



## College News

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### New department chair named



Dr. Craig Altier has been appointed Chair of the Department of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences for a five-year term beginning November 15, 2012. Dr. Altier succeeds Dr. Yrjo Grohn who has provided superb leadership for the department since 2002.

Dr. Altier received his veterinary degree from The Ohio State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, in 1985 and his doctorate from the Department of Molecular Biology and Microbiology, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, in 1996. Dr. Altier joined the Cornell faculty in 2006 as Associate Professor in the Bacteriology Laboratory of the Animal Health Diagnostic Center and received tenure in 2008. Prior to Cornell, Dr. Altier was Associate Professor and Clinical Microbiologist at the College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University. He has served on numerous University committees and national panels and is an internationally recognized expert on food safety and bacterial pathogenesis. Dr. Altier's current research is funded by the USDA, the NIH, and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation.

The Department of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences is the second largest of five academic departments at the College, consisting of 55 faculty members (including 22 tenure-track). Faculty provide clinical and diagnostic service in the Animal Health Diagnostic Center, and the Ambulatory, Clinical Pathology, and Shelter Medicine services in the Cornell University Hospital for Animals. Major research programs within the Department focus on infectious disease, food safety and security, epidemiology, and public health.

As department chair, Dr. Altier will provide academic and strategic leadership for the Department and will work closely with the Director of the Animal Health Diagnostic Center, the other department chairs, and the College administration.

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