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From the Dean



Dear faculty, staff, and students,

Over the past several weeks, a number of you have asked questions regarding Cornell University Veterinary Specialists (CUVS), the companion animal satellite referral and emergency hospital in Stamford, CT, that is scheduled to begin operations in January 2011. Almost three months have now passed since my last public update on this project, and we may be overdue for a progress report. I am pleased to report that the project has moved along rapidly, and that members of the veterinary community in Connecticut have been very welcoming. Local practitioners express a strong desire for additional, high-quality, customer-focused referral options in the area. Please do not hesitate to contact either myself or one of the CUVS project managers, Mr. Dan Gurvich (dg258, 3-3838), or Dr. Andrea

Looney, with any additional questions.

Recruitment

CUVS will be staffed by boarded veterinary specialists recruited based on their clinical credentials and ability to interface effectively with clients and referring veterinarians. We are currently in the process of recruiting a Chief Medical Officer, who will serve as the chief executive and public face of the hospital. Our first candidate for the position, Dr. Susan Hackner, visited campus and met with a number of people on Monday, April 5. In addition, we have already begun to advertise for several of our specialist-clinician openings, including the surgery, imaging, and cardiology positions. I encourage all of you to share this information with any qualified colleagues who you think might be interested.

University Approval and Legal Structure

In October, the Buildings & Properties Committee of the Board of Trustees authorized Cornell University to provide \$6M in debt financing for CUVS to design and build-out a facility, purchase medical equipment, and set aside initial working capital. The committee also authorized CUVS to sign a property lease with a present value not to exceed \$3.5M. Our business plan builds the cost of repaying this loan and a modest first-year loss into the project, and we project net revenue for the College in the second year of operation. The Trustees, as well as the president and provost, have greeted our plans for this project with a great deal of enthusiasm. Over the past few months, a number of University officials have reviewed and approved the business plan for CUVS. On April 8, I will again meet with the Board of Trustees to secure final approval for the entire project. CUVS will be incorporated as a for-profit, legally-separate subsidiary of Cornell University, similar to e-Cornell. The hospital's Chief Medical Officer will report directly to the Dean of the College, and a Board of Directors, composed of representatives from the College, the University, and the Board of Trustees, will be appointed to provide guidance and oversight for the new corporation.

Business Model

As has been said before, CUVS will not engage in general veterinary practice, but will rather seek to support existing practitioners in the area by providing clients and referring veterinarians with the highest level of patient and customer care within a university-affiliated hospital. Initial specialties offered will include orthopedic and soft-tissue surgery, emergency and critical care, internal medicine, imaging, and cardiology. The College is currently considering input from a newly-formed advisory committee of local practitioners regarding the selection of additional sub-specialties. Net earnings generated by the practice will benefit the veterinary profession by supporting clinical and student programs on the Ithaca campus.

Facility and Location

We have reached an agreement on lease terms for a 20,000 square foot, 2-story freestanding building in the heart of Stamford, CT, across from a new Fairway supermarket, 4,000 new luxury apartments, and numerous office buildings, including the worldwide corporate headquarters of Starwood Hotels and Resorts. The Stamford train station is three blocks away, which makes for an easy 45-minute commute to Manhattan's Grand Central Terminal on Metro North. The hospital will be part of the \$3 billion, LEED-certified Harbor Point mixed-use urban redevelopment project, which has already attracted extensive media attention, and will likely become one of Stamford's most sought-after business and residential districts. This location also provides CUVS with some substantial tax abatements and other economic incentives. BDA, one of North America's leading veterinary architects, has completed design plans for the facility, and we are in the process of configuring equipment and finishes. Construction should begin shortly after the lease is signed in late April. The builders, who are also our future landlords, are pursuing a very aggressive timeline, and the facility will be completed sometime this fall.

Educational Mission

CUVS will enhance the educational experience for College residents and students by allowing them to see cases within the context of a high-volume, service-based referral practice. We envision that CUVS will strengthen some of our residency training programs, serve as an additional opportunity for DVM student externships, and allow Cornell to effectively deliver continuing education programming to veterinarians in the New York metro area. CUVS specialists will also be encouraged to collaborate with clinical investigators

at the College. In addition to clinical facilities and offices, the Stamford hospital will contain a tiered classroom with seating for 60. Short-term housing will be available on the second floor for residents, rotating students, and College faculty who would like to work on a part-time basis with CUVS.

As always, I welcome your thoughts and questions.

Sincerely,

Michael I. Kotlikoff, VMD, PhD

Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine

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Cornell assisting in the creation of a veterinary school in Hong Kong



Cornell University and The City University of Hong Kong have signed a memorandum of understanding to establish terms of collaboration for the creation of the first veterinary medicine academic program in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR). Under the prospective collaboration agreement, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine would provide in-depth and ongoing advice and

guidance to City University in the planning, establishment, operation, and evaluation of the new School of Veterinary Medicine, with the goal of securing international accreditation in the future. The School will offer a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine degree, granted by the City University of Hong Kong. Cornell University and City University expect this School to serve as an international center of excellence in veterinary medicine in Asia. The international collaboration is motivated by a growing awareness of the need to develop strong programs in veterinary public health as a response to the increasing global threats of zoonotic diseases and of outbreaks of food and water-borne diseases.

The School of Veterinary Medicine will be housed at new and renovated academic and small animal clinical facilities on the City University of Hong Kong campus as well as leveraging other supporting farm and large animal clinical facilities within the Hong Kong SAR. Plans are underway to develop a food animal and regulatory medicine clinic in mainland China, which would serve as a satellite teaching facility. When appropriate and possible, City University's BVM students may also participate in specialty training at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine in Ithaca, NY.

"Cornell University has a long history of innovation in veterinary medicine," said Michael I. Kotlikoff, Cornell's Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine, noting that Cornell granted the first Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in the United States in 1876 to Daniel E. Salmon, who became the first US "Chief Veterinary Officer" at the US Department of Agriculture and who identified *Salmonella*, which bears his name. "We are proud to have the opportunity to assist an international partner in the development of a model program that will meet ever-increasing societal needs to protect animal health, relieve animal suffering, conserve livestock resources, promote public health and advance modern medical knowledge. This partnership has great potential to improve the quality of life for animals and people and shape the future direction of veterinary medicine."

The proposed project, already endorsed by City University's Management Board and Faculty Senate, will provide veterinary education at the highest international standard. All courses will be in English and will include the full breadth and depth of veterinary education adopted at the world's leading institutions of veterinary education. City University of Hong Kong is seeking funding from Hong Kong sources to support the program.

"The proposed School will position City University as the regional centre for the training of top level graduates to meet local and regional demand, as well as a centre for excellence for academic research, professional advancement, and the sustained elevation of practice standards to promote public health, animal care, food safety and food production industry in the region," said City University's President, Professor Way Kuo. The proposed School will further enhance City University's capacity to contribute to human welfare and knowledge creation through its premier professional education.

The plan is to receive the first class of 30 students at School of Veterinary Medicine in 2012, increasing the student class size to 50 by the time the first graduation takes place.



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Early pregnancy test is now available



The Diagnostic Endocrinology Lab has reintroduced the pregnant mare serum gonadotropin (PMSG) test. PMSG rises rapidly after conception, peaking at about day 60, and can be detected through day 100. With a single serum sample, the lab can assess conception and endometrial cup formation and help to identify problems that can be addressed early. For more information, please direct people to the Lab's [online resources](#).


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Faculty news to note

M. Julia Flaminio, Department of Clinical Sciences, was elected associate professor with indefinite tenure, effective April 1, 2010.

John Schimenti, professor with indefinite tenure, department of biomedical sciences, was elected the James Law Professor of Anatomy, effective March 1, 2010.

The following faculty members have been elected to serve as members of the Committee on the Status of Faculty Women: Dr. Dorothy Ainsworth (3 year term), Dr. Tracy Stokol (2 year term), Dr. Cheryl Balkman (2 year term) and Dr. Carolyn McDaniel (2 year term).

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Dr. Farnum recognized with professional award



Dr. Cornelia Farnum is the 2010 winner of the Kappa Delta Elizabeth Winston Lanier Award, presented annually by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. She intends to use her share of the prize money to establish a traveling fellowship for trainees who are presenting a paper at the Orthopaedic Research Society. Read her [award-winning manuscript](#).

In 1947, at its Golden Anniversary, Kappa Delta Sorority announced the establishment of the Kappa Delta Research Fellowship in Orthopaedics, the first award ever created to honor achievements in the field of orthopaedic research. The first annual award, a single stipend of \$1,000, was made available to the Academy in 1949 and presented at the annual meeting in 1950. The Kappa Delta Awards have been presented by the Academy at the annual meeting to persons who have performed research in orthopaedic surgery that is of high significance and impact.

In 1961, the sorority increased the number of awards from one to three, and over time their dollar value has been raised. At present, three annual awards of \$20,000 each are given. Two awards are named for the national presidents who were instrumental in the creation of the awards: Elizabeth Winston Lanier and Ann Doner Vaughn. The third is known as the Young Investigator's Award.

In the years since their inception, the Kappa Delta Awards have totaled over a million dollars. The awards are bestowed for outstanding manuscripts that focus on basic and/or clinical research related to the musculoskeletal system. Many recipients have cited the Kappa Delta Awards as having been the decisive factor in encouraging them to continue in the field of research. The orthopaedic research awards are one of the four national philanthropies supported by Kappa Delta Sorority and the Kappa Delta Foundation.

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Students bring home the prizes from SAVMA

Please congratulate our students on their outstanding successes --winning five out of eight competitions -- at this year's SAVMA Symposium, held in Wisconsin. The winners for the specific competitions and descriptions where available are below.

Radiology: 1st place

Melissa Murray and Stephanie Silberstang

Challenge questions covering large and small animals, exotics, regional anatomy, and radiology technology concepts. The challenge will be limited to digital and traditional radiographs and will not include MR, CT or other nuclear technologies.

Veterinary Feud: 1st place

Erik Zager, Caitlin Roswell, Tonie Domino, Charlotte Sanford-Crane

Like Family Feud but for vet students! Two teams go head to head answering a variety of veterinary

school related questions.

Freshman Anatomy: 1st place

Michael Robinson and Leigh MacAyeal

Challenge lab questions pertaining to canine and feline gross anatomy.

SAVMA Challenge: 1st place

Tim Krebs, Jess Dowling and Melissa Murray

Challenge questions covering a variety of clinical cases. Teams must analyze a history, come up with differentials and give a diagnosis.

NAVLE Trivia: 1st place

Shileyn Rego

Flag Football: 2nd place

Josh Boyden, Patrick McCarthy, Steve Frattini, Abby Regner

5K Run: 2nd place

Jayne Kubat, Robyn Ellerbrock, Steve Frattini, John Lucy, David Gurbacki, and Sandy LaBuda

In addition, please offer a special note of congratulations to Andrea Tu for winning the **John Pitts Award for Distinguished Service**. This award is given annually to a SAVMA member who has made a significant contribution to veterinary medicine, and Andrea won for her work on organizing the first annual Zoonotic Diseases Symposium here at Cornell last year.

SAVMA Symposium 2011 is scheduled for March 24-27, 2011, at UC Davis.


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Our neighbor: Sachiko Funaba



by Jenna Abbott

Getting to know staff and faculty may seem like a challenge, especially in a fast-paced and exciting environment. People have their own unique stories and adventures that have made them who they are today. *Making Rounds* had a chance to sit down with Sachiko Funaba, from biomedical sciences.

What office do you work in and what are your everyday responsibilities?

I work as assistant to the chairman of Microbiology and Immunology. I am also a back-up to the administrative manager and the contact person for educational activities. I do many different things to meet departmental and administrative needs, including assisting the chair with travel and schedule arrangements, creating and maintaining web sites, managing a training grant, organizing events, and assisting the department in whatever way that I can. I always worked on a wide range of projects, and with the staff reduction in the past year, my responsibilities became even more diverse.

What is your favorite part of the job?

I love that I get to work with a variety of people from different cultures and help them in different capacities. The department also gives me a lot of learning opportunities.

How long have you been at Cornell?

I have been employed at Cornell since 2000. Before that I was a graduate student here for two years.

Please tell me a little about your personal background.

I am originally from Japan. I moved to the United States in 1986 to attend graduate school. After graduate school I taught Japanese at SUNY Albany for 10 years, where I also ran the Japanese program. After that, I started attending graduate school at Cornell. However, I was only able to receive my master's because of back problems. At that time, I started working at Cornell, and I have been here since. I married in 1999 and adopted two beautiful daughters, a 2-year-old and a 6-year-old, from China.

Any personal interests or hobbies you like to do outside of work?

With two young daughters, it is hard to do anything. However, I love cheering for sports, especially baseball and basketball. My favorite teams are the Mariners and the Spurs. My other favorite team is the Cornell basketball team; we go to all home games and try to travel to their away games whenever possible.

What's your greatest accomplishment?

At this point in my life, I believe that my greatest accomplishment is just being where I am now. I moved to the United States by myself and established a life and a wonderful family with a wonderful husband and two beautiful daughters.

What words do you try to live your life by?

There are no words that have carried me through life. I believe that at different times I am inspired by different words. The words that struck me recently were shared by a Japanese comedian: "You have got the best deal just by being alive." Also a Japanese author said, "Don't run away, don't fight, and don't be weakened." Unfortunately, certain phrases lose some of the original meaning and subtle tones when translated.


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For your security ...

The following information was submitted by the College's Computing Services Office.

Did you know that according to the Cornell security policy ...

The types of information classified as confidential are:

- Social Security numbers
- Credit Card numbers
- Driver's License numbers
- Bank Account numbers
- Patient treatment information

Did you know that according to the Cornell security policy ...

All local shares used for file access must be password protected.

The following items are forbidden on an individual's system

- Unauthenticated open shares

- Unauthenticated drop folders
- Unauthenticated public folders

Did you know that according to the Cornell security policy ...

Confidential information on any laptop, PDS's, smart phone or other portable devices that ever leave a secure location accessible only to authorized university personnel, must be encrypted.

Did you know that according to the Cornell security policy ...

To avoid unauthorized access to IT resources, users must apply the following rules for using passwords associated with a Cornell electronic identifier:

- Store your password in a secure location
- Use the password only to access services that use central authentication infrastructure enabled applications
- Do not share your password
- Do not collect passwords from others or store them anywhere
- Do not share with anyone the answers to questions used to reset forgotten passwords

Did you know that according to the Cornell security policy ...

Cornell University expects all individuals using information technology devices connected to the Cornell network to take appropriate measures to manage the security of those devices.

Did you know that according to the Cornell security policy ...

Any system that is used to conduct university business or is connected to a Cornell campus network, must run anti-malware and anti-virus software with daily updates and active protection enabled.

Did you know that according to the Cornell security policy ...

Confidential information should not be sent as attachments without encryption when it is transmitted via e-mail. Note: The dropbox service <https://dropbox.cornell.edu/help/> provides a secure, web-based vehicle for exchanging files.

For more information see

www.dfa.cornell.edu/dfa/treasurer/policyoffice/policies/volumes/informationtech/admininfo.cfm



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Open House 2010 shares profession with community

Students demonstrated, exhibited, and organized lectures on all facets of the veterinary profession at the 44th annual Open House. Below are pictures that capture of just some of the events (and College characters!).







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Pedal for Pets is just around the corner



The second annual Pedal for Pets bike-a-thon will happen on April 24. All proceeds will benefit the Patient Assistance Fund at CUHA. There are a variety of ways to participate: you can ride, sponsor a rider, or volunteer. Whatever you choose to do, know that your efforts will be in direct support of animals who might otherwise not receive the medical care they need. More information and online registration is available [here](#).



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Marcellus shale discussion

The following note is shared on behalf of Susan Riha, Yves Parlange, and Stephen Philip Johnson.

As Cornell faculty, staff, and students you are invited to a meeting of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Leasing of Land for Exploration and Drilling for Natural Gas in the Marcellus Shale. The committee was appointed by Provost Kent Fuchs, at the behest of the Faculty Senate, to develop proposed guidelines for leasing of Cornell lands for horizontal drilling combined with hydraulic fracturing in the Marcellus Shale in New York State.

At the present time, the University has no plans to lease lands for natural gas drilling. However, the purpose of the meeting is for the committee to receive input and recommendations from the campus community as we develop proposed guidelines for the University administration.

The meeting will be held on:

Thursday, April 22, 2010

4:30 to 6:30 PM

David L. Call Alumni Auditorium – Kennedy Hall

To ensure a speaking slot faculty, staff, and students who would like to speak to the committee at this meeting should send the committee a 250-word (maximum) summary of their recommendations concerning guidelines for leasing land along with the following information.

NAME:

DEPARTMENT:

TYPE: CORNELL FACULTY, STAFF OR STUDENT

NET ID:

E-MAIL:

PHONE:

Send to adhocmarcellus@cornell.edu by noon on Monday, April 19.

Speaking time allotment will depend on the number of submissions. The committee will review all submitted comments and, if there is insufficient time for everyone who submitted comments to speak, the committee will determine the line-up of speakers in advance of the meeting to ensure that a diversity of views and constituencies are represented. If time permits, other faculty, staff, and students may be able to address the committee.

Please feel free to forward this invitation to anyone who might be interested in this important issue. We look forward to hearing your recommendations.

Regards,

Susan Riha (Co-Chair)

Yves Parlange (Co-Chair)

Stephen Philip Johnson (Staff)



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