Dear faculty, staff, and students:

I would like to provide you with an update on the current budget situation. We are once again facing significant budget pressures in the college primarily as a result of reductions in state funding to Cornell and the redistribution of costs as the central university budget deficit is reduced. We don't expect to know the magnitude of the reductions with any certainty until the end of March, but we have begun planning to meet these budget challenges.

Working with the College's Executive Committee, we are pursuing strategies to increase revenues, reduce expenses, and use college reserve funds on a limited and strategic basis. The potential opportunities for revenue growth include a modest enrollment increase as well as the development of new educational initiatives particularly in the area of continuing education for veterinarians.

After two very challenging years of unprecedented financial challenges, we have, of course, already made numerous difficult program reductions and pursued creative cost savings strategies. The coming year will likely be our most difficult, as our state addresses its very serious financial challenges, but I would emphasize that the actions taken to date have placed us in a very strong position for the future.

We have been navigating financial difficulties for some time, and I understand the tremendous stress that this adds to all of our lives. I appreciate your patience, your unwavering commitment, and your input. If you have questions or ideas, please let me know.

We have managed to date because we have pulled together as a team and in many ways I feel that our future prospects have never been stronger. We are continuing to recruit faculty, launch new programs, and further improve our educational, research, and clinical programs. I look forward to working with you over the coming year and continued to be humbled by the cooperative spirit and collective wisdom of our faculty, staff, and students.

Sincerely,

Michael I. Kotlikoff
Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine
Holger Sondermann gets tenure

Dr. Holger Sondermann received tenure in November 2010. Sondermann teaches in the Department of Molecular Medicine, and is also a member of the graduate fields of biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, biophysics, and pharmacology.

Sondermann earned his Ph.D from the Max-Planck-Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany, in 2001. He worked in a lab at Rockefeller University in New York City which later moved to Berkeley, CA, where he worked for four years before embarking on a cross-country road trip to move to Cornell. He spent a term as a Robert N. Noyes Assistant Professor of Lice Sciences before receiving tenure.

"In less than five years Holger established a research program that is innovative, rigorous, and of high impact," said Dr. Maurine Linder, chair of the Department of Molecular Medicine. "His graduate and undergraduate trainees have excelled under his mentorship and he is recognized in the College and across Cornell for his scholarship, collegiality, and service to the university.

Research in Sondermann’s lab has focused on deciphering the molecular workings behind the regulation of cellular signal transduction, particularly as applied to the formation of biofilms and membrane trafficking.

Cornell’s collaborative atmosphere and interdisciplinary opportunities initially attracted him to the university. While here, he has extended that interdisciplinary spirit in a variety of collaborations. The video below describes his recent collaboration with George O'Toole from Dartmouth Medical School on biofilm formation, which resulted in the publication...
Tenure

- Animal Legends
- Bingo night

Past issues

of two papers in PLOS Biology.

Ithaca, New York 14853-6401

Please report problems with this page to the webmaster.
Erin Lashnits wins $1,000 scholarship from Western Veterinary Conference

Third-year veterinary student Erin Lashnits won a $1,000 tuition scholarship and an all-expenses-paid trip to the 83rd Annual Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada in February 2011.

Every year the Conference gives awards to 34 third-year veterinary students from all over North America, selecting only one student per veterinary school. Each is chosen by faculty at his or her school according to the criteria of exceptional leadership and financial need. Cornell frequently chooses the president of the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association (SCAVMA), which Lashnits lead in 2010.

"There were quite a few Cornell alumni at the conference," said Lashnits. Former Cornell Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine Donald Smith attended. "He presented me with a plaque commemorating the scholarship at a breakfast with all the other student scholarship winners and the faculty members who inspired them. He was my first Block 1 tutor, and my coater for the white coat ceremony earlier this year, so sharing this experience with him was great."

The five-day-long conference occurred from Sunday, February 20th to Thursday, February 24. In addition to a kaleidoscope of exhibits, talks, presentations, and events, the conference provided Lashnits with invaluable networking opportunities that may inform her decisions in steering the future of her career.

"I'm a wildlife person by choosing," said Lashnits. "But I still have a lot of decisions to make at this stage. In the short term, things like whether to do an internship or not, and..."
longer term whether I want to go for a career in zoo or wildlife medicine, or pursue something entirely different. At the conference I met many different people with a wealth of experience, with whom I could talk and exchange stories and ideas. Overall it was a very valuable experience--plus I got to see the Hoover Dam!
Cooper’s caper

Caring for our own

Barn cat brain surgery highlights hospital’s emergency mettle

When a Good Samaritan brought a cat hit by a car to the Cornell University Hospital for Animals, no one knew the cat was one of our own. But everyone knew he needed help. Bleeding and shocky from a powerful blow, the cat began a journey through some of the most advanced emergency techniques and intensive care the Hospital has to offer.

“We had no idea who he was but we had to act fast,” said Dr. Jennifer Stillion, resident in the Emergency and Critical Care service (ECC). “He had severe head trauma and a ruptured lung leaking air into his chest cavity, making it difficult to breathe. We stabilized him and tapped his chest periodically to remove the air around the lungs.”

The next morning they discovered the cat was Cooper, the Large Animal Hospital’s resident barn cat. “When we learned this cat was found on Route 366 near our hospital, we asked Large Animal staff if they were missing any barn cats. They came over and quickly identified him,” Stillion said.

Cooper was worsening; air continued leaking into his chest and he was growing less responsive, indicating a significant ongoing brain injury. The ECC doctors eased his breathing with a chest tube and took a CT scan of his head. “We found an upper jaw fracture, blood in his nasal passages, evidence of a skull fracture, and several areas where he was bleeding into his brain,” said Dr. Gretchen Schoeffler, ECC specialist.
“With injuries that bad the only way to relieve increasing intracranial pressure and stop ongoing damage is intensive surgery to the skull,” said Schoeffler.

Brain surgery is no light task, but neurosurgeon Dr. Curtis Dewey from Clinical Sciences was up to the challenge. On Friday evening, February 11th, he performed a successful craniotomy, removing part of Cooper’s skull. The ECC team and Intensive Care Unit technicians are managing Cooper through recovery.

“He’s shown improvement every day. It’s amazing how cats can recover,” said Stillion, with Cooper purring happily in her lap. “He responds to bright lights and sounds, and purrs or chirps when he’s handled. He can even walk around a little. It will take time to know if he’ll return to normal kitty life, but his chances are strong. With months of therapy, many head trauma survivors go on to lead full lives,” said Schoeffler. “Survival is unusual for animals with trauma as bad as Cooper’s. “Many owners decide not to operate on cases with head injuries this severe,” said Schoeffler. “It’s invasive and requires a big commitment to helping an animal through recovery. Knowing we have the resources to do that, we decided to go forward.”

“We need to care for our own,” said Hospital Director Dr. Bill Horne, who made that call. “This cat is a pet of the hospital, and it is our obligation to care for him.” Back in the barn, the Large Animal staff feel Cooper’s absence. “He was a useful mouser and a good friend,” said Wendy English, Client Service Manager for CUHA, whom Cooper greeted every morning.

Stillion recalled a story in which Cooper befriended a recovering horse that had to be walked every day. “Cooper would run ahead and wait, the horse would walk toward him.”
They would sniff, and Cooper would run ahead again, encouraging the horse to follow.”

Cooper won’t be returning to the barn while on the mend, but in the meantime he has found a good home. Large animal surgery technician Katie Howard agreed to take Cooper as a foster kitty. He spends evenings with her and returns to the Intensive Care Unit during the day for nursing care.
March 2011

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Events

Cornell University Veterinary Specialists (CUVS), the nation’s largest university-affiliated veterinary hospital, opened its doors on January 14th in Stamford, Connecticut. The community wasted no time in seeking out its services. By that same afternoon, the hospital had already received seven cases, and performed its first surgery, an emergency splenectomy for a German shepherd named Lipton.

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Each day since, the emergency and specialty hospital has seen numerous cases for Emergency & Critical Care (ECC), Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Orthopedic and Soft Tissue Surgery, Diagnostic Imaging, and Oncology. CUVS boasts the area’s only ECC service staffed seven days a week by boarded critical care specialists.
Recent features on the CUVS blog include a profile on Sherman Tank, an 8-year-old bulldog who had a pacemaker implanted at CUVS by Cardiologist Mandi Kleman, and Casey, a mixed-breed who underwent a splenectomy and liver lobectomy with Surgeon Alon Kramer. The blog also has links to an extensive profile of CUVS in The Stamford Advocate, and to an interview with CUVS Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Susan Hackner, on Connecticut News 12.

In keeping with its mission-driven commitment to education, and to the veterinary profession, CUVS has already hosted its first biweekly Continuing Education program for veterinary professionals. On February 9th, CUVS Internist Dr. Marnin Forman led a seminar on the management of acute kidney failure. CUVS will be closely affiliated with the College, collaborating on clinical cases and research, student externships, residency training programs, and continuing education. CUVS hopes to host its first rotating student externs by late 2011.

The specialists and the staff at CUVS invite the CVM community to explore their website, to “friend” the hospital on Facebook, to “follow” them on Twitter, and to read their blog.
Westminster Kennel Club dog show

The College and Baker Institute hosted over 125 guests during the two-day dog show at Madison Square Garden featuring America’s best purebreds.

Guests were treated to behind-the-scenes tours of the benching area where dogs stay during the day they are judged. Some watched breed judging on the Garden floor, while others enjoyed views from high above the floor in the Club Suite’s skyboxes.

Cornell’s special reception featured Dean Kotlikoff, as well as Baker Institute director Dr. Colin Parrish, and Dr. Susan Hackner of Cornell University Veterinary Specialists, who each shared information about their programs.

Faculty hosts during included Drs. Marta Castelhano, Bill Horne, Tom Kern, Carolyn McDaniel, Margaret McEntee, Vicki Meyers-Wallen, and Janet Scarlett.

Check out our Facebook album for more pictures: http://www.facebook.com/CornellVetMed
Animal Legends
Bingo night

Past issues
The Quality Milk Production Services (QMPS) program and its 35 staff members have been very active this year, performing over 170,000 cultures and other tests, and conducting over 2,600 farm visits and 7,500 telephone consultations. All of these services address milk quality issues of great significance to milk producers. Research projects during the past year have included biosecurity and bovine mastitis, total quality management practices on dairy farms, evaluation of anti-bacterial therapy cure rates for bovine mastitis, and eleven other initiatives.

QMPS serves the dairy industry of New York State by promoting the production of high quality milk through the control of mastitis, and the avoidance of antibiotic residues in milk through field and laboratory diagnostic evaluations and recommendations.

Program goals are achieved by providing expertise in diagnostic services, milking management evaluation, therapy recommendations, mastitis prevention, education, and research. QMPS also provides current information on new mastitis control technology. It is a source of information.
on new state and national programs to improve milk quality and food safety associated with mastitis and milk hygiene.

Four regional laboratories (in Ithaca, Cobleskell, Potsdam, and Geneseo) serve as an extension of the Animal Health Diagnostic Center, assisting in performing field and laboratory diagnostic evaluations of dairy problems, obtaining diagnoses, and promoting the control of other infectious diseases affecting the agricultural industry in New York State.
Accessing e-books

In addition to Cornell’s wide array of electronic full-text academic journals, campus libraries are also acquiring an increasing number of electronic books as they become available from publishers and other sources.

For example, the Veterinary Library recently added approximately 178 new e-book versions from the Elsevier Veterinary E-Book Collection of print titles that had been published since 2000. These include DiBartola’s Fluid, Electrolyte, Acid-Base Disorders in Small Animal Practice (3rd ed.), and Rebhun’s Diseases of Dairy Cattle (2nd ed.).

So, how do you find new e-books as they are added to the collection?

Search the Library Catalog

The Library Catalog (http://catalog.library.cornell.edu) continues to provide the most complete and up-to-date holdings of all types of materials, including e-books. E-books can be found on a title-by-title basis, or by subject keywords or authors. Like e-journals, these items are marked by a red “networked resource” block which enables you to click through to the pdf of chapters on the publisher’s web site.

Electronic resources do not have call numbers per se and thus are not identified by physical campus library locations like print volumes are. They are simply an “electronic resource”. As a result, it is not currently possible to limit e-books selected by the Veterinary Library in the Library Catalog.
Another option is to check the “New Books at Cornell” page each month at
http://supportingcast.mannlib.cornell.edu/newbooks/. In particular, the January 2011 “New Books at Cornell” update should have all of the newly added Elsevier veterinary e-books.

You can get to “New Books at Cornell” from the CU Library Home Page at http://www.library.cornell.edu. Check under “Research Help”, then “Current Awareness”. When on this page, it’s possible to sort out e-books under the “Location” pull-down. This will give you ALL e-books in chemistry, engineering, and veterinary medicine.

You can also browse call number categories (SF=Animal Culture), search by one or more call numbers (such as QP+QR+R*+SF to limit the results to life sciences, biomedical and veterinary topics), or enter subject keywords (such as “veterinary”, “genetics”, or “dogs”). RSS feeds can also be set up to get automatic monthly announcements of new content.

The Flower-Sprecher Veterinary Library welcomes comments at vetref@cornell.edu and accepts purchase suggestions at any time.
March 2011

Adventures with Alumni Affairs and Development

Reunion 2011 is quickly approaching!

Reunion Weekend takes place Thursday, June 9 through Saturday, June 11.

Want updates on the schedule of events and to see who's coming?

Visit the Reunion Website!

NAVC 2011 Cornell Alumni Reception recap

Cornell hosted an alumni reception for about 140 alumni and guests on Sunday evening, January 16, 2011, at the NAVC reception in Orlando, FL. Alumni Association Executive Board members Dr. Trish Daly ’89 and Dr. Cesar Tello ’97 served as greeters at the registration table.

Pictures from the event:
- Animal Legends
- Bingo night

Past issues
Terry Kristensen retired from the Flower-Sprecher Veterinary Library on Monday, January 31, 2011 after ten years of service as the Associate Director of the library. She came to this position with experience as a school media librarian and elementary school teacher. She worked for Apple Computer and for The CBORD Group in Ithaca and as a consultant for the SPCA before joining the Veterinary Library. Terry is also an accomplished storyteller and remains involved in attending storytelling conferences annually.

Terry used her excellent planning, project management skills and experience in a corporate setting to contribute to very significant accomplishments. She spearheaded innovative new services and she also expanded and enhanced existing library services. She worked on many projects for the Cornell University Libraries and for the College of Veterinary Medicine. Some of the projects include website redesign, the veterinary procedures collection, table of content service, and the document delivery service planning team, to mention just a few.

Terry also spearheaded the Veterinary Library’s collaboration with the Partners in Animal Health program which allowed us to contribute those skills unique to librarians to this important learning resource.

Another significant project has been Terry’s work with Dr. Don Smith on the “An Enduring Veterinary Legacy” program.
to bring oral interviews of faculty and alumni to the public.

Terry is a traveler and plans to continue her travels in her retirement; she will be spending the month of February in Italy before returning to Ithaca. Her travels over the last ten years took her to Italy, France, Africa, Honduras, China, Rome, Spain, Hawaii, Bolivia, Peru, New Mexico, the American Southwest, and the western states.

A passionate animal-lover, Terry has been engaged in the SPCA for many years. She spends much time with her dog, Corri, whom she has trained to accompany her to juvenile detention centers as a companion animal.

Terry will be greatly missed by her friends and colleagues for her professionalism, her hard work, her optimistic nature, and her can-do attitude. We all wish Terry the best of happiness in her retirement!
March 2011

Meet the new staff in Alumni Affairs and Development

Dale Fenescey
Administrative Assistant III
VM Alumni Affairs & Development

Dale is responsible for writing acknowledgement letters, monitoring Vetfriends e-mail account, monthly mailings of CatWatch and Dogwatch, managing deposits, helping with special events and Reunion, and conducting general office duties.

Dale came from Binghamton University, where she spent the past 10 years. She worked in the Development office for four years and spent the last six years in Alumni Affairs, working on events, writing blast announcements, reporting, and managing databases. She recently earned her Associates degree online in Human Services Management while working full time.

Two cats and two chihuahuas keep Dale very busy along with her 22-year-old son.

Luanne M. Prosperi Stefanucci
Assistant Director of Development and Public Affairs
Baker Institute and Feline Health Center

Luanne is responsible for managing staff and programs in development and outreach, including gift and memorial programs, donor identification and memberships, events, the Camuti Consultation Service, and the Baker Institute and Feline Health Center Advisory Council.

Art history to philanthropy

Luanne graduated cum laude from Canisius College in Buffalo, NY, with a BA in Art History, and earned a Master’s
in Native Affairs at Carleton University in Ottawa. After working at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) in Washington, DC, she received a Master’s program fellowship from Syracuse University to study Renaissance Art History in Florence.

She returned to the States and the Smithsonian Institution as a Member Relations Associate in the Office of Development, working with substantial prospects and donors in a pan-institutional membership that included Justices Ruth Bader Ginsberg and Sandra Day O’Connor, and members of Congress and the Clinton cabinet.

Returning to her native Ithaca in September 2001 to work at the Paleontological Research Institute, Luanne managed the publications and membership programs, then moved to the ScienCenter to manage admissions and the retail store.

**Across Cornell**

After working with Cornell’s Office of Organizational Development, Luanne joined the College of Human Ecology in March 2006, where she successfully “reimagined” and relaunched an alumni-student mentoring program called CyberMentors, guided the Human Ecology and Sloan Alumni Associations toward a dues-free structure, and greatly increased successful collaborations with AA&D colleagues across the university. She created and executed many successful events featuring faculty, alumni, and students, including the College’s annual Reunion programming and the Sloan Program’s 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Baker Institute and the Feline Health Center welcomed Luanne into her new role on December 16th, 2010.

Luanne has two four-legged children: Renzo, a Norwegian Forest Cat, and Aranciata, a mini longhaired dachshund. They are thrilled about her new position at the Baker Institute and Feline Health Center.
Carolyn Sevier joins faculty of Molecular Medicine

Dr. Carolyn Sevier joined the faculty in the Department of Molecular Medicine in October 2010. As an Assistant Professor, she will direct a research group focused on characterizing cellular pathways that sense and signal redox imbalances within cells to alleviate oxidative stress. Starting next fall, she will teach in the Veterinary Foundation Course II.

Sevier received her Ph.D from the Biochemistry, Cellular, and Molecular Biology Program at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 2000.

She joins us after time as a Postdoctoral Fellow (2000-2004) and Research Scientist (2005-2010) in the laboratory of Dr. Chris Kaiser from the Department of Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Animal Legends
- Bingo night

Past issues
Dr. John D. Murray

Dr. John D. Murray, 98, of Keuka Park, died February 25, 2011 at the Hospice House in Naples.

Friends and family may call from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, March 4, 2011 at the Townsend-Wood Funeral Chapel, 201 E. Elm St., Penn Yan. His Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 5, 2011 at St. Michael’s Roman Catholic Church, Liberty St., Penn Yan, Father Louis McCormick, OFM. Interment will be at a later date at St. Catherine’s Cemetery in Addison.
- Animal Legends
- Bingo night

Past issues
Office of Communications

The College of Veterinary Medicine’s Office of Communications leads all aspects of marketing, communications, and public relations on behalf of the College. The office is responsible for managing the College’s brand and ensuring the College supports Cornell University’s brand and marketing and communications goals.

We offer the following services at no charge:

**Media Relations**
All calls from the media should be directed to sas6@cornell.edu/3-3369.
We proactively seek interest in College news and events and will help you write and place opinion pieces, and develop key messages and support-points in managing issues such as developing responses to crises. We publish anything and everything newsworthy: research findings, grants/awards won, event announcements, new programs or services, innovative methods or treatments, faculty/staff/student accomplishments, and more.

**Electronic and Print Publications**
All publications to be shared with external audiences should be coordinated through the communications office. From concept to production, we research, interview, write, edit, proofread, design, manage production, and test effectiveness of print and electronic publications. This includes invitations, posters, postcards, electronic and print newsletters, brochures, scripts, promotional videos and podcasts, blogs, outdoor signage, magazines, annual reports, web pages, and more.

We welcome submissions and story ideas for our regular publications:
- **Making Rounds**, monthly internal newsletter for faculty, staff, and students
- **CUHA Beat**, electronic newsletter sent three times a year
to referring DVMs

- eVets Connect - electronic newsletter sent three times a year to alumni
- 'Scopes - print magazine sent three times a year to alumni and friends.

Past issues

Photography, Presentations, Displays, & Speeches
The College offers photography services free of charge. If you hire outside photographers, expect to pay for their services and negotiate copyright. We help craft presentation and display materials from concept to production, and can work with you to develop speeches and scripts.

Integrated Marketing and Planning
We research, write, and execute marketing and communication plans, including traditional, online, grassroots, and mainstream. We produce files for logo give-aways and promotional items in accordance with the University and College identity standards and prepare camera-ready copy for advertising. We conduct market research, usability tests and surveys. We promote events and will help you establish a presence on Facebook and other social networking sites.

Stephanie Specchio               Carly Hodes
Director of Communications       Communications Specialist
S2016 Schurman Hall               S2058 Schurman Hall
sas6@cornell.edu; 253-3369 (O)    ceh98@cornell.edu;
253-3744 (O)
Book donations for IVSA

Dear College community;

The International Veterinary Student Association (IVSA) annually donates resources to veterinary schools in developing nations through its Development Fund.

This year, the Cornell chapter of IVSA would like to collect veterinary textbooks and reference texts for the veterinary school in Columbia, which currently has a very small library. If you have any books (printed after 1980) or series of major veterinary journals (printed after 2000) that you would like to donate to the Development Fund, we would greatly appreciate it. You can simply label any donations "IVSA" and drop them off at the veterinary school library.

Spring is almost upon us, and this is a great way to clean off your shelves while also helping out a worthy cause!

Thank you for your help, and if you have any questions please feel free to email me.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Shaw
kelsey.shaw10@gmail.com
941 914 3324
- Animal Legends
- Bingo night

Past issues
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- New faces in AAD
- Sevier joins faculty
- Dr. John Murray

#### Facebook fun!

Did you know the College has a Facebook page? Check it out for events, discussion, and interesting tidbits from the veterinary world.


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### Facebook fun!

Did you know the College has a Facebook page? Check it out for events, discussion, and interesting tidbits from the veterinary world.

- Animal Legends
- Bingo night

Past issues
Cornell University Library invites you to the opening lecture celebrating the new exhibition “Animal Legends” in the Carl A. Kroch Library. Drawing on the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections’ rare books, manuscripts, photographs and other artifacts, the exhibition will explore how and why humans choose to elevate animals to the status of divinities, emblems, mascots, and heroes. From the Trojan Horse and Mickey Mouse to the animals that populated Noah’s Ark, the exhibition will trace the cultural and historical significance of animals in human society.
Laura Brown, the John Wendell Anderson Professor of English and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education at Cornell University, will explore the complex and fascinating relationships between man and animals in the literary works of the eighteenth century. Brown is the author of several books, including her most recent publication, “Homeless Dogs and Melancholy Apes: Humans and Other Animals in the Modern Literary Imagination,” Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2010.

A reception and viewing of the exhibition will follow immediately after the lecture in the Hirshland Gallery, in Kroch Library. The exhibition and associated events are made possible by the Stephen E. and Evalyn Edwards Milman Exhibition Fund.

For more information, please visit http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/AnimalLegends/.

Free and open to all.
SCAVMA bingo night

On Tuesday, March 8th, SCAVMA will be hosting a **BINGO NIGHT!**

**Event Details:**
- **Date:** Tuesday, March 8th
- **Time:** 5:30pm - 7:30pm
- **Place:** James Law Auditorium

Win prizes like SCAVMA swag, movie tickets, and more. Pizza will be served, so come for dinner and stay for bingo!
Past issues