



December 10, 2007

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Calendar

- Monday, December 10
 - Horse Owner Education Series: "Equine eye emergencies", Dr. Nellie Driscoll, M102 7:30-8:30pm
- Tuesday, December 11
 - Ag Animal Club presentation, Dr. Crane, M113 9-10am
- Wednesday, December 12
 - Equine Reproduction Workshop, M202 9am-6pm & M208 8am-6pm
 - Meeting on Business Service Center, M102 3:30-5pm
 - CVM Holiday Party, CH2M Hill Alumni Center 5:30-8:30pm
- Thursday, December 13
 - Equine Reproduction Workshop, M202 8am-6pm & M208 8am-6pm
 - Tour: 14 Silverton High School students, Magruder 11-12pm
 - Tour: 18 Dallas High School students, Magruder 12-1pm
- Friday, December 14
 - Equine Reproduction Workshop, M202 10am-6pm & M208 8am-6pm
 - SCAVMA Hill's pet food sale, Barn 12-1pm
- Monday, December 17
 - Horse Owner Seminar Series: "Equine dentistry", Dr. Jacob Mecham M102 7:30-8:30pm
- Tuesday, December 18
 - Clinical Faculty mtg, M298 3-5pm
- Wednesday, December 19
 - No special events planned at this time
- Thursday, December 20
 - No special events planned at this time
- Friday, December 21
 - SCAVMA Hill's pet food sale, Barn 12-1pm
- Monday, December 24 and 25
 - Have a safe and happy holiday!

Diversity Action Planning Committee Formed

OSU has a strong commitment to diversity. The office of community and diversity is leading the charge to make OSU a more welcoming community. To meet that goal OSU has a strategic plan for diversity which includes having each unit develop a diversity action plan. Each unit will develop its own vision of diversity and create a realistic plan which addresses its unique diversity-related challenges and opportunities.

CVM has recently formed a diversity action planning committee. Faculty members are Drs. Susan Tornquist, Manoj Pастey, Mahfuzur Sarker, and Jacob Mecham. Staff members are Tammy Jennings, Debrah Rarick, and Lisa Poland. Student members are Misty Dayzie and Dan Richardson. The committee will meet with Dr. Terryl Ross, director of community and diversity to get started on the next step, which is to conduct a climate survey for the college. Some members have attended workshops run by the office of community and diversity to assist with the process. Topics included how to write a plan, collaborative recruitment and collaborative training. Ideas for improving diversity are welcome and may be sent to committee members.

Necropsy changing

Jermey Becker has worked for the OSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory since October, 2002. His current position within the laboratory was as the Pathology Laboratory Coordinator where he assisted the pathologists with the pathology courses and the necropsy rotation along with other lab duties. Jermey will be beginning course work during the winter term here at Oregon State University to pursue an advanced degree.



Student Ambassadors for Veterinary Medicine

Attracting qualified, hard-working people to the veterinary profession has become a national priority among veterinary schools and veterinary leaders. It has also long been a goal for the College of Veterinary Medicine. A group of about 25 enthusiastic veterinary students serves as student ambassadors for the College and the profession. They have recently regrouped and brainstormed to come up with ideas for reaching students at an age when they may be starting to make plans for a career. The group is focusing on middle school and high school-aged students, although those in grade school and college are also fair game.

Student ambassadors will be visiting high schools, middle schools and groups such as 4-H clubs over the winter break. Many will be going to their home towns and talking to students there. Kathleen Hanifen (Class of 2010) has developed a Powerpoint presentation showing the diversity of career choices for veterinarians, information about pre-veterinary requirements, and what students might expect when they get to veterinary school. This presentation can be adapted by each ambassador and used when they visit student and club groups.



Other activities for this group may include booths at dog shows, continuing to represent the profession at Ag Fest, talking to pre-vet advisors, and having some special, hands-on activities for high school students at Pet Day.

The student ambassadors can serve as excellent role models for younger people who are considering career choices that are challenging, rewarding, and respected. Their efforts on behalf of the College and the veterinary profession are applauded. Any student who is not currently in this group who would like to be included should contact Dr. Sue Tornquist.

Research grant

Congratulations to research associate Jenni Durringer for being selected to receive a grant from the General Research Fund for her proposal, "Elucidating the Fate and Metabolism of the Grass Seed Toxin Lolitrem B in Cattle". The Research Office received 21 proposals for the 2007-2008 solicitation with requests totaling \$204,620. After review and evaluation the Research Council provided a prioritized list of proposals. The Vice President for Research approved funding for six of the proposals with combined budgets of \$58,902. Dr. Durringer's grant will focus on microsomal metabolism of the endophyte toxin lolitrem B.



Research paper

Mata JE, Dyal LA, Slauson ME, Summerton JE, Loehr C, Tyson AR, Rodriguez-Proteau R, Gustafson SB. Tumor imaging using technetium-99m bound to pH-sensitive peptides. *Nanomedicine*. 2007 Sep 25; [Epub ahead of print].

Solid tumors often display metabolic abnormalities that consistently produce low pH in the extracellular space of poorly perfused tissue. These acidic regions may provide a mechanism for drug targeting. Peptides have been designed in such a manner that they exist in an anionic hydrophilic form at the pH of normal tissues, but then undergo a sharp transition to a non-ionic lipophilic form at reduced pH. Peptides were labeled with fluorescein or technetium-99m (99mTc) and evaluated in vitro and in two murine models of cancer. Our studies suggest that PAP-1, an 18 amino acid pH activated peptide with a pH of transition between hydrophilic and lipophilic forms (pT) of 6.4, will deliver fluorescein and 99mTc to tumors. Activation of PAP-1 by low pH and penetration into the plasma membrane of cells and tumors were confirmed using flow cytometry, fluorescence microscopy, and gamma scintigraphy. These results support our central hypothesis that PAP-1 may enable the selective delivery of macromolecules to tumors. This technology has potential for exploiting a common property of tumors to achieve highly specific medical intervention.



Due to the upcoming holidays, the next issue of the Vet Gazette will be out on January 7, 2008.

Happy Holidays!