

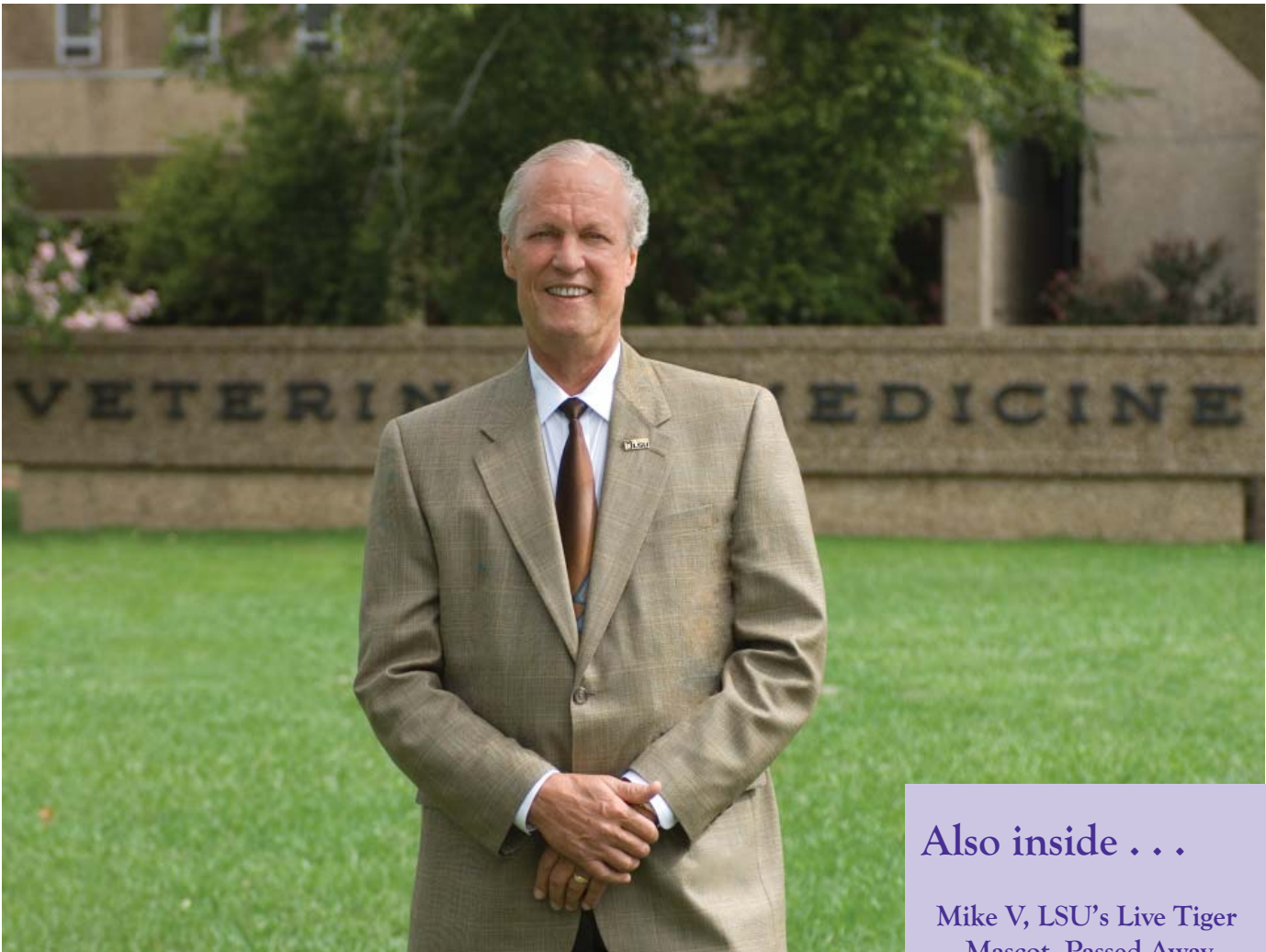


La Veterinaire

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

Summer 2007

LSU Appoints Peter F. Haynes as Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine



LSU named Peter F. Haynes as dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, effective June 1, 2007, pending a vote by the LSU Board of Supervisors on July 12, 2007. Dr. Haynes joined the faculty of the SVM in 1974 as an assistant professor and veterinary clinician. He has served the SVM in many offices during the past 33 years and was appointed interim dean in July 2006. Full story on page 2.

Also inside . . .

Mike V, LSU's Live Tiger Mascot, Passed Away

LSU Schools Collaborate to Bring Dinosaurs to Life

SVM Partners with Community College to Educate Veterinary Technicians



LSU Names Peter F. Haynes as Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine

LSU interim Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Harold Silverman announced Peter F. Haynes as dean of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, effective June 1 pending approval by the LSU Board of Supervisors. Haynes has served as interim dean of the school since July 2006 after the retirement of then dean Michael Groves.

"I believe that Dr. Haynes has demonstrated the abilities and aptitudes needed for this position during his excellent service over the past year as interim dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine," Dr. Silverman said. "He is committed to reinforcing our veterinary medicine teaching program, enhancing our veterinary and biomedical research activities and improving our service to the Baton Rouge community and surrounding region."

"Pete Haynes has been an LSU stalwart and a devoted leader at the School of Veterinary Medicine for three decades. He has earned the LSU family's deepest respect and appreciation for his steady hand,

persistent advocacy for the university, and dedication to the community," LSU Chancellor Sean O'Keefe said. "We are most fortunate to have the opportunity to benefit from his continued dedication in this important new leadership role he is about to assume."

Dr. Haynes received a bachelor's degree in veterinary science in 1967, a doctor of veterinary medicine degree in 1969 and a master's degree in clinical science in 1974, all from Colorado State University.

Following an internship at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Haynes began his academic career as an instructor of large animal surgery in 1970 at CSU and then as an equine ambulatory clinician there from 1971-1974. He came to LSU in 1974 as an assistant professor and veterinary clinician in the veterinary clinical sciences department.

During his time at LSU, Dr. Haynes has served as section chief of the large animal clinic from 1975-1984, associate professor and veterinary clinician in 1976, associate

chief from 1990-1994, interim associate dean for research and advanced studies from 1994-1996, associate dean for research and advanced studies from 1996-1999, associate dean of administration from 1999-2000 and executive associate dean from 2000-2006.

Dr. Haynes' research and clinical interests include equine surgery (orthopedics and lameness, respiratory and general soft tissue, including the abdomen) and equine sport-related disorders (obstructive upper respiratory tract disease and forelimb lameness in poor performing athletes). He has done presentations and written extensively on these topics. His work has been published in more than 65 book chapters, articles in refereed journals, refereed bulletins and abstracts. He has also been part of 16 grants and contracts during his career.

"This is a quality program in veterinary medical education, and we will continue to work on the positive trajectory established in recent years to enhance our national reputation, competitiveness and responsiveness to the needs of our profession and constituents locally, nationally and beyond," said Dr. Haynes.

Guided by the strategic plan, one of the immediate goals is to establish temporary solutions for space as the School awaits construction of a separate building for the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. An additional \$250,000 in direct state appropriation was secured for operations of the laboratory.

The SVM is in the final phases of its comprehensive facility master plan, which has been overseen by Dr. Haynes from its inception. The master plan was established to audit

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LSU School of Veterinary Medicine

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Peter F. Haynes, *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*

La Veterinaire is published by the Louisiana State University, School of Veterinary Medicine, Office of Public Relations. Communications should be addressed to Editor, La Veterinaire, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

professor of veterinary surgery in 1977, professor of veterinary surgery in 1981, assistant director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics from 1984-1990, co-director of the Equine Veterinary Research Program from 1985-1994, equine service

LSU Hires New Director for Veterinary Teaching Hospital

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine has hired Steven Winkler as the new director of the School's Veterinary Teaching Hospital & Clinics. Winkler started at LSU on May 1 and comes to the University from the MSA Consultants Corporation, which he established in July 2005 as a healthcare and risk management consulting corporation.

Winkler previously served as director of ancillary services at the LSU Health Care Services Division at Earl K. Long Medical Center and prior to that held an executive administrative position at Baton Rouge General Medical Center.

Winkler received his Master of Health Administration degree from Duke University in 1978 and his Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University in 1976. He is a certified professional in healthcare risk management, a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, a fellow of the American Society of Healthcare Risk Managers, and an associate in



risk management with the Insurance Institute of America.

As hospital director, Winkler is responsible for all facets of hospital administration, finances and personnel. The LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital is a referral hospital that provides state-of-the-art veterinary medical care to animals in Louisiana and the southern United States. The Veterinary Teaching Hospital treats over 17,000 cases annually.

New Faculty

Dr. Wendy Wolfson has joined the faculty in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences as an instructor of companion animal surgery and as wellness coordinator for the Southeast Louisiana Spay/Neuter/Animal & Community Wellness Focus in Phase 2. This position is funded through a grant awarded from the Humane Society of the United States with co-principal investigators Drs. Susan Eddlestone and Joseph Taboada. Dr. Wolfson received her DVM from LSU in 1986. She has been a shelter veterinarian for the past 21 years in New Orleans, La. Dr. Wolfson has been an active participant in the LSU SVM for many years serving as a volunteer in the Large Animal Clinic, bestowing "white coats" upon third year students and participating annually in the student admissions interview process.



Haynes . . .

(Continued from page 2)



the current space issues and prioritize needs into the future. "It is quite apparent that space limitations will continue to hamper the SVM's progress, and we will have to make more efficient use of existing space and seek to build new structures," said Dr. Haynes.

Other goals of the new administration are the hiring of new faculty and the acquisition of new technologies. "We face issues seen by veterinary education nationally," said Dr. Haynes, "namely, recruitment and retention of quality faculty scientists, especially in the clinical specialty areas. We will continue to do everything we can to acquire contemporary research and diagnostic technologies, such as the recently acquired digital imaging in radiology, and we are acquiring an MRI."

The School will also continue in its efforts to solicit private funds. "We need a diverse portfolio of state funds, grants and contracts, and private giving," said Dr. Haynes. "In fact, it has become increasingly apparent over time that the future of unique value-added initiatives in the SVM will rely primarily upon the generosity of private donors who recognize that our programs are highly valued by the broad society that we serve."

"In the final analysis, we must create an environment for success," continued Dr. Haynes. "It all starts with people. By creating an environment for personal growth and the success of our faculty, staff and students, we can enhance our educational, research and service programs, which will then make our students more competitive in the workplace, our researchers more competitive for grants and contracts, and our constituents more satisfied with our service."



Mike V, the LSU Tiger Mascot, Passed Away

The Louisiana State University tiger mascot, Mike V, passed away at 2:23 a.m. on May 18. Mike V was born October 19, 1989, and had been at LSU since he was four months old. He was 17 years old at the time of his passing.

The Passing of Mike V

Mike was brought to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine on Wednesday, May 16 for a routine exam. His veterinarian, Dr. David Baker, noticed that he was having trouble breathing the day before. During the exam, it was discovered that he had a condition called "idiopathic chylothorax," a serious condition with a poor prognosis. Because of this condition Mike had to have emergency surgery to remove 10 liters of fluid from around his lungs. Given his age all surgeries are risky, but without surgery it is doubtful

that he would have lived another week. As a result of the anesthesia, Mike's kidneys failed. He was placed on renal dialysis, but treatment was unsuccessful.

Remembrances of Mike V

"I think every fan has their own story about Mike and their own relationship with Mike, whether that was close or distant," said Dr. Baker. "Approximately 100,000 people a year came to visit Mike, and I can't tell you how many people have told me their own stories of what Mike means to them, and that's what's important. That's why Mike's so special and such a special part of the LSU community."

Dr. Sheldon Bivin was director of the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine and LSU's attending veterinarian for 25 years. "I had Mike III at the end of his time at LSU, Mike IV for all of his time at the University,

and Mike V for his first seven years," said Dr. Bivin. "Mike V was a very docile cat, and we were able to do a lot of things with him."

During his tenure at LSU, Mike V had 19 student caretakers. Here are some of their remembrances.

From **Dr. Jeffrey Perret (LSU '90)**: "Dr. Bivin one day came to the door of my Clinical Pathology Lab class, waving and whispering, 'Psst, come over here!' I snuck over to the door, and he told me a tiger cub had been donated by a breeder in Alabama to replace Mike IV, who was slated for retirement. He was about to leave to pick it up and wanted to know if I wanted to come along. He and I drove to Moulton, Ala., to pick up our new cub, Mike V. He rode back in a large Pet Taxi in the back of Dr. Bivin's 4Runner.

For several weeks, Mike V lived at the SVM, while Mike IV's living arrangements at the Baton Rouge Zoo were finalized. I'd bring him up to the courtyard for some exercise in the evenings or on the weekends. Even though the building was relatively empty, he would draw quite an audience. On the day of his official unveiling, it was a media event at the old tiger habitat. We introduced him to his living quarters for the first time and swam with him in the pool.

We were able to be hands-on with Mike V until I graduated. Having been raised in the breeders' home early on, Mike V was very gentle and playful. We would walk him on a leash to baseball and basketball games, play with him unleashed on the front lawn of the SVM, wrestle with him, etc.

I always said that being Mike's caretaker was the best student job on campus. I'd have done it for free, but the Athletic Department paid me. What a deal!"

From **Dr. Rollie Norris (LSU '92)**: "The one thing that I remember the most was we got to swim with him in



Photo courtesy of Jim Zietz, LSU Public Affairs



the enclosure. I think I was the last person to have physical contact with him before he got too big. Over the years, there was a sound he always made as a cub, and he made it all the time. Every time I went back, I would make that noise, and he recognized it, so he always remembered that communication. I went back in 2006, and the enclosure was surrounded by people after a football game. I made the noise, and Mike's head popped up. He bounced up and looked around, and everyone asked me how I got him to do that. Everyone was saying, "That man just made the tiger talk!"

From **Dr. Shelly Phillips (LSU '92)**, the first female veterinary student to work with the tiger mascot: "I was very saddened to hear of Mike V passing. Rollie Norris and I took care of him between six months to two years of age. I was able to care for Mike V when he was a cub and lived at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. We were able to play and interact with him a great deal. We also played with him in the enclosure and in his pool until he was about 280 pounds. My grandfather graduated from LSU in 1939 and donated 25 cents towards the purchase of Mike I, along with the rest of the student body at the time. To be given the opportunity to care for Mike V was a great honor. He was a wonderful mascot, represented LSU well and will be greatly missed."

From **Dr. Jeffrey Artall (LSU '94)**: "I would spend hours with Mike. I spent about two hours a day with him. I always visited him whenever I returned to Baton Rouge, and he always remembered me. Being with him was the best part of my time at LSU."

From **Dr. Lance Hidalgo (LSU '96)**: "I was very saddened to hear the news of Mike's passing. It was an honor to be a part of his time at LSU. Dr. Randolph Hayes and myself were caretakers at the time and enjoyed every minute of it, especially football season. For the past 10 years, when we get together or talk on the phone,

Mike has always been a premier topic of conversation. Randolph was actually the one who gave me the news that morning.

Mike meant 'LSU' to me. From the pre-game festivities on the field and the enormous crowds at the cage, to the normal Sunday mornings, engagements at midnight, to the children relinquishing their pacifiers to Mike in a little known tradition, or just visitors from out of town, someone was always at the cage. Families pass on their love for LSU to their children through "Mike The Tiger". Mike was my first experience with LSU as a child and will continue to represent LSU for me as an adult. As a parent, my wife and I, took our children to see Mike and hoped to pass on this pride in LSU to them. He will be missed by all."

From **Dr. Shane Parker (LSU '98)**: "My oldest daughter was born my last year of veterinary school, and she went with me every time I fed Mike. I have great pictures of her coming with me to see Mike and great memories of my time with him."

From **Dr. Matthew Wheelock (LSU '02)**: "Since I graduated veterinary school, there is not a day that goes by that I don't think about Mike. He was a special cat. We spent a lot of time together in those two years (many times at 3:00 a.m. between study sessions). A lot of time was spent feeding and cleaning, but the interactions we had were fun. He liked to be chased and liked to play hide and seek. He liked to be petted and scratched. Kirk [Maurer] and I did our best to come up with projects that might help with enrichment. Many of the projects did not go quite how we expected.

We thought he might like to chase some

fish. Since his pool was too big and too deep to successfully catch fish we decided he might do better with a 4" hard plastic kiddie pool. We put the pool in the day before we were going to put fish in to get him ready for it. Instead of being scared, he immediately dumped all the water (not a small feat) and dragged the pool all over his enclosure including up the rocks to the high part of the cage. We tried a few more times, but never actually got fish in the pool. It didn't matter since he would spend quite a bit of time carrying around the pool.

It was a real honor to work with such a special animal. I regret that I did not get to see him in his new enclosure but am certain that his last few years were comfortable. I will miss him very much."

From **Dr. Blake Tunnard (LSU '04)**: "It was the best job I ever had and something I was lucky to get to

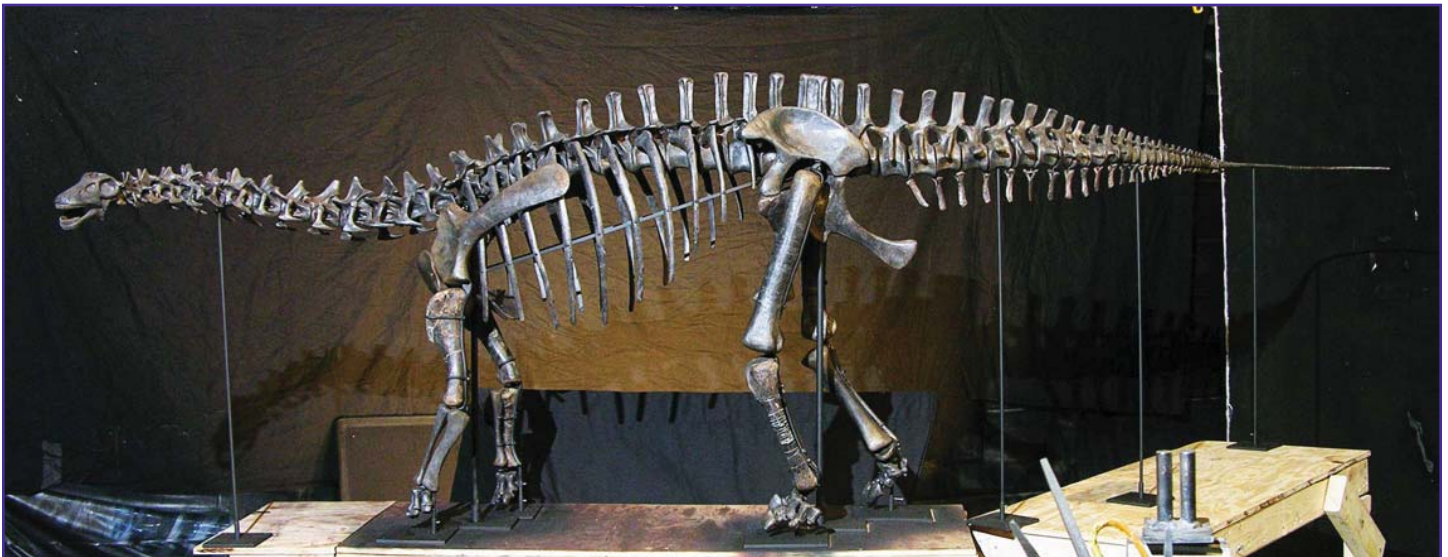
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Mike V's Student Caretakers

1990:	Dr. Jeff Perret (LSU '90)
1990-92:	Drs. Rollie Norris and Shelly Phillips (LSU '92)
1992-94:	Drs. Jeffrey Artall and Mark Gentry (LSU '94)
1994-96:	Drs. Lance Hidalgo and Randolph Hayes (LSU '96)
1996-98:	Drs. L. Shane Parker and David B. Webre (LSU '98)
1998-00:	Drs. Leeth Harper, Jr. and Stephen Eastman (LSU '00)
2000-02:	Drs. Matthew Wheelock and Kirk Maurer (LSU '02)
2002-04:	Drs. Kevin Bankston and Blake Tunnard (LSU '04)
2004-06:	Drs. Nelson Lewis and Timothy "Toby" Wallis (LSU '06)
2006-07:	Wendy Day and Wesley Lee (Class of 2008)



LSU Schools Collaborate to Bring Dinosaurs to Life



This skeleton of a baby Apatosaurus was completed because of the collaborative work between the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine and the LSU College of Engineering. This skeleton is soon to be part of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History's Dinosaurs in Their World exhibit in Pittsburgh, Pa. Photo courtesy of Phil Fraley Studios.

Two LSU colleges have collaborated to help complete a baby sauropod skeleton for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, Pa. The museum has had mounted sauropods since 1907, when the first sauropod in the collection, *Diplodocus carnegii*, was exhibited. “The discovery of *Diplodocus* was the reason why the museum got built in the first place,” said Ellen James, spokesperson for the museum. Sauropods are large, quadrupedal, terrestrial dinosaurs of the order Saurischia that lived during the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods. In 2005 the museum decided to add to the exhibit and remount the sauropods based on the latest paleontological research.

With the help of Dr. Ray Wilhite, instructor at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, who provided the digital dinosaur bones, and the LSU College of Engineering, where the bones were rapid prototyped, the Carnegie Museum will soon have a baby *Apatosaurus* as part of its exhibit, “Dinosaurs in Their World,” which is

scheduled to open in the fall of 2007.

“The museum had bits and pieces of the baby sauropod but not a complete skeleton,” said Dr. Wilhite. “The proportions of their limbs don’t change as they grow (isometry), so we can scale the adult bones down to create a model of a juvenile.” Dr. Wilhite took some three-dimensional digitized sauropod bones created using a Microscribe point digitizer to the College of Engineering, where scaled-down models were printed. Dr. Wilhite described the process of three dimensional point digitizing as “throwing a drape over a chair; you get the shape of the chair but not the chair itself.” Dr. Wilhite digitized more than 100 bones as part of his dissertation on sauropod limb biomechanics and several were used for the Carnegie project.

This dinosaur journey began when Dr. Wilhite and his mentor, Dr. John McIntosh, a world-renowned authority on sauropods, visited the Carnegie Museum and met with Phil Fraley, whose production company in New Jersey is remounting the

dinosaur exhibits. While looking at the exhibits, Dr. Wilhite studied the sauropod legs and realized that he could help; he was asked to consult on the project.

“The museum knew that it was missing some baby sauropod bones and was going to have them sculpted,” said Dr. Wilhite. He had recently toured the College of Engineering and, knowing that the college had the capability to print the bones in their three-dimensional printer, suggested using this technology to the museum. Dr. Wilhite contacted Engineering’s Associate Dean Warren Waggenspack who put him in touch with the College’s Communication Studio Coordinator Warren Hull, who oversaw the creation of Dr. Wilhite’s scaled-down bone replicas.

Using the 3-D printer, the College of Engineering was able to build functional models of the replicas from the bottom up, one layer at a time using acrylnitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) plastic in filament form. A digital three-dimensional file was imported into the printer



Newly completed bone models of juvenile sauropod bones ready to be removed from the 3-D printer.

controlling computer showing each bone's surface geometry. The printer's accompanying software automatically sliced, oriented the parts, created the support structures, and plotted the precise deposition path for the printer to follow. Auto-loading cartridges, filled with ABS plastic filaments, were fed into an extrusion head, heated to a semi-liquid state and deposited in layers as fine as 0.010-inch (0.254 mm) thick. Upon completion, the support structures were removed, and Dr. Wilhite had 3-D models of sauropod bones.

Part of LSU's Communication across the Curriculum (CxC) Initiative, the Engineering Communication Studio specializes in building communication skills and teamwork crucial for the success of today's working engineers and industry leaders. Similar teamwork between the School of Veterinary Medicine and College of Engineering made it possible for Dr. Wilhite to communicate more easily the true features of the sauropod to the Carnegie Museum.

"We encourage students and faculty to explore innovative applications for our 3-D printer, such as the project completed by Dr. Wilhite," said Dr. Hull. "Collaborations such as this demonstrates one of the many values of the communication studio concept."

Mike V . . .

(Continued from page 5)

do. I visited him every time I came back to Baton Rouge. He was a gentle, sweet cat. He knew who we were and would follow us and watch us. That was a pretty cool thing to have him recognize us."

From *Dr. Nelson Lewis (LSU '06)*: "Mike will truly be missed. He was such a 'cool cat' and loved to have his belly rubbed and play in the pool. I think the neatest thing about taking care of Mike was the fact that he knew who I was. There could be a bunch of people hanging around the habitat, and he would lay there and ignore them. I would walk up and talk to him, and he would come running up to the fence. I'm extremely glad that Mike was able to enjoy his new habitat before he died, and it was very neat to be there to introduce him to it."

From *Wendy Day (Class of 2008)*: "Caring for LSU's Mike V during his last year is a memory I will always hold close to my heart. My favorite memory of Mike is when he would watch me walk up to his enclosure, then he would get up and walk over to me and greet me with a prusten (a short, noisy, low-intensity sound used by tigers as a friendly greeting or reassuring call)."

From *Wesley Lee (Class of 2008)*: "I cannot recall a time when anyone, child or adult, was able to ask a question or share a story about Mike V without smiling. He was special in a unique way to every individual who ever held his or her breath and had difficulty describing with merely words the experience of a first encounter with him. Mike is an awesome testament to the beauty and wonder of God's creation...the perfect balance of power and grace. It has truly been a blessing to walk a while with such a magnificent animal. He will be greatly missed."

Mike the Tiger Facts

Mike V was donated to LSU

by Dr. Thomas and Caroline Atchison of the Animal Zoological Park in Moulton, Ala. He was introduced to LSU fans at the LSU-Alabama basketball game in February 1990, and he was moved into his home, north of Tiger Stadium, on April 30, 1990.

When Mike V first came to LSU, his night house was part of the original habitat constructed in 1937. In 1981, Mike's outdoor enclosure had a \$175,000 renovation, making it three times larger. A capital fundraising campaign kicked off in 2001 to raise funds to build a new habitat for Mike V. Construction began in November 2004 and was completed in August 2005. The new habitat incorporates natural substrates, including grass, and also includes elements of LSU's renaissance architecture and facts educating Mike's visitors on the five living subspecies of tigers.

Two of LSU's Tiger mascots (Mike I and Mike III) lived 19 years, and Mike IV lived 20 years 9 months and 18 days. The average lifespan for a tiger in the wild is about 8-10 years. A tiger in captivity, like Mike V, can live 14-18 years.

Obtaining Mike VI

Plans are underway to acquire a new tiger. "The LSU mascot is part of the LSU community, part of the LSU family – a tradition for 71 years – and we intend to obtain another tiger," said Dr. Baker, who is conducting the search for a male Bengal cub.

There is no deadline set for the acquisition of a new live tiger mascot. "It's a different world now than it was 17 years ago when we obtained Mike V, and things in that whole area are constantly changing," said Dr. Baker. "There are many sources of tigers, and I'm not so concerned about getting a tiger quickly as I am about getting the right tiger for LSU."





A Moment in the History of Veterinary Medicine

A Series by Dean Emeritus Everett D. Besch

Memorable Moments During the Development of the School of Veterinary Medicine

Drs. E.D. Besch and M.C. Morrisette

1. November 1967: Chancellor Cecil B. Taylor requested that Dr. Besch return to LSU to further discuss the School of Veterinary Medicine project. Upon learning of Dr. Besch's travel itinerary, which brought him to the campus late at night, the Chancellor said, ". . . upon arriving on campus, go to the Faculty Club on Highland Road. The entrance door key will be in the lock. Relock the door upon entering and go to the second floor. The entrance door key will be in the lock of the guest room where you will spend the night. See you in the morning." This would not happen in 2007.

2. April 15, 1968: The Office of the Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine was established in Rooms 386 (Dean's Office) and 387 (Secretary and School's office) of Ruffin G. Pleasant Hall, the Continuing Education Center for the Baton Rouge campus. Pleasant Hall had been recently converted from a women's dormitory to the CE center. The School's first office was a dorm room with a sink and a closet.

3. January 1969: Letter from the AVMA Department of Education and Licensure, to the Commissioner of Education, DHEW, indicating the AVMA Council on Education, December 7, 1968, granted a "Letter of Reasonable Assurance of Accreditation" to the developing LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. A letter of reasonable assurance was issued also in 1969 and 1972 to support the School's construction grant applications. In 1976, the School received "Provisional Accreditation" and in March 1977, received "Full Accreditation" prior to the graduation

of the first class and while in interim facilities.

4. July 19-21, 1969: Site visit by the NIH Veterinary Medical Review Committee in response to the School's joint construction grant application submitted on July 2. The site visit occurred at the same time as the NASA flight to and the first walk on the moon. Both events were competitive--the site visit won.

5. January 13, 1970: Office of the Dean and School personnel (Mrs. M.P. Jammaer, School secretary; Dr. Robert B. Lank, associate dean; Dr. M.C. Morrisette, head of veterinary physiology; and Dr. C.W. Titkemeyer, head of veterinary anatomy) were moved to Room 224 and five additional rooms on the second floor of Audubon Hall. The building had been recently vacated with the completion of the Life Sciences Building. The School eventually took over all space in the building during the next eight and half years.

During the first year in Audubon Hall, fine arts students occupied rooms on the first floor along the east/west corridor, a major thoroughfare for people walking from West Campus Drive to the quadrangle. These students exhibited their 3' x 5' paintings of human body parts in the hallway. On several occasions, Dr. Titkemeyer was sent down to verify the anatomical accuracy of the paintings.

6. The northwest corner of the third floor of Audubon Hall was a large studio complex of one large room and several smaller rooms. School space expanded to include the studio, which on first inspection revealed a "love nest" in the large room consisting of a sleeping pad, pillows, small table with candles, wine glasses, flower vases, etc. Campus Police evicted the involved students, and door locks were changed.

7. September 7, 1972: Letter was received from the Bureau of Health Professions Education Division, BHM, NIH, informing the Office of the Dean that the 1972 Construction Grant Application for assistance in the development of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine was approved and funded for an amount not to exceed \$10,111,115 (the first application in 1969 was approved but not funded). Award was made on March 6, 1973.

8. Funding the grant application led to the finalization of floor plans, authorization to advertise for project bid, February 5, 1973: award of contract to L.W. Eaton Construction Company (low bid on project was \$15,845,000), March 11, 1973: and construction start date of March 16, 1973. Final cost of the physical plant, after modifications and change orders, including fixed and moveable equipment, was \$24,928,481.

9. May 6, 1973: Chancellor Taylor approved the date of program start as of January 3, 1974 (instruction began on January 4) with completion of the first year by August 16 and start of the second year with the University calendar for 1974-75. The School's curricular format was said to be of an integrated, coordinated, and correlated structure in a diagonal design modeled after Case Western Reserve Medical School curriculum. This format lasted about three years. Fees for the first two years were \$400 per semester and raised to \$450 in 1976.

10. May 18, 1973: The University administration approved the release of the public statement announcing the first application period for the School.

11. July 9, 1973: The first steel piling for the multi-storied part of the building was driven into the ground.

12. May 1974: Audubon Hall



doors were replaced and locked from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. daily. This was the first security measure for a classroom building on campus and caused many complaints since the first floor hallway was a major thoroughfare for access to the quadrangle.

13. During the first several years, applicants were asked to provide names of individuals for the Admissions Committee to request letters of reference. Several uncomplimentary letters were received. The worst stated that the applicant “. . .was an unreliable person, who was lazy, a cheat, a liar, etc.,” with the remainder of the letter going downhill from the first sentence.

14. April 17, 1974: The last beam was placed in the steel superstructure of the Veterinary Medicine Building. This steel beam, painted red, white and blue and signed by project officials, formed the top west margin of the

southwest stairwell of the building.

15. March 1975: Members of the first class were represented at the annual meeting of the AVMA Student Chapter Association, Colorado Springs, Colo.

16. September 19, 1976: The LSU Student Chapter of the AVMA was chartered with Roy Gully (LSU '78) elected as the first president.

17. Beginning in 1976, the SVM Student Chapter published periodically a mimeographed publication named *Borborygmi*. Lasted a short time.

18. July 28, 1976: On more than one occasion, a state senator requested from the Dean the names of the School's faculty members serving on the Admissions Committee. The policy of the School, concurred with by the Chancellor, was not to release names of committee members, only that of the chairman, Dr. C.W. Titkemeyer. On this date, when the policy was again hit with another

request, the senator obtained immediately, without opposition, the following Senate Resolution No. 17, “To direct Dr. Everett D. Besch, Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at Louisiana State University, to provide certain information to the Senate or any member thereof.” With concurrence of the Chancellor, such information was sent to the Senator and to the President of the Senate from which no response was received. A favorable outcome of the event and a front page article in the *Morning Advocate* stated that the Office of the Dean was never accused of caving in to political pressure.

19. March 1977: The Tau Chapter of Phi Zeta was installed with Dr. C.W. Titkemeyer as chapter president. Phi Zeta is the abbreviation of the Greek word “Philozie,” which means “love of animals.”

20. May 1977: Estimated annual utility demand for the Veterinary Medicine Building included 30 million KWH electricity, 97.3 million CF natural gas, and 180 million gallons water. Declared the fifth highest utility demand for a state building. Efforts were made to reduce the energy demand.

21. June 13, 1978: Building accepted by the state Office of Facility Planning and Control, police officers were placed in the building on a 24-hour basis, and move-in began June 25.

22. Shortest letter received by the Dean was from a student in a foreign school who wished to transfer to LSU. When informed the University would have to determine residency, the student responded with a letter properly formatted and addressed, “Dear Dean Besch,” two expletives, and signed, “Sincerely Yours.”

23. June 1978: The School received approval to join the National Library of Medicine on-line network and to obtain a terminal for MED-LINE operation.



On April 17, 1974, the last beam was placed in the Veterinary Medicine Building. Painted red, white and blue, the beam was signed by (from left to right) Tom Beyt, project architect (standing at left in white coat); Joe Gossen, director, State Board and Building Commission; Dr. Everett D. Besch, dean; David Broussard, project manager and vice president, Eaton Construction Co.; and three steel workers. The person signing the beam is not identified.



SVM Partners with Delgado Community College to Train Veterinary Technicians

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine has partnered with Delgado Community College in New Orleans, La., to train veterinary technicians. Students enrolled in the program must complete five semesters (67 credit hours) to graduate with an Associate of Applied Science degree. Students spend their final semester in Baton Rouge in the LSU SVM's Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics, where they get hands-on training.

This program began after a meeting between Dr. James Hurrell, director of Delgado's Veterinary Technology Program, and Dr. Dennis McCurnin, professor of veterinary surgery and then director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. "I think this is a great opportunity to help in the educational process of technicians," said Dr. McCurnin. "At the same time, we are able to expose our professional veterinary students to how qualified technicians are trained."

"We had eight students at the SVM in 2007," said Dr. Hurrell. "They were at LSU three days a week for 12 weeks. One day is academic, and the other two days are spent on rotations. Our goal is to have 20 students each year. Four of the eight students we have this year have Bachelor's degrees." Students who participated in the program at the SVM in 2007 are Larissa Devlin (Abita Springs, La.), Erica Dragon (Marrero, La.), Erin Harvey (Metairie, La.), Amy Jandres (Baton Rouge, La.), Ann Schulz (Metairie, La.), Ashley Schwab (Covington, La.), and Emily Zabrecky (Metairie, La.). The next group consisting of 20 students will come to the SVM in January 2008 for their fifth and final semester in the program.

The tuition is \$780 per semester, not including add-ons such as technical or laboratory fees. After receiving their degree, the veterinary technicians are then qualified to take



Larissa Devlin (left) works with Jocelyn Hessel (LSU '07) on a goat as part of Devlin's farm animal rotation.

the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) examination for Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs). The program is currently provisionally accredited, but Delgado College will apply for full accreditation later this year.

"We focus both on technical skills and people skills," said Dr. Hurrell. "We want to work with quality professionals so that our students can get good medical and surgical skills, as well as people skills. The curriculum focus is teamwork, so having the veterinary school component, where our students can work with both veterinary students and doctors, is awesome. To see what our kids are experiencing here just blows my mind."

Holly Carey, RVT, associate clinical specialist, and Dr. Marjorie Gill, professor of clinical veterinary medicine, are coordinating the veterinary technology program at the SVM. "It's working exceptionally well," said Carey. The Delgado students are given an orientation with

each service, and then spend two days a week with that service. "Each technician student is evaluated by the technician or director of each service," added Carey. "Those evaluations are then used to give a final grade."

The students are graded according to their evaluations, which cover a range of things from technical skills to academic knowledge. Each year one student receives a clinical excellence award, and this year's recipient was Erica Dragon. "Erica was selected because she had the highest grade from her clinical rotations," said Carey.

The veterinary technology students can also get their hands-on training in private veterinary hospitals and clinics. "In order to get our students the proper clinical training, our clinical coordinator contacts a hospital coordinator to establish a relationship," said Dr. Hurrell. "Our coordinator goes over a clinical skills checklist from the AVMA to ensure that the hospital can provide our

(Continued on page 11)

Technician Program. . .

(Continued from page 10)

students with all of the skills required. It doesn't necessarily have to be a large practice. However, being a good medical facility is not enough; the doctors and technicians there also have to have a teacher's heart."

The students want to become registered veterinary technicians for a variety of reasons. "I have actually worked in the field for several years as an 'on-the-job-trained' technician, but I wanted to officially become a registered veterinary technician," said Larissa Devlin. "I enjoy working directly with the animals and carrying out many of the nursing duties that the veterinarians may not have time to do."

Devlin added, "I think the training at LSU allowed me to see things I probably would not have seen in most private practices. Also, since it is a teaching hospital and the students are there to learn, the pace is different from a private practice and gives everyone an opportunity to learn. The students and faculty were always helpful in answering questions and explaining procedures. I think working in anesthesiology helped me a lot. I learned how to use a blood pressure monitor while an animal was under anesthesia. This will help me to better monitor patients in the future."

Said Dr. Peter F. Haynes, dean, "The profession is very mindful that veterinary technicians are integral to the delivery of veterinary medical services in the practice setting and the School is pleased to contribute to the training of this valuable resource. The integration of technical support staff both during their training and in the workplace here in our Veterinary Teaching Hospital clearly enhances the 'practice readiness' of our veterinary graduates."

Pharmacy Manager Retires after 29 Years



After 29 years at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Marvene Augustus retired as pharmacy manager at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital & Clinics effective July 6, 2007. Dr. Augustus joined the staff of the LSU SVM on May 29, 1978. She became an adjunct assistant professor of veterinary clinical sciences in 1994. Dr. Augustus received her B.S. in 1972 and her Pharm.D. in 1992, both from Xavier University.

"I have had the pleasure of witnessing 28 graduations," said Dr. Augustus. "I have seen major administrative changes in both the School and within the clinic. There has been exponential growth since 1978, especially in specialty medicine. I remember just before Dr. [Donald] Lingard left, we were discussing retirement, he advised me to stay in fellowship with the people I grew up with, for they will keep me going. I hope there will always be a part of me that lingers around SVM-VTH&C."

Looking Back at the SVM . . .



Dr. Fred Enright (currently the head of the LSU Department of Veterinary Science) presents Margaret von Senden (now Dr. Margaret Fowler [LSU '81]) with the Outstanding Student Award at the 1981 Awards & Honors Banquet.



Chris Sullivan and Shawn Daniels (LSU '94) examine a deer in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

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.



SVM Events



Lonely at the Top, a bronze and steel sculpture by Guffey, Colo., artist Louise Peterson, received the Best of Show award in the School of Veterinary Medicine's 2007 Animals in Art exhibition.



Attending the 20th International Exhibition on Animals in Art at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine are (from left to right), Tracy Teeter, an artist from Ulysses, Kan.; Dr. David Senior, head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences; Denise Westphal, public services librarian; Christine Mitchell, director of the SVM Library; Dr. Peter F. Haynes, dean; Stephanie Lindsly, alumni & public programs coordinator; Pat Edwards, director of institutional advancement; and Michael Robinson, senior director of development for Art & Design. Two hundred and two artists from 37 states submitted 504 entries for the show. Seventy-two pieces were featured in the exhibition.



The School of Veterinary Medicine held its annual summer educational program for children, Pets & Vets, in June. Pets & Vets introduces young children to veterinary medicine and the services offered by the SVM. One of the sessions taught the participants how to surgically repair broken bones (left) and another taught them about horse hooves (right).



The School of Veterinary Medicine hosted the 14th annual Hill's LSU SVM Great Rover Road Run on March 24. Proceeds benefited the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association. The mission of the Hill's Great Rover Road Run is to spread awareness about the importance of proper nutrition and exercise for animals and the negative side effects of animal obesity. Over 200 people came to the SVM to participate in this event.



Bestowing the Louisiana Veterinary Medicine Outstanding Student Awards are Dr. Craig Guidry (left), LVMA President, and Dr. Bruce Eilts (right), professor of theriogenology and LVMA District 9 Representative. Receiving the awards are (from left to right) Julie Schexnider (Class of 2008), Brian Barron (Class of 2007), and Michael Ratcliff (Class of 2009).

**For up-to-date information about the SVM,
go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu!**

To read about the awards given out at the 20th International Exhibition on Animals in Art, the awards and scholarships at the Awards and Honors Banquet, and the students who received their D.V.M. degrees at the 2007 commencement ceremony, please go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu and click on "News and Events."



The SVM hosted a ceremony for the dedication of an Equine Intensive Care Unit Suite in honor of Lexi, who received state-of-the-art ophthalmology surgery in September 2006. The surgery would not have taken place without the help of Lexi's owners. Their generosity did not stop with the surgery; Calzone and Gardes have also established the Lexi Fund to dedicate financial resources toward clinical service, scientific investigation and education endeavors in the field of equine ophthalmology. Lexi is pictured outside of the SVM Equine Lameness Pavilion with her owners Robert Gardes (left) and Julie Calzone, along with Dean Peter F. Haynes (center) and Dr. Eric Storey (right), veterinary ophthalmologist.



SVM Confers 81 Degrees at 31st Annual Commencement



The Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine conferred 81 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees at its 31st annual Veterinary Medicine Commencement Exercises on May 14. Dr. Mark Mitchell, a former associate professor at the School of Veterinary Medicine, gave the commencement address at the ceremony. With this ceremony, the total number of SVM graduates is now 2,174.

Class of 2007 Statistics

All graduating veterinary students are asked to complete a survey from the American Veterinary Medical Association about their future employment or advanced study. The LSU SVM's 81 recent graduates were given the survey, and 65 students completed it.

Of the 65 students reporting, 28 will work in small animal practices, three will work in mixed practices, 16 will pursue advanced study, and one will go into the U.S. Army. The other 17 students did not indicate their employment or had not found positions at the time the survey was completed.

The starting salaries of those 32 graduates who indicated they will

go into private practice or the U.S. Army were averaged according to the state in which they are employed:

State	Average Salary
AK	\$70,000.00
AR	\$54,000.00
FL	\$65,000.00
GA	\$60,000.00
LA	\$62,083.33
MA	\$90,000.00
MS	\$74,000.00
NC	\$71,250.00
NV	\$81,625.00
TX	\$65,000.00
WA	\$55,000.00
TOTALS	\$73,125.00

The starting salaries range from

a minimum of \$51,900.00 to a maximum of \$91,000.00. The average salary for graduates working outside of Louisiana is \$74,792.59, with a maximum salary of \$91,000.00 and a minimum salary of \$54,000.00.

The average starting salary for graduates who will remain in Louisiana is \$62,083.33, with a maximum salary of \$72,000.00 and a minimum salary of \$51,900.00.

The average debt carried by the 2007 graduates is \$99,712.96, with a minimum debt amount of \$6,000.00 and a maximum debt amount of \$250,000.00. The number of graduates with debt is 53 (out of 65 reporting).



SVM Student from First Graduating Class Co-Owms Mixed Practice in Texas

Dr. Bobby Lewis received his D.V.M. from the SVM in 1977, alongside 34 other graduates. After graduation, Dr. Lewis moved to Elgin, Texas, to work at the Elgin Veterinary Hospital. "I took my board examination during December of my senior year and picked up my license in Austin, Texas, on the Monday after graduation," he said.

"When I started working for Elgin Veterinary Hospital, it was owned by two fellows that had other businesses," said Dr. Lewis. "They hired me to pretty much take the practice off their backs." When Dr. Lewis started, it was a mixed but predominantly large animal practice. "My first three years, I did it all," said Dr. Lewis. "I did some small animal work, although the bulk of my work was with large animals, including a lot of cattle work. However, within three years, I had transitioned to pretty much an exclusively equine practice, which has been the focus of the bulk of my career." Now the practice is mixed with four small animal veterinarians, two bovine veterinarians, six equine veterinarians, and one equine veterinary intern.

The practice is also now owned by Dr. Lewis and four partners, one of whom is Dr. Gary Warner (LSU '80). Other LSU graduates employed at Elgin Veterinary Hospital are Dr. Brian Brandon (LSU '00) and Dr. Piper Lambard Norton (LSU '07), both of whom work with the equine practice.

Dr. Lewis is married to Dr. Nancy Lewis (Texas A&M '84), also an equine veterinarian. They have two children, Douglas and Alley. Douglas is in his second year of college, and Alley is about to start her freshman year at Texas A&M.

Dr. Lewis served on the board of directors for the American Association

of Equine Practitioners for most of the years between 1986 and 2000. He also served as president of the AAEP in 1999 and is the only LSU SVM graduate to have done so thus far (although Dr. Peter F. Haynes, Colorado State University CVM graduate and current dean of the SVM, served as AAEP president in 1992).

"I can't speak for every member of my class, but I'd say the whole bunch of us left LSU scared to death because we were the first class," said Dr. Lewis. "We had no barometer to gauge ourselves as to what kind of veterinarians we would be. It didn't take long for me to realize that, without a doubt, we had received the best veterinary education of any students in the United States that year, and it was all due to the committed faculty at LSU. They busted their behinds to see that we got the best education we could get, and I've never forgotten that."

Dr. Lewis received the first Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1990. In remembering his acceptance speech, Dr. Lewis said, "You don't have a feel for your capabilities when you leave school. After meeting graduates from other schools, I soon realized how lucky we were. In my experience with LSU graduates since



Dr. Bobby Lewis (LSU '77)

then, I have to say that they hit the ground running and are clinically very capable veterinarians. It's nice to see that the tradition has held on."

"My class was a small, very close-knit group. There was no clinic until our junior year, and we watched the faculty build the hospital from the ground up, literally. That was a great experience for us. I have a lot of fond memories of LSU and Baton Rouge, and I thank the faculty for everything they did for us."

Dr. Lewis was born in Houston, Texas, but moved to Natchitoches, La., when he was six years old. He was one of eight children. Dr. Lewis graduated from Natchitoches High School and majored in zoology with a minor in mathematics at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches.

**The SVM Annual Conference for Veterinarians and
Veterinary Technicians will take place November 9-11, 2007.
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 Tracks and Baby Vets

1978

Dr. Jane Williston started her term as president-elect of the North Carolina

Veterinary Medical Association on June 29, 2007. She will be president in 2008. Jane and her husband **Dr. Charles Williston (LSU '78)** reside in Charlotte, N.C.

1982

Dr. Steve Lichiello was appointed the Virginia alternate delegate to the American Veterinary Medical Association in November 2006. Steve's appointment was officially approved by the Virginia VMA Board of Directors in February 2007 and will be for a term of four years. Steve previously served for five years as a director from the Piedmont VMA to the Virginia VMA Board of Directors. Steve resides in Forest, Va.

1985

Dr. Gregory Rich announces the re-opening of the West Esplanade Veterinary Clinic on April 23, 2007. The clinic was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina but has now been completely renovated and expanded. The clinic is located on West Esplanade Avenue in Metairie, La.

1990

Dr. Robert J. Craig is the owner of Pineville Pet Hospital in Pineville, La., where he resides with his wife Becky.

Dr. Geri Carlson Sauls directed the musical *Honk* for the West Valley Light Opera Association in Santa Cruz, Calif. Geri has been performing for the last 15 years in Santa Cruz. She has been doing small animal relief work for the last two years in the Santa Cruz/San Jose/Monterrey area.

1994

Dr. Angela Jo Crain Rogers is the owner of Lagniappe Animal Hospital in Robbinsville, N.C., where she resides with her husband Johnny.

1995

Dr. Thomas W. McGown is in the final year of his Ph.D. in aged horse health, management and welfare at the University of Queensland (Brisbane). His wife has taken a post at the University of Helsinki as a clinical teacher in Equine Medicine, so Tom is enrolled as a remote student. He hopes to finish in the early part of 2008. He and his wife reside in Vantaa, Uusimaa, Finland.

1997

Dr. Jose V. Arce and his wife **Dr. Anik Puig (LSU '97)** completed their internships in small animal medicine, surgery and emergency medicine and moved to Puerto Rico, where they worked at separate hospitals after graduation. On September 18, 2003, they opened Miramar Animal Hospital in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Jose and Anik have a six-year-old son, Diego. Jose is involved in the Puerto Rico VMA and currently serves as an AVMA Delegate. He is active in the AVMA Legislative Commission and Convention Committee. Jose, Anik and Diego reside in San Juan.

2000

Dr. Shirani Ambiavagar Hickman and her husband Dave announce the birth of their first child, Patty Jo, who was born on April 1, 2007. Patty weighed 5 lbs. 14.5 oz. and was 18.5 in. long. The Hickmans reside in Ferriday, La.

Dr. Kem B. Singletary passed her Board exam in June 2006 and is now a Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. She has since been promoted to senior laboratory animal veterinarian at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

2001

Dr. Callie Stanley Fogle is a large animal surgeon at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She and her husband Jonathan reside in Raleigh, N.C.

2002

Dr. Rebecca Emanuel McCain and her husband Steve announce the birth of their first child, John Gabriel, who was born on March 25, 2007. John weighed 4 lbs. 13.9 oz. and was 19 in. long. The McCains reside in New Roads, La.

2003

Dr. Kimberly Deskin-Ruth and her husband Tommy Ruth announce the birth of their daughter, Libby Mae, who was born on December 14, 2006, in Houma, La. The Ruths reside in Thibodaux, La., where Kimberly practices veterinary medicine.

Dr. Nikki Palermo and her husband Scott Denoux announce the birth of their twin boys, Christian Anthony and Luke Michael. Christian weighed 3 lbs. 15 oz., and Luke weighed 4 lbs. 6 oz. The twins were born on February 2, 2007. These are Nikki and Scott's first children. Nikki works at the Animal Hospital of Orange Grove in Gulfport, Miss., where the family also resides.

2004

Dr. Jessica Lannes is working at Alafaya Trail Animal Hospital in Oviedo, Fla.

2005

Dr. Meena Ishikawa completed graduate studies in public health and epidemiology and received her MPH from the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, La., in May 2007. Meena is working at All Pets Hospital and Mistretta Veterinary Clinic, both in Baton Rouge, La.

2007

Dr. Sherrie Jean is working as a laboratory animal resident at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Piper Lambard Norton is working as an intern at Elgin Veterinary Hospital in Elgin, Texas. She and her husband Patrick reside in Manor, Texas.



“Voice of Tiger Football” Leaves Unrestricted Estate Gift to LSU SVM

On Halloween night in 1959, LSU football player Billy Cannon made his famous fourth-quarter, 89-yard punt return for a touchdown that beat Ole Miss 7-3 in Tiger Stadium. Many people were not able to witness this event in LSU history, but they did hear about it through the “Voice of Tiger Football” J.C. Politz. “He really made you feel like you were at the game,” said his niece Kathy Politz.

Politz was a radio and television sportscaster who called games for LSU, Southern University, the St. Louis Cardinals and more. He was also a U.S. Army Corps waist gunner on a B-24 during World War II. Politz passed away on April 25, 2006, at the age of 81.

Out of his profound love for LSU and his love for animals (particularly his mixed breed dog Hobbs), Politz left an estate gift of \$100,000 to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine.

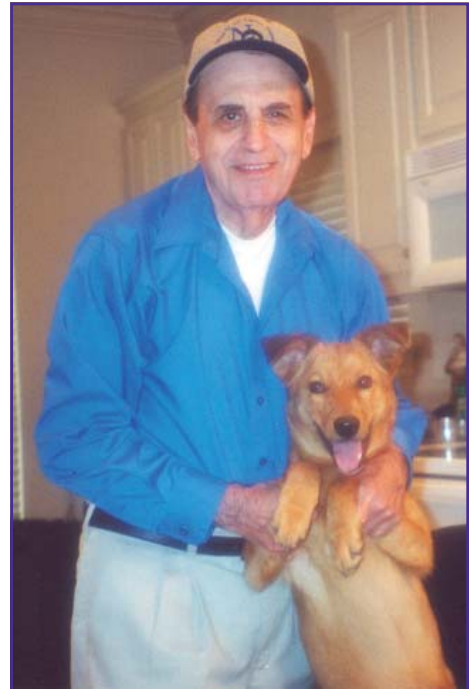
Politz’s gift was used to create the Philanthropic Partners Fund, which is an account for unrestricted donations to the SVM. The revenue in the fund will be expended at the discretion of the Dean of the SVM.

“Unrestricted gifts such as this provide flexibility and spontaneity to address specific needs that will enhance our programs when other means are unavailable,” said Dean Peter F. Haynes. “We are grateful to Mr. Politz for his generosity.”

“Years ago, Uncle J.C. lived in a house on Roosevelt Street near campus with his mother and sister. One day a pregnant, stray dog came up to the house,” said Kathy Politz. “He kept the dog and two of the puppies and took the dogs to the LSU veterinary hospital for treatment.”

Four years ago, Politz adopted a puppy he named Hobbs from Highland Road Animal Hospital. He got Hobbs after his sister passed away so he wouldn’t be lonely. “His eyes lit up when he talked about Hobbs,” said Kathy Politz, who has the dog now.

Remembering her uncle, Kathy Politz said, “Uncle J.C. was so humble. I don’t think he ever realized how well-known and talented he was. He was always surprised when someone recognized him. He was really family-oriented and loved to talk to his friends, but if I could name only one character trait to describe him, it would be ‘big-hearted.’ He sincerely cared about others, and if you ever helped him, even in a small way, he could not rest until he repaid you in kind.”



J.C. Politz, pictured here with his dog Hobbs, left an unrestricted gift of \$100,000 to the LSU SVM.



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, 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.

Kathy Politz (second from left) presents her Uncle J.C.’s estate gift to Dr. Peter F. Haynes, dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine. Also accepting the gift are Pat Edwards, director of institutional advancement, and William G. “Bill” Bowdon, LSU Foundation president.



LSU Alumni Create Memorial Scholarship for New Orleans-Area Veterinarian



Family, alumni and friends of Dr. Kim Michels, who passed away on April 19, 2004, after a long bout with cancer, have established a scholarship in her memory at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine.

The Dr. Kim Michels Memorial Scholarship will be awarded each year to a Year III full-time veterinary student. The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a student based on his or her service to the community as exemplified by Dr. Michel's hard work, compassion and willingness to help others.

Dr. Michels received her D.V.M. from Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine in 1978. She owned Mobile Veterinary Services and provided house calls throughout the New Orleans area. She also served as the staff veterinarian for the Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter (JPAS) in Harahan, La. Dr. Michels is survived by her husband and their three children.

Throughout her career, Dr. Michels served in offices and on committees for the Southeast Louisiana Veterinary Association,

the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association, and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. Michels developed the Pets Need Vets program in New Orleans, La., which provided free initial care to animals adopted from the JPAS, and she organized volunteer veterinarians to provide medical care for shelter animals. Dr. Michels also organized a pet food drive for elderly pet owners.

To make a donation in memory of Dr. Michels, please contact Pat Edwards at 225/578-9870 or pedwards@vetmed.lsu.edu.

Dr. Michels and Chris LaGrange, her husband at the time of her death, conceived the plan to dedicate \$10,000 of her estate to set up a scholarship for veterinary students that met a certain criteria modeled by Dr. Michels' willingness to give back to the community. After Dr. Michels passed away, a committee was formed to set up a scholarship in her memory. The committee consisted of Chris LaGrange, Dr. Gregory Rich (LSU

'85), Dr. Gary Levy (LSU '82), Dr. Violet Nix (LSU '79) and Dr. David Hesse (LSU '78).

"Unfortunately, Hurricane Katrina came, and it stalled our plans," said Dr. Rich. "I continued to collect funds to set up the scholarship, and, with the blessing of Kim's husband and mother, contacted LSU about setting up the scholarship, which we established in March 2007."



Dr. Susan Eddlestone (right), assistant professor, presents the Dr. Kim Michels Memorial Scholarship to Julie Schexnider (Class of 2008).

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La Veterinaire

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

Summer 2007

Mike V, 1989-2007



Mike V, LSU's live tiger mascot, passed away on May 18, 2007. These photos of a young Mike were taken by Harry Cowgill.



Mike V visits with LSU SVM students (from left to right) Phillip Cancilleri (LSU '90), Jeff Perret (LSU '90), Tim Paladino (LSU '90), Craig Guidry (LSU '90), and Dr. Sheldon Bivin. The woman on the right is not identified. Full story on page 4.

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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