

WINTER 2011

Florida VETERINARIAN

ADVANCING ANIMAL, HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

UF | College of Veterinary Medicine



Tending a terrier

Senior UF veterinary student William "Jared" High checks on Jeffrey, a Parson terrier, in the progressive care area of the new UF Small Animal Hospital on Nov. 8.

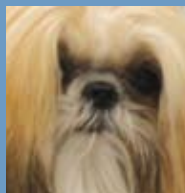
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Off with a Bang

This new year has started with a bang here at the college, where we are still celebrating the successful grand opening of our new UF Small Animal Hospital in November and optimistic about more good things to come.

At the end of October, we held several events, including the official dedication with the UF leadership, legislators, donors, and others who made the project possible. It was a special treat to have two emeritus UF CVM deans, Richard Dierks and Kirk Gelatt, attend the ceremony. We hosted a special dedication ceremony for our faculty and staff and followed these events with open houses for veterinarians and the general public. Our hospital strategic plan is focused on delivering exceptional service to the patient, the referring veterinarian and our clients. In the two months since the new hospital opened, we have continued to fine tune our customer service and brainstorm ways to improve our operation at every level. We have made changes to the hospital administrative structure with the appointment of Dr. Dana Zimmel to a new position as chief of staff for both the small and large animal hospitals. One can sense we are making progress on all fronts.

This issue of the newsletter will hopefully provide you with a feel for our grand opening activities. We especially want to acknowledge all of our donors, whose meaningful contributions to our new hospital totaled nearly \$10 million. To say that we appreciate all that our donors have done for us is a huge understatement, but we will always be indebted to our supporters for all they do for us – and in particular, for helping us achieve our dream of opening the spectacular new Small Animal Hospital, which we are convinced is the finest in the world.

The project is nearly finalized and the new hospital opened for business on Nov. 1. There is ongoing work to be done before we finish. The old hospital, which adjoins the new facility, will be renovated and in some cases, repurposed. The pharmacy will expand and the shelter medicine program will move into the former surgery area. The acupuncture and rehabilitation service will have renovated space and the zoo medicine service's space will be expanded. In addition, we are constructing a new auditorium that will seat 160 and will accommodate the expected DVM class expansion. One of the best aspects of the facility construction, and one we are proudest of, is that it is all fully funded.



Dr. Carsten Bandt, emergency medicine and critical care specialist, is shown at left with Dean Glen Hoffsis, Vam York and members of the York family, which contributed to the new emergency space. The group is standing inside the emergency entrance to the new UF Small Animal Hospital.

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UF President Bernie Machen, Chris Machen, Dr. Dale Kaplan-Stein, '81, and Robert Kaplan-Stein stand in front of the exam room donated by the Kaplan-Steins.



Dr. Julio Ibanez, '80, left, and his wife, Maria, named an exam room.



Several members of the Florida Veterinary Medical Association are shown inside the medicine treatment room that FVMA contributed to.

The college strategic plan also contains a component for management of DVM student enrollment. We have increased the number of seats for Florida residents from 80 to 88 per class. We also increased enrollment of non-resident students from eight to 12. This provided more opportunities for students to obtain a DVM from UF. Going forward, we plan to gradually increase the number of non-resident students as facilities can be built or adapted to meet these needs and more faculty can be hired to deliver an enhanced education to all of our students.

We have already begun the process of increasing faculty numbers. I am excited to announce that, following a national search, we have hired Dr. Paul Cooke to serve as our new chairman of the department of physiological sciences. Dr. Cooke is presently a professor and serves as the Billie A. Field Endowed Chair in Reproductive Biology in the department of veterinary biosciences, University of Illinois. Dr. Cooke will begin his new job at UF in February. I want to thank Dr. Paul Davenport, a professor of respiratory physiology, for his service as interim chair of physiological sciences since Dr. John Harvey vacated the chair position to become our executive associate dean in 2008.

The hiring of a new physiological sciences chairman is just the start of what will be a progressive expansion of the faculty in both the basic sciences and in the clinical sciences. Several national searches are currently underway and recruitment efforts will continue for the foreseeable future. The next step will be to develop a strategic plan for research. Our college has gradually slipped in its research funding over the last several years as budgets have been cut and research-intensive faculty have been lost. We will create the strategies to restore and exceed our previous research productivity levels to where we should be, and to what is expected at a top-tier veterinary college.

There are many challenges facing veterinary colleges, and indeed, the profession. These include concerns for student debt, starting salaries and practice income, supplying rural areas and other underserved careers, recruiting outstanding faculty, funding our programs in an environment of shrinking state budgets and many others.

I think your college is on a good course and is poised to make major progress in the near future. Many people are working extremely hard, every day, in our UF Veterinary Hospitals, in our laboratories, and in our administrative offices, to make this happen. It truly does take a concerted effort to effect real change, and also the continuing support from all of you — our friends, alumni, donors, referring veterinarians, among others — to transform this vision to reality.

Thanks again to everyone for bringing us to this point. We are excited about the future and wish all of you a Happy New Year!

Glen Hoffs
Dean



Dr. Rowan Milner, Hill's Professor of Oncology, with Heidi and Rob Ferdinand in front of an exam room contributed by the Ferdinands.



Dr. Amy Stone, clinical assistant professor and chief of the primary care and dentistry service, with donors Franklyn and Barbara Meyers. The Meyers named the primary care and dentistry area.



Tom Wagner and Dr. Nanette Parratto-Wagner at an exam room named in memory of her parents and family dog.



Dr. Catherine McClelland, veterinary affairs manager for Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc., and Dr. Christine Jenkins, director of academic affairs for Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc., stand outside the kiosk that Hill's contributed to.

All photos by Ray Carson

Room naming opportunity gave alumna one more way to give thanks



Photos courtesy of Dr. Nanette Parratto-Wagner

Thomas Wagner and Nanette Parratto-Wagner are shown at home with their three dogs. Tom has Scooter in his right hand, Sammy in his left hand, and Nanette has Magoo on her lap.

For Nanette Parratto-Wagner, D.V.M., Ph.D., '85, gratitude is a way of life made real by philanthropic giving to UF, which paved the way for her own success, and to encourage others who will follow the veterinary career path.

"UF gave me a chance to prove that I was capable of achieving my childhood dream," she said. "God gave me the talent to accomplish this, but I owed the college much more than the tuition I paid for my education."

A 1985 graduate of the UF CVM, Parratto-Wagner initially planned to repay her debt of gratitude to the college by giving annually, for as long as she could, an amount at least equal to the tuition she would have had to pay, had she attended veterinary school at the University of Pennsylvania. That was the only other veterinary school Wagner considered applying to, because she grew up in that state.

"I finally had an epiphany and realized that I could move to 'the promised land' — Florida," Parratto-Wagner said. "UF accepted me into graduate school and supported my desire to blend a Ph.D. with a D.V.M."

As the years passed, she promised herself that if the opportunity arose to give back in a more meaningful way, she would do so.

"So annual giving to the college and the Pet Memorial program expanded into the room naming opportunity," Parratto said.

When the new UF Small Animal Hospital opened this past fall, Parratto-Wagner named an exam room in memory of her parents, Antoinette N. Parratto and Leonard R. Parratto Jr., and "O'Dee, the Wonder Dog."

Parratto-Wagner's parents, who were never pet lovers or pet owners, allowed her to pick her first dog, from a neighbor's litter. She chose the runt, and her father named the puppy "Oh, God" in Italian.

"My parents adored O'Dee, possibly more than they indulged me," Parratto-Wagner said. "They would have approved...no, they would have insisted, that we make this sacrifice. My husband, being the genius that he is, said 'yes'."

Parratto-Wagner feels the new Small Animal Hospital provides an immediate benefit to veterinarians and their clients in Florida, southeastern Georgia and the Caribbean.

"The new hospital contains some one-of-a-kind clinical services that will draw referrals from across the nation and world," she said. "The featured services listed on the Website just touch on the most obvious key elements that make this facility unique."

Local residents of Alachua County and surrounding areas will benefit from the expertise available 24-7 through the new state-of-the-art emergency service, which integrates into full patient care services, Parratto-Wagner added.

"The linear accelerator is equivalent to or better than most human hospitals, allowing patients to receive radiation therapy for many more conditions than just cancer, i.e., pain control and arterio-venous malformations, among others," she said. "This is the only veterinary facility in the state, and possibly east of the Mississippi, that can provide such a level of care and teach the next generations of veterinarians."

One feature Parratto-Wagner, who works as a relief veterinarian for Pershing Oaks Animal Hospital in Orlando, is specifically



▲ Antoinette and Leonard Parratto, now deceased, indulged their daughter's desire for a pet.

► O'Dee was Dr. Nanette Parratto-Wagner's first dog.



DONOR PROFILE: Rob and Heidi Ferdinand

impressed by is the completely digitized electronic record keeping system, which she said is more advanced than in most human hospitals.

“Most people will not get care this carefully monitored,” she said. “This system is so advanced that it is designed to augment the teaching experience in real time, allowing students to actually see what is happening in the patient during surgeries, something that none of my cohorts were able to do with any regularity. Students

will have more exposure to more procedures with much clearer understanding than has heretofore been possible.”

Parratto-Wagner said she would always be grateful to the UF CVM for offering the education that opened doors to an amazing and varied career.

“I’ve never been bored or broke,” she said. “I’ve always been entertained by my work and couldn’t have asked for a better outcome. Giving back was the least I could do.”

By Sarah Carey

Longtime hospital clients honor level of care, their dogs with exam room gift

Heidi and Rob Ferdinand, residents of Winter Park, Fla., have been clients of the UF Small Animal Hospital for more than 10 years. During that time, they lost Buster, a Labrador retriever, at the age of 13 to lymphoma after seeing him snap back from life-threatening medical problems, not once, but three times.

They’ve seen their remaining 10-year-old dog, Allie — short for Alligator — be transformed from a rescue dog with eyes swollen shut and severe skin allergies to a smooth-coated, magnificent golden retriever with bright eyes and a normal life.

When UF’s new small animal hospital opened in November 2010, the Ferdinands felt compelled to acknowledge, with a significant financial gift, the quality of care they have consistently received for their animals.

“We just have had a really positive experience with the college, so we decided to donate for an examination room,” Heidi Ferdinand said. “We did this, one, because of the level of care we have received, and two, in memory of our dogs that have had care given to them at UF.”

Of the two dogs, Buster received care for the longest period of time.

“He had the most longevity, but we almost lost him from health issues at least three times,” Heidi Ferdinand said. “Each time, UF veterinarians were able to save him.”

She said Buster had experienced a ruptured spleen, a bacterial overgrowth infection and finally, lymphoma. He recovered from the first two things and was treated for lymphoma. However, eventually Buster’s cancer spread to his brain.

“Unfortunately, we could not prolong his life,” Heidi Ferdinand said. The Ferdinands rescued Allie when she was approximately 6 years old.

“When we first brought her to UF’s dermatology service, they told us they thought she would not be salvageable because her case was one of the worst they’d ever seen,” Heidi Ferdinand said. “It’s been a great experience to see how her condition has turned around. Now Allie’s coat is perfect, and she actually looks like a dog.”

The Ferdinands drive more than two hours for every trip they make to UF, and are glad to do it.

“The quality of care, the staff here — it’s amazing,” Heidi Ferdinand said. “People know us by our first names. We compare it to the Mayo Clinic of human health care. We could go to other specialty practices, but we just feel the level of experience, the care and compassion at UF is not like anyplace else we’ve experienced. That’s why we feel UF is kind of a home away from home.”

By Sarah Carey



Rob and Heidi Ferdinand with their dogs, Buster, now deceased, and Allie.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Ferdinand

New UF Small Animal Hospital dedicated Oct. 22

Well-wishers gathered inside the festively decorated atrium of the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine's new Small Animal Hospital on Oct. 22 for a dedication and ribbon-cutting, which also recognized donors for their help in bringing the \$58 million project to fruition.

"The stars literally lined up," said college dean Glen Hoffsis, D.V.M., alluding to the many years of hoping, dreaming, talking and planning that had passed before the facility could finally open its doors.

"This building we're dedicating tonight was talked about by at least two deans before me," he said, adding as Florida's only veterinary college, UF serves an enormous population. "Over time, we'll need more veterinarians, and the old hospital facility was a choke point for our growth. We now have the ability to better serve both students and clinical faculty, and most importantly, the animals we care for."

He called the new hospital "the finest in the world" and thanked the many internal college and UF staff members, current and former administrators, architects, contractors, Florida's state veterinarian, the college's alumni council and the Florida Veterinary Medical Association, as well as state legislators for their support.

UF President Bernie Machen, who makes a rule of not visiting UF buildings while under construction, stood inside the 100,000 square-foot hospital for the first time. He called it "an incredible moment." The new facility, he said, "takes your breath away."

"Sixty percent of American households have pets," Machen said. "People think of their pets as families, and these facilities really are the nation's best."

He added that the UF veterinary college was one of the special attributes of the university.

"We can take care of pets that no one else can take care of," Machen said. "By allowing the college to expand enrollment and for all these other reasons, the new hospital is a wonderful addition to UF, but also to the county, the state and the nation."

Larry Cretul, outgoing Speaker of Florida's House of Representatives, said the event was one of his last official duties.

"Others have called this building the best in the world, and I'll second that," he said, adding that he had worked with UF for several years to support the project, which has long been on the Legislature's radar screen.

"Today we take a major step forward," Cretul said. "It's no secret people love their pets, and from the standpoint of care, there is no better place than here. This new hospital is good for UF, good for the state and good for pet owners."

University of Florida Board of Trustees member Danny Ponce officially accepted the building on behalf of the trustees.

"Nancy and I have had a couple of pets, including a Scottish terrier named Montana, who wouldn't put her leg down after we returned home from a Florida-Georgia game," Ponce said. "I brought her here to Dr. Dan Lewis, who, by the way, is the best veterinary orthopedic surgeon in the world. It turns out Montana had torn her left rear ACL (anterior cruciate ligament.) I had no idea dogs even had an ACL. Seven years later, she's still doing well."

In his introduction of David Guzik, M.D., Ph.D., senior vice president of health affairs and president of the UF&Shands Health System, Hoffsis noted the uniqueness UF enjoyed by virtue of being a part of such a major health center, and said the veterinary college faculty, and ultimately, hospital patients, benefited from the collaborations this synergy makes possible.



From left to right: Dr. Dana Zimmer, chief of staff, UF Veterinary Hospitals; Danny Ponce, UF trustee; Dr. Jack Payne, senior vice president, UF IFAS; Dr. Glen Hoffsis, CVM dean; Caty Love, UF veterinary student; Dr. David Guzik, senior vice president, UF HSC; Rep. Larry Cretul; Dr. Bernie Machen, UF president; and Dr. Colin Burrows, chairman, department of small animal clinical sciences.

“There truly is this ‘one health’ idea, and what better place to spearhead that idea on campus than right here,” Guzick said. “Dr. Michael Schaer said to me earlier this evening, ‘This is a shooting star.’ Grab hold of it, and, congratulations.”

The new UF Small Animal Hospital triples the previous working space and contains a fully integrated cancer referral and treatment service, including a linear accelerator with cone-beam CT (image guidance) unique to Florida and most of the country. The hospital also has one of the nation’s only veterinary interventional radiology and cardiology facilities.

The building has 22 new examination rooms, 12 surgical suites, including dedicated and custom rooms for laparoscopy and arthroscopy, more treatment areas, including facilities for emergency medicine, intensive care, progressive care and isolation, and an expanded endoscopy room with laser lithotripsy. The hospital offers 24/7 emergency and critical care services as well as primary care and dentistry facilities.

By Sarah Carey



In top left photo, Dr. Rowan Milner, Hills Professor of Oncology, gives an overview of the uses of the new linear accelerator. Victoria Ford of Jacksonville is shown at right. Below inset photos show an angled view of the new hospital and a view of the dog walk area from a window inside the new building. Guests gather for the grand opening ceremony on Oct. 22, top right, and the new catheterization laboratory is shown in below right photo.

Photos by Ray Carson and Russ Bryant

Veterinary oncologists break new ground with cancer treatment



Veterinary oncology technician Amy Beaver visits with Sophie during one of her early visits to UF's oncology service for treatment.

When Sgt. Troy Ferguson of the Pasco County Sheriff's Office and his wife, Laura, held a memorial service in Hudson, Fla., for their beloved dog, a yellow Labrador named Sophie, more than 100 people paid their respects. Among them were law-enforcement officers, friends, and University of Florida veterinary surgical oncologist Nick Bacon and veterinary technician Amy Beaver, who works with the oncology group at the UF Small Animal Hospital.

The Fergusons believe UF veterinarians gave them two-and-a-half more years with Sophie, who was diagnosed in May 2008 with urethral cancer. Sophie became something of a media celebrity after her illness because of several community fundraising campaigns to raise the money needed to save her life. She was celebrated at the service for her contributions to law enforcement and also to the lives of many people she touched as part of her search and rescue work.

"Sophie's life was extended as a direct result of the care she received at UF," Laura Ferguson said. "Without treatment, she would have lived maybe a month or two. Sophie was even able to continue her search work, until four months ago."

Bacon said Sophie ultimately died of kidney failure, not cancer.

"Sadly all animals ultimately die, but it's unheard of to have that length of survival in a urethral cancer patient," he said.

In conjunction with Frank Bova, Ph.D., a professor of neurosurgery associated with the university's McKnight Brain Institute, UF veterinary oncologists treated Sophie with stereotactic radiosurgery, a new procedure for veterinary medicine that involves sophisticated image guidance and targeted, high-dose radiation, administered through the use of a LINAC Scalpel, a stereotactic linear accelerator invented at UF that has long been used to treat human cancer patients. At the time Sophie was treated, the oncology team was only beginning to use the procedure to treat urethral cancer in dogs. UF became only the second veterinary hospital in the country to use the technique.

Since then, UF veterinarians have performed nine urethral and three prostate cancer procedures in dogs. Bacon presented the team's findings to the Veterinary Cancer Society in Las Vegas

in March, and at the American College of Veterinary Surgeons meeting in Seattle in October.

Bacon said the addition of a linear accelerator to UF's Small Animal Hospital, which opened in November, means that stereotactic radiosurgery can now be performed in a veterinary setting instead of the McKnight Brain Institute, although collaborations with faculty and staff there will continue.

"Having the linear accelerator located on-site in our hospital makes everything quicker and simpler," Bacon said. "There will be no restrictions on when we can do these procedures, so we can treat our patients even more expeditiously and also take advantage of other UF veterinary faculty expertise more easily when we need to."

The urethra is found in people and animals and is essentially a tube exiting the bladder through which urine can leave the body.

"Any tumor, even an early one, can cause complete obstruction," Bacon said. "Once there is an obstruction, most animals are put down within days. Even with other types of therapies, most are put down within weeks. Chemotherapy has some effect, but it seems high-dose radiation can also help. Sophie received a combination of radiation and chemotherapy."

**"Sophie's life was extended
as a direct result of the care
she received at UF."**

— Laura Fergusson

In some cases, using another technologically advanced method known as interventional imaging, UF veterinarians are able to temporarily alleviate the obstruction with a urethral stent. The oncology program purchased stents with private funding in 2007, and veterinarians learned how to use them, in order to get the urethral and prostate cancer treatment program off the ground, Bacon said.

"Now we can see a dog with urinary obstruction on day one, diagnose the problem and stent the urethra under one procedure," he said. "Without our interventional program, you might not be

able to go in and irradiate the tumor afterwards, so it's very important to have all of these capabilities on site."

In cases of urethral cancer, dogs can be acting entirely normally — playing, eating, running, barking — but they are unable to urinate, Bacon said.

"So owners have a dog that one day looks normal, then the next day they are being told they have to put the dog down," he said. "It affects dogs with almost no warning, and any dog can be affected. These dogs are typically euthanized after days to weeks. Four of the nine urethral cancer dogs we treated lived longer than six months, and two lived longer than one year. With the advanced imaging, advanced radiation and advanced surgery we offer, we are really furthering the boundaries of what is treatable in canine cancer."

Oncology veterinary technician Beaver said the memorial held for Sophie was a reminder of why she loves her job. A poster she had given the Fergussons two years ago, which documented Sophie's care and treatment at UF in scrapbook form, was on display at the event.

"It was an affirmation that I'm in the right profession," Beaver said.

For more information about the UF Small Animal Hospital or to make an appointment, see www.vethospitals.ufl.edu or call 352-392-2235.

By Sarah Carey



Sophie touched many lives as an active member of the K-9 team she was associated with.

Photo courtesy of Laura Fergusson

UF veterinarians save “sponge” dog, warn pet owners to monitor animals’ chewing behavior



Dr. Ashley Allen and Dr. Rob Armanzano are shown with Regal in the UF Small Animal Hospital during a recent check-up.

Photo by Sarah Carey

When Faye Johnson unexpectedly lost her 16-year-old shih tzu, Royal, to a heart attack in February 2009, she grieved deeply. The dog was one of her last ties to her husband, who had passed away eight years earlier. So she sought out Royal’s breeder, and by December, she had Regal: a bright-eyed, silky smooth puppy from Royal’s bloodline that sleeps in the bed with her at night.

But one night Regal was having trouble breathing and woke Johnson up. It became clear he was fighting for his life.

When Regal arrived at the UF Small Animal Hospital on July 31, he was immediately seen by the Emergency and Critical Care Service and placed in an oxygen cage.

"Our initial physical examination showed signs of expiratory respiratory distress, meaning he was having difficulty getting air out of his lungs," said Ashley Allen, D.V.M., a small animal medicine and surgery intern who worked closely with Regal. "Chest films showed a suspicious object blocking most of his trachea, or main airway, and severe collapse of the trachea in front of the blockage."

Veterinarians also found that Regal's stomach was filled with fluid and gas, and an ultrasound test revealed the presence of a fibrous-like foreign body in his stomach.

They discussed their options with Johnson, who gave the UF veterinary team the go-ahead to proceed with anesthesia to pass an endoscope down Regal's trachea and, if possible, his stomach as well.

"With the endoscope, we were able to visualize and remove a foreign object in his trachea," Allen said. "Since Regal was doing reasonably well under anesthesia, we were also able to remove several foreign bodies from his stomach."

The foreign bodies were pieces of a sponge-like material, but when veterinarians asked Johnson about their findings, she was stumped.

"I asked Mrs. Johnson to just look around the house while Regal was with us, just to make sure he didn't have anything hidden anywhere," Allen said.

Johnson did, and her findings surprised everyone: Regal had been eating the stuffing inside of his dog bed.

"He was putting his head under the cover of the bed and eating the sponge," Johnson said.

"There is a huge hole in the sponge. He must have been eating it for weeks."

She added that the bedding Regal had eaten was not visible unless the cover was completely removed.

After veterinarians removed the sponge material from Regal's stomach, he remained in the hospital's Intensive Care Unit over the weekend.

Subsequent rechecks have gone well, and Johnson and UF veterinarians say he is doing very well.

"He is back to being a happy, playful puppy," Allen said. "Mrs. Johnson has disposed of his previous bed and monitors him closely at home."

Allen added that Regal's case illustrates that with prompt medical attention, patients with critical needs can have a good outcome.

"Treating these patients successfully often requires a team effort between the multiple clinicians, including the emergency doctor, the radiologist, the internist and the anesthesiologist," she said. "I think Regal's story also serves as a reminder for owners to provide puppies with toys and bedding that they cannot easily chew up."

It's always good to monitor closely any pet playing with a stuffed toy, and to dispose of the toy if the pet starts tearing it up.

"Crate training puppies is also a good idea, so that they don't get into things while unsupervised," Allen said. "Puppies are much like toddlers who are just learning to walk. They like to be naughty and get into anything within their reach."

In Regal's case, Johnson didn't even know he had been chewing on the bedding, Allen added.

"Without the doctors and the excellent equipment at the UF Small Animal Hospital, Regal would have died,"

— Faye Johnson

"She is a wonderful owner who loves Regal with all her heart," Allen said. "Now that she knows he has a habit of eating things, I think she will be making some environmental changes at home to try to prevent this from happening again."

As for Johnson, she is thankful she was able to get her puppy the help he needed to save his life.

"Without the doctors and the excellent equipment at the UF Small Animal Hospital, Regal would have died," Johnson said. "I barely got him there in time. Every person I have come in contact with at the UF Small Animal Hospital has been extremely pleasant and the quality of care cannot be surpassed."

For more information about the UF Veterinary Hospitals, visit www.vethospitals.ufl.edu.

By Sarah Carey

Small animal expertise boosts treatment of baby horse at UF Large Animal Hospital

When a quarter horse colt born with a severely deformed right hind limb arrived at the University of Florida's Large Animal Hospital last May, equine veterinarians recognized that traditional methods used for straightening abnormal legs in foals would not work. But several months, procedures and one small animal surgeon later, the foal is living the good life at home in Palmetto, Fla., running and training on four good legs.

"Traditionally, when you perform an acute correction, you break the leg and then plate it, all at once," said Ali Morton, D.V.M., assistant professor of large animal surgery at UF. "In this case, the amount of correction needed would have probably compromised the blood supply and the lower part of the limb likely would have died. There also is a significant risk of infection, which is why these types of procedures often fail in horses, even in the best circumstances."

Morton then consulted one of her colleagues who treats small animals at the UF Veterinary Hospitals — Dan Lewis, D.V.M., a professor of small animal orthopedic surgery and an internationally respected expert on the correction of limb deformities. For more than a decade, Lewis has used a technique in which the deformed bone is cut surgically, and an device called a circular external skeletal fixator secures and gradually straightens the bone — a process called distraction osteogenesis. The gap that forms between the bone segments fills in quickly with new bone.

"Dr. Lewis has contributed significantly to the literature on distraction osteogenesis, so we called him, and he looked at the foal's leg," Morton said. "Our biggest concern was its size, since at 5 weeks old, this foal weighed 220 pounds and was much bigger than your average dog."

Traditionally in horses, the fixator is pinned to the bone segments. But it quickly became evident that pins were not the answer.

"Within 24 hours, the foal bent some of the pins," Morton said. "Within 48 hours, he broke one pin. By then, we were at the point of either trying something different, or euthanasia."

UF's veterinary team was literally down to the wire — an "olive" wire.

As a last resort, Lewis contacted John Madden from Smith and Nephew, a company that manufactures circular fixators for human patients. The foal's fixator was made from components used in dogs

and cats. Madden provided olive wires, which contain a bead, or "olive," secured along the wire's length. These wires, when applied under tension, provided the stability to resist the incredible forces imposed by the 220-pound foal.

Lewis was familiar with the product because he had used this human system to successfully stabilize a fracture in a tiger.

"We didn't know what would happen, but we were willing to try," Morton said. She spoke to Anne Prince, owner of the foal, and explained the options.

The Princes own a quarter horse farm in Palmetto, and are longtime clients of the UF Veterinary Hospitals.

"Mrs. Prince said, 'Let's try it,'" Morton said. "She said we shouldn't give up unless things got to the point that the foal was suffering. So we took out the broken pins and put in four olive wires, and over the course of the following three weeks, it seemed to be working."

Five weeks later, additional surgery was performed, during which additional wires were placed for reinforcement. Serial radiographs and measurements confirmed that the deformity had been corrected and the fracture gap just needed to fill in with new bone.

In time the leg had healed to the point that veterinarians began to stage removals of rings and wires. A CT scan was performed on the foal's leg, and he remained at the UF Large Animal Hospital until his discharge.

"To my knowledge, this is the first time sequential correction, which employs a circular fixator and distraction osteogenesis, has been used to correct a limb deformity in a horse," Lewis said.

Morton credited Lewis and the foal's owners, the Princes, along with the foal himself for the case's ultimately successful outcome.

"The only reason this worked was first, Dr. Lewis, but also the Princes, who treat all of their animals very well and allowed us to do everything we did," Morton said. "The foal was also an excellent patient the entire time."

By Sarah Carey



On the day of the foal's discharge, Dr. Ali Morton and the UF Large Animal Hospital patient care team presented the foal's owners, Chester and Anne Prince, with a framed photo of their foal, signed by all members of the care team, along with vital "Gator Gear."

Photo by Sarah Carey

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Arthur & Kathleen Hornsby
William S. Hopper Family Trust
Jack B. Humphries (d)
Scott & Vicki Hunt
Jean Imperato (d)
Clara S. Inman (d)
Joseph E. Jablonski (d)
Barbara C. Joslin (d)
Richard Z. Kane '84
Marilyn N. Keehr
Dorothy R. Klick
Jacalyn N. Kolk
Joseph A. Korjenek (d)
James M. Kosmas
Carol Levine (d)
Morton J. Levine
Dorothy Luder (d)
Georgia A. Lyons (d)
Carol A. Magarine (d)
Arie S. Marable (d)
Fran Marino
Celia S. Martin
Louis G. Matigot (d)
Michael J. McNamara
Marilyn Middleton
Phylis L. McLaughlin (d)
Billie K. Miller (d)
Jerome & Shirley Modell
Beverly A. Moreau

Harold Morris Trust Fund
Susan Mularski-Dismuke
George (d) & Marge Nieves
Henry L. Normand (d)
Alan & Barbara Pareira
Edwina Parkinson Trust
Nanette P. Parratto-Wagner
Lillian L. Parry (d)
Madeline S. Pearson
Folke H. Peterson (d)
Scott & Maureen Pierce
George H. Pollack
Kathleen M. Pollack
Virginia Quelch '87
Barbara A. Ragan
Barbara H. Reark
Joseph & Marilyn Renton
Diane Reser
Susan K. Ridinger '87
Wayne H. Riser (d)
William P. Roberts
Rob Roknick
Robert D. Romine, Jr.
Bernard J. Rudo (d)
Donna B. Sachs
Doris J. Salisbury (d)
Helen Samaras
Suzanne J. Schwertley
William & Brenda Selph
Joseph G. Slick
Sherilyn K. Solanick
Almeda C. Stemple (d)
Mark & Nancy Thorlton
Helen Tolmach
Anne Troneck (d)
Mary Anna Tyson (d)
Katrina D. Vanesian

Gloria C. Vargo
Gerri Voller
Roberta H. Waller
Wendy A. Wallner (d)
Michael & Diane Ward
Frances P. Weaver (d)
Harriet B. Weeks (d)
Robin Weeks (d)
Grace T. Wilson (d)

(d) = Deceased this Fiscal Year

Gainesville resident says family dog's survival a holiday 'miracle'

Although the holidays were tough this year for the Palmer family of Gainesville, they are grateful for what they call their “little survival miracle” — a toy rat terrier, Bindi, whose presence gives them much to be thankful for.

“At the beginning of October, I lost my 22-year-old son in a horrible event that will take me a long time to get over,” said Elizabeth Palmer, a network administrator at the University of Florida.

“About three weeks after his passing, another family member and I forgot to check on Bindi's location when I left for work. It turns out that she had been left with our larger dogs instead of with her half-sister, Sarah. When my 14- and 16-year-old daughters came home from school, they found Bindi in a bloody mess and barely alive.”

Palmer took the dog to her local veterinarian, who advised her to take Bindi to the UF Small Animal Hospital due to the severity of her injuries.

When the family arrived at UF, Bindi was immediately taken back to the emergency area and assessed.

“The doctors came out and described what they had done and all the care and surgeries that would be needed in hopes of keeping her alive,” Palmer said. “They estimated the cost, which was a burden on our family, but we immediately agreed. We were willing to spend whatever we could to keep her alive.”

The family visited Bindi every day. At first, it seemed doubtful that she would survive.

“Bindi sustained a substantial amount of muscle and vascular damage to her left hind leg, and also to her neck and right hind leg,” said Marije Risselada, D.V.M., Ph.D., a clinical assistant professor of small animal surgery at UF. “We performed two reconstructive procedures on her left hind leg in order to close the entire wound.”



Photo by Sarah Carey

UF veterinary surgeon Marije Risselada is shown with Bindi during a recheck at UF's Small Animal Hospital in November.

For the first six days, UF veterinary surgeons treated Bindi with a specialized wound care system, called vacuum assisted closure, which is a treatment method frequently used by UF veterinary surgeons.

Slowly, Bindi's condition improved.

“It seemed like every other day she had another surgery, but in just a couple of weeks, she was ready to go home, with only one wound still left to close,” Palmer said. “She is our little survival miracle.”

After she was discharged from UF, Bindi accompanied Palmer to work every day. Palmer wanted to keep a close eye on her pet, and it was convenient to drive across campus with Bindi for additional treatments of the remaining open wound.

“Once that wound healed, I continued to take Bindi to work with me,” Palmer said. “She began to love the car rides and the trips down the hall when I would visit my coworkers to help them with their software issues.”

“Charlie's death has forever changed my life,” Palmer said. “It would have been unbearable to have lost Bindi, too. We very much needed this happy ending right now.”

By Sarah Carey

Photo by Sarah Carey



Elizabeth Palmer with her dog, Bindi, during the day of Bindi's discharge.



Dr. Ashley Allen, a small animal medicine intern, is shown Jan. 7 with Franky in the UF Small Animal Hospital's emergency room. Franky's visit then was a happy one, but last fall he was a critically ill patient in the ER.

UF veterinarians help cat survive ‘bobcat fever’ parasite

A 5-year-old domestic shorthair cat named Franky is at home in Micanopy with his owners after successful treatment at the University of Florida Small Animal Hospital for an infection with a deadly blood parasite most people have never heard of — cytauxzoon. It’s the first time UF veterinarians say they remember seeing, much less successfully treating, such a case.

UF veterinarians used a new treatment protocol they hope will help them save more animals diagnosed with cytauxzoon, pronounced Sie-Tow-Zoh-aN), also known as bobcat fever, in the future.

“This parasite is not that rare, but almost all animals afflicted with it die quickly, so we usually don’t see them here,” said Gareth Buckley, VetM.B., a clinical assistant professor and emergency and critical care specialist at UF. Owned by John Prosser and Ann Murray of Micanopy, Franky first began showing signs of illness in mid-September.

“We were walking around our yard one morning and noticed Franky was behaving a little strangely,” Murray said. “He drinking out of the pool, crouched down. We thought we needed to get him to the vet, that maybe he had a bladder infection.”

Prosser and Murray took the animal to their veterinarian, Dr. Molly Pearson, who kept him overnight for observation. The following morning, Pearson called the couple and recommended they take the cat to UF, as his condition had deteriorated.

“We brought him over and saw Dr. Ashley Allen from the emergency service,” Murray said.

“She helped us figure out how we needed to proceed.”

Basic bloodwork was performed and Allen, an intern in small animal medicine and surgery, noticed the presence of parasites in red blood cells. Further diagnostics by UF veterinary pathologists confirmed that the parasite was cytauxzoon.

“Dr. Allen actually drove to the pharmacy in the middle of the night, since the new treatment protocol we used called for antiprotozoal drugs we do not keep in stock,” Buckley said.

Franky remained very sick for several days. Veterinarians used diuretics to rid the cat of fluid in his lungs -and administered

oxygen for two days. Franky became anemic and experienced severe gastrointestinal bleeding that resulted in two blood transfusions during his weeklong hospital stay.

“He also had a low white cell count, probably due to infection,” Buckley said, adding that treatment with the antiprotozoal drugs, antibiotics and nutrition administered through a feeding tube continued until Franky’s condition slowly improved.

Franky’s owners had looked up cytauxzoon infection online and realized their cat’s illness could be fatal.

Yet, they never lost hope.

“He was struggling hard, but we felt optimistic that Franky was fighting and staying alive,” Murray said. “It was touch and go for a few days, and Dr. Allen was wonderfully conscientious about keeping us informed and helping us understand the process,” Murray said. “We knew that she and the other veterinarians were truly pulling for Franky’s recovery and that meant so much to us.”

Although she and Prosser have two other cats, Ann said Franky was the most “people friendly” of the three, and had never been sick before.

“That’s partly why we wanted to give him this chance,” she said. “We always hoped for the best and tried to do whatever we could for him.”

Soon after Franky went home, he began to improve dramatically, although it took a few days for his appetite to return to normal.

“Rechecks indicate that Franky is a happy, health cat with no long-term side effects,” Buckley said.

“The important thing is that although infection with this parasite happens when it happens, we want veterinarians as well as members of the public to know that we have now shown that we can successfully treat these cases.”

The protocol UF veterinarians used to treat Franky was reported at the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicines annual meeting, during a presentation Allen attended.

“Luckily, Dr. Allen was in that talk,” Buckley said.

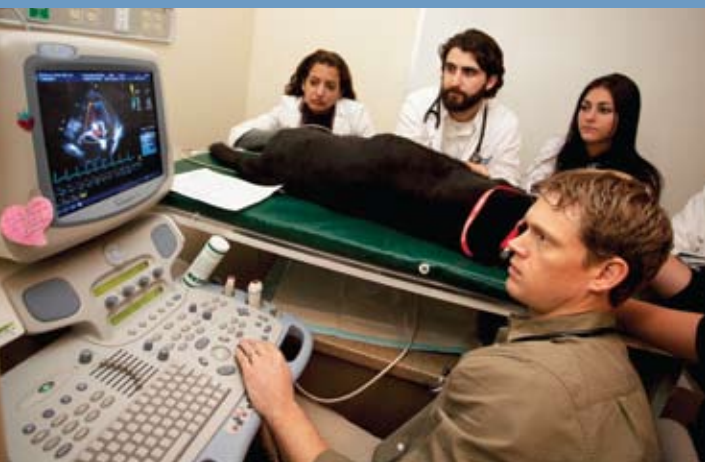


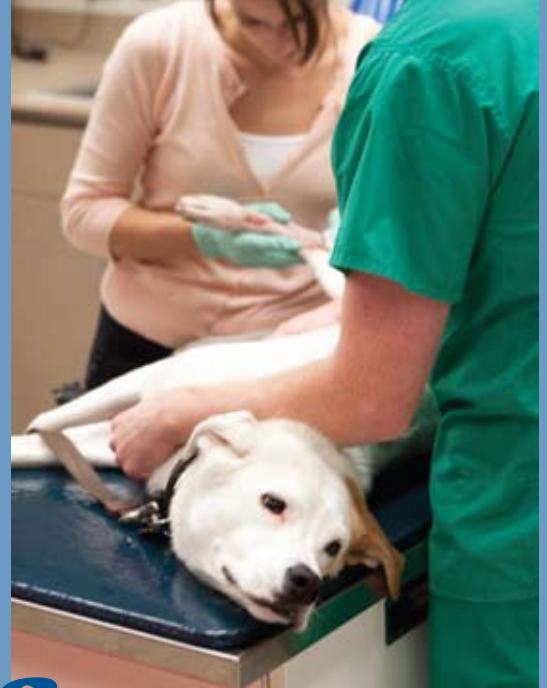
John Prosser and his wife, Ann Murray, with Franky following the cat’s successful treatment at UF for infection with the cytauxzoon parasite.

Photo by Sarah Carey

By Sarah Carey

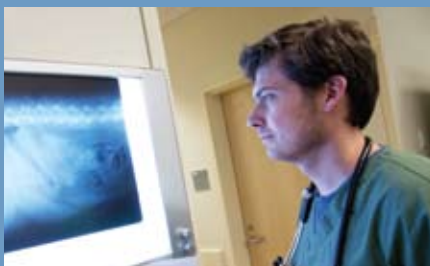
All photos by Russ Bryant





A Day in the Life of the Small Animal Hospital

The new UF Small Animal Hospital bustled with activity on Nov. 8, just over a week after the facility opened its doors. These “Day in the Life” photos offer a glimpse of what goes on behind the scenes as we work to help all of our animal patients.



Large animal faculty member drives multiple agendas

Amanda House, D.V.M., is on the road again. Put another way, if she's not, she will be soon.

Such is life these days for House, an assistant professor of equine extension and an internist in the UF College of Veterinary Medicine's department of large animal clinical sciences. In addition to directing the department's equine research program, House was recently appointed course director for the college's new practiced-based equine clerkship. She also recently completed a yearlong term as president of the Florida Association of Equine Practitioners.

In her new role as clerkship course director, House is in the process of meeting with more than 60 equine veterinarians from across the state. The goal of the clerkship is to provide veterinary students with on-farm primary care experience with horses in physical exams, diagnosis, treatment, herd health, routine medicine, surgery, and practice management. Veterinary students would be assigned to enrolled practitioners for two week rotations. As FAEP president, House's goal was to drive the group's ambitious agenda, which includes offering continuing education opportunities and professional development to a group of approximately 200 members.

So drive she does — literally, across the state, meeting, greeting and multitasking as she goes.

"I have fortunately been able to combine my roles at times, and can occasionally meet with practitioners about the clerkship

at FAEP events," said House. "I have also offered to make myself available to county extension offices to coordinate special meetings when I'm in their area. It can be a scheduling challenge, but I am traveling almost every week."

House joined FAEP shortly after accepting a faculty position with the CVM in 2007. She soon was named to the group's board of directors and served as its vice president in 2009. Unexpected changes in the officer slate meant she ascended to the president's role this year rather than in 2011, but House hasn't missed a beat.

As a member of the association's educational program committee, House has helped organize the 2010 Student Appreciation Day in Ocala and the Promoting Excellence Symposium in Orlando along with additional wet labs or short courses the group decides to offer.


"In 2010, we had a breeding soundness exam short course in February last year, a wound management short course in July, and an imaging wet lab in November," House said, adding that some of these events are free to members and to UF veterinary students.

Twenty-eight students participated in this year's UF Student Appreciation Day wet labs on Aug. 28, she said.

For several years, the group has funded a \$1,000 scholarship to a senior veterinary student.

"We consider it critical to mentor and give back to young members of our profession," House said. "The FAEP Student Appreciation Day Wet Labs has been a tremendously popular event among our students and the practitioners."

In addition to promoting high-quality continuing education, the association has worked closely with the Florida Veterinary Medical



"We consider it critical to mentor and give back to young members of our profession."

— Amanda House



Photo by Sarah Kiewel

Dr. Amanda House is shown in the UF Large Animal Hospital in this file photo.

Association's legislative committee on issues affecting equine veterinarians and welfare for horses in the state.

House's extensive network of contacts, formed largely through equine extension and clinical work she has performed over the past three years, has helped enormously in her ability to be effective, not only in her administrative role with FAEP, but as she reaches out to practitioners and potential UF partners while laying the groundwork for the new equine clerkship program.

"I have to say that the experience and relationships I have been able to establish through FAEP have definitely enhanced what I do at the university," House said.

Jackie Shellow, D.V.M., a UF CVM alumna and newly installed FAEP president, called House "great to work with" and said she had no idea how she juggled everything on her plate.

"She is well spoken, organized, extremely diplomatic and very good at presenting issues and getting the important across," Shellow said, adding that it was important to the veterinary profession that the professional organizations in the state of Florida represent the practitioners and work closely with the UF CVM.

"The FAEP is a perfect example of this happening," Shellow said. "Working together, we can be a stronger voice for veterinary medicine and for horses in the state of Florida."

By Sarah Carey

Shelter program gets \$25K boost

The Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association recently joined with the Florida-based Kislak Family Fund to present a \$25,000 grant to the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine for a surgical training program that benefits injured and ill shelter animals.

The innovative UF surgical training program, known as Helping Alachua's Animals Requiring Treatment and Surgery, is one of only two programs in the country that provides a variety of surgical training opportunities for veterinary students while also providing care for shelter animals.

"The HAARTS program is a perfect example of animal-welfare-friendly surgery training," said Dr. Susan Krebsbach, an HSVMA veterinary consultant. "It's a win-win situation because the students get enhanced training opportunities and injured and ill animals receive necessary medical care."

Types of procedures performed include fracture repair, mass removal, cystotomy and tooth extractions, among other procedures. Animals accepted into the program come from Alachua County animal rescue groups and the county animal shelter.

"The HAARTS program has provided invaluable experience to veterinary students by exposing them to surgical techniques they will commonly see in veterinary practice," said Dr. Natalie Isaza, who oversees the HAARTS program. "Just as importantly, the program has helped save the lives of more than 200 animals in our community who most likely would have been euthanized due to lack of resources to pay for their care."



Dr. Susan Krebsbach and Dr. Natalie Isaza show off a mock check indicating the amount of the recent donation to UF's HAARTS program.



Dr. Natalie Isaza is shown with a dog that received assistance through the HAARTS program.

Gibbs named associate dean

Paul Gibbs, B.V.Sc., Ph.D., a veterinarian and virologist in the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine's department of infectious diseases and pathology, has been named associate dean for students and instruction at the college.

Gibbs has served as a member of UF's veterinary faculty since 1979, when he became a founding member. He has been a full professor in the college since 1981 and also holds joint appointments with the College of Medicine's department of molecular genetics and microbiology as well as with the College of Public Health and Health Professions' department of environmental and global health.

He was instrumental in the establishment of a joint Doctor of Veterinary Medicine/Masters of Public Health degree program offered by the colleges of veterinary medicine and PHHP in 2007. Between five and 10 freshmen enroll in this program every year.

Gibbs is previous past chairman of the college's curriculum committee and works with state and other governmental agencies to aid in the identification of foreign animal diseases, a subject for which he has developed an online continuing education course for Florida veterinarians.

Gibbs also has developed a course in International Animal Health aimed at veterinarians practicing in the developing world. In addition, he has helped Florida middle and high school students learn more about emerging diseases by partnering with science teachers throughout the state to provide them with training tools on emerging diseases.

From 1994-1999, Gibbs directed UF's International Center, serving as the university's chief international officer. As a virologist, his career focus continues on the international control and eradication of emerging viral diseases having epidemic potential.

Gibbs said it was a "great privilege" to accept his new position at such an exciting and pivotal time.

"In the 31 years since I was appointed as one of the founding faculty of the college, I have seen the college mature and the university grow in stature and size," Gibbs said. "Now, with the new state-of-the-art UF Small Animal Hospital opening soon and an increased student enrollment to 100 students per year, the college is entering a new phase of its history."

He said the changing world we live in and particularly the past 10 years have been particularly challenging.

"The events of 9/11, the spate of emerging diseases, increasing concern over the environment, the exponential increase in computerized information and the recent economic crisis have changed the role of the veterinary profession here in the United States and indeed worldwide," Gibbs said. "Veterinarians are now involved in protecting and promoting animal and human health in so many more ways than just a decade ago."

He added that the sophistication of modern surgery and medicine continues to grow, along with the number of veterinary



Dr. Paul Gibbs

graduates who choose to specialize further after receiving their D.V.M. degrees.

"While many of our graduates continue to enter practice in the U.S., a surprisingly large number are serving in the military, the pharmaceutical industry, state and federal government and other less traditional roles," he said. "Our graduates span the globe. The nation expects much of our veterinary students, but they have much to offer."

Gibbs added, "I hope that in some small way, I can help them be better prepared to meet the myriad challenges of the 21st century and to become 'citizens of the world.'"

Brooks presents Milne Lecture at AAEP

Dennis Brooks, D.V.M., Ph.D., a professor of ophthalmology at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, presented the prestigious Frank J. Milne State-of-the-Art Lecture at the annual meeting of the American Association of Equine Practitioners in Baltimore in December 2010.

Brooks' lecture, titled "Catastrophic Ocular Surface Failure in the Horse," addressed the latest approaches to handling severe corneal conditions in horses, which he says most practitioners will encounter during their careers.

An internationally recognized expert in canine and equine glaucoma, Brooks also specializes in infectious keratitis and corneal transplantation of horses. He has performed close to 300 successful corneal transplants in horses, more than anyone in the world.

He received his board certification from the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists in 1984 and has served as a full professor at UF's veterinary college since 1998.

Among the numerous awards Brooks has received for his teaching and research are the Pfizer Award for Research Excellence and the British Equine Veterinary Association's Sir Frederick Smith Memorial Lecture and Medal. He was named the Western Veterinary Conference Continuing Educator of the Year in the equine category in 2007. In addition, Brooks served as president of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists from 1997 to 1998. He authored the book "Equine Ophthalmology," which was published in 2002 and 2007.

Two former UF faculty members have also presented the Milne lecture, including Joe Mayhew, B.V.Sc., in 1999, and Alfred Merritt, D.V.M., in 2003.

The Milne lecture was created in 1997 to bring a meaningful learning experience to AAEP members and to recognize an individual with a distinguished career in research and discovery who has presented and published their findings in a specific area of equine health.



Dr. Dennis Brooks

CVM fundraiser honored by peers

Karen Legato, senior director of development and alumni affairs for the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, has become the first recipient of the University of Florida Foundation's Debbie Klapp Memorial Award.

Legato was selected by a committee consisting of five Foundation administrators. Criteria for the award include unique overall achievement, strong collaboration, mentorship, and creativity in approaching job, career and life. Recipients must be employed for at least five years as a UF fundraiser.

A licensed pharmacist, Klapp, who died of cancer in 2007, served for many years as the development officer for UF's College of Pharmacy and the Warrington College of Business Administration.

"Debbie was a consummate professional," said Carter Boydston, senior associate vice president for development at the Foundation. "She was a strong advocate for her donors and for her unit. She was creative, aggressive and delightful and an extremely well-rounded person."

In addition to her professional role, Klapp was an accomplished golfer and painter who "was a great team player," Boydston said. "Debbie embodied everything that a successful development officer should be."

At the time of Klapp's untimely death at the age of 56, she had not only gained the largest gift in the history of the College of Pharmacy, but also the largest gift in the history of the Warrington College of Business and UF.

"The recipient of the Debbie Klapp award most closely mirrors those exceptional professional and personal characteristics that made her loved and admired by her peers," Boydston added.

Legato, a member of the UF veterinary college's development staff since 1999, has 27 years of professional fundraising experience. She has worked with donor events, corporate solicitations and campus campaigns, and was promoted into her present position at the college in 2008.

"Having known Debbie personally, I am deeply honored and touched to be the first person to receive the Debbie Klapp Memorial Award for doing the work I genuinely love," Legato said.

Since Legato has been at UF, the college has consistently ranked in the top 10 of the 28 fundraising units across campus, both in terms of money raised and percentage of goal achieved.

Mary Ann Kiely, associate vice president for development for the UF Health Science Center and vice president for development of



Karen Legato and her horse, Gator

Shands HealthCare, said Legato had done a great job of building a well-rounded development program for the veterinary college, and in doing so, had set the bar high for other development programs.

"Karen is a hard worker, and is well-liked and respected by her peers here at UF as well as in the national veterinary organizations," Kiely said. "Karen did an excellent job raising the profile of the new Small Animal Hospital among her constituency with her passion for animals and her respect and admiration for the faculty at UF veterinary college."

Professor emeritus of infectious diseases honored by epidemiology group

Paul Nicoletti, D.V.M., a professor emeritus of infectious diseases at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, was presented with the 2010 Karl F. Meyer-James H. Steele Gold Head Cane Award during the American Veterinary Medical Association's annual meeting in Atlanta recently.

The award is the highest honor given to a veterinarian by the American Veterinary Epidemiology Society. The group selects the awardee on the basis of achievements in animal health that have significantly advanced human health through the practice of veterinary epidemiology and public health.

A 1956 graduate of the University of Missouri's College of Veterinary Medicine, Nicoletti retired from the UF veterinary faculty in 2003. During his 25 years of service at UF, he taught courses in infectious diseases, epidemiology, public health and food safety.

Nicoletti's career began at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Missouri, with later duties in Wisconsin, New York, Mississippi and Florida. He served as an epizootiologist in Tehran, Iran, from 1968 to 1972 with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations prior to beginning his academic career at UF in 1978.

An internationally recognized expert in brucellosis, Nicoletti has amassed many awards in his career, including Distinguished Service awards from both the University of Missouri and UF. As a tribute to Nicoletti's professional contributions and service to the cattle industry, a private \$1.3 million contribution was recently made to the UF College of Veterinary Medicine in his name.



Dr. Paul Nicoletti

UF veterinary administrator honored for contributions to animal clinical biochemistry

John W. Harvey, D.V.M., Ph.D., executive associate dean and a professor of hematology at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, has received the 2010 Heiner Sommer Prize from the International Society for Animal Clinical Pathology. The award is given in recognition of lifetime contributions to the field of animal clinical biochemistry.

As this year's winner, Harvey presented the keynote Heiner Sommer Lecture during the society's 14th biannual Congress, held at Oregon State University.

A board-certified veterinary clinical pathologist, Harvey has been a member of UF's veterinary college faculty since 1974. His scholastic accomplishments include the publication of 113 refereed papers — many describing syndromes not previously recognized — in both veterinary and human medicine, three books, 46 book chapters, 56 proceedings papers, 65 abstracts and 31 research grants. He is an accomplished lecturer both nationally and internationally, having participated in more than 250 major seminar engagements throughout the world.

Harvey is a past president and treasurer of the society, and has held numerous leadership roles in other organizations, including the American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology, of which he is a past president and board member. He has served on the examination committee of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and has been a member of several other national and state veterinary associations.



Dr. John Harvey

Earlier this year, Harvey received the 2010 Mark L. Morris Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award for his lifetime contributions to the field of comparative hematology. Among Harvey's other awards are the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award, the American Association of Feline Practitioners Research Award, the Alumni Recognition Award from Kansas State University and the American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology's Lifetime Achievement Award.

UF veterinary researcher to chair international scientific group

Daniel Brown, Ph.D., a scientist at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, has been voted chairman-elect of the International Organization for Mycoplasmaology, a nonprofit scientific group dedicated to the study of a type of bacteria that infect a wide variety of animals and plants. His term will be from 2012 to 2014.

An associate professor in the college's department of infectious diseases and pathology, Brown also chaired the scientific program committee for the 18th International Congress of the IOM, which was held in Chianciano Terme, Italy, in July 2010.

Brown's work focuses on genetic and taxonomic analyses of pathogenic mycoplasmas and the diseases they may cause in animals and humans.

His research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Morris Animal Foundation, the UF University Scholars Program and the Merck-Merial Veterinary Scholars Program.



Dr. Dan Brown



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How to Make a Gift:

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Karen Legato
Senior Director of Development and Alumni Affairs
UF College of Veterinary Medicine
P.O. Box 100125
(352) 294-4256
legatok@ufl.edu

Or visit our website at: www.vetmed.ufl.edu

Looking Back



Jon Batcheller, left, then a founding member of the Pre-Vet Club at Florida State University, shakes hands with Dr. Charles Cornelius, founding dean of the UF College of Veterinary Medicine, in 1976 during a groundbreaking ceremony for what was to become the original UF Small Animal Hospital. Batcheller went on to become accepted into veterinary school at UF, where he received his D.V.M. degree in 1981.

Calendar ■

2011

April 9

UF's annual Spring Weekend, featuring the traditional Orange and Blue Game. The Class of 1986 will hold its 25th anniversary reunion and there will be a Silver Society reception that evening at Emerson Alumni Hall.

April 16

Open House is back! Following a two-year hiatus due to construction, the public is invited to attend the UF CVM and SCAVMA Open House. Tours of the UF Veterinary Hospitals will be provided. The free event will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**April 28
- May 1**

The Florida Veterinary Medical Association will hold its annual conference in Orlando, with a UF CVM alumni reception planned for April 30. Contact Jo Ann Winn at winnj@ufl.edu for more information.

May 13

The traditional sophomore professional coating ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. at the UF Phillip's Center for the Performing Arts.

May 28

Commencement exercises for the UF CVM Class of 2011 will be held at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts at 2 p.m.



Photo by Ray Carson

UF veterinary student Laura Seheult walks a horse from the barn to the clinic for an ophthalmology check-up.

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