



La Veterinaire

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

Spring 2007

LSU Alumni Make Largest Single Pledge to SVM in its History



LSU alumni Emmet and Toni Stephenson, formerly of Bastrop, La., have pledged a \$25 million gift to LSU. Their donation will be among the largest gifts ever to LSU A&M and accelerates the momentum of the "Forever LSU" campaign. One million dollars will go to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Pictured from left are Institutional Advancement Director Pat Edwards, Toni Stephenson, Emmet Stephenson, Dean Emeritus Michael G. Groves, and Interim Dean Peter F. Haynes.

Also inside . . .

VTH&C Implements Changes to Improve Service

SVM Researcher Studies How DNA Repairs Itself

SVM Receives \$800,000 Grant from The HSUS



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For up-to-date information about the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, go to <http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu>.

SVM Faculty Member Recognized by Class of 2010

Dr. F. Kareem Al-Bagdadi, associate professor of veterinary anatomy and cell biology was presented with a t-shirt created by the Class of 2010 as a thank you gift. The shirt reads, "Who's Your Al-Bagdadi?"

"We had Dr. Al-Bagdadi for histology in our first semester," said Louis DiVincenti. "Immediately, he became one of our favorite professors because of his enthusiasm and helpfulness. As a fundraiser, we decided to make t-shirts. As soon as I had heard Dr. Al-Bagdadi's name, I thought of the slogan, 'Who's your daddy?' I shared it with the class, and Lisa Ciolino and I decided that modifying it for Dr. Al would make a great t-shirt. We made them to thank a teacher who was a big help to us in our first-year."

Students in all four classes bought the shirts, and the Class of 2010 raised approximately \$400 from the sales.

LSU School of Veterinary Medicine

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Peter F. Haynes, *Interim Dean*

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

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

Ernie Tanoos, *Assistant Dean for Finance and Administrative Services*

Ginger Guttner, *Editor*

Kathleen Harrington, *Writer*

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Lisa Ciolino and Louis DiVincenti, both in the Class of 2010, present Dr. Al-Bagdadi with his "Who's Your Al-Bagdadi?" t-shirt.

New Faculty

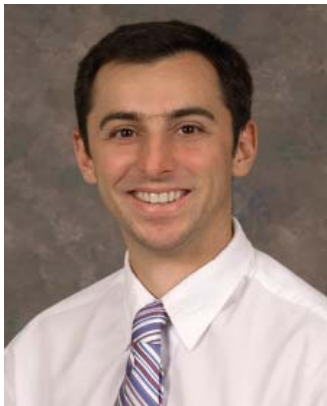


Dr. Renee Carter joined the faculty in September 2006 as an assistant professor of ophthalmology. She received her DVM from Louisiana State University in 2000. She then completed an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at LSU in 2001. Dr. Carter went on to do a four-year residence and fellowship in Comparative Ophthalmology at the University of



Dr. Renee Carter

Wisconsin-Madison from 2002-06. Her research interests include investigation of epithelial and stromal interactions and the role of matrix metalloproteinases in the pathogenesis of Spontaneous Chronic Corneal Epithelial Defects (SCCED) of dogs, investigation of the role of sex hormones in dogs with Sudden Acquired Retinal Degeneration Syndrome (SARDS) and investigations of ciliary cleft collapse by high-resolution ultrasound in dogs with primary glaucoma.



Dr. Anderson da Cunha

Dr. Anderson da Cunha returned to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine

in December 2006 to become an assistant professor of veterinary anesthesiology. Dr. da Cunha received his DVM from Federal University of Parana and his MS from Federal University of Santa Maria, both in Brazil. He completed both an internship in anesthesiology in 2003 and two years of his residency at LSU in 2004-05. He completed his third and final year of residency at North Carolina State University.

Dr. Nathalie Rademacher has joined the faculty as a visiting clinical instructor of veterinary radiology and diagnostic imaging. Dr. Rademacher is on a one-year clinical appointment effective January 1 to December 31, 2007. She will be working alongside Dr. Lorrie Gaschen to assist her in the Radiology Service. Dr. Rademacher is a citizen of Germany and just completed a residency in diagnostic imaging and radio-oncology at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. She also completed an internship at a private small animal practice in Tenniken, Switzerland, and earned her doctoral degree at the University of Bern.



Dr. Nathalie Rademacher

Professor Emeritus Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Charles Short, professor emeritus in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the European Association for Veterinary Pharmacology & Toxicology on September 20, 2006. This Lifetime Achievement Award is made in grateful recognition of his service to the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, as editor of the Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics and to development through teaching and research to the discipline of veterinary pharmacology. It is also made in appreciation of his outstanding contributions to veterinary science in North America as a specialist in the pharmacology of drugs of several classes and for his contribution to the science of pharmacokinetics.

Dr. Charles Short retired from the School of Veterinary Medicine after more than 20 years

as a member of the faculty. Dr. Short joined the Department in 1974 and was head of the Department from 1982-2000. He was also responsible for building research programs within the school, including the Equine Research Program and the Inhalation Toxicology Laboratory. He is internationally renowned for his expertise in Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology. His development of new methods of drug detection in the equine is the gold standard for equine drug screening. He was honored by the Association of Racing Commissioners International for his contributions to the racing industry, and he was President of the American College of Veterinary



Emmet and Toni Stephenson Pledge \$25 Million to LSU

LSU alums pledge one of largest gifts ever to the university

LSU alumni Emmet and Toni Stephenson, formerly of Bastrop, La., have pledged a \$25 million gift to LSU. Their donation will be among the largest gifts ever to LSU A&M and accelerates the momentum of the “Forever LSU” campaign.

Approximately \$15 million is committed to the E. J. Ourso College of Business, including \$11 million to create the Stephenson Disaster Management Institute and \$4 million to the Entrepreneurship Institute. Another \$1 million will go to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. The remaining \$9 million will be added to the above gifts or used to fund other programs at LSU.

The Stephensons said, “We believe LSU can move to the top ranks of universities in the U.S., and we want to help three programs with that achievement. The largest portion of our gift is to start a new disaster response management institute to capitalize on LSU’s unique experience and outstanding performance under the severe pressure of the Katrina disaster. Our vision is to see LSU become the premier university in the world on disaster response

management. The second part goes to the Entrepreneur Institute to grow and enhance entrepreneurship education to create new business and new jobs in the Gulf South. The initial gift to the veterinary school is to kick off a much larger fund-raising effort to advance their work in helping animals, and conducting medical and biomedical research, which ultimately benefits people as well as animals.”

“The wonderful gift from Emmet and Toni Stephenson reflects their strong passion for the health and well-being of animals and for veterinary medicine,” said Interim Dean Peter F. Haynes.

“We are extremely grateful to the Stephensons for their incredibly generous gift to the university,” LSU Chancellor Sean O’Keefe said. “It is very gratifying to see two of our alumni show their support for LSU in this way. This is a major step forward for the ‘Forever LSU’ campaign, and these funds will go a long way in

improving the academic and research components of the university.”

The Stephenson Disaster Management Institute will strive to save human and animal life by continuously improving disaster response management through applied research and education. The institute will work to develop new and improved processes with emphasis on preparation, readiness and response during the first 10 days following an incident. The Entrepreneurship Institute will reorganize LSU’s entrepreneurship education program and outreach activities to promote immediate and future economic growth in Louisiana and the Gulf South region.

“The gift from the Stephensons will have a transformational effect on the E. J. Ourso College by providing new resources to study areas key to the prosperity of Louisiana and the world,” said Dean Robert Sumichrast. He added, “This gift will help us study how improved management can save lives in the aftermath of a disaster, as well as expand the scope and effectiveness of our existing entrepreneurship programs and capabilities.”

“The wonderful gift from Emmet and Toni Stephenson reflects their strong passion for the health and well-being of animals and for veterinary medicine,” said Dr. Peter F. Haynes, interim dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine. “It is increasingly more evident that future initiatives in the School of Veterinary Medicine will rely heavily on the generosity of private donors, like Emmet and Toni Stephenson, who believe that our mission and programs are integral to the broad society that we serve.”

The \$1 million designated to the School of Veterinary Medicine is a five-year pledge, which will be used to expand advancement initiatives.



Emmet Stephenson discusses his pledge to LSU as his wife Toni looks on at the press release in front of Memorial Tower on LSU’s main campus.



Pat Edwards listens as Dr. William Jenkins, LSU System President and former dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, discusses with Toni and Emmet Stephenson the importance of their pledge to the School.

Specifically, the funds will be used to hire two new development officers and administrative staff support.

The Stephensons first approached the School of Veterinary Medicine after Hurricane Katrina. They were watching a cable news program and saw a story about Best Friends Animal Society, which was one of many groups rescuing animals after the storm. The Stephensons decided to contact Best Friends to see how they could help. When they called the organization, a recording instructed them to contact Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine. They did so and made a sizeable donation to the Spirit of Veterinary Medicine Hurricane Relief Fund.

After that initial donation, the Stephensons visited the School and met several times with then Dean Michael G. Groves. “In their visits with me, the Stephensons expressed an interest in investing in the School,” said Dr. Groves. The donors’ hope is that an increased flow of donations will aid the good work of the Veterinary School and help move LSU into the top ranks of veterinary medicine programs in the U.S. “The Stephenson’s donation will enable us to move the School’s development program forward and help to bring more national recognition to the

School,” said Pat Edwards, director of institutional advancement.

The donors’ hope is that an increased flow of donations will aid the good work of the Veterinary School and help move LSU into the top ranks of veterinary medicine programs in the U.S.

Emmet Stephenson is the founder and president of Stephenson and Company, a private investment company, and senior partner of Stephenson Ventures, a private equity firm. He also serves as a director of Danaher Corp. and is the retired chairman of StarTek, Inc. Stephenson graduated magna cum laude from LSU with a bachelor of science degree from the College of Business in 1967 and was ranked first in his graduating class. In his senior year, he served as president of the LSU College of Business. He also graduated with an MBA from Harvard Business School and received the Ralph Thomas Sayles Fellowship in Investments. At LSU, he was inducted into the LSU Alumni Association Hall of Distinction in 2006; was inducted into the LSU Kappa Sigma Hall of Distinction in 2005; was a speaker in the Flores

MBA Distinguished Speaker Series in 1999; and was inducted into the Ourso College of Business Hall of Distinction in 1998. Stephenson previously served as president of the Harvard Business School Alumni Association. He received the Albert Einstein Technology Medal in 1999.

Toni Stephenson is the founder and president of General Communications, Inc. She was publisher of Law Enforcement Product News and Public Safety Product News and was a founder and director of Charter Bank and Trust. She earned a bachelor of science degree from LSU in 1967, where she served on the Student Council, and completed the Harvard Business School Owner/President Management Program in 1990. She served as president of the Children’s Hospital Association of Volunteers, a director of the Children’s Hospital, a director of Anchor Center for Blind Children and a director of St. Joseph’s Hospital.

Both Emmet and Toni Stephenson currently serve on the Harvard Business School Board of Dean’s Advisors and are recognized in Who’s Who in America and Who’s Who in the World. The couple has been married for nearly 40 years and has one daughter.

The “Forever LSU” campaign is designed to raise private funds for LSU to improve the university’s academic and research capabilities and to help it compete with other flagship universities in the nation. The campaign combines the efforts of the university’s three fundraising bodies – the LSU Alumni Association, the LSU Foundation and the Tiger Athletic Foundation. Prior to the Stephenson gift, LSU had raised \$283 million toward its \$750 million goal.





Veterinary Teaching Hospital Implements Changes to Improve Service

To provide the latest, most advanced clinical services and excellent client care, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital has implemented some changes. The Small Animal Clinic has undergone renovations to its receiving area and hired a referral coordinator, while the Equine Clinic has restructured the manner in which it delivers select services and has hired a client care coordinator.

Clinic Renovations

The Small Animal Clinic has made structural changes to its receiving area. The cashiers and the reception area have been joined together and new counters have been added. "The purpose of these changes is to provide a better client service focus," said Dr. Amy Grooters, service chief for the Small Animal Clinic.

Referral Coordinator

The Small Animal Clinic has also hired a referral coordinator. Kay Legleu will handle the vast majority of communications with the hospital's referring veterinarians, including scheduling appointments, arranging consultations, and providing case updates. "Kay has been hired to work

directly with our referring veterinarians and to focus on their needs," said Dr. Grooters.

Legleu first connected to the School of Veterinary Medicine after Hurricane Katrina when she volunteered at the Emergency Animal Shelter at the John M. Parker Coliseum. She came to walk a dog, but there were too many volunteers that day. Instead, she was asked to help out in the shelter's command center. "I started answering phones and never left," said Legleu. After the shelter closed, Legleu continued working with the School by helping to reunite pet owners with their pets.

In 2007, Legleu saw the advertisement in the newspaper for the referral coordinator position and applied. She has a bachelor of arts in sociology from Southeastern Louisiana University and has spent time working with hurricane evacuees (both human and animal). Legleu is excited about her new position in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. "My job is to facilitate better communications between the School and the referring veterinarians," said Legleu. Referring veterinarians can contact Kay Legleu directly at 225-578-9040 or through the Small Animal Clinic main line at 225-578-9600. To learn more about the Veterinary Teaching Hospital's services and clinics, please go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu.



Renovations have been made to the small animal receiving area to improve client service.

edu.

In addition to changes in the Small Animal Clinic, the Hospital's Equine Clinic has hired a client care coordinator and implemented a new scheduling system for selected services, which include performance evaluation and fitness testing, advanced diagnostic imaging, advanced dentistry and advanced podiatry and therapeutic farriery.

Advanced Imaging

The advanced imaging program is directed by Dr. Daniel J. Burba, professor of veterinary surgery and interim director of the Equine Health Studies Program. The service is offered Monday through Thursday of each week. Advanced imaging modalities offered include computed tomography (CT or CAT scan) and nuclear scintigraphy (bone scan); these imaging modalities compliment the Hospital's digital radiography and ultrasonography capabilities. The nuclear scintigraphy or bone scan unit uses an injection of radioactive material to identify and locate subtle areas of bone, ligament/tendon or muscle injuries often before they can be detected by radiographs or



To help improve service to clients and referring veterinarians, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital recently hired Kay Legleu (left), referral coordinator for the Small Animal Clinic, and Leslie Talley (right), client care coordinator for the Equine Clinic.



The equine treadmill is used for fitness training and performance evaluations. The School of Veterinary Medicine acquired this new treadmill in 2006.

ultrasound. The Veterinary Teaching Hospital is currently negotiating a lease for an MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) and hopes to have one in place later this year.

Advanced Equine Dentistry

The Equine Clinic also offers an advanced equine dentistry service, which is directed by Dr. Chuck McCauley, assistant professor equine surgery. The service is offered on Tuesday of each week and focuses primarily on the diagnosis and treatment of more complicated dental disorders than those correctable by routine dental care. This service includes up-to-date imaging modalities including digital radiography, nuclear scintigraphy, and computed tomography (CT). Both surgical and nonsurgical techniques will be available for the treatment of developmental and eruption abnormalities in young horses; misalignments, severe malocclusions, dental infections and periodontal disease in adult and geriatric patients; and other dental pathology, including

neoplasia (tumors) and trauma.

The Equine Clinic also offers an equine podiatry and advanced therapeutic farriery service, which is directed by Dr. Colin Mitchell, assistant professor of equine surgery. This service is routinely offered on Friday of each week and provides focused veterinary and skilled farrier care to address hoof problems and lameness issues originating from the feet (such as navicular disease, pedal osteitis, laminitis and other conditions) using corrective therapeutic trimming, shoeing and veterinary management. To help ensure optimal results, medical imaging modalities will be used where appropriate and necessary to identify changes within the hoof. These images, as well as digital photographs, will be stored and available for review to facilitate assessment of case progression and monitoring over time.

Performance Evaluation and Fitness Testing

The Equine Clinic currently offers performance evaluation and fitness testing of horses; however, this is now augmented by the installation and implementation of a new high-speed treadmill and other technologies. This service utilizes a standard set of tests to provide an accurate assessment of performance ability or limitation, as well as enabling the clinician to diagnose subtle changes that affect performance in the elite athlete.

The service includes conducting a routine physical examination, pre- and post-treadmill electrocardiogram (ECG) and echocardiography (ultrasound of the heart), standing endoscopic (scoping) evaluation of the upper and lower respiratory tract, dynamic endoscopy while exercising on the high-speed treadmill, telemetric ECG during treadmill exercise, pre- and serial post-exercise measurement of muscle enzymes in the blood to assess for muscle disorders such as

“tying up,” and post-treadmill transtracheal wash to evaluate for lower airway inflammation and/or bleeding. This panel of tests will provide a comprehensive approach to assess performance capabilities or limitations and fitness. The performance evaluation and fitness testing will be directed by one of the clinic surgeons.



Client Care Coordinator

In addition to the new scheduling system, the Equine Clinic has hired Leslie Talley to serve as client care coordinator. She worked as an equine technician in the barn for 19 years before moving into the coordinator position. Talley works with both referring veterinarians and clients.

“The clients like being able to speak to someone immediately, and it makes it easier to set up appointments,” said Talley. “Basically the new scheduling system (with Leslie fielding calls and making the appointments) has really allowed the doctors to spend more time focusing on case management,” said Dr. Mitchell. To learn more about these services, please contact Leslie Talley at the LSU Equine Clinic at 225-578-9500 or visit the Equine Health Studies Program website at www.LSUEquine.com.

2005-06 Number of Visits to Veterinary Teaching Hospital by Species

Canine	10,973
Feline	2,136
Equine	2,216
Bovine	387
Ovine & Cervine	38
Caprine	107
Porcine	51
Exotic	600
Avian	731
Total	17,239



Five Pelicans Rescued by LSU Facility Services and Treated by LSU SVM

Five pelicans were rescued by LSU Facility Services employees on January 8 and taken to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine for treatment. The birds were released at the LSU Lake at the Baton Rouge Beach on January 10.

Facility Services employee P.M. Spoon discovered the pelicans stuck in one of the drains at Campus Lake near Miller Hall on the LSU campus. The drains consist of four vertical culverts about six feet deep. In the bottom of two of them were five white pelicans. The pelicans had apparently waded up 200 feet of horizontal culverts to get to that point and were unable to find their way out. It could not be determined how long they had been there.

Concerned that the pelicans might die in the bottom of the drain pipes, Spears and Allen went to the LSU School of Renewable Natural Resources for help and resources to rescue the birds. Dr. C.F. "Niels" de Hoop, associate professor, and Dr. Al Afton, a researcher with the U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative

Fish & Wildlife Unit specializing in waterfowl, contacted Dwight LeBlanc with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services.

LeBlanc offered to help rescue the birds and told Dr. de Hoop to get crawfish sacks, which were obtained from Dr. Robert Romaine of the LSU AgCenter Aquaculture Research Station. LeBlanc cut a four-inch hole in the bottom corner of each crawfish sack. Using a Facility Services ladder, LeBlanc simply climbed down, grabbed a pelican, and handed it to the rescuers. Holding its bill closed and wings tight, the bird was slipped into a bag, letting its head and neck stick out of the hole.

Several other Facility Services personnel arrived to help out. Hank Taylor, dressed in waders and rain gear, descended the second drain to pick up the other four trapped pelicans. Three were picked up as easily as the first. The last bird moved part of the way out the horizontal culvert. Taylor crawled out the long culvert to shoo the bird out the far end.

The Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana treats 1,700 cases each year. Plans are underway to construct a free-standing hospital for these special patients. For more information about giving to the Wildlife Hospital Fund, go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu or contact Pat Edwards at (225) 578-9870 or pedwards@vetmed.lsu.edu.

LeBlanc and several Facility Services workers waited at the far end and grabbed the pelican as it came out of the culvert on its own.

In addition to Dr. da Hoop and the LSU Facility Services workers mentioned, other LSU personnel who assisted included Danny Ricaud, Evelyn Dixon, Debbie Coltharp, Lawanda Selder, Lynn LeBlanc and Jerry Williams, all with Facility Services.

Two of the pelicans had bands on their legs. A quick check of the bird banding database revealed that one pelican was banded in 2002 in Chase Lake, N.D. The other pelican was banded in July 2006 in Marsh Lake, Minn.

The pelicans were set gently in the back of an LSU pickup truck, and Spears and Allen brought them to the Wildlife Hospital at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. The pelicans were treated for shock by Dr. Javier Nevarez, instructor of zoological medicine, and released on January 10. Several members of the group that rescued the pelicans were on hand to assist in the release. The birds were released one at a time and joined a larger flock of pelicans on the LSU Lake.



From left, Brooke Fahrig (Class of 2007), Kelley Minor (Ross), Nikki Bourgeois (Class of 2007), Sarah Schultz (visiting student from the University of Illinois) and Dr. Megan Kinchgessner (intern) helped release the pelicans at the Baton Rouge Beach.

SVM Researcher Studies How DNA Can Repair Damage to Itself



Dr. Shisheng Li, assistant professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences at LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, is researching the mechanisms by which the body can repair damage that has occurred to its DNA.

Damage to cellular DNA can be caused by a number of factors, both external and internal, and this damage is believed to be linked to tissue damage, aging, autoimmune diseases, and many forms of cancer. Most familiar are external sources, which include such things as exposure to ultraviolet radiation, gamma radiation, or x-rays, but damage can also occur when endogenous cellular processes form free radicals and other mutagens as normal metabolic by-products. In order to minimize the effects of such damage, cells have evolved several mechanisms to repair their DNA, and two of these mechanisms are the subject of Dr. Li's research.

Dr. Li and his group focus on the mechanisms of nucleotide excision repair and base excision repair, using a yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*)

model. "We use the yeast model," Dr. Li said, "because it is simple, easy to manipulate, and the repair mechanisms are very similar to those of humans."

"Now, with the associations of DNA damage to many human diseases and conditions, more and more people are becoming involved in efforts to understand how the repair mechanisms work," Dr. Li noted.

Nucleotide excision repair (NER) in cells such as those found in yeast and humans is a process that removes a piece of a DNA strand that brackets a lesion. "One interesting thing we are looking at is a pathway of nucleotide excision repair called transcription coupled repair (TCR)," said Dr. Li. "The phenomenon was discovered about twenty years ago, but people still don't understand its biochemical mechanism, especially in eukaryotes. In recent years, we've found a subpathway of TCR that is

mediated by Rpb9, a subunit of RNA polymerase II, and we are looking at it in an effort to figure out the mechanism of TCR."

The group is making some progress in their quest; they have discovered that Rpb9 is indirectly involved in TCR, as opposed to directly interacting with repair factors. Rpb9 promotes transcription elongation, and by doing so, facilitates TCR, but if transcription elongation is impaired, the Rpb9 cannot function as a pathway mediator.

Dr. Li's research has also found that the repair factor called Rad26, formerly believed to be a TCR factor, is involved in non-conventional nucleotide excision repair. This pathway occurs only when a particular gene is repressed; if the gene is active, the pathway is eliminated. The Rad26 pathway has never been adequately defined, but Dr. Li's research indicates that Rad26-mediated repair can be either transcription-coupled or transcription-independent, depending on the amount of transcription present.

The concept of DNA repair was formulated in the late 1950s but until fairly recently only a few researchers were investigating its mechanisms. "Now, with the associations of DNA damage to many human diseases and conditions, more and more people are becoming involved in efforts to understand how the repair mechanisms work," Dr. Li noted. "These mechanisms are much more relevant to human health than anyone had realized. Our research may find its use in prevention and/or treatment of human diseases, such as cancer."

Dr. Li has published 13 peer-reviewed papers on his research and has several more close to being ready for submission.



Dr. Shisheng Li, assistant professor in the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, researches how DNA repairs itself.



A Moment in the History of Veterinary Medicine

A Series by Dean Emeritus Everett D. Besch

Stress in the human population has been the topic to be studied by psychologists and others for more than 60 years. Initially described as the "...rate of wear and tear within the human body," stress was later referred to as any nonspecific demand on the body requiring the individual concerned to respond to change. Various terms have been assigned to the effects of stress in man, including depression, burnout, erosion of emotions, impairment, cultural shock, etc.

Stress among health professionals became a subject of concern more than 40 years ago when data showing increasing impairment among nurses primarily and later physicians. Collection of such information from members of the veterinary medical profession began in 1983, proposed by the AVMA House of Delegates and has resulted in the establishment of the AVMA and state Veterinary Wellness Programs.

The impaired health profession is one who is unable to practice his or her profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients because of physical or mental illness, including deterioration due to aging, occupational stress, loss of motor skills, or excessive use of alcohol and/or other drugs. In the handbook *Beyond Survival*, the Work Group on Physician Well-Being states, "Medicine is a cognitive discipline that does not sufficiently recognize the relationship of a practitioner's body, feelings and spirit to his mental activities." Additionally, "...many of the psychodynamics that lead individuals to a medical career also predispose them to emotional disorders, alcoholism, drug abuse and mental illness. These include compulsiveness, conscientiousness, control over emotions, delay in gratification, and the formation of unrealistic fantasies of the

future. These comments apply to veterinarians or to aspirants to veterinary medicine who are involved also with over achievement and individual competitiveness. The fact that impairment affects only a limited number of health professionals is due to the ability of the majority to cope with the frustrations and pressures of their professional activities.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse monitors the use of drugs by population groups and reports the results of comprehensive surveys taken every three years. These data reflect the overall trend of abusive drug use in our society (it is increasing) but do not break down the use of drugs by any group within the health professions. Assuming members of the veterinary medical profession comprise a normally distributed segment of the general population, we can get an indication of the problem of impairment of veterinarians by application of national statistics (in an article in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* [1990], it was estimated that 12 to 15 percent of veterinarians in the U.S. have an alcohol/chemical dependency problem).

Several schools and colleges of veterinary medicine have recognized the need to educate students about the value of behavior modification, managing stress, controlling depression, etc. by scheduling discussion sessions with a clinical psychologist. Such a program was available to the students enrolled in the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine for several years during the 1980s. Volume 32 (2005) of the *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education* contains nine articles on Stress Management for Veterinary Students. Dr. Grant Turnwald in the Introduction states, "These articles help to fill the void in the veterinary literature by supplying much-needed information to expand

the knowledge on causes of stress . . . and means to assist students in coping with stress." Beginning early in their veterinary careers, institutional programs help students to understand the rigors of the profession that will be invaluable in future years.

The report of the 2003 wellness survey by the AVMA Committee on Wellness indicated that stress and burnout were considered to be the most important wellness issues confronting veterinarians. Next in order was depression, anger management, anxiety disorders, alcohol abuse and drug abuse (more recently, compassion fatigue was defined as occurring when a member of the health care team interacts intensely with a client who is struggling with their emotions regarding the health or death of their companion animal). Most survey respondents believed there were not adequate resources available to those in the veterinary community dealing with wellness issues.

In 2003, the AVMA Executive Board approved the Guiding Principles for State Veterinary Wellness Programs and recommended that each state establish a wellness committee. Currently, 45 states are listed in the AVMA Membership Directory as having such a committee to assist impaired veterinarians, veterinary students, veterinary technicians, and their families. Louisiana has had such a committee for several years with Dr. Kenneth Sanderlin of Ruston, La., as the contact person (contact the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association at 800-524-2996 or 225-928-5862 or go to the LVMA website at www.lvma.org to get more information about the state's Peer Assistance Committee).

The AVMA website (www.avma.org) "My AVMA - Peer Assistance Resources" (located in the Members

Looking Back at the SVM . . .



The Class of 1993 is addressed by Juan Amieiro-Puig (LSU '91).



Dr. Allison Denny-Barca (LSU '91) helps out with a pony in the Courtyard at Open House.



Tedman L. Vance (LSU '88) participated in the Veterinary Medicine Honors Program, which provided short-term research training. Vance's research project was entitled, "Electron microscope evaluation of the rabbit stomach mucosal lesions associated with Ostertagia ostertagi mocoulations. He is pictured here with his faculty mentor (right) Dr. T.G. Snider, III. Vance's second mentor (not pictured) was Dr. J.C. Williams.

If you have photos of your time at the LSU SVM and would like to share them, please contact Ginger Guttner, coordinator of public relations, at 225-578-9922 or gguttner@vetmed.lsu.edu.

History . . .

(Continued from page 10)

Only section) contains much information on veterinary wellness programs, including the Model Program for Wellness (complete description in the 2006 AVMA Membership Directory), State Peer Assistance Resource Directory, Stress Checklist and Wellness Links, of which 43 are listed and obtained from the internet.



HSUS Grants \$800,000 to SVM to Launch Companion Animal Health and Spay and Neuter Programs

Representatives for The Humane Society of the United States, the nation's largest animal protection organization, presented a check on December 13 for \$800,000 to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine to launch a community companion animal health program, including an active spay and neuter component, that will give students valuable medical and surgical experience while providing assistance for animals in underserved communities in southern Louisiana. The program will begin in the spring 2007 semester.

The check was presented by Dr. Andrew Rowan, HSUS executive vice president of operations and Melissa Rubin, HSUS vice president of field services, to Dr. Susan Eddlestone, assistant professor of small animal medicine, who will be in charge of the program.

"HSUS has given us the opportunity to provide the public with a program that will focus on pet wellness and sterilization of those pets hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina," said Dr. Eddlestone.

"The Humane Society of the United States is honored to present this grant to the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine," Rowan said. "This grant is funded by donations specifically intended to help communities affected by Hurricane Katrina. The program provides real-world training for students, as well as an opportunity to make a lasting, positive impact on the future of animals and the communities that they will help."

Students will gain surgical and medical experience by serving the needs of spay/neuter clinics, animal control facilities and animal shelters, the sheltering operation at the Dixon



Receiving the grant check from The Humane Society of the United States, represented by Dr. Andrew Rowan (third from left) and Melissa Rubin (fourth from left), are (from left to right) Dr. Joseph Taboada, associate dean for student and academic affairs; Dr. Susan Eddlestone, assistant professor; Gregg Griffenhagen, Class of 2009; Stephanie Johnson, instructor and counselor; and Dr. Peter F. Haynes, interim dean.

Correctional Institute and low-income communities in southern Louisiana with a focus on the New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas. The curriculum will also include training in animal wellness, pet population dynamics, disaster medicine and animal behavior issues.

"HSUS has given us the opportunity to provide the public with a program that will focus on pet wellness and sterilization of those pets hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina," said Dr. Eddlestone. "This extraordinary opportunity will give veterinary students the chance to learn about community medicine and to explore the dynamics of controlling the pet population. Students will be helping to improve veterinary care in the Gulf Coast region, as well as learning skills and knowledge that will carry over in their future areas of practice."

The HSUS predicts that one of the tangible gains from a spay and neuter initiative will be an overall improvement in the health of dogs and cats in the region, where heartworm and other avoidable diseases have been traditionally common. Also, a pet

who receives routine annual veterinary care from his or her owner or caregiver is more likely to stay a member of that family. "An annual visit to a veterinarian is the most important predictor that a companion animal will stay in a home and not be abandoned," Rowan said.

A recent telephone survey of Louisiana pet owners conducted by The HSUS revealed that there are nearly 1.8 million dogs and cats in homes across the state. Approximately 700,000 of those dogs and cats (or 40 percent) are not spayed or neutered. Respondents reported that nearly two in 10 dogs and nearly three out of every 10 cats have not visited a veterinarian in the past year.

The HSUS expects that pet owners who participate in this program will better understand the importance of a life-long commitment to responsible healthcare for their animals. For information about the HSUS, go to www.hsus.org.

SVM Honors Alumnae with Distinguished Alumni Award



The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine awarded the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award to Dr. Mary K. Boudreaux (LSU '79) at its 75th Annual Conference for Veterinarians on October 21. Dr. Boudreaux is a professor in the Department of Pathobiology at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine. She has compiled a body of work in the area of platelet research that has added to the understanding of veterinary patients as well as shedding light on the human species.

Dr. Boudreaux received her DVM from the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine in 1979, and she received her PhD in pathology from the Cornell University New York State College of Veterinary Medicine in 1986. She was an associate veterinarian in a small animal practices in San Mateo and Brea, Calif. She then completed a clinical pathology residency at Cornell University in 1983 before completing her PhD and joining the faculty at Auburn University. Dr. Boudreaux's research is in the field of hemostasis, particularly with respect to platelet physiology and pathophysiology.

"Dr. Boudreaux is also an excellent teacher and mentor of

veterinary and graduate students," said Dr. Debra Beard (LSU '89), clinical assistant professor at the Auburn University CVM who nominated Dr. Boudreaux for this award. "She is the course director for two Advanced Clinical Pathology courses primarily taken by residents in clinical pathology, pathology and internal medicine as part of preparation for boards, and she participates in teaching second- and fourth-year veterinary students and graduate students. She contributes to the community by various charitable endeavors, most recently leading a College of Veterinary Medicine team to victory at a walk-a-thon benefiting the American Heart Association."

Dr. Boudreaux has served Auburn University and the CVM on numerous committees, including the Chair of the Auburn University Institutional Effectiveness committee for the SACS Self-Study (2001-02), Chair of the Equity and Student Athlete Welfare committee for the NCAA Athletics Certification Self-Study (2005-06), and as Program Director for the Merck-Merial Summer Scholars Program in 2006. She is currently the



Dr. Mary Boudreaux with Gina, a dog with a platelet disorder.

elected Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee (to the Dean of the CVM).

"It is typical of Dr. Boudreaux to involve herself in all facets of the University, College, and community," continued Dr. Beard. "It is also typical of her to give maximum effort to anything in which she is involved. She is an asset to our College and a credit to our profession and alma mater."



Interim Dean Peter F. Haynes accepts a check on behalf of the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association from Dr. Shirani Ambiavagar Hickman (LSU '00) at the 2006 LSU SVM Annual Conference. Dr. Hickman is the District 3 Representative on the LVMA Board of Directors. The LVMA check presentations were for the LVMA Outstanding Student Award (\$10,000) and for the coating ceremonies for Years I and III (\$5,000).

Nominations for the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award are due no later than August 31. The award will be given out at the 2007 Annual Conference on November 10. Please go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu and click on "Alumni Resources" to download a nomination form.



Alumni

SVM Alumni Reunite at the Annual Conference in October 2006



Members of the Class of 1981 who attended the Annual Conference are (from left to right) Drs. Mike Edwards, James Henderson and Mike Davis.



Members of the Class of 1980 who attended the Annual Conference are (from left to right) Drs. Gary Warner, Jim Achorn (Class Agent), Mike Smith, and Warren Joubert.



Dr. Mica Landry (LSU '85) attended the Annual Conference with her husband Paul.



Members of the Class of 1990 who attended the Annual Conference are (from left to right) Drs. Gerard Boston, Ted Johnson, Candace Speer Hadden, and Rene LaVergne.



Members of the Class of 1991 who attended the Annual Conference are (from left to right) Drs. Jim Shively, Steve Lemarie, Rose Jackson Lemarie, Sonya Coleman Lavergne, Harriet Howe Simpson, Rob Corley and David Bordelon.

Alumni Update

For information about upcoming alumni activities, to update your contact information or for a list of employment opportunities, go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu and click on Alumni Resources.



Members of the Class of 1996 who attended the 2006 Annual Conference are (front row from left to right) Drs. Robin Viscardis, Christy Parish White, Bonnie Lee Cate, Danielle Callahan Sears, Anne Connella Serdy, Michael Whitlock (back row from left to right) Curt Ritchie, Robin Moore, Maureen Potts McGlynn, Julie Raffety Boone, Liz Villars Patterson and Tom Lomax.



Members of the Class of 2001 who attended the 2006 Annual Conference are (front row, from left to right) Drs. Emily Dugas, Julie Harelson, Laura Blank Meaux, Paul Rist, Melanie Bevere, Pamela Young Smallpage, (back row, from left to right) Jamie Lasiter, Katy Johnson, Diane Wilson, Javier Nevarez, David Tindall, Kim Maddox Bonaventure, Amanda Normand Maciasz, Jimmy Barr, and Jessica Miller.

In May 2006, the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine graduated its 30th class and has now graduated 2,093 veterinarians. Be sure to reunite with your class at the 2007 SVM Annual Conference!

SVM to Host Class Reunions at 2007 Annual

In 1973, the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine welcomed its first class, which graduated in 1977. The Class of 1977 will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2007 with a reunion during the Fall Family Picnic on November 9. The Annual Conference will take place on November 10-11. Other classes to host reunions in 2007 are the classes of 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, and 2002.

For information about these reunions, please contact your class agent.

- Class of 1977: Dr. Steven Gaunt, Baton Rouge, La.
- Class of 1982: Dr. Gary Levy, Metairie, La.
- Class of 1987: Dr. Rebecca McConnico, Baton Rouge, La.
- Class of 1992: Dr. Andrew Plauche, Lafayette, La.
- Class of 1997: Dr. Patrick Sexton, Dubach, La.
- Class of 2002: Drs. Lacie and Stephen Lee, Baton Rouge, La., and Dr. Paul Jenkins, Vilonia, Ark.

To get contact information for the class agents, please contact Stephanie Lindsly at 225-578-9826 or slindsly@vetmed.lsu.edu.

New Coordinator of Alumni and Public Programs

Stephanie Lindsly joined the staff of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine in September 2006 as the new Coordinator of Alumni and Public Programs. Stephanie was hired for the position after Dr. Becky Adcock resigned in August. She will coordinate alumni communications and activities, as well as special events at the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Stephanie has a bachelor of arts in mass communication from Louisiana State University. She came to the SVM from the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center where she was assistant coordinator of continuing legal education. Stephanie can be reached at 225-578-9826 and her e-mail address is slindsly@vetmed.lsu.edu.



Stephanie Lindsly



Alumni Tracks and Baby Vets

1977

Dr. Karen Gordon

received an Angel Award from Blue Cross on

November 13, 2006, for her efforts to improve the quality of life for Louisiana's children. Dr. Gordon created Right to Play, a non-profit organization to fund and oversee a playground that is at least 70 percent accessible to developmentally disabled children. She has raised more than \$300,000 for the effort, and saved another \$70,000 by organizing more than 100 volunteers to assemble the play structure. She was also nominated in 2005. Karen and her husband Robert reside in Shreveport, La.

1981

Dr. Gordon Calahan and his wife Kristi welcomed their third daughter Maura Abigail on September 9, 2006. Maura weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. She joins her big brother Blaine and her sisters, Madison and Meredith. The Calahans reside in Shreveport, La.

1986

Dr. Erin S. Champagne has been elected president of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO). She previously held other officer positions with the ACVO, including a seat on the Board of Regents for five years. A Cambria, N.Y., resident, she became board certified in Ophthalmology in 1993. She is employed at Sheridan Animal Hospital and Veterinary Specialists of Western New York in Buffalo, NY.

1990

Dr. Kevin Watkins of Madison, Ind., was involved in rescuing a dog that had fallen off a 50-foot cliff onto a small ledge above a fast-moving stream at Clifty Falls State Park on October 20, 2006. The dog, a 5-year-old Malamute named Ginger, slipped her collar and tumbled over the steep drop-off while on a vacation outing with her owners, Stewart and Mary

Brown, of Muncie, Ind. Dr. Watkins was called in on the case by authorities when it became apparent that there was no easy way to extricate the dog. He repelled down the cliff face to evaluate the dog's condition and administer sedatives so she could be placed in a basket and pulled up the cliff. Upon examination in his office, Ginger was found to have only minor injuries and was reunited with her grateful owners.

2000

Dr. Renee Thompson Carter and her husband Joel welcomed their second child, Noah James, on October 23, 2006. Noah weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20 in. long. The Carters also have a daughter, Lily. Renee is an assistant professor of ophthalmology at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, and the Carters reside in Baton Rouge, La.

2001

Dr. Melissa Whited Tabb and her husband **Dr. Todd Tabb (LSU '00)** celebrated the birth of their second son Maitland Jackson on November 3, 2006. His big brother Tyler turned three on November 27, 2006. The Tabbs live in Cuthbert, Ga., where they run a mixed animal practice together.

2002

Dr. J. Paul Jenkins (LSU SVM Class Agent) and his wife Melissa welcomed their first child Madeline "Maddie" Elaine on October 8, 2006. The Jenkins reside in Vilonia, Ark.

2003

Drs. Corey and Kelli Holloway Jones announce the birth of their first child Hayden Michael. Hayden weighed 5 lbs. 11 oz. and was 19 in. long. Corey works as a relief veterinarian for the Huntsville, Ala., area, and Kelli is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Poultry Veterinarians. She works as a technical services veterinarian for a poultry genetics company in Huntsville, Ala.

2005

Dr. Diana Hamilton and her husband announce the birth of their first son Ashton Shane on October 6, 2006. Ashton weighed 6 lbs. 15 oz.. The Hamiltons reside in Walker, La.

2006

Dr. Samantha Ray and her husband Ryan welcomed their first child, Ryleigh Brooke, on May 24, 2006. Ryleigh weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz. and was 21 1/2 in. long. The Ray family resides in Maumelle, Ark.

Keep in Touch

Please help the SVM keep up with you by providing us with your current contact information. You can send an e-mail to Pat Edwards at pedwards@vetmed.lsu.edu or go on-line at www.vetmed.lsu.edu/keep_in_touch.htm.

The LSU SVM has also introduced a new e-mail newsletter, the SVM Update, to supplement the now-quarterly La Veterinaire. To receive the SVM Update e-newsletter, contact Pat Edwards as indicated above to make sure that the SVM has your current e-mail address or go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu and click on "Subscribe to LSU SVM's monthly e-newsletter." To submit items for the SVM Update, contact Ginger Guttner at gguttner@vetmed.lsu.edu or (225)578-9922.

In Memoriam

Virgil Edward Ford, DVM, a retired veterinarian who served the poor for nearly 50 years, died on December 19, 2006, at his Baton Rouge home after suffering a heart attack. He was 88 years old. A man with compassion for those with four legs--as well as two--Dr. Ford, accepted patients whose owners were short on cash at his Dog and Cat Hospital on North 19th Street in Bat Rouge, La.

"Growing up poor in Marion County, Miss., during the Great Depression, Dr. Ford dreamed of being a veterinarian after he listened to a radio program about the profession," said his daughter Ginger Ford. "After serving with the U.S. Army during World War II, Dr. Ford attended Mississippi State University, earning a degree in animal husbandry. Soon after, he enrolled at Texas A&M University and became licensed in veterinary medicine."

Dr. Ford came to Baton Rouge after graduation to work with Dr. Arthur Prescott, who had been running the animal clinic on North 19th Street since 1918. Dr. Ford did not retire until 1997. "He worked in the impoverished

neighborhood for decades--either discounting his services for as little as \$9 or performing them for free," said Ms. Ford. "He lost a lot of money for himself, but he wanted to help people. Since he retired, many people have said that if it wasn't for my dad, they wouldn't have been able to have a companion animal. The elderly, the poor, college students and children--they all felt the same way."

A private, family graveside service was held on December 22 in Spring Cottage, Miss.

Mark Raymond Otto, DVM, RPH, passed away at East Jefferson Hospital, on October 25, 2006. Dr. Otto is survived by his wife Melissa Cashen Otto, his son Matthew Raymond Otto, his step-children Bradley, Christopher and Daniel Binnings, his daughter-in-law of Eri Yoshida Binnings, his mother Lillian Nugent Otto-McCarthy, his sister Deborah Otto Monaghan, his sister-in-law Terri Monaghan, his nieces Jennifer and Stephanie Bogle, his grand niece and nephew Hailey and Hunter Loubre, his father-in-law Norton Cashen, his sister-in-law

Melinda Cashen Croft, his brother-in-law, and his nephew Cashen S. Croft. He is preceded in death by his father Gerald Raymond Otto and his mother-in-law Constance F. Cashen.

Dr. Otto was 51 years old, a native of Lafayette, La., and a resident of the New Orleans area for the past 45 years. He was an avid LSU fan and a charter season ticket holder for the New Orleans Saints through the present. Dr. Otto was a graduate of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine and the Xavier Pharmacy School. He was devoted to his family, friends and patients (human and animal) and served on many committees throughout his years at East Jefferson General Hospital, including the Palliative Care Committee, the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, and the Oncology Committee. Dr. Otto spent many hours working with Elder Advantage in providing drug counseling to senior citizens, and presented several Inpharmation classes to hospital staff.



LSU SVM Alumni --

Please let us know how you are doing and what is going on in your life. Complete and return this form to us today!

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LSU Begins Four-Year Capital Campaign

Louisiana State University recently announced the launch of **Forever LSU: The Campaign for Louisiana State University**, the largest, most ambitious fundraising effort in the university's history with a goal of raising \$750 million by 2010, the 150th anniversary of LSU.



The campaign, named in reference to the last line of the university's Alma Mater, is an outgrowth of the national Flagship Agenda – a plan to position LSU as one of the leading public institutions in the nation.

“Public support assures that LSU is a good university; private funds will guarantee that it is a great university.”

-- LSU Chancellor Sean O'Keefe

“Working with one of the lowest endowments of a public flagship institution, LSU has excelled across the board despite its limited resources and has remained competitive with its peers,” said LSU Chancellor Sean O'Keefe.

Coordinated by LSU's three foundations – the LSU Foundation, Tiger Athletic Foundation and the LSU Alumni Association – the campaign involves LSU's main campus, the LSU AgCenter and the LSU Law Center.

The campaign's contributions will fund four areas of LSU, known as the campaign pillars, which encompass student support, faculty support, university-wide support and campus infrastructure.

School of Veterinary Medicine

Campaign Goal

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine has set an academic unit goal of \$22.5 million for the Forever LSU campaign in the following areas:

Student Support

Endowment for Educational Support

-- The Mary Bird Perkins Student Support Fund provides students with financial assistance to enhance their educational experience or to meet educational needs. The funding can also be used to support expenses for attendance of training programs and educational conferences and to serve as financial awards for special achievements.

Endowment for Graduate Student Stipends

-- Graduate students contribute significantly to SVM research, and any investment in them results in enhancement of the school's research profile. This endowment will provide financial support to graduate students seeking their master's or doctoral degrees.

Faculty Support

Endowed Chairs -The SVM seeks to fund three new endowed chairs that will provide for the recruitment and support of an internationally recognized scientist in each academic department. The *Department of Pathobiological Sciences* will house the chair in infectious disease research. A chair in biomedical cell and molecular biology would enhance the already strong status of the *Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences*. A chair in the *Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences* will provide a veterinarian with a background studying disease problems in small, large, and/or exotic animals. Each endowment will support the academic activities of the chair, including instruction and research, equipment and materials, professional development, and travel.

Infrastructure Support

The *Equine Isolation Unit* will provide for the care of horses with infectious diseases. The facility is needed to house horses with infectious, contagious diseases (strangles, salmonella and clostridial diarrhea) and potentially zoonotic diseases (rabies) away from other patients of the Large Animal Clinic.

The *Equine Reproduction Unit* will include a semen evaluation laboratory, a semen-freezing laboratory, and an in vitro fertilization and gamete transfer laboratory. The facility will also include an area with four stalls for mares and foals, four paddocks, and a covered stallion collection area with breeding mount.

The *Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana* is the the only full-service wildlife education, rehabilitation, and research facility in Louisiana. Funding is needed for increased operational expenses and a new facility. The WHL sees more than 1,700 native and migratory animals annually. Since 1997, the number of animals received by the hospital has increased 93 percent.

All gifts to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine received through June 30, 2010, will be counted toward the Forever LSU capital campaign.

To make a contribution to these or any area that you choose to support, please visit www.vetmed.lsu.edu and click on “Giving a Gift,” use the form included in this publication or contact Pat Edwards, director of institutional advancement at 225-578-9870 or pedwards@vetmed.lsu.edu.

SVM Sets Goal of 30% Alumni Participation in Honor of Class of 1977

The School of Veterinary Medicine has set a goal of 30% alumni participation in donations to the School before June 30, 2007. The SVM is asking for 30% alumni participation in honor of the Class of 1977's upcoming 30th reunion.

With the Class of 2006, the SVM graduated 2,093 veterinarians. While still a young school compared to others in the country, LSU SVM graduates are highly sought after professionally and academically, competing successfully for residencies and internships.

Your generous contributions help fund scholarships and awards for future veterinarians, faculty support, scientific research, and new construction and renovations. You can designate how you would like your gift utilized.

The SVM not only educates future veterinarians; it also offers advanced degrees and serves as a premier biomedical research institution and veterinary teaching hospital. SVM alumni can be proud of what their School has accomplished and of the vision and goals it hopes to achieve. However, as the SVM's scope broadens, so do its financial needs.

"We're asking our alumni to give back to the School that has given so much to them," said Pat Edwards, director of institutional advancement. "Schools and universities are relying more and more on private donations to continue their programs, and we appreciate your support. Alumni support of the School makes a significant impact on our students, our program, and on our future." Alumni can either use the form below to make their donation or can visit our website at www.vetmed.lsu.edu/giving.htm.



Thank you to our donors!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to those who made financial contributions to the LSU Foundation to benefit the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine during the fiscal year of July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006. Financial contributions in 2005-2006 totaled \$2.4 million. We are especially thankful to those who supported us in providing for the animals displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The roster of donors is located at www.vetmed.lsu.edu. Click on "Giving a Gift" and then on "Dean's List of Donors." Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this roster. Please report any discrepancies to the Office of Institutional Advancement (225-578-9870 .. pedwards@vetmed.lsu.edu or 225-578-9948 .. mcarter@vetmed.lsu.edu).

The progress of the School relies on the private donations from our friends, alumni and colleagues. We thank you for your continued commitment to the future of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine.

How can I support the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine? Visit <http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/giving.htm>

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La Veterinaire

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

Spring 2007

Diagnostic Lab Changes Name and Funding

The State Diagnostic Laboratory is announcing two new changes: the name has changed and so has the source of funding support. First, the name of the lab has changed from the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory to the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (LADDL). The reason for the name change is to differentiate the laboratory and its diagnostic mission from the academic mission of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine.

Second, the source of state funding that has partially supported

the laboratory operations in the past has changed. Historically, the laboratory has received some support from the Department of Agriculture and Forestry. However, through actions of the 2006 legislative session the laboratory will now receive its funding directly from the state, and it will function as a service unit of the School of Veterinary Medicine.

The LADDL, accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, is a full-service diagnostic laboratory that processes approximately 35,000 cases

a year for private citizens and the state. The LADDL also oversees the Arbovirus Surveillance Laboratory, the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, and the Louisiana Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. For information about the diagnostic lab, please visit <http://LADDL.lsu.edu>.



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.



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