



Welcome to the **August 2008** edition of the LSU SVM's e-mail newsletter. In this issue, we'll talk about a [German Shepherd that received a defibrillator](#), who at the LSU SVM received the [2008 AVMA Award](#), the [alumni and friends reception](#) at the AVMA Conference, [Distinguished Alumnus Award](#), [continuing education program](#), [alumni events](#), the [new director of the EHSP](#), [accolades for SVM faculty](#), [supporting the School of Veterinary Medicine](#), [upcoming events](#), and [classified ads](#).



LSU CARDIOLOGY SERVICE IMPLANTS INTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR IN A DOG

General is a six-month-old male German Shepherd, who resides in Jackson, Mo., with his owners. Although apparently healthy, he was diagnosed with irregular heartbeats. General was started on anti-arrhythmic medications, but it is known that drugs mildly decrease the risk of sudden death at best. The treatment of choice was to implant an internal cardioverter defibrillator, or ICD. Because of the difficulties associated with the implantation of a highly complex device designed for humans and the cost involved with such a procedure, there is only one pet with cardiac disease that has to this day received an internal defibrillator. With the support of an ICD manufacturer (Medtronic, Inc., Minneapolis, Minn.), General's owners were able to obtain an ICD. They contacted the cardiology service at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, which accepted the challenge of performing this rare procedure coordinated by Dr. Romain Pariaut, assistant professor of veterinary cardiology. *To read more about the procedure, click [here](#).*

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LSU DEAN RECEIVES NATIONAL VETERINARY ASSOCIATION'S HIGHEST HONOR

Dr. Peter F. Haynes, dean of the LSU SVM, has earned the 2008 AVMA Award. Marked as the American Veterinary Medical Association's highest honor, the award recognizes distinguished contributions to the advancement of veterinary medical organizations. The award was conferred at the AVMA's Annual Conference held in New Orleans, La., July 19-22, 2008. *To read more about this honor, click [here](#).*



EQUINE HEALTH STUDIES PROGRAM HAS NEW DIRECTOR

The LSU SVM is pleased to announce that **Frank Andrews, DVM, MS, Diplomate American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine**, is the new director of the Equine Health Studies Program. He started on August 4. Dr. Andrews comes to LSU from the University Of Tennessee College Of Veterinary Medicine, where he was professor and section chief of large animal medicine. He earned his DVM and MS degrees from Washington State University and completed his residency at The Ohio State University. He has received many awards and honors and has served on numerous boards and in societies such as the Comparative Gastroenterology Society (past president), Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis Society (past president), Medical Advisory Board of the Knoxville Zoologic Park, and Equine Advisory Council with Astra-Zeneca, Merial and Intervet, Inc. He has published over 100 refereed publications and book chapters and he has presented his research internationally. We would like to welcome Dr. Andrews to the LSU SVM family!

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OVER 130 ALUMNI AND FRIENDS GATHERED AT THE TROPICAL ISLE IN NEW ORLEANS

The LSU SVM held a reception on July 21 for alumni and friends as part of the American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Conference, which was held this year in New Orleans, La. Over 130 people attended the event, which was held at the Tropical Isle on Bourbon Street. Said Dr. Gary Levy (LSU 1982), "Huge success indeed! As one browsed the AVMA program seeing all the other schools' 'boring "blah-blah ballroom' venues . . . there LSU was out at the Tropical Isle on Bourbon St. We rock!"

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NOMINATE A VETERINARIAN FOR THE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is a means to recognize alumni of the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine for outstanding professional and personal achievements. The award, which consists of an individual plaque and the placement of the honoree's name on the honor wall in the School of Veterinary Medicine, will be presented at the Annual Conference each year. **To download a nomination form, click [here](#).**

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LSU SVM HOSTS 77TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine will host the **77th Annual Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians** on October 18 at the School of Veterinary Medicine in Baton Rouge, La. The conference will feature two nationally recognized speakers, Dr. Steve Marks and Dr. Sharon Kerwin, and the conference will focus on Companion Animals. Dr. Marks, Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, is a clinical associate professor of critical care and 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](#).*

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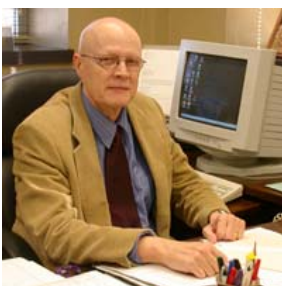


UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS IN BATON ROUGE

The SVM has tickets available for the **North Texas vs. LSU football game** on September 13. Tickets are \$45 each. First come, first served. Limit four tickets per alumnus. **Please contact Gretchen Morgan at gmorgan@lsu.edu or 225-578-9565 to reserve your tickets.**

On October 18, the LSU SVM is hosting an alumni reception as part of the Annual Conference. Following the reception, the LSU SVM will host alumni dinners for the milestone reunion classes of 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003. **For information on these alumni events, contact Gretchen Morgan at gmorgan@lsu.edu or 225-578-9565. For information on other upcoming alumni activities, click [here](#).**

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LSU SVM SALUTES FACULTY

Dr. Gary E. Wise, head of the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, with **Dr. Shaomian Yao** as co-principal investigator, has been awarded his competitive R01 National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant renewal beginning August 1, 2008. The grant is for five years with a total funding of almost 1.8 million dollars. Dr. Wise has been continuously funded by the NIH since 1991.

Dr. Shulin Li, professor of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, has been invited to be editor-in-chief of a scientific journal entitled *Biological Procedures Online*. It is an open access journal published by Springer.

Dr. Shisheng Li, assistant professor of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, received a National Institutes of Health grant of \$450,000 for his three-year-project entitled, "The role of RNA polymerase II in transcription coupled nucleotide excision repair."

Dr. Christopher Mores, assistant professor of Pathobiological Sciences, has received an award from Bechtel National, Inc. for \$167,051 for his project entitled, "Ecological and Virological Study of Arbovirus Infections in the South Aral Region of Uzbekistan" from 3/1/08-3/31/09. The award is from Bechtel's Biological Threat Reduction Program.

The **Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences** wishes to congratulate both current and former Small Animal Internal Medicine Residents that have recently passed either the General Examination or Specialty Examination by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM). They are as follows:

ACVIM General Examination: Dr. Jessica Thompson (Equine Medicine Resident 2006-09); Dr. Jon Fletcher (LSU Class of 2005 and Small Animal Internal Medicine Resident 2006-08); and Dr. Claudia Fraune (Small Animal Internal Medicine Resident 2007-08, University of Bern, Switzerland).

ACVIM Specialty Examination: Dr. Andrew Daters (LSU Class of 2004, Medical Oncology Resident 2005-07, Part-time Instructor of Medical Oncology, 2007-current); Dr. Vera Maeckelbergh (LSU Class of 2004 and Small Animal Internal Medicine Resident 2005-07); Dr. Julian Dandrieux (Small Animal Internal Medicine Resident 2006-07, University of Bern, Switzerland); and Dr. Caroline Geigy (Small Animal Internal Medicine Resident 2006, University of Bern, Switzerland).

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SUPPORTING THE LSU SVM

Promoting the Future of Veterinary Medicine through Scholarships and Student Support Funds

The average debt for new graduates in 2008 is \$120,478. The average starting salary overall for the graduates going into practice is \$75,339. LSU's veterinary students are given a superior education, but it comes at a high cost. There are three ways that you can directly help students in need: contribute to a student support fund, endow a student scholarship, or contribute to an existing scholarship.

A gift of \$40,000 or more will endow a scholarship for a veterinary student. Scholarships can be endowed in honor or in memory of a person, or in honor or in memory of a pet. Scholarships can also be endowed to support certain types of students (e.g., third-year students from Arkansas with a 3.0 or higher GPA). For a list of current scholarships, please contact Connie Anderson at cfanderson@vetmed.lsu.edu or 225-578-9826, or go to the LSU SVM website at www.vetmed.lsu.edu.



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 and select "Support the LSU SVM."

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

August 4-5	Certified Animal Euthanasia Technician Training.
August 5-6	Chemical Capture for the Animal Control Professional.
August 7-9	Louisiana Animal Control Association Certification Academy.
August 15-20	First Year Orientation
August 18	SVM Fall Semester begins
August 18	Classes begin, Years II and III
August 18-September 2	Third Year PBL
August 20	Family Orientation and Coating Ceremony
August 21	Classes begin, Year I
August 25	LSU classes begin
August 30	Appalachian State v. LSU Football, Baton Rouge, La.
September 1	Labor Day Holiday
September 2	Classes resume, Years I, II and III
September 6	Troy v. LSU Football, Baton Rouge, La.
September 7	Dermatology Workshop

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

Houston, TX – Full or Part Time Associate position available immediately for multi-doctor small animal practice. Newly remodeled clinic southeast of downtown. Well equipped with Idexx Vettec, Lasercyte, blood gas, automatic x-ray developer, Cardell PulseOx/EKG/NIBP, and Avimark. Competitive salary and benefits. **Contact Dr. Kathy Palmer (LSU 2003)** at (713) 643-5723 or docpalmr@yahoo.com.

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.

Are you looking for career options? The USDA, Food Safety & Inspection Service is currently hiring veterinarians in Booker, Del Rio, Mount Pleasant, Plainview, Seguin, and Stephenville, 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.**

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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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