From the Inside Out: A Chronicle of the Companion Animal Medicine Service
Orthopedic Research
Nocardia Infection in a Labrador Retriever
This issue of *La Veterinaire* is a salute to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital & Clinics (VTH&C), which serves as the capstone experience in the veterinary curriculum. At LSU, we have assembled an outstanding array of world-class clinicians, and we attract top interns and residents in a wide variety of clinical disciplines. Supported by our wonderful staff, LSU veterinary students train to become highly skilled and compassionate veterinarians of the future.

Our investment in human resources and advanced diagnostic and treatment modalities continues with further strengthening of the clinical oncology faculty and pending on-site installation of a 1.5 T MRI unit; both enhancements in areas where the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine plays a leadership role in the profession.

Additional advancements to the technologies and facilities in the VTH&C include a new CT table for our equine patients, new stall fronts in the equine barn, and new surgical equipment for the Farm Animal Service. We continue to look for ways to improve service and appreciate comments from our referring veterinarians and clients.

This hospital issue of *La Veterinaire* includes a feature article about the companion animal service, which manages challenging referral cases while simultaneously caring for those patients that are presented for annual health maintenance visits. Referring veterinarians are the first line of contact for the care and treatment of many of the patients presented to the VTH&C, though when a consultation with a board-certified specialist or specialized equipment is needed, our faculty welcome the opportunity to work in concert with referring veterinarian to diagnose and treat these patients. Once the problem is resolved, the patient is returned to the referring veterinarian.

The VTH&C focuses on the preparation of our students for practice and service to the public upon graduation; therefore, the wellness-care component of our practice is essential for our students to learn as they progress through the service blocks during their clinical rotations. Our hospital also provides an emergency service seven days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, with veterinary and technical staff available to address the needs of patients and clients.

By working together with referring veterinarians, the VTH&C provides the foremost service to animals entrusted to our care and a superior educational environment for our students. We could not do any of this without the help and support of our referring veterinarians or the support of our faculty, residents, interns, technicians, staff, and students. We thank all of you in the profession for supporting our mission.

Sincerely,
Dean Peter F. Haynes, DVM, DACVS
ON THE COVER

FROM THE INSIDE OUT: A CHRONICLE OF THE COMPANION ANIMAL MEDICINE SERVICE

Five faculty members, five residents, six interns (who rotate between internal medicine and surgery), and 10 or more veterinary students comprise the Companion Animal Medicine Service, which sees a wide variety of cases each week.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 2.

COVER PHOTO: Amber Acker (left) and Aliya “Yani” Magee, fourth-year veterinary students on the Companion Animal Medicine block, monitor Claude, a 13-year-old cat, as he awakens from anesthesia after ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspirate.

ABOVE: Clinical Pathology residents Dr. Britton Grasperge (left) and Dr. Aradhana Gupta (center) review cells taken from Claude’s pancreatic mass and liver. Yani Magee (right), fourth-year veterinary student, is able to look at the cells simultaneously.

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“Internal medicine to receiving for a case . . . Internal medicine to receiving for a case.” The overhead paging system at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine makes this call numerous times each weekday. Five faculty members, five residents, six interns (who rotate between internal medicine and surgery), and 10 or more veterinary students comprise the Companion Animal Medicine service.

Veterinary students are assigned to the service for a “block” consisting of four weeks. These veterinary students are third- and fourth-year LSU SVM veterinary students, as well as fourth-year veterinary students from Ross University in St. Kitts and St. George’s University in Grenada. Students from Ross and St. George’s complete their fourth-year at veterinary schools in the U.S. The LSU SVM admits approximately 10 of these students three times per year.

During the Companion Animal Medicine block, two clinicians are assigned to oversee and instruct the students, including the House Officers, who are interns and residents employed by the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics (VTH&C) to provide service to patients as they train in a veterinary specialty. Each clinician is assigned certain House Officers and students; one clinician’s group receives appointments and walk-ins, and the other clinician’s group cares for the animals brought in the day before or those transferred from the overnight Emergency service.

On the Companion Animal Medicine service, those students who are receiving cases meet with owners and their pets as they come in for their appointments. The student takes a history from the owner and starts the patient’s paperwork. The student then takes the patient to the Treatment Room, a large
room with diagnostic equipment, scales, and medicines. A thorough examination of patients takes place in this room. At any given time, there can be four to six dogs and cats plus up to 20 people in this room.

The majority of the hospital's patients are referred from other veterinarians in Louisiana, though some are referred from other states, and some clients use the VTH&C for their primary care. Referring veterinarians, or RDVMs, send their patients to LSU to help make a diagnosis or because the VTH&C has expertise in a particular specialty in veterinary medicine or specialized equipment. The VTH&C works in collaboration with RDVMs to give patients the best care possible.

The following snapshots of the Companion Animal Medicine service track activities during a two-day period. The service saw 36 patients during this time, either as scheduled appointments, emergencies, or walk-ins. For practical purposes, not all patients, clinicians, or students could be mentioned here.

Wednesday, 8:00 a.m.
This is day three of a four-week Companion Animal Medicine block.

Veterinary students gather for rounds. Dr. Kirk Ryan, assistant professor of veterinary medicine, discusses diabetes. He uses a recent case as an example, and the group discusses symptoms and the variety of treatments available, including the different types of insulin and their respective uses. Dr. Ryan stresses the importance of being familiar with human insulin brands because clients will ask about them.

9:00 a.m.
Students check on patients that spent the night in the intensive care unit, or ICU. Aliya “Yani” Magee, a fourth-year veterinary student, is working with Claude, a 13-year-old cat that was brought in as an emergency referral case. Claude is jaundiced and has a mass on his pancreas.

9:15 a.m.
Yani goes to the Anesthesia service to check on a sedative for Claude. She then discusses the dosage with Dr. Isabelle Cattin, a resident, who confirms it. Yani goes to the Diagnostic Imaging service to see when Claude can be brought in for an ultrasound and a fine-needle aspirate, or FNA (cells will be removed from the pancreatic mass and the liver so they can be sent to pathology for testing and a possible diagnosis). Reid, a 5-year-old cat that presented with seizures the night before, is receiving a neurological exam from Dr. Dena Lodato, an intern, and Amber Acker, a fourth-year veterinary student.

9:40 a.m.
Dr. Joseph Taboada, associate dean for student and academic affairs and professor of veterinary medicine, is called in to consult on Claude’s case. He confirms that an FNA of the mass and liver is warranted.

9:50 a.m.
Dr. Cattin and Yani administer the sedative, and Claude is taken to the Diagnostic Imaging service, where Dr. J. Daniel
Rodriguez, assistant professor of diagnostic imaging, performs an ultrasound-guided FNA.

10:15 a.m.
Yani returns Claude to the ICU and monitors him as he wakes up from the sedative. The samples from the FNA are taken to Clinical Pathology. Dr. Lodato and Amber discuss medications and dosages for Reid after his neurological exam. Reid will go home tomorrow with a prescription for phenobarbital and then return in two weeks to be reevaluated.

10:30 a.m.
Each day during the block, one of the veterinary students is assigned the task of information student. This student takes all general calls from the public. Yani is the information student today and takes a call from a dog breeder who wants to know about the VTH&C’s vaccine protocol. Yani will confirm the protocol and call her back.

10:45 a.m.
Holly Rice, a fourth-year veterinary student, is on the Surgery service for this block and discusses Claude’s case with Yani. If Claude’s FNA results indicate that a biopsy of the mass and/or liver is necessary, Claude will be referred to Surgery.

11:00 a.m.
Yani takes Claude’s blood sample to Clinical Pathology so it can be centrifuged. She views Claude’s FNA slides with the Clinical Pathology residents and discusses the diagnosis with them. Claude has lymphoma. Yani pulls serum from the centrifuged blood and refrigerates it in case it is needed for further testing.

11:20 a.m.
Yani writes down the official vaccine protocol for the hospital, which is posted on a wall in the Treatment Room, and calls the breeder back to discuss it.

11:30 a.m.
Students check e-mail and catch up on patient paperwork.

12:30 p.m.
Dr. Ashley Martin, a resident, and Marc Bordelon, a fourth-year veterinary student, perform upper gastrointestinal endoscopy on Dale, a 10-year-old cat, and take biopsies from Dale’s stomach for further diagnostic testing. Dale is then taken to ICU.

1:00 p.m.
Chip, a 13-month-old Terrier mix, presents with four-day history of fever of unknown origin. He is about to undergo diagnostic testing to determine the source of the fever. Dr. Bettina Mayer-Roenne, a resident, calls Chip’s RDVM to discuss the case. She then meets with the owners, along with fourth-year veterinary students Katie Smith and Barri Morrison.

1:25 p.m.
Nugen, a 12-year-old mixed breed dog, presents with difficulty breathing. He is examined by Mike Rossi, a fourth-year veterinary student, and Dr. Jennifer Chang, visiting clinical instructor of veterinary emergency medicine, who suspect Nugen has laryngeal paralysis. Mike centrifuges Nugen’s blood samples and checks another blood sample with a glucometer. Marc, who earlier assisted Dr. Martin with Dale’s endoscopy, is monitoring Dale while he warms up in a make-shift hot tub to help raise his temperature after the anesthesia (warm water
was placed in a rectangular tub, which was then covered with a garbage bag; Dale was placed on the bag and covered with a towel).

1:40 p.m.

Chip is brought into the ICU. He is scheduled to have a spinal tap in the morning. Dr. Mayer-Roenne suspects that Chip has a fever because he has encephalitis (if so, this will be the fifth encephalitis case seen by the VTH&C in the last two weeks). Dr. Mayer-Roenne draws blood from Chip so that titers can be run for rickettsial diseases.

2:00 p.m.

Dr. Martin checks on Dale. A CBC/chem panel will be performed for Nugen, who has a mass under each forelimb. Lexi, a 4-year-old Terrier/Yorkie mix, is prepped for ultrasound. The ultrasound will be used to see if she has a shunt. Lexi has been having seizures and one possibility is that she has a portosystemic shunt, which was indicated by her bloodwork. Lexi is then taken to the ICU. The ultrasound does not detect a shunt.

2:40 p.m.

Claude is discharged. He is going home with his owners with a course of prednisone therapy. Dr. Chang discusses Nugen’s diagnosis with Mike Rossi and Sae Miyoshi, a fourth-year veterinary student. Nugen will be referred to surgery. An endoscopy will be performed to determine the degree of the laryngeal paralysis.

3:00 p.m.

Veterinary technician Holly Carey and fourth-year veterinary students April Fitzgerald and Sae Miyoshi check the blood pressure of Tribbles, a 12-year-old Shi Tzu that came in for dental work and to check skin masses. Students and House
Officers gather for afternoon rounds led by Dr. Mark Acierno, assistant professor of companion animal medicine, to go over the day’s cases.

4:25 p.m.

Students check on their patients, do paperwork, and sign up for the next day’s cases. Some students will return at various times throughout the evening to check on patients again.

Thursday, 7:45 a.m.

Students examine their overnight patients and check the board to see the day’s schedule.

8:00 a.m.

Students and House Officers gather for rounds. Before they can begin, Katie Smith and Barri Morrison are paged to the ICU to meet with Dr. Mayer-Roenne and check on a patient. Back in rounds, Dr. Martin uses Claude’s presentation as a point of discussion to elucidate liver diseases in cats, problem list development, possible diagnoses, diagnostic tests, and courses of treatment. When patients are presented to the VTH&C, students and House Officers start by developing a problem list to track all of the patient’s issues.

9:10 a.m.

Students and House Officers start receiving patients and reviewing the charts of those patients that stayed overnight. Yani reviews the records of a new patient named Red, an 8-year-old Labrador Retriever that has a possible esophageal stricture.

9:30 a.m.

Amber Acker and Dr. William Ratteree, an intern, examine Blondie, a 6-year-old Labrador Retriever, who presented for a health maintenance visit and vaccines but also has a pad laceration. Sae Miyoshi and Dr. Lodato examine a 13-year-old Chihuahua who cannot keep food down and retches throughout the day and night.

10:15 a.m.

Katie Smith and Dr. Mayer-Roenne examine Patches, a 9-year-old Beagle, who is here for a recheck for hypothyroidism and diabetes. Patches will also be checked for a urinary tract infection.

10:30 a.m.

Kevin Abbott, a fourth-year veterinary student, and Dr. Martin examine Baby, a Boxer mix and regular dermatology patient who presented with urinary issues and possible bladder stones. An ultrasound will be done to look for the stones. Urinalysis and a urine culture will also be performed.

10:40 a.m.

Kevin and Dr. Martin review doses for antibiotics. A low-dose therapy is recommended for Baby’s urinary infection. Katie Smith and Dr. Mayer-Roenne examine Maggie, a 12-year-old Bichon Frise with Cushing’s disease. Maggie is a regular patient who is here for a recheck for the Cushing’s. ZZ, a 2-year-old Toy Poodle with lethargy, anorexia, and elevated liver enzymes, is examined by Marc Bordelon. After the exam, ZZ is taken to ultrasound.

11:20 a.m.

Toni, a 12-year-old Poodle mix, comes in for a recheck for polyarthritis. She was put on new medicine two weeks ago, and the recheck is to determine the effectiveness of the medication. Greta, a German Shepherd, presents with chronic urinary tract infections and a possible involved vulva. She is examined by Amber Acker and Dr. Acierno. ZZ is given a neurological examination by Marc Bordelon. Toni is discharged, and blood is drawn from Maggie.

11:45 a.m.

Students have lunch and catch up on e-mails and paperwork.

1:00 p.m.

Following emergency admission, a 3-week-old puppy with a bloated abdomen is examined by Dr. Cattin, Dr. Ratteree, and April Fitzgerald.

1:30 p.m.

Students and House Officers gather for afternoon rounds, where Dr. Martin continues the discussion from that morning. Dr. Kirk Ryan interrupts to give Bradley Self, a fourth-year veterinary student, a gift that has been dropped off for him by a grateful client. Some students must leave rounds in response to pages or to check on patients.
2:20 p.m.
All students and House Officers check on patients in the ICU and the Treatment Room. A 17-year-old Dachshund presents with persistent coughing. A urine sample is being taken from Maggie, the dog with Cushing’s disease. Francis, an 8-year-old Labrador Retriever presents with anorexia, weight loss, and masses in her neck.

3:00 p.m.
Simba, a 1-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, is given a health maintenance exam and vaccines. Chloe, an 11-month-old cat with chronic seizures, comes in for a recheck.

4:20 p.m.
Students check on patients, catch up on paperwork, and check the board for the next day’s schedule. As with the day before, students will return in the evening as needed to check on patients.

The Companion Animal Medicine service provides the faculty, House Officers, staff, and students the opportunity to see an array of different diseases and injuries, which is vital to their veterinary education. “I love the variety of seeing so many different diseases and how internal medicine brings many different aspects of medicine together in one place,” said Dr. Bettina Mayer-Roenne. “There’s the added complexity of being a detective when trying to find the correct diagnosis. Owners often have low expectations when they arrive, so it’s great when you can help them and show them that many diseases are manageable.”

Adds Dr. Frederic Gaschen, professor of companion animal medicine, “I chose to be an internist because I am fascinated by the pathomechanisms of diseases in various organ systems. While it is important to recognize typical clinical signs of a specific disease, it is essential for an internist to understand what mechanisms eventually lead to the problem. This knowledge helps us design the best possible treatment plan to help that particular patient. I enjoy being an internist in academia because of the various aspects of my job. Teaching students and House Officers keeps me on my toes: intellectual laziness is not an option in this line of work. Being involved in designing clinical studies in an attempt to fill gaps in our knowledge of canine and feline diseases is another facet I couldn’t live without. Clinical work—attempting to provide the best possible care to sick cats and dogs from our community—has been a main motivation since I started vet school.”

www.vetmed.lsu.edu/vth&c
Every patient a veterinarian sees brings its own unique challenges, and every treatment regimen carries with it both benefits and risks. So it was with Molly, a yellow Labrador Retriever with a history of recurrent perianal fistulas. Dr. Sandra Merchant, professor of veterinary dermatology, shares Molly’s story and her long and complicated path back to full health.

Perianal fistulas are sores that develop in the region of the anus, and Labrador Retrievers are one of the breeds most prone to developing them. The exact cause of the condition is unknown, but it is thought that it may be related to a multifactorial cell-mediated immune response. The problem may begin when sweat and sebaceous glands, as well as hair follicles around the anus, become inflamed. Because the area under the tail is always warm and moist, and large numbers of fecal bacteria are always present, sometimes these inflamed areas become infected and form abscesses that open and then drain with a foul-smelling discharge.

Dogs with fistulas will be seen chewing or licking the perianal area, or scooting across the floor or ground. Such dogs may be constipated or have diarrhea and, in severe cases, some lose the ability to control their bowel movements. It is a painful condition for the dog and frequently causes problems not only for the dog and its owners, but for the veterinarians who treat these patients. Recurrent perianal fistulas are difficult to control; in the past, surgical treatment was the standard approach, but surgery was often unsuccessful at bringing about a cure. The rate of recurrence was high and complications were many: the fistulas often failed to heal, or healed and then spontaneously reopened; some dogs were left with tenesmus (ineffective straining while trying to defecate), fecal incontinence, anal stricture, and flatulence. Attempts to manage the condition with “standard” medication alone, which included prednisone, produced short-term relief but often not a cure, so surgery followed by a course of medical treatment was the usual approach. The most current and successful medical management today is the use of cyclosporine to modify the aberrant immunologic response.
Molly was 4-years-old when her owners, Niki and Linda Bradley, first brought her from their home in Alabama to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital & Clinics in January 2006. Because of the fistulas, Molly’s referring veterinarian (RDVM) had performed anal sac surgery on her the previous month and started her on a course of cyclosporine, a potent immune-modulating drug that has produced encouraging results when used to treat persistent fistulas in dogs. But the fistulas healed too quickly, and only on the outside; the inside had not healed, and the wounds reopened. Molly had significant pain when she defecated and would no longer run and play or even wag her tail.

The RDVM determined that Molly needed to be seen by a specialist, so he referred the Bradleys to the SVM, where she was seen by Dr. Merchant, who is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology and has been a member of the faculty at the LSU SVM since 1988. She is dermatology service chief for the hospital and a full professor, and has extensive experience with all kinds of veterinary dermatological problems.

When she examined Molly, Dr. Merchant decided that, although there were risks, Molly’s best chance for a cure for the fistulas was a higher dose of cyclosporine in combination with tacrolimus, another powerful immunosuppressive drug, in ointment form, to be applied directly to the fistulas. Molly was to return in a month for reevaluation.

Cyclosporine is an immunosuppressive drug that works by blocking T-cell production of interleukin 2 (IL-2), a cytokine-signaling molecule that helps the body’s immune system respond to microbial infections and discriminate between foreign proteins and its own proteins. It also blocks interferon gamma (IFNγ), another immunoregulatory chemical produced by T-cells. Normally, the immune system uses these molecules to help rid the body of disease, but in some disease conditions, such as perianal fistulas, IL-2 and IFNγ appear to become overactive and can make the disease condition worse instead of better. Thus, under certain circumstances, it is necessary to block their production to allow the body to heal.

However, immunosuppressive drug therapy carries with it the risk of opportunistic infections, and when Molly returned some five weeks later for a recheck, the fistulas had healed well, but her left rear leg was swollen and inflamed. There was an open tract on her leg draining a purulent, hemorrhagic fluid, and draining lesions had appeared between two of her toes.

Even though Molly was on ketoconazole, an antifungal agent, and marbofloxacin, an antibiotic, she had developed a severe *Nocardia* infection of her left rear leg. *Nocardia* is a saprophytic soil bacterium that is widespread in the environment; for most people and animals, it causes no problems, but it can be an opportunistic pathogen, and Molly’s lowered immunity had opened the way for the organism to become established in her leg.

Molly was given appropriate antibiotics based on a culture and sensitivity result and was admitted to the intensive care unit by the Companion Animal Medicine service to monitor her condition. When the infection did not respond to treatment, Dr. Giselle Hosgood, professor of veterinary surgery, performed exploratory surgery of the leg and foot and found a large amount of necrotic tissue and poor circulation. She debrided the area, prescribed hypotonic saline dressings, and left the surgical wound open to drain. When there was no improvement after several days, Dr. Hosgood recommended to the Bradleys that Molly’s leg be amputated. They agreed, and Dr. Hosgood performed a successful amputation.

Molly was discharged from the ICU on April 28, 2006, on pain medication, antibiotics, a stool softener, and the tacrolimus ointment. After many reevaluations and medication adjustments over the next several months, Molly was finally free of her fistulas and her bacterial infection by mid-November. She continues to be seen by the Dermatology Service.

Today Molly is a happy and healthy, albeit three-legged, 6-year-old, who enjoys daily romps with her humans and the other dog in the household. The Bradleys are grateful to the SVM for the care given to Molly and very pleased with the outcome of her serious conditions. “Watching her run and play, you’d never know she had only three legs,” chuckled Mr. Bradley. “We love the vet school.”
Research

Using nonlinear finite element analysis (FEA), Dr. Gary Sod has created computer-based simulation of computational mechanics models of implant-bone interaction problems. The results are invaluable to the design of orthopedic implants by providing feedback on the relative merits and demerits of different design options. These implants are ultimately used for the repair of fractures in large animals, such as horses and cows.

Dr. Sod, assistant professor of farm animal surgery, received his AB, MA, and PhD in applied mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Sod attended the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine in 1997, receiving his DVM in 2001. He then completed an equine internship, a food animal practice residency, and a large animal surgery residency. Prior to embarking on his veterinary career, Dr. Sod was on faculty at Tulane University in the mathematics department and conducted research in mathematical and computational physics, resulting in the writing of a monograph on numerical methods in fluid dynamics and combustion and articles in numerous journal publications. He joined the clinical faculty at the LSU SVM in 2004.

Dr. Sod used FEA in some of his research at Tulane. This method is a numerical technique for finding an approximate solution to systems of nonlinear partial differential equations in a 3-dimensional region. “Current approaches to orthopedic implant development can be significantly enhanced by using such advanced computational methods as nonlinear FEA combined with appropriate material (both implant and bone) descriptions,” said Dr. Sod. “This computer-based simulation technology has experienced tremendous growth over the past 20 years.” In the case of orthopedic implant design, the 3-dimensional region is an implant and sample bone. Computer aided design (CAD) software is used to transform the implant (plate and screws) to a 3-dimensional...
finite element mesh (FEM). To represent the geometry of an idealized equine bone, Dr. Sod uses either a simple cylinder or a computed tomography (CT) image of a sample equine third metacarpal (cannon) bone.

Using mesh generation computer software, he then creates an FEM of the CT image of the bone. “The implant and bone can be put together, and, using FEA, the implant-bone interactions can be determined under loading conditions,” said Dr. Sod. “The advantage is that I can simulate cyclic fatigue (repeated loading of the implant-bone construct under normal movement of the horse in a stall) of the implant-bone construct, make changes to the design of the implant, generate a new FEM mesh for the implant, and start the computer-based simulation again. With computer-based simulation, determinations that once took months can now be done in hours. This also saves the limited supply of equine cadaver limbs and the cost and time of having a machinist make numerous prototype implants.”

Typically, the design of an orthopedic implant begins with the surgeon, who describes the problem with existing implants to an engineer. The engineer then designs a prototype implant, and a machinist creates the implant. “There is often a gap between what the surgeon wants and the engineer designs,” said Dr. Sod. “The engineer doesn’t always understand the actual size limitations on the implant and how the implant will actually be used.” By understanding nonlinear FEA and computer-based simulation, Dr. Sod is able to design the software himself. “I understand both aspects of it—the computer-based simulation side and the surgical side,” said Dr. Sod, who, as a surgeon, knows what the implant needs to do and what forces it must withstand, and as a mathematician, knows equations that govern the implant-bone interaction under different loading conditions.

“The majority of commercially available orthopedic implants have been designed for human patients weighing 160 to 180 pounds,” said Dr. Sod. “The adaptation of human implants to equine fractures has been difficult because of the size of the horse (1,000 pounds), long-bone size, greater loads imposed on the implant, and the need for the horses to be ambulatory and fully weight-bearing in the immediate post-operative period. Implants that have an increased cyclic fatigue life are necessary. However, practical limits to increasing the size of fixation devices do exist. Larger plates occupy more space, which increases the difficulty of skin closure. Merely increasing plate or screw size is not entirely feasible. Large animal specific orthopedic implants are necessary to facilitate equine fracture repair.”

The Equine Health Studies Program in the LSU SVM has developed a solid research program in the area of large animal orthopedics and biomechanics. This has led to the development of numerous orthopedic implants designed specifically for large animal use, which is critical for the advancement of large animal orthopedics and fracture repair. These large animal-specific orthopedic implants have distinct advantages over those intended for human application. This research has direct and often immediate clinical applications.

“I’m excited about our progress,” said Dr. Sod. “While computer-based simulation will never completely replace the fabrication of prototype implants and actual testing, in most cases it will limit the number of functional prototypes, and hence limit the amount of testing of an implant on a cadaver limb, which is in preparation for ultimate testing of the implant in a live animal.”

The Equine Health Studies Program in the LSU SVM has developed a solid research program in the area of large animal orthopedics and biomechanics. This has led to the development of numerous orthopedic implants designed specifically for large animal use, which is critical for the advancement of large animal orthopedics and fracture repair. These large animal-specific orthopedic implants have distinct advantages over those intended for human application. This research has direct and often immediate clinical applications.
The Laboratory for Equine and Comparative Orthopedic Research (LECOR) is a dynamic and growing resource for the LSU SVM. A multifaceted research laboratory that serves a variety of clinical and research needs, LECOR provides investigators with tools to study orthopedic diseases and injuries not only in horses, but also in many other species.

Dr. Mandi Lopez, assistant professor of veterinary surgery and director of LECOR, was recruited in 2004 to design, equip, and direct the laboratory. The idea behind LECOR was to create a facility that would address a diverse range of orthopedic research needs, thus Dr. Lopez incorporated into her specifications a comprehensive spectrum of research capabilities, some of which include analysis of molecular characteristics of disease, orthopedic implant design and motion analysis. Whole animal assessment is performed, as is genetic, mRNA, protein, composition, ultrastructure, microstructure, and macrostructure evaluations.

In its short history, LECOR has developed an extensive list of collaborators ranging from inside the SVM to national and international academic institutions and industry. LECOR operates under the auspices of the SVM’s Equine Health Studies Program (EHSP), but many other organizations provide funding for the facility as well. “We are graciously supported by the EHSP, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the American Kennel Club, the Collie Health Foundation, and the Louisiana Board of Regents,” Dr. Lopez said. The American College of Veterinary Surgery has also funded a study in LECOR. Current projects include research in dogs, horses, humans, and rats, with a focus on musculoskeletal disorders in synovial joints and long bones.

Dr. Lopez has written a number of manuscripts and several book chapters on applied biomechanics. Within the laboratory, surgical implants for fracture and soft tissue stabilization are designed and tested. Dr. Lopez has several patents, and one of her devices, the GraftGrab (designed and patented at LSU) is currently under licensing negotiations with an industry partner. LECOR staff are currently working to combine the two strengths of the laboratory—biomechanics and adult stem cell applications—for the benefit of all creatures. This will likely improve our approach to managing fractures in the horse.

Ongoing studies in horses include treatment of hock arthritis and tendon injuries, research on degenerative suspensory ligament desmitis, computerized modeling of equine motion, and improved fracture healing by application of adult adipose-derived stem cells (ASCs). The use of ASCs to facilitate bone and tendon healing is some of the most exciting research being done in LECOR. “Adult stem cells are excellent candidates for therapeutic tissue repair and engineering strategies,” said Dr. Lopez, “and adult stem cell technology is gaining momentum not only as a method of tissue regeneration but to treat a multitude of pathologies such as osteoarthritis. These cells possess the capabilities of self renewal, long term viability, and multilineage potential. Bone
In addition to osteoarthritis, ASCs can be applied to assist in complex joint and ligament regeneration. “Adult stem cells have the potential to address a number of unmet medical needs,” said Dr. Lopez. “Our hope is that work done in our lab—using many of our own project designs—will promote the routine application of ASCs for fracture repair in humans and animals.” If the technique proves to be successful in horses, it will be highly significant. “The Barbaro tragedy highlighted the need for such a treatment in the equine field,” Dr. Lopez said.

ASCs have applications in human medicine, too. In collaboration with the Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Dr. Lopez is working to enhance and optimize fracture healing with ASCs in humans. Dr. Lopez also has an NIH grant to study the application of adult stem cells to facilitate fracture healing in alcoholic patients.

“Another current effort is a project in which the motion of both horses and riders is modeled for the benefit of therapeutic riding programs. Therapeutic riding is a form of physical therapy that pairs horses with people. The rhythmic movement of the horses can help stimulate the riders’ nerves and muscles and assist them in developing strength and independence. The interaction with a warm, living animal also has many physical and mental benefits.”

“This is a project that is especially near to my heart,” said Dr. Lopez, “and LECOR is one of few labs in the world capable of collecting data critical to this project. When completed, the computer program being developed will be one of the first of its kind, and I believe the results will have a positive effect for therapeutic riding participants,” she added. LECOR is seeking funding to begin a large-scale program in modeling equine motion.

www.equine.vetmed.lsu.edu/lecor.html
I arrived in April of 1974, and our task was to develop a clinical curriculum and initiate a clinical practice. We acquired an ambulatory vehicle and started a local off-site practice in late 1974. During that time, we were in the process of designing/constructing the Interim Veterinary Teaching Hospital to support the clinical needs of the professional curriculum. The interim facility (currently the Hansen’s Disease Program vivarium facility) was opened in late 1975, and we provided clinical services from that facility for the two-and-a-half years that followed prior to moving into our permanent facility. We had both companion animal and large animal practices and were indeed quite busy, given the enthusiasm that the local and regional veterinary community provided in support of our programs.

From a large animal perspective, we renovated the then-Veterinary Sciences Equine Infectious Anemia barn as an animal holding facility (14 stalls and a treatment/teaching laboratory area) and added a Porta-Stall Barn (19 stalls) to accommodate our caseload.

These were memorable times as we were on the “front edge” of a full-fledged academic program, and there was a lot of personal commitment and interaction with our students and limited staff to deliver our mission of growing a program of quality.

**Class of 1984**

**Dawn Koetting, DVM, DABVP**

My first surgery was with Dr. George Martin during his first year at LSU; he was doing a tie-back procedure on a race horse, and a “bit” of hemorrhage occurred. Without a word, he got the situation under control, then looked up at Karen Langeman and me and calmly stated, “I think that one had a name.”

My first medicine block case (also my first case ever) was passed on to me by my fellow University of South Louisiana alumnus Lowell Roger (he was graduating). The dog had been hit by a car and had been in the intensive care unit a week or so. The dog was not in very good shape from the head trauma. She couldn’t do much and was practically unresponsive, but would occasionally vocalize and roll. I learned a lot with that case, especially nursing care, patience, nursing care, and more patience. She left the hospital walking (a bit
crookedly but still walking), and even returned to LSU a few months later for her spay.

On our last day of the Medicine block, a bunch of us were up late, being silly, and figured out how to use the machine that makes the blue cards with patient information. Each of us on the block made a little card to commemorate the occasion. It stated our name and “I survived Medicine, First Block.” Dr. Carol O’Neal (later Foil) came into the rounds room that morning, glanced around at the table, and then scared the you-know-what out of us stating, “Not yet.” You could have heard a pin drop.

CLASS OF 1986
Toby Wexler, DVM

I was a live-in resident at the teaching hospital for three years while in veterinary school. I remember getting up at three in the morning to help Dr. Haynes and others in equine do colic surgery. It felt to me like we must have done hundreds through the years there. I have other good memories of blocks, like Ophthalmology with Dr. Carter and Exotics with Dr. Bivin. One particular trip with Dr. Bivin was to the Baton Rouge Zoo to assist Dr. Gordon Pirie with a Polar bear with a bad tooth. I recall the bear getting a bit light during the procedure, and all of us preparing to run in case the bear woke up. That wasn’t necessary, fortunately. My time at the teaching hospital was first class, and I was well prepared when I graduated.

CLASS OF 1988
Gwen Reeder Ray, DVM

I will never forget the racehorse that hit a rail. We treated it in the ICU, but it did not survive. On necropsy, we found a 2’ x 4’ through his inguinal area, abdomen, diaphragm, and into his chest. It was spring of 1988, our last rotation. I fondly remember “Big Bertha,” the 3,000 pound crawfish boils, the year it snowed and they closed Interstate 10, and when the cowboy poet Baxter Black, DVM, came to entertain us (Dr. Black was a classmate of Dean Haynes at Colorado State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine).

CLASS OF 1989
Susan M. Eddlestone, DVM, DACVIM

I recall when a bull escaped from an LSU research pen and headed down Nicholson Road to the LSU golf course. TV reporters followed him at some point. Calm and cool, Dr. Olcott used a golf cart to chase the bull and tranquilized him with a dart gun. I also recall that the last day of the block in Radiology always included great food but, more importantly, the “garden hose wars” in the Radiology hallways. Sue Taylor, a radiology technician, led this event.

CLASS OF 1996
Jennifer “Jey” Koehler, DVM

One of my favorite memories is of being on the Equine Medicine rotation when students were still working all the overnight shifts. I used to wear my Rollerblades and skate down the concrete stall aisles throughout the night, checking on the patients! One of the other memories I have is of dressing up for Halloween as Catwoman (complete with black patent leather pants and whip) while on the Small Animal Internal Medicine rotation. The clients all loved it, but Dr. Amy Grooters was not amused. I also remember a certain macaw coming in to have his nails and flight feathers trimmed, and sharing his very “ahem” colorful, pirate-like vocabulary with us!

CLASS OF 2005
Emily Zeller Lemann, DVM

It was rough being a student on Surgery rotation (long hours, no lunches, and daily research assignments). As senior students on the Soft Tissue Surgery rotation, we were assigned a surgery topic each night to review and present the next day at rounds. We always left the clinic late and dreaded going home to do research. Dr. Hedlund was an amazing teacher and quite intimidating, so we all took our assignments seriously. It was late in the afternoon, and the surgery students were watching a surgery performed by Dr. Hedlund and surgery residents. It was getting close to dinner time, and we got on the topic of good places to eat. Being a New Orleans native, I was asked where I really like to eat in New Orleans. I talked about the spinach bread at Venezia, the turtle soup at Mandina’s, the shrimp poboy at Domilise, and the crabmeat and overall experience of Galatoire’s. I mentioned the historical sites, the hole-in-the-walls, and all the local neighborhood favorites. Dr. Hedlund was very interested and told me that instead of completing my assigned surgery research topic, would I please write down a restaurant guide of where to eat in New Orleans. I was shocked and happy to do it! Other surgery students did not regard this as very fair. It was my easiest research topic yet! I typed it up and handed it in the next day, and I still refer to it when people come to New Orleans for a visit and want to know where to eat.
Diagnostic Imaging

In 2008, the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital & Clinics (VTH&C) replaced its old CT unit with a new GE Lightspeed 16-slice CT scanner, the ultimate in veterinary cross-sectional imaging. The Hospital also acquired a new, state-of-the-art equine CT table, capable of holding up to 2,000 pounds.

The table is a revolutionary and unique, patented design that allows the horse to “float” on a lazy susan mechanism for positioning in many different ways, depending on the region of interest. LSU is one of only a few schools to have this type of custom-built equine table. The new 16-slice CT scanner is so fast that the skull or extremity can be examined in less than 30 seconds, reducing anesthesia time. With the addition of this table, LSU is only one of a few facilities in the United States with this type of diagnostic imaging technology for horses.

Construction has begun on the room for the new MRI in the VTH&C. The room is located in the VTH&C on the first floor and will be also be accessible from the barn, so imaging can be done on both large and small animals. The Hitachi 1.5 Tesla Magnet should be installed and operational by April 2009. On April 3-4, the LSU SVM is hosting a conference to demonstrate how the MRI will be used to help patients.

Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory

The Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, also called the cath lab, is up and running. In the one month it has been operational, four procedures have been performed. The cath lab is used for a variety of heart tests (diagnostic catheterization) and to make repairs (interventional catheterization), such as pacemaker implantation, balloon valvuloplasty of the pulmonic valve, and patent ductus arteriosus occlusion. The cath lab is equipped with a state of the art C-arm (Pulsera 12 – Philips Medical), which provides 2-D imaging in a variety of view planes; a transesophageal ultrasound system (Philips Medical); a surgical C-arm table (Biodex); cardiac monitors (Biopac system); an angiographic injection system (Medrad); and a large inventory of catheters.
For more information about the LSU SVM’s cardiology service, go to http://cardiology.vetmed.lsu.edu.

### Farm Animal Medicine

Room 1902 in the Large Animal Clinic recently acquired some new surgical equipment. There is a surgery table adapted for bovine patients that can accommodate an animal up to two tons, as well as a hoist to safely move the animal to the table. The Farm Animal Service also plans to get a new light and oxygen and suction lines, and plans are underway for the floor to be resurfaced.

www.vetmed.lsu.edu/vth&c

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### Millionaire Club Update

In the last five years, these individuals have brought into the School of Veterinary Medicine over $1 million each in extramural grants and/or contracts to fund research. The sums vary from $1.2M to $11.8M. *This list was printed in the January/February issue of La Veterinaire, but Dr. Liang was accidentally omitted.*

- Steven A. Barker, MS, PhD, professor of veterinary physiology, pharmacology, and toxicology in Comparative Biomedical Sciences
- Joseph Francis, BVSc, MVSc, PhD, associate professor in Comparative Biomedical Sciences
- Samithamby Jeyaseelan, DVM, PhD, assistant professor in Pathobiological Sciences
- Konstantin G. Kousoulas, MS, PhD, professor of veterinary virology in Pathobiological Sciences
- Fang-Ting Liang, MS, PhD, assistant professor in Pathobiological Sciences
- Shisheng Li, MS, PhD, assistant professor in Comparative Biomedical Sciences
- Shulin Li, MS, PhD, professor in Comparative Biomedical Sciences
- Kevin R. Macaluso, PhD, assistant professor in Pathobiological Sciences
- Alma F. Roy, MS, PhD, assistant professor of veterinary microbiology and parasitology in Pathobiological Sciences
- Gary E. Wise, PhD, professor and head of Comparative Biomedical Sciences
- Masami Yoshimura, BSc, MSc, DSc, assistant professor in Comparative Biomedical Sciences
Life at the LSU SVM

Dr. Wendy Wolfson neuters a dog in the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine's mobile unit at West Baton Rouge Parish Animal Control in Port Allen, La., while fourth-year veterinary student Tim Slater assists. The mobile unit is used to provide medical care at south Louisiana shelters as part of the LSU SVM's shelter medicine curriculum when it is not being utilized for natural or man-made disasters.

Construction has begun on the room that will house the LSU SVM's Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) equipment. The room is covered in copper to provide radio frequency shielding, which involves the construction of enclosures for the purpose of reducing the transmission of electric or magnetic fields from one space to another.

Jeff McLain, vice president for development of the LSU Foundation (second from left), presents a “Laureate Society” plaque to Dr. Jay Addison (second from right) of the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association (LVMA) Equine Committee in honor of the LVMA and its affiliates' cumulative contributions of over $200,000. Representing the EHSP are Ky Mortensen, director of advancement for the EHSP (left), and Dr. Frank Andrews, director of the EHSP and current LVMA Equine Committee Professor (right).

Over 5,600 people visited the LSU SVM during the 27th Annual Open House on February 7. Brittany Guidry (Class of 2011) shows two children how to gently pet the piglets in the Petting Zoo.

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.
What made you want to be a veterinarian?
I always wanted to be a veterinarian. My earliest memories were of caring for my neighbor's pets. Because I was allergic to cats and my mother was not particularly fond of dogs, I did not have my own pet until I broke both arms around Christmas and asked for a dog. My family thought I would grow out of it and want to be a "real doctor," but this never happened.

What was the LSU SVM like when you attended?
We had a few women in our class, but we didn't have a locker room like the guys, so they placed a locker barrier in one of the halls. They had just started using ultrasonography during my senior year, and I remember wondering if this would ever be useful; now I can't imagine not having it. I also only saw one dental cleaning done my entire senior year; I never thought that dentistry would play such a large role in practice.

How did the LSU SVM prepare you for your career in veterinary medicine?
The LSU SVM provided me with a strong academic background and allowed me to spend a lot of time in both the small and large animal clinics. The professors were always willing to spend the extra time and help bring the academic facts we learned together with clinical experience. When I moved to Washington, D.C., I practiced with veterinarians from other schools and intern programs and always felt my background prepared me equally as well.

What does the LSU SVM mean to you?
The LSU SVM provided me with four years with many wonderful friends and has given me the opportunity to work in a field that I have loved for almost 25 years.

What is a memorable moment from your time at the LSU SVM?
We had a very close class. What I remember most is spending a tremendous amount of time helping each other through long hours of studying and working in clinics. There was always someone willing to lend a hand. Twice a year we had a large party. We would cook three pigs in the fall and boil about 1,000 pounds of crawfish in the spring. Our class raised money through t-shirt sales due to the hard work of a handful of classmates. We also had a note-taking service so we could share class notes. We had a great group!

Bio Bullets
- I am married to Wade Keisler, and we have two daughters: Lauren, a junior at Wofford College, and Caroline, a junior in high school.
- I practiced for 10 years in the Washington, D.C., area with one of my classmates, Doree Katz. It was a wonderful place to work and we had many interesting clients and patients. We had clients that included senators and congressmen, secret service agents, Cabinet members, the President and Vice President's staff, movie stars, and TV personalities.
- We moved to Lexington, S.C., in 1994, and I am working with five other veterinarians at Cherokee Trail Veterinary Hospital.
- I am very active in my church and my daughters' schools. I am district representative for the South Carolina Veterinary Association.
What made you want to be a research scientist?

I had a particular interest in probing the problems of cats and dogs. The only way I could see that we could advance medical therapy in small animals was to understand the pathophysiology of disease at the most basic level. This led me to seek the research tools needed to unravel the cause of disease, particularly disease caused by infectious agents.

What is your primary area of research?

My main interest is in parasitic and infectious disease of small animals. Within that, I have focused on protozoal diseases of small animals, mainly trypanosomiasis, giardiasis, and leishmaniasis.

What was the LSU SVM like when you attended?

I came to LSU in 1984 as the first resident in Small Animal Internal Medicine—a three-year program. During that time, I registered for a Master’s degree in immunoparasitology with Dr. Tom Klei as my senior advisor. After completing my residency, I continued to work in Dr. Klei’s laboratory towards a PhD degree, which I obtained in 1989. I then came to Cornell University as an assistant professor in small animal internal medicine. When I was at LSU, everyone knew each other and was willing to help everyone who walked in their door with a research problem. I worked mainly in the Veterinary Science building on main campus where the open door policy was particularly renowned.

How did the LSU SVM prepare you for your career in biomedical research?

Working in Dr. Klei's lab was one of the most rewarding and exciting experiences of my life, and I am not sure there is any one other individual who has had such an effect on my life. Dr. Klei is a brilliant scientist, a humanitarian, a wonderful thinker, and a great guy under whom to do a PhD. He prepared his students for careers in biomedical science by teaching us how to do excellent but pragmatic science. He prepared us to write grants and papers, and to seek the truth through careful bench research. He was modest and unassuming but demanded excellence and hard work. He led by example. If the man has an ego, I am not sure where he keeps it. It was Dr. Klei, more than LSU, who prepared me for my future career.

What are some of your most memorable moments from LSU?

Standing around eating crawfish and drinking beer with Dr. Klei and company while relating rather bawdy and extremely funny jokes! Trying to get to the coffee pot early in the morning before it could brew down to a thick and potent tar favored by Dr. Klei. Travelling on the LSU bus to other colleges (Florida, Texas, Georgia) to attend the Southern Disease Workers conference. Getting lost in the streets of Athens, Ga., with Paul Rambo during a Southern Disease Workers conference!

Bio Bullet

I have two wonderful daughters: one born in Baton Rouge who attends college in Hawaii, and one born in Ithaca who attends engineering school in upstate New York.
1996
Dr. Damon Ranftle was promoted to the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Jackson, MS District Case Specialist position on December 21 with the primary responsibility of managing Food Safety Assessments and Enforcement Actions for federally inspected slaughter and food production facilities located in Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

2001
Dr. Janine Barrett Bradberry is working for Banfield, The Pet Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla. She and her husband, Kraig, welcomed their first child, Barrett Michael-Joseph, on September 8, 2008. The Bradberrys reside in Jacksonville.

2004
Dr. Angelica Veitch and her husband, Pete, had their second son, Jacob, on November 25, 2008. First son, Tommy, is three years old. Angelica works in Norwich, Vt.

2005
Dr. Michael Thomas married Jane Byerly in August 2008. Jane is an LSU graduate in Chemical Engineering. The couple have two dogs, Lucky and Tiger. In October 2008, Michael bought 50% ownership in Airline Animal Hospital in Bossier City, La. He is the sole veterinarian in the practice; his partner has another clinic in town. The Thomases reside in Haughton, La.

2007
Dr. April Ooley Overton got married on October 4, 2008, to Russell Overton. April is working at the Maumelle Animal Clinic in Maumelle, Ark. The Overtons reside in North Little Rock, Ark.

For information on alumni activities, go to http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/svm_alumni_&_donors.htm.

DROP US A LINE!
Alumni updates can be sent to the SVM using the form below or by submitting an on-line form on the SVM website at www.vetmed.lsu.edu. Go to "Alumni & Donors" and then click on "Keep in Touch" under "Alumni Resources."

Mail to: Office of Public Relations
School of Veterinary Medicine
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E-Mail: gcuttner@vetmed.lsu.edu

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

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Please use the enclosed postage-paid envelope, or contact us on-line at www.vetmed.lsu.edu.
LSU Veterinary Classes Start New Traditions of Giving

Three veterinary classes are creating a new tradition at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. The Classes of 1983 and 1987 have made class gifts supporting scholarships at the LSU SVM, and the Class of 1977 was the first class to receive two new LSU SVM Awards honoring class giving.

Class of 1977

In 2008, Dr. Stephen Gaunt (LSU 1977), class agent and professor of veterinary clinical pathology, accepted two awards on behalf of his class: The Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund Award Given to the Alumni Class with the Largest Class Contribution and the Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund Award Given to the Alumni Class with the Highest Class Participation. In 2008, the Class of 1977 donated over $5,800, and 50% of the class donated to the LSU SVM during the 2007-08 fiscal year (July 1-June 30). The Class of 1977 was the LSU SVM’s first class. Thirty-six students were accepted for that original class in 1973.

Class of 1987

In 2007, the Class of 1987 celebrated its 20th reunion. “We were talking about doing a reunion gift so we talked about all of the possibilities,” said Dr. Rebecca McConnico, class agent. “We decided that we would start putting funds toward the Abdelbaki Scholarship. Dr. Ab was a very special anatomy professor/instructor, and we were one of the last classes to have him. He died from cancer soon after our first year.”
The Y.Z. Abdelbaki Memorial Scholarship provides two $500 scholarships to Year I students who excelled scholastically in anatomy courses and who exhibit the personality traits of Dr. Abdelbaki as judged by the faculty of the Department of Comparative Biomedical Sciences. In a letter to the Class of 1987 challenging classmates to participate in the class gift, Dr. McConnico wrote, “As explained by Fred [Dr. Fred Foti (LSU 1987)] (who was Dr. Ab’s protégé if you remember . . .) the characteristics include ‘extremely caring, superior teacher, and so fun-loving.’ We chose this scholarship because it exemplifies the kind of person that we all strive to be and a person whose life touched each of ours in a very special way. We were the last class to be taught by Dr. Ab, if you remember (before losing him to cancer).”

Class of 1983

In 2008, the Class of 1983 celebrated its 25th reunion. To commemorate this event, the class decided to make a class gift in memory of Dr. Everett Besch, the LSU SVM’s first dean, to the M. Darnell Besch Scholarship. This $3,500 cash award is given to a deserving Year III student who has financial need, is active in the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association, and presents a positive attitude towards veterinary medicine. Dr. Charlie Carville, class agent, has collected about $3,000 so far. The class goal for the gift is $8,000.

“I think that picking a scholarship or other focus area and building up an existing fund is a great way for classes to come together,” said Dr. McConnico. For information on giving opportunities at the LSU SVM, please contact Judyth Wier, executive director for institutional advancement, at 225-578-9870 or jwier@vetmed.lsu.edu.

www.vetmed.lsu.edu/giving.htm

16th Annual LSU SVM Hill’s Great Rover Road
Saturday, March 21
5K Run starts at 8 a.m.
1 Mile Fun Run/Walk with Rover starts at 9 a.m.
http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/grrr.htm
Your Support of the Annual Fund is Vital to the Success of the SVM

The annual Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund is the cornerstone of advancement for the School of Veterinary Medicine. The School’s long-term strategic plan sets progressive goals and objectives that will advance veterinary medicine locally, regionally, and internationally. These high standards can only be met through private gifts to enhance our resources beyond appropriations. The future of the School is dependent upon the Annual Fund.

Dr. Daniel J. Hillmann Club ($100-$499)
Donors who make an annual gift between $100-$499 are recognized as members of the Dr. Daniel J. Hillmann Club. In 1973, Dr. Hillmann was one of the first faculty members appointed to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, and he continues to teach anatomy to our veterinary students today.

Dr. John D. Rhoades Club ($500-$999)
Donors who make an annual gift between $500-$999 are recognized as members of the Dr. John D. Rhoades Club. Dr. Rhoades was on the faculty of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine from 1980-2005, and as Associate Dean of Student Affairs he touched the lives of every veterinary student during that time.

Dr. William L. Jenkins Society ($1,000-$2,499)
Donors who make an annual gift between $1,000-$2,499 are recognized as members of the Dr. William L. Jenkins Society. In 1988, Dr. Jenkins was appointed the second Dean of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. He made extraordinary contributions to LSU as Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, Chancellor of LSU, and President of the LSU System.

Dr. Everett D. Besch Society ($2,500-$4,999)
Donors who make an annual gift between $2,500-$4,999 are recognized as members of the Dr. Everett D. Besch Society. In 1988, Dr. Besch retired as the first Dean of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. He worked tirelessly for the veterinary school and in 1968 saw the Louisiana Legislature approve the establishment of the School.

Dr. William H. Dalrymple Society ($5,000-$10,000)
Donors who make an annual gift between $5,000-$10,000 are recognized as members of the Dr. William H. Dalrymple Society. Considered the “Father of Veterinary Medicine” in the south central region of the United States, Dr. Dalrymple came to LSU in 1889 as professor of comparative medicine and veterinarian of the experiment stations. Throughout his professional career, he was a member and officer in numerous veterinary and agricultural organizations, and in 1905 was one of the charter members of the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association.

To support the annual Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund, complete the form on page 25 and return it to the SVM today or go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu and click on “Support the LSU SVM.”
22nd International Exhibition on Animals in Art
Opening Reception on Saturday, March 28, 6 p.m.
in the SVM Library
Exhibition runs through April 26
www.vetmed.lsu.edu/art_show.htm

The Dog's Chair, an acrylic by Marjie Bassler, received the LSU SVM Art Show Program Award in 2008.

ADVANCE VETERINARY MEDICINE FUND
Thank you for supporting the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine.

I want my gift to support the 2008-2009 Advance Veterinary Medicine Fund (07/01/2008-06/30/2009).

_____ Gift / _____ Pledge for the Hillmann Club ($100-$499), the Rhoades Club ($500-$999), the Jenkins Society ($1,000-$2,499), the Besch Society ($2,500-$4,999), or the Dalrymple Society ($5,000-$10,000). My pledge will be paid in _____ installments.

Name ___________________________________________________________________________ Graduation Year ______________
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Please use the enclosed postage-paid envelope to make your gift, or call 225-578-9900 or 225-578-9948 to make your gift by phone! Visit www.vetmed.lsu.edu/giving.htm to give online.

March/April 2009 La Veterinaire - LVMAG
Upcoming SVM Events

March 21  LSU SVM Hill’s Great Rover Road Run  
School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

March 21  Opening Reception for the 22nd International Exhibition on Animals in Art  
SVM Library, School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

March 22  22nd International Exhibition on Animals in Art opens and runs through April 27  
School of Veterinary Medicine Library, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

March 25  Dean’s Grand Rounds  
Auditorium, School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

April 3-4  MRI Workshop  
School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

April 10  Good Friday Holiday

April 30  Spring Reception and Staff Awards  
SVM Courtyard, School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

May 1  Awards & Honors Banquet  
LSU Union, School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

For information on these and other SVM events, contact the SVM at 225-578-9900 or go to www.vetmed.lsu.edu.