital equipment because the

radiology faculty wanted to maintain equipment and techniques that were more realistic and beneficial for the students.

The School's Microscopy Center has recently replaced its scanning electron microscope (SEM) with a state of the art, FEI Company Quanta 200 Environmental Scanning Electron Microscope, providing many features previously unavailable to scientists at the School.

While the Quanta 200 can operate as a conventional SEM to provide very high resolution images

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Annual Conference, Reunions Set for October

The 71st Annual Conference for Veterinarians, Veterinary Technicians and Support Personnel will be held October 5-6 to coincide with LSU's homecoming activities.

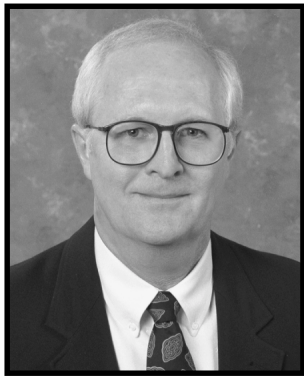
Twelve hours of continuing education will be offered, with seven hours on Saturday and five on Sunday. Saturday's program, featuring Dr. Paul Shealy (LSU 87), Dr. Kenita Rogers (LSU 82), and Dr. Allen Roussel (LSU 77), will offer short topics covering various aspects of critical care and emergency medicine. Sunday's program will include interactive labs and brunch discussions. Veterinary technicians and support personnel may attend their own program on Saturday.

All alumni are invited to the Fall Family Picnic on Friday, October 4, from 4 to 8 p.m. with special recognition for the Classes of 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, and 1997. The picnic is complimentary, but reservations are requested. A tailgate party will be held prior to the LSU vs. University of Louisiana-Lafayette football game on Saturday.

For more information on the conference, or football ticket and reunion information, contact Dr. Becky Adcock at (225) 578-9826 or adcock@vetmed.lsu.edu.

From the Dean's Desk...

In the last year, the School of Veterinary Medicine has made great progress, and the future looks bright if we can maintain our funding base. As you may recall, the AVMA Council on Education completed an abbreviated site visit last October to review the state of our finances after our two-year accreditation period expired. We received full accreditation again and the Council was very happy with the progress made toward acquiring new equipment and toward enhancements to our operating budget. The Council will continue to monitor our state funding, progress in equipment acquisition, and facility renovation. A full site visit will be scheduled for the 2004-2005 academic year.



Dean Michael G. Groves

Earlier this year we broke ground on our new Cancer Treatment Unit, expected to be complete by August. As the state's first full-service cancer center, it will offer convenient cancer services to clients, serve as a referral center for area and regional veterinarians, and assist the cancer research initiative being developed at the School.

In other good news, the Class of 2002 is the School's second consecutive class to score above the national average on the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination. This is the first time in the history of the School that two consecutive classes have achieved such success.

In addition, the School has been able to establish two new endowed funds to aid students, the John D. Rhoades Student Aid Fund for emergency situations and the Mary Bird Perkins Student Support Fund for special learning programs that are not offered here at the School. At the annual Awards and Honors Banquet in April, students received more than \$80,000 in aid, \$20,000 of which came from the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Foundation.

Our Louisiana Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory was recently selected as one of 15 state veterinary labs to become part of a USDA animal disease network that will aid homeland security. The lab will receive \$750,000 to upgrade equipment and institute new diagnostic protocols to facilitate rapid and accurate diagnosis of animal disease threats to our nation's security.

The School is also receiving new radiology

equipment and an electron microscope, funded through emergency funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents. Updates to the radiology suite will make the service one of the finest in the nation.

We still struggle to retain clinical specialists as lucrative positions in major metropolitan areas continue to lure these valuable people from academia. However, we are pleased to announce we have recently hired an ophthalmologist, Dr. Gustavo Garcia-Sanchez; a second anesthesiologist, Dr. Claudio Natalini; a theriogenologist, Dr. Sara Lyle; and a small animal surgeon, Dr. Loretta Bubenik.

In the basic sciences, we are faced with the attrition of the School's founding faculty, caused by a number of retirements that will continue over the next few years. As we begin to replace these valuable individuals, we are attempting to energize our research program. We have already welcomed tumor biologist Dr. Dario Marchetti, formerly of the M.D. Andersen Cancer Center in Houston, who brings with him a five-year NIH grant, and we are in the process of recruiting five additional faculty members for our two basic science departments.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to those of you who have so generously supported the School with your time and money. Many of you wrote letters to legislators and various educational boards that resulted in our receiving budget enhancements. Still others of you have volunteered to teach and train students either at LSU or in your clinic. Our alumni have supported the annual fund in record numbers and a number of large gifts have been received from friends and alumni of the School. Still others of you have volunteered to

help us with special events like the New Orleans Gala, Open House, and the Kentucky Derby Party. I am convinced that our success over the last three years is due in large part to the backing we have received from our alumni, regional practitioners, and friends of the School.

New Equipment...

Continued from page 1

of specimen surfaces, it is also capable of operation at much higher pressures. "Higher pressure operation allows investigators to view specimens that have not undergone the drastic specimen preparation required for standard SEM," said Dr. William Henk, director of the Microscopy Center. For example, hydrated or frozen specimens that have not received a conductive metallic coating can be observed.

The new instrument also adds analytical capabilities that were not previously available. The new backscattered electron and energy dispersive X-ray detectors are able to produce quantitative and qualitative information about the elemental composition of samples and are able to produce high resolution maps of how the various elements are distributed in the sample.

"While morphologists, anatomists, microbiologists, and pathologists have always found the SEM a useful tool, the new instrument expands that utility and adds novel capabilities, including the ability to analyze the distribution and composition of very small particles on respiratory or environmental surfaces," said Dr. Henk.



A Moment in the History of Veterinary Medicine in Louisiana

A Series by Dean Emeritus Everett D. Besch



The evolution of veterinary medicine in Louisiana, including that of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, was influenced by the increasing emphasis on domestic animal health; by the 1862 Morrill Act establishing the Land Grant College System; by the 1874 opening of the Louisiana A&M College in New Orleans; by the 1887 Hatch Act creating the State Agricultural Experiment Stations, which mandated appointing a veterinarian to the staff of the station; by the 1889 appointment of William H. Dalrymple, VS, MRCVS to the LAAES; and by the opening of the LSU Veterinary Infirmary in the old U.S. Armory, now located by the state capitol.

Dr. Dalrymple became active in organized veterinary medicine in the early 1890's, involved other Louisiana veterinarians in national affairs, remained cognizant of increasing emphasis on veterinary medical education programs at other state universities, and in 1898 published the LAAES pamphlet, "Shall We Have a School of Veterinary Science?" Other dates of importance:

February 1905 A group of Louisiana veterinarians met at LSU to establish the Louisiana State Veterinary Medical Association.

July 1908 The Louisiana Legislature authorized the establishment of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. (The first state board was given February 9, 1909.)

May 1948 House Resolution No. 72 "To create and establish a School of Veterinary Science" was introduced in the legislature; it died in committee.

July 1952 Act No. 617 "To establish a School of Veterinary Medicine" at LSU was passed with construction funds and annual appropriations for operation (LSU administration did not respond).

July 1954 Act No. 617 was amended to establish a veterinary research center at LSU.

August 1962 LSU Board of Supervisors (in a responsive move) resolved to establish a School of Veterinary Medicine in Baton Rouge.

1963-1965 Passage of the federal Health Professions Education Assistance Act (1963), organizing grants for facilities for health professions education; veterinary medicine became eligible in 1965.

1963-1967 The LVMA, with agricultural associations, cattlemen, horse breeders, and other interested groups, lobbied to establish a LSU School of Veterinary Medicine.

February 1967 The LSU Board reaffirmed the 1962 resolve.

1967-1975 The Louisiana Legislature authorized the establishment, equipping, and construction of a School of Veterinary Medicine at LSU through seven separate acts.

April 1968 The dean of veterinary medicine was appointed and the program defined.

1969-1971 Department heads and core faculty were appointed.

November 1972 HPEA construction grants approved for \$10,111.

April 1973 Notice to proceed with construction of Veterinary Medicine Building.

January 1974 Instruction began in interim facilities.

November 1975 Interim Veterinary Clinic opened; all clinics in operation.

April 1977 School received full accreditation from AVMA Council on Education prior to graduation of first class and while in interim facilities. LSU remains the only veterinary school to ever achieve this distinction.

May 1977 Graduation of first class of veterinarians.

May 1978 Move from interim facilities to Veterinary Medicine Building.

LSU School of Veterinary Medicine

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Michael G. Groves, *Dean*

Dr. Peter F. Haynes,
Executive Associate Dean

Dr. Thomas R. Klei,
Associate Dean for Research and Advanced Studies

Dr. Joseph Taboada,
Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs

Melissa H. Edmonston, *Editor*

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Today's Veterinarians: A Look at Information About the Profession

by Melissa H. Edmonston

Numerous trends and issues are surfacing in the veterinary medical profession. Some stand out more than others, but overall the profession has changed



significantly since the School of Veterinary Medicine opened in 1973. The following is a look at current issues that are relevant to the School and practicing veterinarians.

Aspiring Veterinarians

Although the number of veterinary schools in North America has remained relatively constant over the past 20 years, the number of veterinary applications each year has dramatically increased. According to the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC), in 1999 there were 24,448 applications for 2,301 first-year positions. Applications for LSU's Class of 2001 reached 1,085 as compared to 247 applicants for the Class of 1981.

"The difference today is that most veterinary schools are accepting out-of-state students, and students are applying to schools beyond their home state. We made that change about seven years ago, and since then we are receiving more than 1,000 applications for each class," said Dr. Joseph Taboada, associate dean for student and academic affairs. For example, the Class of 2006 will have representatives from 11 states, three from Florida alone. The number of Louisiana applicants has remained relatively constant over the years.

Student Diversity

The increase of women shows a staggering difference from past classes. For example, the 2005 class is comprised of 64 women and 22 men, and the 2006 class will similarly be 64:20. This demographic switch is consistent with veterinary schools across the U.S. as the number of female applicants increase each year. According to a June 9 article in the *New York Times*, since the late 1990's, more than 70 percent of applicants to veterinary schools have been women, whereas in the 1960's, only five percent of students were women. "Our class reflects the applicant pool. We're accepting so many more women because so many women are applying, and the number of male applicants is falling," said Dr. Taboada.

"Why the applicant pools are changing is a matter of great speculation. The health profession in general has experienced this shift, but maybe not as dramatically as veterinary medicine," he said.

According to Dr. Taboada, there are two popular theories that have surfaced about these changes. One is that men who will have families to support are not applying to veterinary school because of the traditionally lower salaries in veterinary medicine. Others believe that veterinary medicine is sometimes viewed as a good part-time career for women who will raise families. Both might account for the changes, but no one knows for sure.

The applicant pool also reflects the decreasing



interest of large animal practice. "We only have about 20 percent of any incoming class interested in pursuing careers in large animal medicine," he said. Both Dr. Taboada and Dr. Dennis McCurnin, director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics, believe that those interests will continue decreasing as the number of exclusive large animal practitioners also decreases.

The lack of minority students in veterinary medicine is of major concern among professionals and educators. Dr. Taboada says that the schools are conscious of creating student diversity and proactively seeking ways to increase minority

were highly satisfied with incomes at levels that male veterinarians were much less satisfied; income differences between males and females could not be explained by practice ownership, employment, business practices, years in practice, and hours worked; and the average female practice owner made about 30 percent less than a male counterpart, regardless of experience.

Students and Salaries

"Today, the average debt load for a student is \$68,000. I advise them early that until loans are paid, they probably will not be able to buy into or purchase a practice," said Dr. McCurnin. He does point out that although student debt is high, the average debt load for Louisiana graduates is slightly less than the national average.

Louisiana practitioners frequently question salary averages in the state and nation. "In the

last few years, Louisiana starting salaries have come up to the national average," he said. For 2002, the Louisiana average was \$47,988.

"With their enormous debt to consider, students are more prepared for job offers and are more sensitive to economic issues," he said. He has noticed that students today will interview at numerous practices and receive several offers before

making a final decision. He also notices that they make budgets, knowing exactly how much salary is needed, and they are much more likely to negotiate a job offer, especially female students. "Practitioners do not see negotiation as an important step, but it is to our students as they try to find the right practice to join," said Dr. McCurnin.

Beyond salary, practitioners also frequently ask about hiring new graduates, and to

him, education for practitioners and students about the hiring process is essential. Through such discussions, Dr. McCurnin is concerned that practitioners are asking illegal questions in the interview, they are inappropriately asking students to set the salary, and they are putting pressure on the students for a fast decision. He will address such issues in "How to Attract and Hire a New Graduate," at the School's 71st Annual Conference October 6.

"The success of our students' careers usually depends upon their first job and the type of experience that they receive while at that practice," he said.

2002 SVM SALARY DATA*

Salary Range for the Class of 2002	\$37,000-87,000
Average Louisiana Salary (2002)	\$47,988+benefits
Average Out-of-State Salary (2002)	\$55,858+benefits
Average Debt Load for La. Students (2002)	\$63,438
National Average Debt Load	\$67,819

*Obtained from self-reporting by students

applications. According to the AAVMC, in 1999 only eight percent of the 9,055 total students enrolled in veterinary schools were minorities.

"When we do have qualified minority applicants, all the schools vie for them," Dr. Taboada said. "African-American applicants are especially lacking. For the Class of 2006 we had fewer than five African-Americans applicants from the entire pool.

That is definitely not representative of our state or national demographics," he said. Of those five, one was admitted. Most of the other applicants went to other schools where scholarships and other incentives made it difficult for LSU to compete.

Dr. Taboada also notices other changes among today's applicants compared to applicants even 10 years ago. For one thing, he thinks that their grades are much higher and that they are probably better prepared as students. He has also noticed that they have less experience working with a veterinarian or even with animals, but that they seem to have a realistic view of the economics of the profession. "Most of our applicants seem to have a better idea about what their situation will be when they graduate, and that has not always been the case," he said. Dr. McCurnin agrees that most do have a more realistic view of economic issues, but that most still do not understand the long-term commitment of paying back student loans.



Women in the Profession

The *New York Times* article also cited that according to the Employment Policy Foundation, the number of female veterinarians since 1991 has doubled to 24,356, while the number of male veterinarians has fallen 15 percent. This follows the national trend where participation of women in the workforce has grown from 32 percent in 1950 to more than 60 percent today. With this increase of women, Dr. McCurnin notes that pay disparity is a concern in the profession. "While the gap has closed in recent years, there are still real differences in pay between men and women, and we must continue addressing this pay issue," he said.

The AVMA presented these issues through the "Executive Summary of the Brakke Management and Behavior Study" in the August 2000 issue of *JAVMA*. Its significant findings were that female veterinarians

AVMA FIRST YEAR EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FROM 2000*

Starting Salary Range	Percentage
-\$23,000	3.2
\$23,000-\$26,999	2.1
\$27,000-\$30,999	1.5
\$31,000-\$34,999	2.6
\$35,000-\$38,999	13.7
\$39,000-\$42,999	32.3
\$43,000-\$46,999	24.4
\$47,000-\$50,999	13.7
\$51,000-\$54,999	2.6
\$55,000-\$58,999	2.5
\$59,000+	1.4

*Obtained from www.avma.org/cim/vstat3.htm

Researcher Studies the Effect of Viral Infection on Airway Diseases

by Melissa H. Edmonston

Researchers in the School of Veterinary Medicine are investigating the effect of viral infections on the immune response of neonatal foals, specifically if exposure to influenza virus reduces the risk for developing recurring airway obstruction (RAO) later in life.

"This study is an evolution of many things we've been investigating to understand equine airway disease. It's become pretty obvious that RAO disorders are a result of allergic reactions," said Dr. David Horohov, professor of veterinary immunology. "With this study, we're hoping to provide insight into the consequence of early viral exposure and the tendency of horses to develop allergic immune response in their lungs," said Dr. Horohov.

Fifteen to 20 percent of horses worldwide suffer from RAO, a condition similar to human asthma, representing a significant impact on the equine population and industry. While RAO typically affects older horses, younger horses may have a less severe form of the disease. There is also evidence of a relationship between other inflammatory airway disease in young performance horses and RAO in older horses.

Although it is believed that RAO develops from allergic reactions, researchers still question why the other 80 percent of horses worldwide are not susceptible to the allergic airway response even though they may be exposed to the same allergens.

It is currently believed that exposure to infectious agents early in life may help prevent later allergic complications. In other related studies, heavily parasitized horses were protected, while other horses were more susceptible to the development of allergic airway response. According to Dr. Horohov, this is similar to what may be seen in humans in underdeveloped countries.

"Asthma problems were not typical in underdeveloped countries until the incidence of parasitism and other infectious diseases was reduced through the use of modern drugs and vaccinations," he said. It has also become clear through research that the programming of children for allergic diseases happens early on, and it is believed a similar situation occurs in horses to predispose airway problems.

The study will focus on the immune function of the foal's respiratory system with two approaches.

The first part of the study will focus on the immunologic capability of the foal's lung during the first year of life. The second part will determine what effect a viral infection will have on the lung's immune response.

Drs. Dale Paccamonti, Dennis French and Ralph Beadle from the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences are coinvestigators of the study. This study is one of 22 research projects sponsored this year by the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation of Lexington, Ky., which funds equine health research. Dr. Horohov received \$57,680 for

Cancer Unit Prepares for Research and Services

The School's new Cancer Treatment Unit will open this fall offering state-of-the-art clinical treatment for cancer in animals, as well as cutting-edge research in comparative medicine. It will operate as a stand-alone service within the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics.

In addition to providing the best in cancer treatment for animals in the region and the best education to veterinary students, residents, and practicing veterinarians, the unit will work to aid better understanding of the biology of cancer in all species, including humans.

The CTU will fulfill these missions with an exceptional staff, clinical treatment, and equipment. Drs. Neal and Glenna Mauldin will head the unit as veterinary oncologists and Dr. David Hunley (LSU 01) will serve as the medical oncology resident. Tammy Moreau, medical oncology nurse, and Maura Egan, oncology research associate, will provide technical support to the unit. A radiation oncology resident, nurse, and technician will be added in the near future.

The stand-alone facility and improved services will allow the Mauldins to conduct clinical research that has not been possible in the past. The Mauldins are involved in many laboratory and clinical research projects, and are in need of participants for ongoing clinical trials. Studies include analyzing and understanding the effect of altering blood supply to tumors by inhibiting angiogenesis, the process by which malignant cells promote blood vessel growth, as well as novel studies on breast cancer in cats and dogs.

The unit is seeking cats with mammary gland tumors and oral squamous cell carcinoma, as well as

the first year of study and will receive \$70,000 for the second year.

This is the second study Dr. Horohov has conducted through the assistance of the Grayson-Jockey Club. The first study explored summer pasture-associated obstructive pulmonary disorder, a form of equine RAO that affects horses in the southern United States. He determined that the disorder is a result of an allergic response to inhaled allergens. The current study hopes to identify immunological events that lead to the allergic response in the affected horses.

dogs with previously treated, relapsed lymphoma, non-resectable and/or metastatic oral melanoma, and non-resectable mast cell tumors. Veterinarians with patients that might fit the mentioned criteria may contact Gaye Gomila, clinical research associate, at (225) 578-9526, or Maura Egan at (225) 578-9548 to discuss qualifications for the study.

The clinical treatment for the CTU will include chemotherapy, surgery, and radiotherapy, one of only a few facilities in the United States and the south to offer a full-service cancer facility for animals. Radiotherapy will be administered using cutting-edge technology of the Varian Clinac 600C, which is able to direct high-energy radiation to the tumor while sparing adjacent normal tissues. The 600C is computer controlled and has a multileaf collimator that conforms the shape of the radiation field to the shape of the tumor.

Advanced computer treatment planning is also part of the CTU's new expertise. It works through a Computed Tomography (CT) scanner, which sends the data from the scan to a computer that reconstructs a 3-D image and then begins working out a solution for the radiotherapy. Once the optimal treatment plan is finalized, the multileaf collimator of the Varian 600C simultaneously facilitates the movement of the machine, conformation to the tumor field, and administration of the appropriate dose of radiation.

"The capabilities of the multileaf collimator and the computer planning makes our unit unique from a veterinary standpoint," said Dr. Neal Mauldin. "As of now, we know of no other veterinary institutions in the U.S. with these capabilities."

2002 Funded Research

Dr. Lais Costa, Ph.D. student in Comparative Biomedical Sciences, received \$5,000 from AAEP for "Bronchoalveolar Lavage, Arterial and Venous Concentrations of Endothelin-1 in Horses Affected with Summer Pasture-Associated Obstructive Pulmonary Disease."

Dr. Martin Hugh-Jones, professor of epidemiology and community health, received \$26,013 for an interdisciplinary program, "Assessment and Remediation of Public Health Impacts Due to Hurricane and Major Flooding Events," funded by the Board of Regents Health Excellence Fund.

Dr. John Malone, professor of veterinary parasitology, received \$34,587 from International Fertilizer Development Center for "Spatial Decision Support System and Control of Schistosomiasis in Africa." He also received \$20,000 from the Merck-Merial Foundation to conduct the student program, Merck-Merial Animal Health Grants Programs.

Dr. Rebecca McConnico, assistant professor of veterinary medicine, received \$68,261 from Grayson-Jockey Research Club Foundation for "Colonic Pathophysiology in Horses Administered Phenylbutazone."

Students Participate in Summer Scholars Program

Eight veterinary students will participate in the Merck-Merial Summer Scholars Program, an introduction to biomedical research through project funding and research-driven activities.

Each year Merck-Merial selects veterinary schools to participate in its program, and this is the third year LSU has received the funding. Merck-Merial will provide \$4,000 stipends to each student, in addition to \$1,000 for research supplies. The company will also sponsor the students' participation at the Merck-Merial Symposium at Purdue University in August.

As in the past, LSU will use the stipends to support individual student research projects, but a seminar schedule and instructional activities have been added to the individual projects. The summer program and research activities will be facilitated at the veterinary school.

"There is a broad range of opportunities available to veterinarians in biomedical research, and our program will introduce our students to those opportunities," said Dr. Thomas Klei, associate dean for research and advanced studies.

The Merck-Merial scholars and their program titles are as follows:

Emily Dahlgran (2005), "Antimicrobial Resistant Microbes in Wildlife." Her faculty adviser

is Dr. Mark Mitchell.

Darrell Dawsey (2005), "The Efficacy of Killed Equine Influenza Vaccine Versus Attenuated Live Equine Influenza Vaccine in Geriatric Horses." His faculty advisers are Drs. David Horohov and Dennis French.

Lana Gallegos (2005), "Antiviral Properties of Surfactant Associated Protein d in Bronchoalveolar Lavage Fluid of Young Foals." Her faculty adviser is Dr. David Horohov.

Meaghan Gilhooly (2005), "The Ability of a Nitroglycerin Transdermal System to Deliver Nitric Oxide to the Equine Digital Vasculature." Her faculty adviser is Dr. Susan Eades.

Harvey Kent (2005), "West Nile Virus in Reptiles." His faculty adviser is Dr. Mark Mitchell.

Katy Parr (2004), "In vitro Effects of Reproductive Hormones on Replication of *Bartonella henselae*." Her faculty adviser is Dr. Kathy O'Reilly.

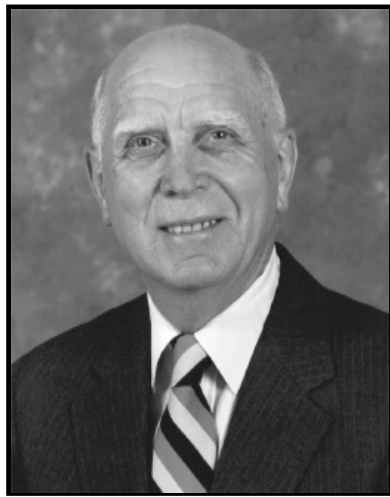
Clint Waddell (2005), "Expression of Canine Tumstatin and its Effects on Angiogenesis in Veterinary Cancers." His faculty adviser is Dr. Neal Mauldin.

Shawn Wilson (2004), "In vitro Characterization of Bronchial Responses to Neurokinin-A in Normal Horses and Those with COPD." His faculty adviser is Dr. C.S. Venugopal.

La VET Salutes

School Remembers Dr. Charles Titkemeyer

Dr. Charles W. Titkemeyer, first department head of Anatomy and Fine Structure in the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, died July 17 after a lengthy illness. As the second department head and fourth faculty member hired for the School, Dr. Titkemeyer played an important and influential role in the development of the School.



Dr. Charles W. Titkemeyer

A native of Rising Star, Ind., Dr. Titkemeyer attended Purdue University and served his country during World War II as an Army Air Force navigator. He participated in important air raids such as the second Berlin air raid, the Wiener Newstadt, Austria air raid, and the famous Polesi oil field air raid in Romania. He enjoyed the distinction of seven campaign stars on his European Theater Ribbon, as well as holding the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal.

After the war, Dr. Titkemeyer returned to the U.S. and was admitted to the College of Veterinary Medicine at Ohio State University. In June of 1947 he married Mary Agnes Hoferkamp. The Titkemeyers had two sons and numerous grandchildren, and they were avid ballroom dancers.

For 20 years, Dr. Titkemeyer served on the faculty at Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, progressing through all faculty ranks to professor. He also contributed significantly to international veterinary medical education through consulting work to the University of Indonesia, assisting with the planning of a new veterinary college in Nigeria, and serving as a

visiting professor to the University of Guelph in Ontario. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve in 1966.

To Dean Emeritus Everett D. Besch, Dr. Titkemeyer was an invaluable team member in the development, organization, and administration of LSU's program. "Few individuals have the opportunity to develop an idea or concept, to see that idea become a reality, and then watch it achieve excellence," said Dean Besch.

Besides organizing and developing the program and curriculum for his department and recruiting faculty members, Dean Besch recalls Dr. Titkemeyer's commitment to the construction of the building and his commitment to directing the Admissions Committee for many years. "I always said that as long as I was at LSU, Dr. Titkemeyer would oversee admissions because it was so important to him," said Dean Besch.

He is also remembered for having a strong impact on the students and the teaching process. "Teaching was Dr. Titkemeyer's focus and he wanted to ensure the students received a great education. It is unusual to find a department head who devoted as much time to the students as he did," said Dr. Daniel Hillmann, anatomy professor hired by Dr. Titkemeyer in 1973.

Overall, he had a considerable influence on the LSU program and the direction of veterinary medical education in Louisiana before he retired in 1987. He remained an influential figure to the School and maintained a close relationship for many years with Dean Besch and the other core faculty of the School.

A memorial service was held to honor Dr. Titkemeyer on July 27 at Ingleside United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge. Mrs. Titkemeyer has requested that donations be made in memory of her husband to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Anyone wishing to make a memorial donation may do so through a check made payable to the LSU Foundation, referencing his name on the memo line. Please mail donations to: Office of Development, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

Dr. Joanne Tetens Receives Prestigious Award

Dr. Joanne Tetens, former emergency equine surgeon and Ph.D. student in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, was recognized May 29 as the recipient of the LSU Alumni Association Distinguished Dissertation Award in Science, Engineering, and Technology.

Dr. Tetens was recognized for her dissertation, "Systemic and Colonic Hemodynamic and Vasomotor Responses to Adenosine Triphosphate in Horses." A Distinguished Dissertation Award was also given to an individual in the arts, humanities, and social sciences field. She received \$1,000 and a certificate of award at the annual ceremony hosted by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, the Council on Research, and the LSU Graduate School. The award has been given for the last 19 years.

Each year, all LSU colleges and departments are asked to submit nominations for the award based on its number of doctoral candidates from the previous year. The School of Veterinary Medicine selected Dr. Tetens as its nominee to represent the School, and then two committees appointed by the Graduate School reviewed all nominees from across campus and selected Dr. Tetens as the recipient of the Science, Engineering, and Technology category.

Dr. Tetens' major professor, Dr.

Rustin Moore, professor of equine surgery, wrote a nomination letter highlighting her accomplishments. "Her productivity as a graduate student was exceptional in terms of the quality and quantity of work she completed. I believe Dr. Tetens' dissertation is of the highest quality and represents a tremendous amount of sound basic biomedical science that has potential clinical applicability in equine veterinary medicine," said Dr. Moore.

Dr. Tetens currently practices equine surgery at a private practice in Vermont.



Dr. Joanne Tetens, recipient of the Distinguished Dissertation Award, Dr. Kevin Smith, vice chancellor for research and graduate studies, and Dr. Rustin Moore, professor of equine surgery, attended a reception to recognize Dr. Tetens. Photo courtesy of Prather Warren, LSU University Relations.

Awards and Honors

Dr. Utah Cox, professor of veterinary bacteriology, was elected treasurer of the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association, and he will serve a three-year term as a member on the Board of Directors.

Dr. Martin Hugh-Jones, professor of epidemiology and community health, was selected for the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC).

Dr. Javier Nevarez, zoological medicine intern, **Dr. Glenn Pettifer**, assistant professor of veterinary anesthesiology, and **Dr. Mark Mitchell**, assistant professor of veterinary clinical sciences, were published as the Anesthesia Case of the Month in the April 1 issue of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*.

Dr. Laura Peycke, small animal surgery resident, received the Best Poster Award at the Veterinary Orthopedic Society Meeting in Park City, Utah for her work on the Harris Knotter.

Annual Faculty/Staff Awards

The following faculty were recognized in April at the Annual Awards and Honors Banquet and the Annual Staff Awards:

Dr. David Horohov (PBS), Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence

Dr. Rustin Moore (VCS), SVM Faculty Distinguished Scholar Award

Dr. Amy Grooters (VCS), Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award

Thaya Guedry (PBS), Outstanding Achievement Award

Deanna Dugan (LVMDL), Administrative Support Award

Zhi-Ling Wang (DLAM), Operations Management Award

Vicki Dickson (VTH&C), IAMS-Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics Award

Samuella Frazier (VCS), Academic Support Award

Rob Poston (LVMDL), Technical Management Award.

Phi Zeta Society Inductees

The following individuals were inducted into the Society of Phi Zeta in April:

Dr. Marvene Augustus (VCS)

Edwin Brodsky (2003)

Kathryn Camp (LSU 02)

Amanda Casterlin (LSU 02)

Dr. Lais R.R. Costa (CBS)

Amanda L. Evans (LSU 02)

Emily Fournet (2003)

Amanda Fulmer (2003)

Dr. J. Jill Heatley (VCS)

Dr. Ashley M. Stokes Holm (LSU 01)

Kathy Kudish (LSU 02)

Stephen Lee (LSU 02)

Kirk J. Maurer (LSU 02)

Rebecca F. Maurer (LSU 02)

Raina Perez (2003)

Jennifer A. Ponti (2003)

Chidambaram M. Ramaswamy (PBS)

Jason St. Romain (LSU 02)

Dr. Marilyn Rumbaugh (VCS)

Carrie M. Schultz (2003)

Jessica Toepfer (LSU 02)

Mia Winters (LSU 02)

La VET Alumni

Dr. Balsamo Aids Health, Bioterrorism Efforts

Dr. Gary Balsamo (LSU 81) has always had a strong interest in public health, even though he was unable to professionally pursue that interest until almost 20 years after finishing veterinary school.

Today Dr. Balsamo wears many hats as the State Public Health Veterinarian and Assistant State Epidemiologist in the Louisiana Office of Public Health, positions he started in January 2002.

"I never know what my day will be like. I might have meetings and certain projects planned, but the whole day can change immediately with a call or report that will take priority," he said.

As part of the Office of Infectious Disease and Surveillance, he responds to problems and investigations of food-borne diseases, seafood contamination, and zoonotic diseases, supervising the Houma, Thibodaux, and Morgan City areas. Dr. Balsamo also oversees the state's arboviral program, monitoring St. Louis and Eastern Equine encephalitis and West Nile virus. He also is part of the state's medical response to bioterrorism efforts because the Office of Public Health (OPH) is charged with leading the state's medical efforts related to bioterrorism, and the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (DAF) is charged with matters relating to reportable animal diseases and responses to agricultural terrorism.

Although many of these responsibilities deal with human health issues, one of his biggest projects involves veterinarians and how to include them in Louisiana's newest public health effort, a Web-based reporting system for bioterrorist and public health information. Dr. Balsamo and State Veterinarian Dr. Maxwell Lea are working to develop the needed coordination between numerous groups and to involve veterinarians in these efforts.

"The federal government released a lot of money to combat bioterrorism after September 11, but there is virtually no agency coordination to get the job done. There are numerous duplicate efforts at various agencies in Louisiana, but veterinarians are nowhere in the loop," said Dr. Balsamo.

The Reportable Disease Database is the current system that allows physicians, EMS personnel, and soon, parish coroners, to report, track, and receive information on diseases that share characteristics of bioterrorist agents. According to Dr. Balsamo, it is an effective Web-based system that only lacks the participation of veterinarians, and including them would be very feasible.

Since the system is already in place and will not require additional money or personnel to supervise it, it is only a matter of finalizing the new information on the Web site and bringing together the appropriate government agencies, as well as commitment from the veterinary community.

Each veterinarian would have their own user ID



Dr. Gary Balsamo (LSU 81) is the new State Public Health Veterinarian and the Assistant State Epidemiologist for the Louisiana Office of Public Health.

and password to access and report information regarding reportable diseases, environmental toxins, zoonotic diseases, and infections with possible bioterrorist agents. It would be a cooperative system shared by the DAF and the OPH. Veterinarians could check the site daily or weekly for important updates and news.

Dr. Balsamo believes the site could also be used to obtain information from veterinarians about general practice issues and could provide an online forum for them to share information and advise with their colleagues. He believes this is an especially important component because veterinarians will want and need a Web site that is useful in numerous ways, not just for aiding bioterrorism education and surveillance, but also to access information about changes in drug dosages, updated clinical procedures, and announcements of events important to the veterinary community.

"Louisiana is ahead of the curve because we already have Web-based reporting for hospitals and EMS personnel to report any unusual illnesses that might be a result of bioterrorist agents. But, these efforts are only useful long-term if we can get the veterinarians to also adopt this system," he said.

Before beginning his new position, Dr. Balsamo practiced small animal medicine in Morgan City for 20 years. In 1998 he received a Master of Public Health and Tropical Medicine from Tulane University. "I thought that I might want to go overseas and do public health and tropical medicine. I came across this opportunity and couldn't turn it down because it involved a lot of things I really enjoy," he said.

In Memorium

Dr. Kirk Daniel Maestri (LSU 79) of Slidell, La. died June 22, 2002 of liver failure. Dr. Maestri was born in New Orleans, and his veterinary practice was in River Ridge, La. A funeral mass was held June 25, and burial was in Metairie Cemetery. Dr. Maestri is survived by his wife, Mary Joelyn "Jody" Maestri; a daughter, Jeanette Maestri; a brother, Donald Maestri; and a sister, Jill Maestri Lee.

Alumni Tracks

Congratulations to the following alumni who recently assumed elected positions for the Southeast Louisiana Veterinary Association in New Orleans:

Dr. Greg Rich (LSU 85) *President*

Dr. Brian Melius (LSU 83) *President-elect*

Dr. Amy Grayson (LSU 98) *Treasurer*

Dr. Jane Bryan (LSU 93) *Past president*

Dr. Ned Henry (LSU 98) *Board Member*

Dr. Cherie Messina (LSU 90) *Board Member*

Dr. Pam Mitchell (LSU 92) *Board Member*

Dr. Andrea Larroque (LSU 97)

Board Member

Class of 1984

Dr. Andy Michaud of Winter Park, Fla. is running for Florida Commissioner of Agriculture in the Florida Democratic primary scheduled for September 10, 2002.

Class of 1992

Dr. Shelly Phillips received a Masters of Public Health in 1998 and is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. She is currently employed by the USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, and is living in Kentucky.

Baby Vets

Class of 1989

Dr. Carla Sommardahl and husband Chad Clabough announce the birth of their daughter, Jewel Sommar Clabough (8 lbs., 12 oz., and 20.75 inches), born April 8, 2002.

Dr. Virginia Fason Wright and husband John announce the birth of their "exquisite" daughter, Sarah McKinley (7 lbs., 15 oz., and 21.5 inches), born March 8, 2002.

Class of 1993

Dr. Hoyt Cheramie, wife Dr. Lesley Cheramie (UT 95), and big sister Emily Claire, 3 years old, are happy to announce the birth of Eli Christopher (8 lbs., 4 oz., and 21 inches) born November 29, 2001.

Class of 1996

Dr. Bonnie Lee Cate and husband John are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail Marie (7 lbs., 15 oz.), born November 7, 2001.

Classes of 1996 and 1998

Drs. Curt Ritchie (96) and **Jennifer Ritchie (98)** announce the birth of Caroline Frances (6 lbs., 7.5 oz., and 19.5 inches) born April 10, 2002.

Class of 1999

Dr. Doug Mullins and wife Shelly are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter, Lyndie Rachelle, born December 9, 2001. She joins big sister, Mallie Ruth Ann, age 2.

SVM Alumni...Drop Us A Line!

Tell us your good news! Also, if your address has changed in recent months, please be sure to notify us through the contact information listed below.

Name _____ Graduation Year _____

Clinic Address _____

Work Phone _____ Work Fax _____ Email _____

News Item _____

Mail to: Office of Public Programs, School of Veterinary Medicine,
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.



La VET Development

School Establishes Besch Professorship

The establishment of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine was due in large part to the leadership and foresight of the founding Dean, Dr. Everett D. Besch.



*Dean Emeritus
Everett D. Besch*

Under his leadership and guidance, an excellent faculty, curriculum, and facility were formulated and assembled.

Because of his ability and guidance as a constructing and academic dean, the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine was the first program in veterinary medical education to receive full accreditation prior to graduation of its first class and the presence of a permanent facility. That foundation of excellence has continued today, as the School has remained fully accredited.

Dean Emeritus Besch, a native of Texas and a graduate of Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine, has a past rich in service. A few of his many accomplishments include naval service during World War II; veterinary medical education consulting to the U.S. Army Surgeon General; and service as the LVMA Alternate Delegate to the AVMA House of Delegates, past president of the AVMA Foundation Board of Directors, and chair of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges Council of Deans.

Dr. Besch was professor and head of the Department of Veterinary Parasitology and Public Health at Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine before coming to LSU. He served as dean at LSU for 20 years and remained on faculty for three years after his retirement.

For the above reasons, Professor and Associate Dean Emeritus Dr. John Rhoades has organized a campaign to fund a professorship honoring Dr. Besch. The Everett D. Besch Distinguished Professorship in Veterinary Medicine will be the third professorship at the School of Veterinary Medicine and will fund support of young faculty, encouraging them to follow in Dr. Besch's footsteps.

"Dr. Besch is truly one of the giants of the veterinary profession," said Dr. Rhoades. "Those who have been associated with him are keenly aware of his adherence to the highest standard of professionalism, ethics, and devotion to the profession of veterinary medicine."

A \$100,000 endowment for a professorship at LSU requires \$60,000 in private donations to receive \$40,000 in state matching funds from the Board of Regents Support Fund. All gifts are greatly appreciated by the School and are tax deductible. Individuals may also make donations in annual installments if they prefer. Dr. Rhoades is available to answer questions concerning donations or use of the professorship, and can be reached at (225) 578-9537.

Donations may be made payable to the "LSU Foundation" by check, noting "Everett D. Besch Professorship" on the memo line. Credit card donations are also accepted. Mail to: Office of Development, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

Companions Make Generous Donations

The Companions of the School of Veterinary Medicine made generous contributions to the Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana and the Veterinary Medicine Library Endowment Fund, giving \$2,000 to each from the proceeds of the 15th Annual International Exhibition on Animals in Art, held March 16-April 14 in the Veterinary Medicine Library.

The \$2,000 will contribute to the daily operations of the wildlife hospital, primarily the medical treatment and feeding of its patients. A check presentation to Sue Loubiere for the Library followed.



Dean Michael Groves, head librarian Sue Loubiere, Companions president Lanier Cordell, Companions treasurer Dr. Cecile Berner (LSU 84), and Dr. Mark Mitchell attended a check presentation to the WHL.

Development News

The **Third Annual Kentucky Derby Party**, hosted by the Companions of the School of Veterinary Medicine, raised more than \$3,000 for the Equine Intensive Care Unit. Guests viewed the 128th Run for the Roses and enjoyed traditional Derby cuisine, contests, and wagering on favorite horses. The party was held at the Country Club of Louisiana.

More than \$80,000 was presented to veterinary students at the 28th Annual Awards and Honors Banquet April 26. The annual program honors veterinary students and faculty for academic, clinical and professional achievements. The Arkansas Veterinary Medical Foundation contributed \$20,000 to Arkansas high school graduates. Other outside contributors included LVMA, Baton Rouge Association of Veterinary Spouses, SCAVMA Auxiliary, Louisiana Cattleman's Association, Hill's Pet Nutrition, IAMS, Pharmacia and UpJohn, Pfizer Animal Health, Nestle Purina, Schering-Plough Animal Health, Alltel Client Communication, Bayou Kennel Club, Baton Rouge Kennel Club, Calcasieu Parish Kennel Club, and Baton Rouge SPCA.

The 2nd Annual SVM benefit gala, "Barkin' on the Bayou," will be November 2 at the New Orleans Fair Grounds Race Course. Tickets are available for \$100 and proceeds support School programs. Cuisine from New Orleans' finest restaurants and live music will be featured. A live auction will conclude the evening. Please check your mail for information and visit www.vetmed.lsu.edu for updates.

Mark your calendars for the **2nd Annual Equine Health Studies Program's Stallion Service Auction.** Bidding will begin on the Internet-based stallion auction October 1 and will end November 15, so view the available stallions now. The entire auction is conducted online and all information about it can be found at www.vetmed.lsu.edu.



Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund



Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ to help the *Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund*.

Name _____ Graduation Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please make your check payable to LSU Foundation, and indicate *Advance Veterinary Medicine Annual Fund* on the memo line.

For credit card contributions:

Type of Credit Card: Visa _____ MC _____ AmEx _____ Discover _____ Expiration Date _____

Card Number _____ Cardholder's Signature: _____

Please mail your contributions to:

Office of Development, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

La VETerinaire

THE NEWS-MAGAZINE OF THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Library Hosts Katherine Klimitas Show

The Veterinary Medicine Library hosted an art show in June featuring 13-year-old artist Katherine Klimitas of New Orleans. Klimitas, an eighth-grade student at St. Paul's Episcopal School, has been painting since she was five years old and is an accomplished artist. She was the winner of the Young N' Arts Award sponsored by the Overture to the Cultural Season in New Orleans. The show, which opened with a reception June 6 for the School and members of the community, featured a variety of her work, including paintings,



Artwork featured in the Katherine Klimitas art show in the Veterinary Medicine Library.

sculpture, and tiles. In addition, one of her pieces was selected by the Open House Committee as the 2003 Open House artwork.

Klmitas, who has osteogenesis imperfecta, is the daughter of New Orleans veterinarians Drs. Hank Klmitas and Adriana Sagrera (LSU 87).



Dr. Hank Klmitas, Katherine Klmitas, and Dr. Adriana Sagrera (LSU 87) enjoyed an opening reception June 6 for an art show featuring Katherine's work. The Veterinary Medicine Library hosted the show for one month.

Visit the School of Veterinary Medicine online at
www.vetmed.lsu.edu

for information on public programs, continuing education, current news, admissions information and much more.



LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Veterinary Medicine
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School of Veterinary Medicine--Calendar of Events

Certified Animal Euthanasia Technician Course	August 5-6
Chemical Capture for the Animal Control Professional	August 6-7
Louisiana Animal Control Association Certification Academy	August 8-9
School of Veterinary Medicine Classes Begin	August 19
Veterinary Continuing Education, "Veterinary Dermatology: Pruritus in the Dog and Cat, and What About Those Pocket Pets?"	August 25
Phi Zeta Research Emphasis Day	September 25
2nd Annual EHSP Stallion Service Auction	October 1- November 15
Fall Family Picnic and Alumni Reunions	October 4
71st Annual Conference for Veterinarians, Veterinary Technicians, and Support Personnel	October 5-6
Annual Meeting of the Animal Disease Research Workers in Southern States, Southern Conference on Animal Parasites, and Southern Conference of Researchers in Aquatic Diseases	October 11-13
2nd Annual Veterinaire Extraordinaire Gala, "Barkin' on the Bayou"	November 2